

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

No. 562.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET,

16th October, 1919.

SIR,— With reference to my predecessor's Circular despatch of 1st August, 1918, I have the honour to transmit to you, for your information, copies of the further amended Statutes of the Order of the British Empire dated the 28th March, 1919.

2. It will be observed that each of the five Classes of the Order now contains two sub-divisions of which the first is the "Military" and the second the "Civil".

3. I also enclose copies of a notification issued by the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood with regard to promotions from the Civil to the Military Division or from the Military to the Civil Division.

I have, &c.,

MILNER.

The Officer Administering the Government of
HONGKONG.

George R. & I.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.

FURTHER AMENDED STATUTES OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India, to all to whom these Presents shall come.

Greeting!

WHEREAS by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the said United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster the Fourth day of June, 1917, in the Eighth year of Our Reign, We have thought fit and been pleased to institute, erect, constitute, and create an Order of Knighthood, to be called and known for ever hereafter by the name, style, and designation of "The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire," whereof We, Our heirs and successors for ever shall be Sovereigns:

And whereas by Our aforesaid Letters Patent We did ordain that the said Order should be governed by Statutes and Ordinances and that the Statutes to be observed within the said Order should be established by Us and sealed by the Seal of the Said Order which Statutes so given and in future to be given by Us, Our heirs and successors, to which the said Seal shall be affixed, should be of the same validity and taken and read as if the same and every Article of them had been verbatim recited in the said Letters Patent and passed under the Great Seal of Our said United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland:

And whereas in conformity with the said Letters Patent of the fourth day of June, 1917, We did enact and issue certain Statutes and Ordinances to be observed within the said Order bearing the same date wherein a power was reserved to Us, Our heirs and successors of annulling, altering, augmenting, interpreting, or dispensing with these Statutes and Regulations or any part thereof by a notification under the Sign Manual of the Sovereign of the Order:

And whereas we deemed it expedient that alterations should be made in the Statutes of the said Order: We therefore in pursuance of the Power vested in Us by the said Letters Patent did make, ordain and establish certain amended Statutes bearing date the twelfth day of April 1918:

And whereas it is expedient that certain further alterations should be made in the existing Statutes of the said Order:

Now know ye that in pursuance and in exercise of the power vested in Us by the said Letters Patent We have abrogated and annulled and do hereby abrogate and repeal the said Statutes:

And further know all ye to whom these Presents shall come that in substitution thereof We have made, ordained and established, and by these Presents, sealed with the Seal of the said Order, do make, ordain and establish the following Statutes and Ordinances, namely:—

1. It is ordained and enjoined that this Order of Chivalry shall be styled and designated in all Acts, proceedings, and pleadings The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire as in Our said Letters Patent is directed, and by no other designation.

2. It is ordained that the said Order shall consist of the Sovereign and a Grand Master and of five several classes:—I. "Knights Grand Cross" and "Dames Grand Cross." II. "Knight Commanders" and "Dames Commanders." III. "Commanders." IV. "Officers." V. "Members." And it is further ordained that each and every of these five Classes shall likewise contain two sub-divisions whereof the first shall be styled "Military" and the second "Civil," each of which sub-divisions shall be composed partly of Ordinary and partly of Honorary Members.

3. It is ordained that We, Our heirs and successors, Kings or Queens Regnant of Our said United Kingdom, are and for ever shall be Sovereigns of this Order, to whom doth and shall belong all power of annulling, interpreting, explaining, or augmenting these and every part of these Statutes.

4. We do hereby ordain, direct and appoint that a Prince of the Blood Royal or such other exalted personage as We, Our heirs and successors shall hereafter appoint shall be Grand Master of the said Order, and shall in virtue thereof be the First or Principal Knight Grand Cross of the said Order, to whose custody shall be confided the Great Seal of the Order, which he shall affix to all Statutes, Ordinances, and Instruments according to the regulations touching the issues of every of the said Instruments; and it is further ordained that it shall be his special duty to enforce the due observance of the Statutes and Ordinances of this Order, and that he shall likewise direct the issue of all letters of Summons whenever the Sovereign shall be pleased to command an Investiture of the said Most Excellent Order.

