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MIDSHIPMEN EXTRA AND VOLUNTEERS

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A sail a-head, our decks are clear,
 Our canvas croud ; the chase we near,
     In vain the Frenchman flies.
 A broadside pour'd thro' clouds of smoke—
 Our captain roars—My hearts of oak !
     Now draw and board your prize.
         For Neptune, etc.

The scuppers run with Gallic gore—
 The white rag struck, monsieur no more
     Disputes the British sway.
 A prize ! we tow her into port,
 And hark ! Salutes from ev'ry port !
     Huzza, my souls, huzza !
         For Neptune, etc.

So much then for blood and thunder, prize and booty.
 There is nothing here of the strong character or gentle melancholy of the old fore-bitter. But in the next article we shall discover another side of the life of the sea.

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¹ They are part of a large collection of broadsides and ballads which were in the possession of my late father Francis Alexander Leyland. The collection seems to have been formed by his grandfather, William Leyland, who lived during the whole of the long wars. They had become decayed through dampness, but have been mounted and are lodged in the Bankfield Museum, Halifax. Under the editorship of H. Ling Roth and J. T. Jolley, M.A., a selection from them has been privately printed.

² Sir John Lockhart Ross (formerly Lockhart only) and the Hon. Robert Digby, both of whom had been captains with Hawke at Quiberon Bay and with Keppel against D'Orvilliers, were made Rear-Admirals of the Blue, March 29, 1779. There is a spirited ballad on "The Brave Admiral Lockhart" as Captain of the *Shrewsbury*, about 1777, in Logan's "Pedlar's Pack."

DOCUMENT.

MIDSHIPMEN EXTRA AND VOLUNTEERS.

(CONTRIBUTED BY W. G. PERRIN).

The order from the Board of Admiralty to the Navy Board printed below is the first general regulation issued laying down the conditions under which Midshipmen Extra and Volunteers, might be borne in H.M. Ships.

After our hearty commendations. His Majesty having, out of his Royal desire, as well of giving encouragement to the families of better qualities among his subjects to breed up their younger sons to the art and practice of navigation in order to the fitting them for further employment in his Majesty's Service at sea, as for the better support of such persons as having served his Majesty in the qualities of Commanders or Lieutenants in his Ships during war cannot be provided for with the like employment in times of peace, being graciously pleased for some time past at his extraordinary charge, to admit of the bearing several young gentlemen to the ends aforesaid on board his Majesty's Ships in the quality of Volunteers, and of several others (formerly Commanders and Lieutenants) in quality of Midshipmen Extra, over and above the complements of men established to the said ships; and whereas for the better improvement of this his Majesty's royal bounty, with respect as well to his charge depending thereon as to the just ease of the Commanders and Officers of his ships whereon the said persons shall be entertained, and his Majesty being from time to time truly informed in the fruits of this his Royal care, in the good behaviour and proficiency of the said persons, His Majesty hath thought fitting with the advice of this Board to determine upon the following Rules to be hereafter strictly observed, vizt :—

That his Majesty's Ships shall not hereafter be charged in any one voyage with Volunteers or Midshipmen Extra above the number following for each of the 4 inferior Rates, viz :

Rate	Volunteers	Midshipmen.
3	Four	Three
4	Three	Two
5	Two	One
6	One	One

That no person above the age of sixteen years shall be hereafter entertained as a Volunteer unless the said person shall have formerly served as such on board some of his Majesty's Ships ;

That upon any vacancy in the number of Volunteers hereby established upon his Majesty's Ships, such persons as have formerly served at sea in the quality of Volunteers shall upon timely application to that purpose made, and producing the certificate hereafter required, be preferred before any others who have not formerly served Us in that capacity ;

That to such persons as shall by His Majesty's Order be entertained as Volunteers there shall, besides his Majesty's ordinary allowance of victuals as one of the ship's company, be granted for their better support the further allowance which for some time past hath been given by his Majesty in the like case, vizt., so much in money payable by the Treasurer of the Navy as will make up the value of the said ordinary allowance of victuals twenty-four pounds a year ;

That it shall be left to the choice of the Commanders of his Majesty's Ships on board of which any Volunteers shall be ordered, either to victual the said Volunteers at their own tables, and [in] that case have the benefit as well of the ordinary allowance of victuals made them by Us as the extra allowance of money aforesaid, or else leave the said Volunteers to diet themselves as they shall think fitting and take to themselves the benefit of the aforesaid allowances of victuals and money ;

That no Volunteer shall be allowed a servant at his Majesty's charge either for victuals or wages ;

That every person who, having formerly served as Commander or Lieutenant in any of his Majesty's Ships, stands not charged with any misdemeanour or failure of duty in his said employment, and no others, shall be held qualified for the being entertained on board any of his Majesty's Ships in quality of Midshipman Extra, as far as the number of such midshipmen hereby assigned to each Rate shall admit of the same,

and shall accordingly so be entertained with the allowance of a servant to be paid according to his quality ;

That no cabins shall be built in any of his Majesty's Ships for the accommodation of any Volunteers or Midshipmen Extra beyond the number of cabins already established for each of his Majesty's Ships by our orders of the 16th October, 1673, as also that neither the warrant officers nor any of the inferior officers of his Majesty's Ships to which Volunteers or Midshipmen Extra shall be ordered shall be dispossessed of their cabins for the accommodation of any Volunteers or Midshipmen Extra, but shall enjoy the benefit of the cabins provided for and belonging to them respectively, in the same manner as they ought to have done in case no such Volunteers or Midshipmen Extra had been sent on board ; and that the said Volunteers and Midshipmen Extra shall be contented with what accommodation can be afforded them out of the number of cabins already established as aforesaid, after the said Officers shall be provided for, in case any cabins shall then remain undisposed of ;

That every person who, having been entertained by his Majesty in the quality of a Volunteer or Midshipman Extra in a former voyage, shall at any time after pretend to the like entertainment, should for his Majesty's fuller satisfaction in the merits of the said person, deliver to the Secretary of the Admiralty for his Majesty's view a certificate under the hands of the Captain, Lieutenants or Master of the ship wherein he last served, signifying his civil and sober behaviour and obedience to command in the case of Midshipmen Extra ; and the same in the case of a Volunteer, with the addition of his having diligently applied himself to the study and practice of the art and duty of a seaman, before he be held capable of being readmitted to any such employment ;

That no person who shall be entertained as Midshipman Extra as aforesaid, shall be held capable of receiving the wages due to him as Midshipman until he shall deliver to the Secretary of the Admiralty for his Majesty's satisfaction, a perfect Journal fairly written, kept and signed by himself, expressing in distinct columns the place where the said ship shall have been each day at noon, the daily change of the wind, and all extra accidents happening in the voyage, from the time of his entering on board to the day of his discharge, and shall have produced a certificate to the Comptroller of his Majesty's Navy from the Secretary of the Admiralty importing his having received a Journal from the said Midshipman accordingly.

That all such Volunteers, Midshipmen Extra, and Servants of the Midshipmen as shall be sent on board his Majesty's Ships, by his particular orders as aforesaid, are to be reputed as supernumeraries to the complements of the ships on (*sic*) which they serve, and borne on the ship's books for wages and victuals accordingly ;

And in pursuance of his Majesty's pleasure signified unto us, these are to pray and require you to take care for the due putting in execution every such part of the said Rules as are properly within the duty of your Board to see executed, for which this shall be your warrant from.

Your loving friends,
ANGLESEA.
ARLINGTON.
CRAVEN.

Derby House,
1st July, 1676.