

RANK AND COMMAND.

EXTRACT FROM THE KING'S REGULATIONS.

OFFICERS IN GENERAL.

1. The Officers of His Majesty's Navy are divided into the following branches, namely: Military, Medical, Accountant, Naval Instructor, Artisan.

2. The Military Branch is comprised of the undermentioned Officers who, with the exception hereinafter mentioned, shall rank and command in the following order:—

1. Admirals of the Fleet.
2. Admirals.
3. Vice-Admirals.
4. Rear-Admirals.
5. Commodores.
6. Captains.
7. Commanders.
8. Lieutenant-Commanders.
9. Lieutenants.
10. Sub-Lieutenants.
11. Mates.
12. Commissioned Gunners.
13. Commissioned Boatswains.
14. Commissioned Signal Boatswains.
15. Commissioned Telegraphists.
16. Gunners.
17. Boatswains.
18. Signal Boatswain.
19. Warrant Telegraphists.
20. Warrant Master-at-Arms.
21. Midshipmen.
22. Naval Cadets.

} According to date of Commissions.

} According to date of Warrants.

3. Commodores, when in the presence of Captains senior to them, shall rank and command according to their seniority as Captains.

4. A ship must always be represented by an Officer of the Military Branch in the following order of command:—

1. Captain.
2. Commander.
3. Lieutenant-Commander.
4. Lieutenant.
5. Sub-Lieutenant.
6. Mates.
7. Commissioned Gunner.
8. Commissioned Boatswain.
9. Commissioned Signal Boatswain.
10. Commissioned Telegraphist.
11. Gunner.
12. Boatswain.
13. Signal Boatswain.
14. Warrant Telegraphists.
15. Warrant Master-at-Arms.
16. Midshipman.
17. Naval Cadet.

} According to date of Commissions.

} According to date of Warrants.

5. All Officers of the same denomination in the Military Branch shall rank and command according to the order in which their names stand in the Official List of Officers of the Royal Navy; or when not inserted in the List, according to the dates of their first Commissions, Warrants or Orders, in their existing rank. If only acting in the rank, they shall rank and command after Officers holding the corresponding confirmed rank and in relation to each other shall rank and command according to the order in which their names stand in the Official List of the Officers of the Royal Navy unless the Admiralty may otherwise direct.

6. All steps in rank given on or after retirement, while conferring the title, uniform and other advantages of the higher rank will not give the right of command amongst Naval Officers, which is always to be governed by the date of commission in the rank held on the active list at the date of retirement.