5. It is ordained that all commissioned, warrant and subordinate Officers subject to the Naval Discipline Act or employed under the Order of the Admiralty, and all commissioned and warrant Officers recommended by any Commander-in-Chief in the field or elsewhere, or by the General Officer Commanding, Independent Force, Royal Air Force, or employed under the War Office or Air Ministry, or under the Administrative Headquarters of Dominions or Overseas Forces, or employed under the Ministry of Munitions or the Ministry of National Service on work which, but for the creation of those Departments, would have been performed by the War Office; and all members of the Naval, Army, Dominions, or Overseas Nursing Services, or officials of the Women's Royal Naval Service, Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps, or the Women's Royal Air Force, and such commandants of the Women's Legion or similar organisations as are under contract with or employed by the Admiralty, War Office or Air Ministry shall be eligible for appointment to the Military Division of this Order.

6. It is ordained that the persons to be admitted to the Civil Division of the said Order shall be such persons, male or female, as may have rendered or shall hereafter render important services to our Empire.

7. It is ordained that foreign persons upon whom We may think fit to confer the honour of being received into this Order shall be deemed to be, and described as, Honorary Knights Grand Cross or Honorary Dames Grand Cross, Honorary Knights Commanders or Honorary Dames Commanders, Honorary Officers, Honorary Members, according to the classes in the Order to which they belong.

8. It is ordained that persons already appointed to this Order who are qualified for the Military Division shall, on the recommendation of the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Secretary of State for War or the Secretary of State for the Royal Air Force as the case may be, be transferred to the Military Division of this Order.

9. It is ordained that when We, Our heirs or successors shall be pleased to nominate and appoint any person to this Order such appointment shall be made by Warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual sealed with the Seal of this Order and countersigned by the Grand Master of the said Order.

10. It is ordained that this Order shall rank next to and immediately after Our Royal Victorian Order, that in all solemn Ceremonies, places and assemblies the Knights Grand Cross of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Knights Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, that the Dames Grand Cross of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the wives of Knights Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and may on all occasions have, use and enjoy the appellation and style of Dame before their Christian or first names, that the Knights Commanders of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Knights Commanders of the Royal Victorian Order, that the Dames Commanders of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the wives of Knights Commanders of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and may on all occasions have, use and enjoy the appellation and style of Dame before their Christian or first names, that the men who are Commanders of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Members of the Third Class of the Royal Victorian Order and the women who are Commanders of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the wives of Companions of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, that the men who are Officers of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Members of the Fourth Class of the Royal Victorian Order and the women who are Officers of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the wives of Members of the Fourth Class of the Royal Victorian Order, that the men who are Members of this Order, shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Members of the Fifth Class of the Royal Victorian Order and that the women who are Members of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the wives of Members of the Fifth Class of the Royal Victorian Order.

11. It is ordained that the insignia of the Sovereign of this Order shall be of the same material and fashion as are hereinafter appointed for the Knights Grand Cross, save only with those alterations which distinguish Our Royal Dignity.

12. It is ordained that the Grand Master shall wear the Insignia of a Knight Grand Cross, the badge of which for the Grand Master shall be augmented in accordance with the commands of the Sovereign.

13. It is ordained that the Military and Civil Knights and Dames Grand Cross of this Most Excellent Order shall upon all great and solemn occasions wear the badge of the Order, which shall consist of a cross patonce, enamelled pearl, fimbriated or surmounted by a gold medallion with a representation of Britannia seated within a circle gules inscribed with the motto, "For God and the Empire," in letters of gold ensigned with the Imperial Crown or, the whole suspended from a purple riband which in the case of Knights Grand Cross shall be of the breadth of three inches and three-quarters with, for Military Knights Grand Cross the addition of a vertical red stripe in the centre of the ribbon of the width of about five-sixteenth of an inch and in the case of Dames Grand Cross shall be of the breadth of two inches and one-quarter with, for Military Dames Grand Cross, a vertical red stripe in the centre of the ribbon of the width of about one-quarter of an inch, passing from the right shoulder to the left side, and they shall wear on the left side of their coats or outer garments an oval Star composed of eight points and charged with a medallion as above.

