

68th Regiment of Foot.

Major-General Sir William Lewis Herries, C.B., to be Colonel, vice Lieutenant-General Douglas Mercer Henderson, C.B., deceased. Dated 17th April, 1854.

98th Regiment of Foot.

Major-General William Lindsay Darling to be Colonel, vice Lieutenant-General Sir Wilmoughby Cotton, G.C.B., removed to the 32nd Foot. Dated 17th April, 1854.

Office of Ordnance, 17th April, 1854.

*Royal Regiment of Artillery.**Gentlemen Cadets to be Second Lieutenants.*

Francis Walter de Winton, vice Booth, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Augustus Henry Carr Hamilton, vice Jonge, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Edmund Charles Cuthbert, vice Winn, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Ernest Augustus Montague Lloyd, vice Brackenbury, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Pilkington Jackson, vice Markham, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Jervis Tucker, vice Porter, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Brymer Francis Schreiber, vice E. P. B. Turner, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Michael Tweedie, vice Cromartie, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Robert Loftus Tottenham, vice Joyce, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Richard O'Hara, vice Gore, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Hugh Chetham Lyle, vice Teesdale, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Leonard Griffiths, vice Lyons, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 William Raymond Lluellyn, vice Torriano, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Henry John Foquett Ellis Hikes, vice J. T. B. Brown, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.

*Corps of Royal Engineers.**Gentlemen Cadets to be Second Lieutenants, with Temporary Rank.*

Peter Henry Scratchley, vice Cox, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.
 Gustavus Nicolls Kelsall, vice Savage, promoted. Dated 11th April, 1854.

Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Southampton.

Sir Jervoise Clarke Jervoise, Bart., to be Deputy Lieutenant. Dated 12th April, 1854.

Hampshire Yeomanry Cavalry.

Thomas George Baring, Esq., to be Captain, vice Lord Ashburton, resigned. Dated 12th April, 1854.

Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County Palatine of Lancaster.

Thomas Berry Horsfall, Esq., to be Deputy Lieutenant. Dated 13th April, 1854.

3rd Regiment of the Duke of Lancaster's Own Militia.

Alexander O'Farrell, Gent., to be Lieutenant. Dated 12th April, 1854.

Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the Tower Hamlets.

King's Own Light Infantry Regiment of Militia.
 Ensign Coles Lewis Harris to be Lieutenant, vice Woodford, who retires.
 Thomas Rochfort Hunt, Gent., to be Ensign, vice Harris.

*Commission signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Cumberland.**Royal Cumberland Regiment of Militia.*

James Brooksbank, junior, Gent., to be Lieutenant, vice Parke, resigned. Dated 5th April, 1854.

Commission signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Middlesex.

1st or Royal East Middlesex Regiment of Militia.
 Robert Crowe, Gent., to be Ensign. Dated 8th April, 1854.

*Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Norfolk.**1st or Western Regiment of Militia.*

Captain Hambleton Francis Custance to be Major, vice Bulwer, who retires. Dated 10th April, 1854.
 Samuel William Aldred, Gentleman, to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Baker, deceased. Dated 10th April, 1854.

2nd or Eastern Regiment of Militia.

George Blomefield, Esq. (late Lieutenant-Colonel, Unattached), to be Captain. Dated 10th April, 1854.
 James Haggard, Esq., to be Captain. Dated 11th April, 1854.

Norfolk Militia Artillery.

John Penrice, Gent., to be First Lieutenant. Dated 10th April, 1854.
 Edward Tredecroft, Gent., to be Second Lieutenant. Dated 10th April, 1854.
 Charles North, Gent., to be Second Lieutenant. Dated 11th April, 1854.

[This Article is substituted for that which appeared in the Gazette of Friday last.]

*Commission signed by the Vice-Lieutenant of the East Riding of the County of York, and the Borough of Kingston-upon-Hull.**East York Regiment of Militia.*

Alwin Shutt Bell, Gent., to be Ensign. Dated 11th April, 1854.

TREASURY WARRANT.

