

“The Merchant Shipping Act, 1871.”

AN ACT to amend the Merchant Shipping Acts.

[21st August, 1871.]

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2. This Act shall be construed as one with “The Merchant Shipping Act, 1854,” and the Acts amending the same, . . . Act to be construed with Merchant Shipping Acts.

Registry (Part II. of “Merchant Shipping Act, 1854.”)

5. The Board of Trade may, in any case or class of cases in which they think it expedient so to do, direct any person appointed by them for the purpose to record, in such manner and with such particulars as the Board of Trade direct, the draught of water of any sea-going ship, as shown on the scale of feet on her stem and on her stern-post, upon her leaving any dock, wharf, port, or harbour for the purpose of proceeding to sea; and such person shall thereupon keep such record, and shall from time to time forward the same, or a copy thereof, to the Board of Trade; and such record, or any copy thereof, if produced by or out of the custody of the Board of Trade, shall be admissible in evidence of the draught of water of the ship at the time specified in the record.

Ship's draught of water to be recorded.

The master of every British sea-going ship shall, upon her leaving any dock, wharf, port, or harbour for the purpose of proceeding to sea, record her draught of water in the official log-book (if any), and shall produce such record to any Principal Officer of Customs whenever required by him so to do, or in default of such production shall incur a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

6. With respect to the names of British ships, the following rules shall be observed:—

Rules to be observed in naming of ships.

(1.) A ship shall not be described by any name other than that by which she is for the time being registered:

- (2.) No change shall be made in the name of a ship without the previous permission of the Board of Trade signified in writing under their seal, or under the hand of one of their Secretaries or Assistant-Secretaries. Upon such permission being granted, the 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.

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