14. It is ordained that the Military and Civil Knights Commanders shall wear around their necks a riband of the same colour and pattern as that of the Military and Civil Knights Grand Cross of the breadth of one inch and three quarters, but, in the case of Military Knights Commanders the vertical red stripe is to be of the width of about three-sixteenths of an inch, and pendant therefrom the Badge of the Knights Commanders of the Order, with shall be of similar form and pattern to that appointed for the Knights Grand Cross, but of smaller size, and also that they shall wear on the left side of their coats or outer garments a silver star composed of four equal points and four lesser, charged with a medallion as before, and it is ordained that the Military and

Civil Dames Commanders shall wear a badge of similar form and pattern as that appointed for Knights Commanders attached to a riband also similar to that worn by Military and Civil Knights Commanders but tied in a bow and worn on the left shoulder, and that they shall wear a like star.

15. It is ordained that the Military and Civil Commanders shall in the same manner wear the like riband and badge as that appointed for the Military and Civil Knights and Dames Commanders respectively, but that they shall not be entitled to wear the Star.

16. It is ordained that the Military and Civil Officers shall wear a badge of similar form and pattern as that appointed for the Military and Civil Commanders of the Order, but of a smaller size and silver gilt, attached to a riband of the same colour and pattern of the breadth of one inch and a half, but in the case of Military Officers the vertical red stripe is to be of the width of an eighth of an inch, attached to the left breast of their coats or outer garments by men, and tied in a bow on the left shoulder by women.

17. It is ordained that the Military and Civil Members shall wear in like manner the same ribands and badge as that appointed to the Military and Civil Officers of the Order except that the badge shall be in silver.

18. It is ordained that upon the nomination of any person to be a Knight Grand Cross, Dame Grand Cross, Knight Commander, or Dame Commander of this Order, he or she shall be invested with the Insignia of his or her dignity in the Order by Us, Our heirs and successors if he or she be resident at the time in this country, but if he or she be in India by Our Viceroy of India in Our name and on Our behalf, and if he or she be in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, or South Africa by Our Governors General of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, or South Africa respectively in Our name and on Our behalf; and that on the day of the Investiture the person to be invested shall be introduced into the presence of the Sovereign, the Viceroy of India, or the Governor General of the Order or other Officer deputed to be in attendance bearing the proper Insignia of the Order, when the Sovereign, Viceroy, or Governor General having in the case of Knights Grand Cross and Knights Commanders conferred the Honour of Knighthood upon the person so nominated if he have not previously received the said Honour, will then proceed to invest him or her with the Ensigns of the said Order in the following manner:— The Sovereign, Viceroy or Governor General will invest the new Knight Grand Cross, Dame Grand Cross, Knight Commander or Dame Commander with the riband and badge and will deliver or place on his or her left side the star of the said Order appertaining to his or her dignity.

19. It is further ordained that it shall be competent for Us, Our heirs and successors by a Warrant or Warrants under Our Sign Manual countersigned by the Grand Master and sealed with the Seal of this Order to authorize some distinguished person in Our Service or other person to perform in Our name and on Our behalf the Ceremony of investing Knights Grand Cross, Dames Grand Cross, Knights Commanders, or Dames Commanders with the Insignia of their respective dignities or to permit the Ceremony of Investiture to be dispensed with. And We reserve to Ourselves, Our heirs and successors, by Our or their Warrant or Warrants as aforesaid, full power and authority to permit and authorize the person or persons not invested by Us to wear the Insignia and enjoy the privileges appertaining to their respective dignities in as full and ample a manner as if they had been invested by Us, Our heirs and successors.

20. It is ordained that on the promotion of a person to a higher class of this Order the Insignia of the class theretofore worn by him or her shall be returned to the Registrar of the Order for the service of the Order, and that on the resignation or decease of an Official of the Order his Badge of Office shall be restored for the service of the Order.

21. It is ordained that for the greater honour and dignity of the Knights Grand Cross and Dames Grand Cross of this Order it shall and may be lawful for them upon all occasions to bear Supporters to their Arms; and We do by these Presents direct and command Our Garter Principal King of Arms for the time being to grant Supporters to such Knights Grand Cross and Dames Grand Cross of this Order as shall not otherwise be entitled thereto and it shall also be lawful for Knights Grand Cross and Dames Grand Cross of this Order to surround their Armorial Bearings with the circle and motto of the Order and to suspend therefrom a representation of their riband and badge and for Knights Commanders, Dames Commanders, and Commanders of this Order to surround their Armorial Bearings with their circle and motto of the Order and to suspend therefrom a representation of their riband and badge and for the Officers and Members of the Order to suspend a representation of their riband and respective badges from the bottom of the escocheon containing their Armorial Bearings.