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the fourth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the regulation of the duties of postage," certain scales of weight and rates of postage were fixed and made chargeable and payable upon, for, or in respect of letters, newspapers, parliamentary proceedings, and printed papers, transmitted and forwarded by the post, and various regulations were made for facilitating the transmission of such letters and papers by the post.

And whereas by an Act, passed in the eleventh year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for giving further facilities for the transmission of letters by post, and for the regulating the duties of postage thereon, and for other purposes relating to the Post-office," the proviso

concerning the maximum weight of letters to be sent by the post, as fixed in and by the said first-mentioned Act is repealed; and in order to prevent packets of an unwieldy bulk, or an inconvenient size, being transmitted by the post, power is given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, at any time or times thereafter, by Warrant under their hands, to fix a maximum weight of letters to be sent by the post, and from time to time to repeal or revoke such maximum weight wholly or in part, and declare any other maximum of weight in lieu thereof; and all letters are to be forwarded, conveyed, and delivered by the post, in conformity with any such warrant, and also in conformity with, and under and subject to, all such orders, conditions, limitations, regulations, and restrictions, as to the form, size, or dimensions thereof, whether in proportion to the weight or otherwise, as the Postmaster-General, with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall from time to time direct. And by the said Act power is also given to the Postmaster General, with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to require the postage, British, Colonial, or Foreign, of any letters sent by the post, to be pre-paid, either in money or in stamps, as he may think fit, on the same being put into the Post-office; and also, with such consent, to abolish or restrict the pre-payment in money of postage on letters sent by the post, either altogether or on certain letters, and to require the pre-payment thereof to be in stamps, and to refuse to receive or send by the post any letters tendered contrary to any regulations thereby made. And it is also declared and enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General, and any officer of the Post-office, to detain any letters which shall be posted or sent by the post contrary to the regulations of that Act, or the first-mentioned Act, or contrary to the regulations of any Treasury Warrant, to be issued under or by virtue of that Act, or which had been or should be issued under or by virtue of the said first-mentioned Act, and to open such letters and either to return them to the senders thereof, or to forward them to the places of their destination, charged, in either case, with such rates of postage as the Postmaster-General, with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, shall from time to time direct.

Now we, the undersigned, being two of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, do, in exercise of the powers reserved to us in and by the said before-mentioned Acts, or either of them, and of all other powers, enabling us in this behalf, by this Warrant under our hands, order and direct, that printed books (whether British, Colonial, or Foreign), may be transmitted by the post between any part of the United Kingdom and the East Indies, Ceylon, the Mauritius, and Hong Kong, and that on all such printed books there shall be charged and taken, in lieu of any rates of British postage now payable by law thereon, the rates of British postage following (that is to say):

On every packet, consisting of a single printed book, the several sheets or parts of which, when more than one, shall be sewed or bound together, if not exceeding half a pound in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of eight pence.

And on every such packet, if exceeding half a pound, and not exceeding one pound in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of one shilling and four pence.

And on every such packet, if exceeding one pound and not exceeding two pounds in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of two shillings and eight pence.

And for every additional one pound in weight, of any such packet above the weight of two pounds, there shall be charged and taken an additional rate of postage of one shilling and four pence, and every fraction of such additional pound shall be charged as an additional pound.

And we further direct, that no such packet sent or tendered, or delivered in order to be sent between the United Kingdom and the East Indies, if exceeding the weight of three pounds, and no such packet sent or tendered, or delivered in order to be sent between the United Kingdom and the East Indies, Ceylon, the Mauritius, or Hong Kong, if containing more than one printed book, or containing any paper or thing besides a printed book, or containing any printed book, the several sheets, or parts of which when more than one shall not be sewed or bound together, or which packet in length or breadth or width or depth shall exceed the dimensions of two feet or twenty-four inches shall be forwarded by the post under the provisions aforesaid.

