

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 11th day of *October*, 1912.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Order in Council, dated the 17th day of September, 1900, and expressed to be made in pursuance of the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1894," and of the "Mersey Channels Act, 1897," His Majesty, on the application of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, being the Harbour Trust or Body Corporate owning or exercising jurisdiction upon the waters of the River Mersey and the sea channels or approaches thereto, was pleased to make certain Rules, set forth in the Schedule to such Order, concerning the Lights or Signals to be carried, and concerning the steps for avoiding collision to be taken, by vessels navigating the River Mersey and the sea channels or approaches to the River Mersey between the Rock Lighthouse and the furthest point seawards to which such channels or approaches respectively, are, for the time being, buoyed on both sides.

And whereas the said Mersey Docks and Harbour Board have applied to His Majesty in Council to make, and have submitted for approval, certain new Rules concerning Lights and Signals to be carried, and the steps for avoiding collision to be taken, by vessels navigating the River Mersey and the sea channels or approaches thereto within certain specified limits, to be substituted for and in lieu of the Rules set forth in the Schedule to the said recited Order in Council of the 17th day of September, 1900, and in such new Rules there are embodied, subject to certain exceptions and additions therein mentioned, the "Regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea," made in pursuance of the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1894," and which may from time to time be in force.

And whereas the provisions of Section 1 of the "Rules Publication Act, 1893," have been complied with:

And whereas the new Rules so submitted as aforesaid appear to be reasonable and proper:

Now, therefore, His Majesty by virtue of the powers in Him vested by the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1894," and by the "Mersey Channels Act, 1897," and of any other powers Him thereunto enabling, and by and with the advice of His Privy Council, is pleased to declare that the said Order in Council of the 17th day of September, 1900, shall, as from the 11th day of October, 1912, be revoked, and His Majesty is further pleased to make the Rules set forth in the schedule hereto, and to direct that the same shall continue in operation as from the said 11th day of October, 1912.

Almeric FitzRoy.

SCHEDULE.

RULES CONCERNING THE LIGHTS OR SIGNALS TO BE CARRIED, AND CONCERNING THE STEPS FOR AVOID-

NOTE.—The numbers quoted in these Rules refer to the Articles in the General Regulations made on the 13th October, 1910.

ing COLLISION to be taken, by VESSELS navigating the RIVER MERSEY and the Sea Channels or approaches thereto, between the Rock Lighthouse and the furthest point seawards to which such Sea Channels or approaches respectively are for the time being buoyed on both sides.

1. Every vessel, of whatever description, used in navigation, when in any part of the River Mersey, or in the Sea Channels or approaches thereto as above defined shall, on and after the 11th day of October, 1912, observe and obey the "Regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea" made in pursuance of the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1894," hereinafter called "the General Regulations," which may from time to time be in force, with the exceptions and additions mentioned in the following Rules.

2. A vessel when lying at any Stage shall carry the lights prescribed by Articles 2 and 5 of the General Regulations and Rule 5 hereof.

3. A vessel being towed shall, in addition to the lights prescribed by Article 5 of the General Regulations, carry the white light at her stern prescribed by Rule 5 hereof, and if such vessel is a steam vessel with steam up she shall, although being towed, also carry the masthead light prescribed by Article 2 (a), and may carry the additional light allowed by Article 2 (e) of the General Regulations.

4.—(a) A steam vessel when towing another vessel or vessels or when attached for the purpose of towing or manœuvring such vessel or vessels, shall carry the compulsory lights prescribed by Article 3 of the General Regulations, and such steam vessel when towing or attached as aforesaid to a vessel of 450 feet or upwards in length shall carry the additional bright white light prescribed by the said Article 3.

(b) Further, a steam vessel when towing or attached as aforesaid shall carry abaft the funnel or after-mast a small white light fixed and carried in a lantern so constructed, fitted and screened that it shall throw an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 12 points of the compass, viz., for 6 points from right aft on each side of the vessel, and such steam vessel if less than 160 feet in length shall not carry the stern light prescribed by Rule 5 hereof, but if she is 160 feet or upwards in length she may carry such stern light.

The length of a vessel shall be deemed to be the length appearing in her Certificate of Registry.

5. In lieu of Article 10 of the General Regulations, a vessel under way shall carry at her stern a white light. The light shall be fixed and carried in a lantern so constructed, fitted and screened that it shall throw an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 12 points of the compass, viz., for 6 points from right aft on each side of the vessel, so as to be visible at a distance of at least a mile. Such light shall be carried as nearly as practicable on the same level as the side lights.

Provided that a vessel within Article 7 of the General Regulations (viz., Steam Vessels of less than 40, and vessels under oars or sails of less than 20, tons gross tonnage respectively, and rowing boats), shall not be obliged to carry the light prescribed by this Rule, but if they do not carry such light they shall, when being overtaken by another vessel, shew from the