

Crown Office,

April 16, 1912.

The KING has been pleased by Letters Patent under the Great Seal, bearing date the 16th inst., to grant to Sir John Compton Lawrance, Knight, late one of the Justices of His Majesty's High Court of Justice, an Annuity of £3,500 for life commencing from the 15th inst., inclusive.

## IRISH LAND ACTS, 1903 AND 1909

(3 Edw. 7, c. 37, and 9 Edw. 7, c. 42).

The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury hereby give notice that, pursuant to section 2 of the Irish Land Act, 1909, and section 28 of the Irish Land Act, 1903, They have directed the creation of £1,500,000 Guaranteed Three per cent. Stock, which Stock has been issued to the National Debt Commissioners.

Whitehall, April 16, 1912.

Addresses and Resolutions expressing Congratulations on Their Majesties' safe return from India have been received by the Secretary of State for the Home Department from the undermentioned Bodies for presentation to Their Majesties, and have been presented accordingly:—

Aldershot Urban District Council.  
 Bedford Town Council.  
 Bedminster, Queen's Head Working Men's Mutual Aid Society.  
 British Empire League.  
 Burdett Coutts Lodge, R.A.O.B.  
 Calne Town Council.  
 Chippenham Town Council.  
 Crowle Lodge, R.A.O.B.  
 Derby Free Church Council.  
 Hazel Grove Conservative Club.  
 Hazel Grove Women's Unionist Association.  
 Incorporated Guild of Hairdressers, Wig-makers and Perfumers.  
 Kingsthorpe, Coronation Lodge, R.A.O.B.  
 Malmesbury Town Council.  
 Manchester City Council.  
 Manchester Field Naturalists and Archaeologists Society.  
 Queen Charlotte's Hospital.  
 St. Stephen's Men's Club.  
 Shaftesbury Town Council.  
 Stockport, Duke of Wellington Lodge, R.A.O.B.  
 Stockport, Olympia Lodge, R.A.O.B.  
 Torquay Free Churches.  
 Welsh Calvinistic Methodists Foreign Mission.

West Glamorgan Calvinistic Methodists.  
 Wimborne Urban District Council.  
 Woolwich Metropolitan Borough Council.

Whitehall, April 15, 1912.

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to award the Edward Medal of the First Class to Henry Merritt, a fireman, and to the widow of Thomas Stokes, a miner, under the following circumstances:—

An underground fire broke out, on the 14th December, 1911, in the intake airway of the No. 9 Cannock Chase Colliery, which rendered necessary the withdrawal of all the workmen. Most of the men, including Merritt and Stokes, reached the shaft safely, but it was found that five were still in the pit. Merritt went with Stokes to their rescue, and penetrated 800 yards along the return airway, in spite of the smoke, which was rapidly increasing in density, and found the men. One of them got out by holding on to Merritt, but the other four were suffocated, and Stokes also lost his life. Merritt did not at first discover that the other men had not followed him, and when he became aware of this he made two further attempts to reach them, but was finally driven back by the smoke, and reached the surface in an exhausted condition.

In the Matter of the Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1888, and of an application by the London and North Western Railway Company for a warrant authorising the abandonment of certain portions of the Shropshire Canal.

## WARRANT OF ABANDONMENT.

Whereas by section 45, sub-section (1), of the Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1888, it is enacted that where, on the application of a Canal Company, it appears to the Board of Trade that any canal or part of a canal belonging to the applicants (hereinafter referred to as an "unnecessary canal") is at the time of making the application unnecessary for the purposes of public navigation, the Board of Trade may by warrant signed by their Secretary authorise the abandonment by the existing proprietors of such unnecessary canal. And by sub-section (2) of the same section it is enacted that in the case of an unnecessary canal no warrant of abandonment shall be granted unless the Board of Trade are satisfied:—

(a) That it is unnecessary for the purposes of public navigation;

(b) That the application has been expressly authorised by a resolution of a majority of the shareholders of the Canal Company owning the canal present and voting at an extraordinary or special general meeting of that Company;

(c) That such public and other notices of the application have been given as the Board of Trade may require;

(d) That compensation has been made to