And we further direct, that printed votes and proceedings of the Imperial Parliament may be sent by the post from the United Kingdom to Ceylon and Hong Kong, and that printed votes and proceedings of the Colonial Legislatures may be sent by the post from Ceylon and Hong Kong to the United Kingdom, and that on all such printed votes and proceedings there shall be charged and taken, in lieu of any rates of British postage now payable by law thereon, the rates of British postage following (that is to say),

On every packet consisting of a single printed publication of votes or proceedings of the Imperial Parliament or the Colonial Legislatures, the several sheets or parts of which, when more than one, shall be sewed or bound together, if not exceeding half a pound in weight, there shall be charged and taken an uniform rate of eight pence.

And on every such packet, if exceeding half a pound and not exceeding one pound in weight, there shall be charged and taken an uniform rate of one shilling and four pence.

And on every such packet, if exceeding one pound and not exceeding two pounds in weight, there shall be charged and taken an uniform rate of two shillings and eight pence.

And for every additional one pound in weight of any such packet, above the weight of two pounds, there shall be charged and taken an additional rate of postage of one shilling and four pence, and every fraction of such additional pound shall be charged as an additional pound.

And we further direct, that no such packet, if containing more than one printed publication of votes or proceedings, or containing any paper or thing besides printed votes or proceedings, or containing any printed publication of votes or proceedings, the several sheets or parts of which, when more than one, shall not be sewed or bound together, or which packet, in length, or breadth, or width, or depth, shall exceed the dimensions of two feet, or twenty-four inches, shall be forwarded by the post, under the provisions of the said clause relating to printed votes and proceedings of the Imperial Parliament and the Colonial Legislatures.

And we further direct, that as to any packet hereinbefore respectively authorised to be sent by the post under the provisions aforesaid, whether containing a printed book or a printed publication of votes or proceedings of the Imperial Parliament or the Colonial Legislatures, which shall be posted in the United Kingdom, the postage thereof shall in every case be pre-paid at the time of the same being posted not in money but by being duly stamped with the proper British postage stamp or stamps affixed thereto, which stamp or stamps shall in every case be affixed or appear on the outside of every such packet near the address, and shall be of the value or amount of the postage duty payable thereon, under or by virtue of this Warrant, unless any such packet be sent from any department or office in or connected with the public service of Her Majesty, which shall keep a postage account with the General Post-office, in London, in which case the same shall be forwarded post paid, and the postage thereof shall be charged in such postage account; and as to any such packet posted in the East Indies, Ceylon, the Mauritius, and Hong Kong, the postage thereof shall, in every case, be pre-paid either in money or by the proper Colonial postage stamp or stamps being affixed thereto at the time of the same being posted.

And we further direct that every such packet shall be sent without a cover or in a cover or envelope, open at the ends or sides, and shall contain printed matter only, with the binding thereof, and there shall be no writing or marks upon the cover or envelope thereof, or upon or within any part of the contents thereof other than the name and address of the person to whom the packet shall be sent, unless any such packet be sent from any department or office in or connected with the public service of Her Majesty, which shall keep a postage account with the General Post-office in London, in which case the same may, in addition to the name and address of the person to whom it shall be sent, have printed or written thereon, or upon the cover or envelope thereof, the words "On Her Majesty's service," and also the name of the department or public office from which the packet shall be forwarded, together with the name of any public officer employed in or belonging to any such department or office who may be authorized to affix his name to letters and packets sent by the post as a certificate that they are on the public service.

And in order to prevent any obstacles to the due and regular transmission of letters by the post, we further direct that it shall be lawful for any officer of the post-office in the United Kingdom to delay the transmission of any packet posted or forwarded by the post under the provisions of this Warrant, either for the space of twenty-four hours from the time at which (or at his option until the despatch of the mail next after that by which) the same ought otherwise to have been forwarded by him.

And we further direct that nothing hereinbefore contained shall be construed to interfere with or affect the transmission by the post of any printed papers or other printed publications which are allowed to pass by the post under the newspaper privilege.

