

*Merchant Shipping Acts Amendment.*

ship's name shall forthwith be altered in the register book, in the ship's certificate of registry, and on her bows and stern :

(3.) If in any case it is shown to the satisfaction of the Board of Trade that the name of any ship has been changed without such permission as aforesaid, they shall direct that her name be altered into that which she bore before such change, and the name shall be altered in the register book, in the ship's certificate of registry, and on her bows and stern accordingly :

(4.) Where a ship having once been registered has ceased to be so registered, no person, unless ignorant of such previous registry, (proof whereof shall lie on him,) shall apply to register, and no registrar shall knowingly register such ship, except by the name by which she was previously registered, unless with the permission of the Board of Trade granted as aforesaid.

Every person who acts or suffers any person under his control to act in contravention of this section, or who omits to do, or suffers any person under his control to omit to do, anything required by this section, shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds, and any principal officer of customs may detain the ship until the provisions of this section are complied with.

Application for a change of name shall be made in writing to the Board of Trade. If the Board are of opinion that the application is made on reasonable grounds they may entertain the same, and shall thereupon require notice thereof to be published in such form and manner as they think fit.

*Masters and Seamen (Part III. of Merchant Shipping Act, 1854.)*

7. Whenever in any proceeding against any seaman or apprentice belonging to any ship for desertion, or for neglecting or refusing to join or to proceed to sea in his ship, or for being absent from or quitting the same without leave, it is alleged by one-fourth of the seamen belonging to such ship, or, if the number of such seamen exceed twenty, by not less than five such seamen, that such ship is by reason of unseaworthiness, overloading, improper loading, defective equipment, or for any other reason, not in a fit condition to proceed to sea, or that the accommodation in such ship is insufficient, the court having cognizance of the case shall take such means as may be in their power to satisfy themselves concerning the truth or untruth of such allegation, and shall for that purpose receive the evidence of the person or person making the same, and shall have power to summon any other witnesses whose evidence they may think it desirable to hear; the court shall thereupon, if satisfied that the allegation is groundless, proceed to adjudicate, but if not so satisfied shall cause such ship to be surveyed: Survey of ships alleged by seamen to be unseaworthy.