PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES TO THE RELATIVES OF OFFICERS.

1. Widows of Officers of the Royal Navy, and the Royal Marines, may be allowed Pensions, and their Children Compassionate Allowances, at the rates specified in the attached table, and subject to the following regulations.

2. All applications for Pensions, and for Compassionate Allowances, must be addressed to the Secretary of the Admiralty, at the date specified in the attached table, and subject to the following regulations.

3. The Pensions of all Widows shall commence from the day following that on which their husbands died, provided application be made by the Widow within Twelve Months from the same, otherwise from the time of making such application.

4. His Majesty's Orders in Council increasing rates of Pension, or Compassionate Allowances, are not retrospective, but entered into on the 1st August, 1876, the names of such officers as may be on the Active List at the date of such Orders in Council, or subsequently thereto.

5. If the claim of a Widow to a Pension shall not be established, the amount of pension to which she would have been entitled if living shall not be allowed as her share of the public money.

6. The Pensions authorised by these Regulations cannot be claimed as a Right—they are granted as rewards for great and vital services rendered by deceased Officers;—they will only be conferred on persons deserving the Public Bounty,—the ordinary Pensions and Compassionate Allowances granted to Widows whose private incomes may exceed the confidential scale which may from time to time be fixed by the Admiralty as the limit for each Rank of Officer, and the Pensions are liable to be discontinued altogether, in case of any misconduct rendering the individuals receiving the same unworthy of the Public Bounty.

7. Widows of Officers placed on permanent Half Pay or on the Retired or Pension List, on or after the 2nd August, 1900, on account of misconduct, after having completed not less than 20 years counting towards retirement or pension, may at the discretion of the Admiralty be granted pensions, provided that a deduction of not less than 10 per cent. shall have been made from the Retired Pay or Pensions to which, but for their misconduct, these Officers would have been entitled. In such cases the Widow's Pension will be reduced by half the percentage by which the husband's Retired Pay or Pension has been reduced.

8. Widows of retired Officers, or others formerly in the Royal Navy, having been allowed to resign their Commissions, who have been called out or have volunteered for the Navy in time of emergency and have lost their lives from causes attributable to the Service, may be allowed pensions, and their Children Compassionate Allowances, on the special scale applicable to the rank held by the Officer at the time of his death, notwithstanding that he may have married whilst on the Retired List or after resignation of his Commission, and subject to the provisions of the Commissions Acts of 1871 and 1882.

9. A Widow shall not be eligible to be placed on the Pension List under any of the following circumstances:

   I. If her husband married after the age of 60 years, exceptCommissioned Warrant Officers, and Warrant Officers in the Naval Reserve, in which case the limit of age is 65.

   II. If her husband, being capable of service, had, at his own solicitation, been excused from service, when called upon, provided that he was officially warned that he might lose his wife's pension.

   III. If her husband had been guilty of any fraudulent misappropriation of the public money.

   IV. If her husband had been guilty of bigamy; or if she had been living at the time of her husband's death in a state of separation.

   V. If her husband died in the service of a Foreign State unless serving with the permission of the Admiralty.

   VI. If she had not been married Twelve Months to the last surviving officer, or to any officer by whom she claims the Pension, unless the said Officer was killed or drowned in an immediate act of duty. The Admiralty may, however, grant the Pension in cases of Officers dying before the expiration of Twelve Months from the time of their marriage, but only if satisfactory evidence is produced to show that the marriage did not take place under any circumstances which would imply that there was any fraud in the transaction, or any improper intention of obtaining the Pension for the Widow and it be clearly shown that the Officer was in good health when he married, and that the disease which occasioned his death was not brought on by any misconduct, or by any circumstances over which he had control.

   VII. If she shall receive any other Pension, Pro vision, or Allowance from the Government on account of her husband's services in a Naval or Military capacity, but Widows in receipt of Pensions from the Civil List are not deprived of their Naval Pensions on account thereof, and Widows who, in consequence of Second marriage, may receive a Civil List Pension or an Army Pension, may elect to receive that which is most advantageous to them.

   VIII. If her private income exceeds the confidential scale fixed by the Admiralty as the limit for the rank last held by her husband; observing that the Widows of Commanders ranked with the rank of Captain, Lieutenant Commanders or Lieutenants retired with the rank of Commander, and so on, may enjoy the private income applicable to the higher rank without forfeiting their Pensions thereby.

   IX. If the marriage took place after the Widow was a pensioner of the Office or if the Officer, after having commuted, removed his name from the list of the Navy, although the marriage may have taken place before such commutation.

   Note. Widows of Officers married after partial commutation will only be granted a proportion of the pension for which they would otherwise have been eligible.

   X. If the Widows of Officers married after the 1st August, 1900, with the exception of those who have actually been married and are entitled to receive a pension under the existing regulations, and are married to men who have served in the Royal Navy or Royal Marines, other than in the capacity of Chaplains, on the 1st August, 1900, and are entitled to receive a pension under the existing regulations.

   XI. If her husband, being a Medical Officer, should retire or withdraw upon a gratuity.

   XII. If the Widows of Officers whose private incomes may, after their pensions have been awarded, increase beyond the limit fixed from time to time by the Admiralty for the rank last held by their husbands, shall be suspected of increasing their private incomes beyond the limit fixed from time to time by the Admiralty, and so prevent their Pensions from being released again in the event of their private incomes decreasing within the limit.

   XIII. If the Widows of Commissions Officers (except Chaplains) who shall have married after the 10th November, 1882, are only entitled to the Pensions of their respective classes, in the event of their husbands having completed 10 years' seniority as Commissioned Officers on the Active List, except the Husband be killed in action, or lose his life in the execution of his duty. If, however, the Officer had five years' seniority on the Active List on the 10th November, 1882, and married a Widower, and it be clearly shown that the disease which occasioned his death was not brought on by any misconduct, or by any circumstances over which the Officer himself had control, the Admiralty may award Pensions in such cases as they think proper.

The restrictions as to service as Commissioned Officer on the Active List will not apply:—Col Officers retired before the 10th November, 1890, such Officers being allowed to count their time as Commissioned Officers on the Active, Retired Officers on the Retired Lists as qualifying for eligibility for pension to their widows.

(b) Lieutenant-Engineers, Lieutenant-Carpenters and Engineer-Lieutenant-Carpenters promoted to that rank from Commissioned Warrant Officers or Warrant Officers,