And we further order and direct that if any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent by the post, under the provisions of this present Warrant, between the United Kingdom and the East Indies, shall exceed the weight of three pounds; or if any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent, under the provisions of this Warrant, between the United

Kingdom and the East Indies or the Mauritius, shall contain any paper or thing besides a printed book and the binding thereof; or if any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent, under the provisions of this Warrant, between the United Kingdom and Ceylon or Hong Kong, shall contain any paper or thing besides a printed book, or printed publication of votes, or proceedings of the Imperial Parliament or the Colonial Legislatures; or if any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent, under the provisions of this Warrant, shall have any writing or marks upon the same, or upon the cover or envelope thereof, except the name and address of the person to whom it is forwarded, and also as to any such packet sent from any department or office in or connected with the public service of Her Majesty which shall keep a postage account with the General Post-office in London, except the words "On Her Majesty's service," and the name of the department or public office from which the same shall be forwarded, with the name of any public officer employed in or belonging to any such department or office, who may be authorized to affix his name to letters, and packets, sent by the post, as a certificate that they are on the public service, or shall not be open at the ends or sides, or shall in length, or breadth, or width, or depth, exceed the dimensions of two feet, or twenty-four inches; or as to any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent, under the provisions of this Warrant, between the United Kingdom and the East Indies or the Mauritius, shall contain more than one printed book, or shall contain any printed book, the several sheets or parts of which, when more than one, shall not be sewed or bound together; or as to any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent, under the provisions of this Warrant, between the United Kingdom and Ceylon or Hong Kong, shall contain more than one printed book, or printed publication of votes or proceedings of the Imperial Parliament or the Colonial Legislatures, or shall contain any printed book, or printed publication of votes or proceedings, the several sheets or parts of which, when more than one, shall not be sewed or bound together; or if the postage of any such packet, posted in the United Kingdom, shall not be duly and properly pre-paid by British stamps, when posted (any such packet sent from any department or office in or connected with the public service of Her Majesty which shall keep a postage account with the General Post-office in London, and the postage thereof shall be charged in such account only excepted), or if the postage of any such packet, posted in the East Indies, Ceylon, the Mauritius, or Hong Kong, shall not be duly and properly pre-paid in money, or by colonial stamps, when posted, the same shall and may be detained and opened at any place in the United Kingdom, and, at the option of the Postmaster-General, shall be either returned or given up to the sender thereof, or be given up to the person to whom it shall be addressed, or be forwarded to the place of its destination; and any such packet, on being so returned, given up, or forwarded, shall be chargeable with the like amount of postage to which it would have been liable as a letter.

And we further direct, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to any packets sent through France, or any other foreign country to which a transit rate of postage would be payable thereon, nor to any packets sent by private ships.

And we further direct, that the terms, "printed books" and "printed book," used in this Warrant,

shall include a printed magazine, printed review, and printed pamphlet; and that the term, "by the post," used in this Warrant shall, as to the sea conveyance, include the conveyance by packet-boat, and shall also include the conveyance through Egypt, so long as no transit rate of postage be payable thereon; and that the term "East Indies," used in this Warrant, shall be construed to mean every port or place in Asia within the limits of the Charter of the East India Company (China, Hong Kong, Ceylon, the Mauritius, Java, Borneo, and Australia, excepted), and that the several other terms and expressions used in this Warrant, shall be construed to have the like meaning, in all respects, as they would have had if inserted in the said Act, passed in the fourth year of the reign of Her present Majesty.

And we further direct, that this Warrant shall come into operation on the nineteenth day of April, 1854.

Provided lastly, and we do hereby declare and direct, that it shall be lawful for the Commissioners for the time being, of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any two of them, by Warrant, under their hands, at any time hereafter, to alter or repeal any of the rates hereby fixed or altered, or the regulations hereby made, and to make and establish any new or other rates or regulations in lieu thereof, and, from time to time, to appoint at what time the rates that may be payable are to be paid.

Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, the thirteenth day of April, 1854.

*W. E. Gladstone.
Alfred Hervey.*

NOTIFICATION.

*General Board of Health, Whitehall,
April 17, 1854.*

THE General Board of Health deem it their duty to warn Boards of Guardians, Local Boards of Health, Parochial Boards, and other local authorities against placing a false security in the present apparent disappearance of epidemic cholera.

