

## C A N A D A .



## DESPATCH AND REGULATIONS RESPECTING FOREIGN ORDERS.

Circular.

DOWNING STREET,  
5th September, 1867.

SIR,

Cases have not unfrequently occurred in which it has been proposed by Foreign Governments to grant Decorations to British Subjects residing in Her Majesty's Colonies.

It appears to be not generally known, that British Subjects are not entitled to wear such Decorations without Her Majesty's special permission, and that such permission is granted only in cases in which the Foreign Order shall have been conferred in consequence of active and distinguished service which had been performed before the enemy, either at Sea or in the Field; or in cases in which the Recipient shall have been actually and entirely employed beyond Her Majesty's Dominions, in the service of the Foreign Sovereign by whom the Order is conferred.

You will find in the Appendix to the recent Edition of the Colonial Regulations, page 128, the Regulations respecting the grant of Foreign Orders and Medals to British Subjects, which have been promulgated by Command of Her Majesty, and which are now in force. It would be desirable that general publicity should be given to these Regulations in the Colony under your Government.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient  
humble Servant,

Signed, BUCKINGHAM &amp; CHANDOS.

Governor the Right  
Honble. Viscount Monk,  
&c., &c., &c.

## 8. (Page 43.)

THE QUEEN has been pleased to direct that the following REGULATIONS respecting FOREIGN ORDERS and MEDALS shall be substituted for those now in force:—

*Regulations respecting Foreign Orders.*

1. No subject of Her Majesty shall accept a Foreign Order from the Sovereign of any foreign country, or wear the insignia thereof, without having previously obtained Her Majesty's permission to that effect, signified by a warrant under Her Royal Sign-Manual.

2. Such permission shall not be granted to any subject of Her Majesty unless the Foreign Order shall have been conferred in consequence of active and distinguished service before the enemy, either at sea or in the field; or unless he shall have been actually and entirely employed, beyond Her Majesty's dominions, in the service of the Foreign Sovereign by whom the Order is conferred.

3. The intention of a Foreign Sovereign to confer upon a British subject the insignia of an Order must be notified to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, either through the British Minister accredited at the Court of such Foreign Sovereign, or through his Minister accredited at the Court of Her Majesty.

4. If the service for which it is proposed to confer the Order has been performed during war, the notification required by the preceding clause must be made not later than two years after the exchange of the Ratifications of a Treaty of Peace.

If the service has been performed in time of peace, the notification must be made within two years after the date of such service.

5. After such notification shall have been received, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs shall, if the case comes within the conditions prescribed by the present Regulations, and arises from naval or military services before the enemy, refer it to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department previously to taking Her Majesty's pleasure thereupon, in order to ascertain whether there may be any objection to Her Majesty's permission being granted.

A similar reference shall also be made to the Commander-in-chief if the application relates to an Officer in the army or to the Lords of the Admiralty if it relates to an Officer in the navy.

6. When Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs shall have taken the Queen's pleasure on any such application, and shall have obtained Her Majesty's permission for the person in whose favor it has been made to accept the Foreign Order and wear the insignia thereof, he shall signify the same to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, in order that he may cause the warrant required by clause 1 to be prepared for the Royal Sign Manual.

When such warrant shall have been signed by the Queen a notification thereof shall be inserted in the "Gazette," stating the service for which the Foreign Order has been conferred.

7. The warrant signifying Her Majesty's permission may, at the request and at the expense of the person who has obtained it, be registered in the College of Arms.

8. Every such warrant as aforesaid shall contain a clause providing that Her Majesty's license and permission does not authorize the assumption of any style, appellation, rank, precedence, or privilege appertaining to a Knight Bachelor of Her Majesty's realms.

9. When a British Subject has received the Royal permission to accept a Foreign Order he will at any future time be allowed to accept the decoration of a higher class of the same Order to which he may have become eligible by increase of rank in the foreign service or in the service of his own country, or any other distinctive mark of honor strictly consequent upon the acceptance of the original Order, and common to every person upon whom such Order is conferred.

10. The preceding clause shall not be taken to apply to decorations of the Guelphic Order which were bestowed on British subjects by Her Majesty's predecessors King George IV. and King William IV., on whose heads the Crowns of Great Britain and Hanover were united.

Decorations so bestowed cannot properly be considered as rewards granted by a Foreign Sovereign for services rendered according to the purport of clause 2 of these Regulations. They must be rather considered as personal favors bestowed on British subjects by British Sovereigns, and as having no reference to services rendered to the Foreign Crown of Hanover.

*Regulations respecting Foreign Medals.*

1. Applications for permission to accept and wear Medals which, not being the decoration of any Foreign Order, are conferred by a Foreign Sovereign on British subjects in the army or in the navy for military or for naval services, should be addressed, as the case may be, to the Commander-in-Chief, to the Secretary of State for War, or the Lords of the Admiralty, who, if they see fit, may submit the same to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for Her Majesty's sanction; upon obtaining which they may grant such permission without any other formality.

2. Permission to wear a Foreign Medal cannot be granted to a British Subject unless such Medal is bestowed for military or naval services performed by the command or with the sanction of Her Majesty. But no permission is necessary for accepting a Foreign Medal, if such Medal is not to be worn.

Signed, CLARENDON.  
Foreign Office, 10th May, 1865.

41-b1n.

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