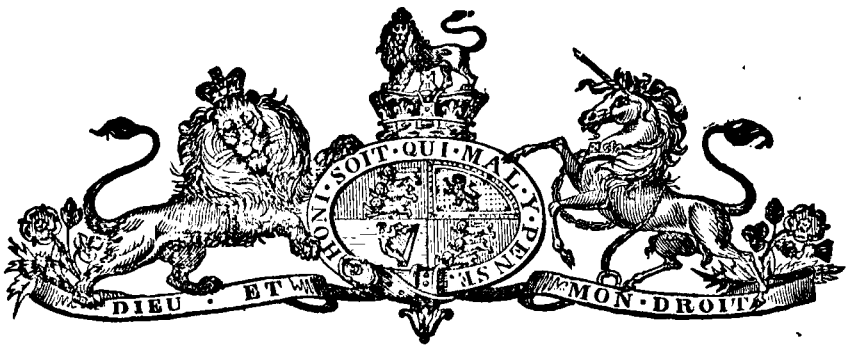


ANNO DECIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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CAP. XXX.

An Act for extending the Period of Service of Boys in Her Majesty's Navy. [8th *June* 1847.]

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the Encouragement of the voluntary Enlistment of Seamen, and to make Regulations for more effectually manning His Majesty's Navy*, it was enacted, that no Person shall be liable to be detained against his Consent in the Naval Service of His Majesty for a longer Period than Five Years, to be computed from the Day of his being entered into the same, unless he shall have voluntarily entered for a longer Term, and except as therein-after provided: And whereas it is expedient that Boys who enter into the Naval Service of Her Majesty when under the Age of Sixteen Years shall, if not previously discharged, remain in such Service in all Cases for the Period of Seven Years; be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That every Boy who, when under the Age of Sixteen Years, shall enter the Service of Her Majesty's Navy shall be liable to be detained in the said Service, either with or against his Consent, for any Period not exceeding Seven Years, to be computed from the Day of his being entered into the same; and at the Expiration of such Seven Years he shall, upon his Application for that Purpose, be

5 & 6 W. 4. c. 24

Boys entering the Navy under Sixteen Years of Age may be detained Seven Years in the Ser-

vice, and upon any special Emergency may be detained for a further Period.

be entitled to be discharged, unless the Admiral or Commanding Officer of the Fleet, Division, or Squadron under whose Command he shall be shall, in consequence of any special Emergency, deem it advisable not to discharge him, in which Case such Admiral or Commanding Officer shall have Power to detain him in the said Service for a further Period of Six Calendar Months, or until such Emergency shall have ceased, and then the Person so detained shall be entitled to receive for such extra Service One Fourth, in addition to the Pay or Wages of his Rating: Provided always, that if any such Person shall be under Arrest or Imprisonment at the Period at which he shall be entitled to his Discharge, then his Discharge shall not take place until such Arrest or Imprisonment shall have ceased, or in case he shall have been put under Arrest in order to be brought to Trial for any Offence, his Discharge shall not take place until he have been tried for such Offence, and have undergone the Punishment to which he may be adjudged for the same by Sentence of Court-martial; and every Person entitled to his Discharge shall not be exempt from Performance of the Duties of his Station, but be amenable and subject to the Discipline of the Navy, and to the several Laws, Regulations, and Provisions in force for the Time being for the Government and Regulation thereof, until he be actually discharged.

Persons under Arrest not entitled to Discharge until Arrest, &c. shall have ceased.

Persons entering the Navy under the Age of 16 entitled to certain Privileges on Discharge.

II And be it enacted, That every Person who shall have entered the Naval Service of Her Majesty when under the Age of Sixteen Years shall be entitled to the same Privileges upon his Discharge as other Seamen are upon their Discharge, but he shall not be entitled to the Addition of One Fourth to the Pay or Wages of his Rating until the Expiration of the said Seven Years, and when serving in the Fleet without having ever been discharged he shall not be entitled to any Bounty which shall, by any Order in Council or Proclamation of Her Majesty then in force, be offered to Seamen to volunteer to enter into the said Service unless such Order in Council or Proclamation be in force when his Service for Seven Years shall expire; and he shall, previous to the Expiration of such Service, signify to his Commanding Officer his Desire to continue in the said Service for a further Period of Five Years, to be computed from the Expiration of his Service of Seven Years, and shall be allowed to re-enter accordingly, in which Case he shall, upon such re-entering, be entitled to be paid the single Bounty offered by Her Majesty's Proclamation to Volunteers of the Class and Rating for which he is suited; and every such Volunteer shall, at the Expiration of such further Period of Five Years, be entitled to his Discharge, under and subject to the like Regulations and Restrictions as Volunteers are entitled to their Discharge after Five Years continuous Service.

Persons allowed to re-enter and receive Bounty at the Expiration of Seven Years, and shall serve a further Period of Five Years.

Statement made as to Age to be conclusive Evidence.

III. And be it enacted, That the Statement by any Boy of his Age at the Time of his Entry into the Service of Her Majesty's Navy shall be conclusive Evidence of his being that Age at the Time of his Entry, for the Purposes of this Act.

Act not to extend to diminish

IV. And be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend to control or diminish the Authority vested in the Lord High

Admiral

Admiral, and also in the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral, to discharge as he or they shall think fit, or to authorize the Discharge of any Seaman or Boy from Her Majesty's Naval Service. Authority of Admiralty to discharge Seamen.

V. And be it enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in the present Session of Parliament. Act may be amended, &c.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE, Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1847.