It is of the last importance to bear in mind that a similar decline of the pestilence took place at corresponding periods of its progress on both its former visitations.

The attack of 1831 was premonitory of a more severe and wide-spread outbreak in 1832.

The epidemic of 1848, which in the autumn of that year numbered nearly one thousand victims in the metropolis, almost wholly disappeared in the spring, yet returned with redoubled violence in the summer, destroyed nearly two thousand persons weekly for several weeks in succession, and produced, including deaths from diarrhoea, a total mortality of more than 17,000.

In like manner, the outbreak of last autumn, which commenced with greater virulence than the epidemic of 1848, and destroyed in the metropolis during the first months of its course double the number of victims, has been followed by a lull, which has been more complete than that of 1849. But within the last month the disease has again become more active, and a gradual increase has taken place in the number of deaths, raising, for this month, the total deaths in England and Scotland to twice the amount of the corresponding period of 1849. The analogy of the preceding visitations therefore justifies the apprehension that the disease, instead of having ceased, is in its period of incubation, and that the epidemic, in its decided form and full force, is yet to come.

The modifications in its character which the pestilence has recently exhibited, are of a nature to

render it doubly necessary that the first indications of its appearance in a locality should be vigilantly watched. In the majority of the places which it has hitherto attacked, it has seized its victims more suddenly and hurried them through its fatal course with greater rapidity than on any preceding visitation.

One stage of the disease, formerly well marked, and of the utmost value with reference to the opportunity afforded for the application of the means of prevention, is now generally much shorter in duration, and often even suppressed, namely, that denoted by the term "approaching cholera." Premonitory diarrhoea does still indeed exist, but that also is commonly of shorter duration, and passes more directly and rapidly into cholera, and cholera itself into collapse.

During its first visitation in 1831 and 1832, the attacks of the epidemic, with few exceptions, were confined to the poorer portions of the population residing in the most neglected and unhealthy districts. In 1848 and 1849, it was fatal to larger numbers of the middle classes inhabiting better conditioned localities and houses. As far as the disease has yet advanced, the proportion of the better class attacked is still greater than in 1849.

In that year, among the total number of persons who perished by the epidemic in the metropolis, 81 per cent. were labourers and artizans, and 15 per cent. were tradesmen; but in the places in which the disease has lately prevailed, the proportion of deaths among labourers and artizans has been only 72 per cent., while the mortality amongst tradesmen has reached 24 per cent. In like manner in the epidemic of 1849, the proportion of the deaths of the gentry and professional persons to the total deaths, was 2.6 per cent., but recently it has risen to 3.2 per cent. In other countries the disease has not spared the highest classes, and if the safeguards against it are neglected, there is no reason why it should in our own.

It is further indicative of an increasing activity and intensity in the pestilence, that while the interval between its first and second visitations was sixteen years, the interval between its second and third visitations has been only four years; and that its second visitation was far more extensive and mortal than the first. In the absence of more efficient precautions against it, there appears no reasonable ground for the expectation that the third will be less extensive and mortal than the second.

Besides the loss of life, the pecuniary loss occasioned by these local out-breaks demands attention. Irrespective of the permanent expense entailed on towns both by public rates and private contributions for the maintenance of widows, orphans, and others pauperized by the epidemic, the losses sustained by individual tradesmen, from the interruption, and in some instances, the almost total suspension of commerce, are most severe. In some recent instances the sum thus lost would have sufficed to defray a very large proportion of the outlay required to place the town in a permanently safe and satisfactory sanitary condition. It is estimated that the total cost of the visitation of 1848 and 1849 to England and Scotland, exclusive of the cost to Ireland, could not have been less than 2,000,000*l.*

From these considerations, the Board have learnt with great regret that, since the lull in the epidemic, local authorities in numerous instances have suspended the preventive measures which they had actively commenced, under the assumption that the visitation of cholera is over, and that therefore the occasion for further watchfulness and effort has ceased.