22. It is ordained that the Seal of the Order shall have engraved thereon as follows (that is to say) a representation of Britannia surrounded by a circle containing the motto of the Order "For God and the Empire," and that the Statutes of the Order shall be sealed by and with the same.

23. It is ordained that it shall be competent for Us, Our heirs and successors by an Ordinance signed by the Sovereign and sealed with the Seal of the Order to cancel and annul the appointment of any person to this Order, and thereupon his or her name in the Register shall be erased. But that it shall be competent for the Sovereign to restore to the Order any person whose appointment may have been so cancelled and annulled when circumstances render it just and expedient so to do.

24. It is ordained that a Military and Civil Medal of this Order shall be awarded to persons, not being Members of or eligible for appointment to the five classes of Our said Order, whose services to Our Empire would warrant such mark of Our Royal appreciation and that persons subordinate to those who are eligible for the Military Divisions of the various classes of this Order shall be eligible for the said Military Medal.

25. It is ordained that the medal of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire for men and for women shall consist of a circular medal in silver, having on the obverse a representation of Britannia within the circle and motto of the Order and on the reverse Our Royal and Imperial Cypher, and shall be worn on the left side suspended by a ring to a purple riband of one inch and one-sixteenth of an inch in width, with the addition in the case of recipients of the Military Medal of the Order of a vertical red stripe in the centre of the riband of about one-tenth of an inch.

26. It is ordained that it shall be competent for Us, Our heirs and successors by a Warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual to cancel and annul the award of any Medal of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, and that thereupon the name of the recipient in the Register shall be erased, but it shall be competent for the Sovereign to restore the medal to any person whose name may have been so erased when circumstances render it just and expedient so to do.

27. It is ordained that the twenty-fourth day of May every year shall henceforth be taken and deemed to be the anniversary of the institution of the Order.

28. It is ordained that the following officials shall be appointed to this Order, that is to say, a

Prelate,
King of Arms,
Registrar,
Secretary,
Gentleman Usher of the Purple Rod.

29. It is ordained that the Prelate of this Order shall wear around his neck pendent to a riband similar to that which is assigned to the Knights Commanders an escocheon of gold enamelled on a field purpure the badge within the circle and motto of the Order, the whole surmounted by an Imperial Crown. Moreover, it shall be lawful for the Prelate to surround his Armorial Bearings with the circle and motto of this Order.

30. It is ordained that the King of Arms of this Order shall be nominated by Us, Our heirs and successors, and that he shall sedulously attend the Service of the Order. And further it is ordained that he shall wear around his neck pendent to a purple riband an escocheon of gold enamelled on a field purpure a representation of Britannia impaling the Arms of the Sovereign surrounded with the circle and motto of the Order and surmounted by an Imperial Crown, that he shall carry the Rod of this Order, which shall have on the two greater squares the Arms of the Order impaled with those of the Sovereign, and on the lesser squares the Arms of the Order, the whole surmounted by an Imperial Crown, and that at all Coronations he shall precede the Knights Grand Cross and shall carry and wear a Crown as Our other Kings of Arms are accustomed to do, which badge, rod and crown shall all be of the same materials with those used and borne by Our Garter Principal King of Arms.

31. It is ordained that the Registrar of this Order shall be the person for the time being holding the Office of Registrar and Secretary of the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood that he shall record all proceedings connected with this Most Excellent Order in a register to be appropriated for that purpose and shall, under the

directions of the Grand Master, prepare all Warrants and other Instruments to be passed under the Seal of the Order and engross the same, that he shall summon the Knights Grand Cross to attend the Sovereign at all investitures of this Order, that he shall wear around his neck pendent to a purple riband an escocheon of gold enamelled on a field purpure the cross of the Order surmounted by a representation of a closed book Gules, clasps Or, within the circle and motto of the Order, the whole surmounted by an Imperial Crown.

32. It is ordained that the Secretary of this Order shall be the person holding for the time being the office of Permanent Under Secretary of State for the Home Department or such other member of the staff of the Home Department as may be nominated by Us, that he shall collect and tabulate the names of those persons who are to be submitted to Us for admission to this Order or to be awarded the Medal of this Order, that he shall wear around his neck pendent to a purple riband an escocheon of gold enamelled on a field purpure the badge of the Order with two pens saltirewise between the angles in pearl enamel within the circle and motto of the Order, the whole surmounted by an Imperial Crown.

