

then going to sea for six months. In this country we have batteries all round the coast, and there may be some difficulty in the establishment of batteries for the necessary training in the Colonies. I have spoken of expenditure, and I may say that if the Colonies will bear the expense of training the men we would bear the expense of the retaining fees. At any rate, I am prepared to entertain the question if I see that there is some evidence forthcoming that our Colonial fellow-subjects, the seafaring population, will comply with the same conditions which we consider necessary for efficiency here. I will not underrate the difficulty of twenty-eight days' training, nor going to sea, but we should endeavour to find room and ships at various stations, and afterwards, possibly, assist them in embarking for a spell of real sea service. The difficulty of batteries is, no doubt, very great. One gentleman spoke of our sending ships, officers, and men as if we had got an unlimited number, but, as Lord Brassey and others know, our supply is not so great as to send them to all parts of the world for the training of Reserve men. And what we did for one Colony we should have to do for all. There is, therefore, very considerable difficulty as regards training. The first thing to be done is to see as to how far this difficulty would be met. I will send out our rules applied to the Reserves to the Commanders-in-Chief on the different stations. (Hear, hear.) They will then confer with the various Ministers and Governors, and we will see what the Colonial Governments say to it, and, what is more important, what the seafaring population say to it—whether they will accept the same conditions as those which are now readily accepted in this country. The great change to the requirements of six months at sea is a condition which has been accepted with the greatest approbation by the House of Commons and by all who are interested in the Naval Reserve. We could not make easier conditions for men in the