33. It is ordained that the Gentleman Usher of the Purple Rod of this Most Excellent Order shall be appointed by Us, Our heirs and successors, shall wear around his neck pendent to a purple riband an escocheon of gold enamelled on a field purpure a representation of Britannia surrounded by the circle and motto of the Order and surmounted by an Imperial Crown, and that he shall carry the Purple Rod of the Order, having at the top an escrol thereon the motto of the Order surmounted by a representation of Britannia.

34. It is ordained that all and every of the officials of this Order shall over and above the duties more specially imposed by the foregoing Statutes execute diligently whatever the Sovereign or Grand Master may be pleased to command touching the interests of the said Order, and that the said Offices of Prelate, King of Arms, Registrar, Secretary, and Gentleman Usher shall be holden during good behaviour.

35. We do hereby command and enjoin that these Statutes shall be of such and that same force, virtue and effect in every respect as if they had been duly made and the said acts, deeds, matters and things had been duly done on the fourth day of June, 1917.

Lastly.—We reserve to Ourselves, Our heirs and successors, full power of annulling, altering, abrogating, augmenting, interpreting or dispensing with these Statutes and Regulations or any part thereof by a notification under the Sign Manual of the Sovereign of the Order.

Given at Our Court at *Saint James's*, the Twenty-eighth day of March,
One thousand nine hundred and nineteen, in the Ninth year of
Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

EDWARD SHORTT.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

ST. JAMES'S PALACE, S.W. 1,

5th September, 1919.

THE MOST EXCELLENT ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

Notice is hereby given that no individual may concurrently hold appointments to both the Military and Civil Divisions of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

(1) In any case in which an individual holding an appointment in one of the Classes of a Division is promoted to a higher Class in the other Division, such promotion is to be regarded as a transfer, and the original appointment consequently lapses; but the date of such original appointment is recorded in the Chancery of the Order. In such a case, in accordance with the Statutes of the Order, the Insignia of the lower Class from which transfer has been made on promotion shall be returned to the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood.

(2) In any case in which an individual holding an appointment in one of the Classes of a Division is appointed to the same Class of the other Division, such appointment shall be regarded as a transfer from one Division to the other, the date of the transfer being recorded in the Chancery of the Order, but without affecting the date of the original appointment to the Order. In such a case the individual so transferred should have the ribbon of his Insignia altered, the cost of which will be met free of charge to the following extent:—

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Knights Grand Cross	4	0
Dames Grand Cross	3	6
Knights Commanders, Dames Commanders, and Commanders...	2	0
Officers and Members	1	6

The Registrar and Secretary of the Central Chancery is prepared to receive bills from Jewellers up to the above amounts for alterations they have made. These bills must bear the signed authority of the person for whom the alteration is made.

(3) No transfer from the Civil to the Military Division is permissible unless the individual to be transferred is eligible for appointment to the Military Division under Clause 5 of the Statutes of the Order.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

No. 563.—It is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor in Council has given directions for the rescission of the Order of the 5th February, 1919, published in the *Gazette Extraordinary* of the same date, as Government Notification No. 61, proclaiming Saigon to be a place at which an infectious or contagious disease prevailed, and the same is hereby rescinded.

No. 564.

Rule made by the Governor in Council under section 18 of the Prison Ordinance, 1899, Ordinance No. 4 of 1899, this 11th day of December, 1919.

The Prison Rules 1900 published on pages 471 to 536 of the Regulations of Hongkong 1914 are hereby amended by deleting in the second paragraph of such rules on page 471 all words between the word "security" in the 7th line of such paragraph and the word "The" in the 10th line of such paragraph and by substituting therefor the following words:—

"The term 'European prisoners' shall include Americans and such other persons as, owing to their previous mode of life, cannot in the opinion of the Superintendent be properly placed in the category of Asiatic prisoners. The term 'Asiatic prisoners' shall include all prisoners other than European prisoners. Any prisoner whose application to be classed as a European prisoner is refused by the Superintendent shall be entitled to appeal to the Governor in Council whose decision shall be final."

A. G. M. FLETCHER,
Clerk of Councils.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
11th December, 1919.