

## GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL AND GRATUITY.

Extracts from the King's Regulations and Admiralty Instructions.

## SEAMEN.

750. Men holding any of the Ratings specified as eligible for these awards in Appendix XV., Part I. who entered the Service prior to 1st January, 1885, and to whom they are still applicable, may be recommended for the Good Conduct Medal and Gratuity, under the following special rules. Pensioners coming under these conditions who return to the Service within five years of their being pensioned may be recommended for the Medal, but not for the Gratuity.

## 2. To entitle a man to a Medal—

- (a.) He must have served for 10 years with continuous "Very Good" character, and must never previously have been awarded a character below "Very Good," unless for a period not exceeding one year in his first five years reckoning for pension;
- (b.) He must have been recommended for it on his Service Certificate for the three consecutive years immediately preceding his application.
- (c.) He must be recommended for it by the Captain under whom he is serving when he becomes eligible.

3. After a man has been awarded seven years of such continuous "Very Good" character as will under these Regulations count towards the Medal, and should his character continue to be "Very Good," the Captain will add to the character of "Very Good" given on his Service Certificate, whenever he is required to record it, the letters R.M. (Recommended for Medal), if he should consider him deserving thereof from his invariable very good conduct and exemplary manner of performing his duties. After 12 years of such "Very Good" character, the Captain will in like manner add the letters G.R. (Gratuity Recommended).

4. Desertion, reduction to the Second Class for conduct, imprisonment, detention, or the award of character less than "Good" during any portion of the time which reckons for pension, shall render a man absolutely ineligible for Medal or Gratuity, except as provided for in clauses 5 and 6 of this Article, and Clause 4 of Art. 751.

5. Exceptional cases. In order not entirely to exclude from the honour of a Medal a man who may have committed himself in the early years of his service reckoning for Pension, but who may have since become a "Very Good" character, the Admiralty will consider, with reference to the grant of a Medal without Gratuity the case of any man

who can show 15 years of continuous "Very Good" character, and who has been recommended as prescribed in Clause 2, Sub-Clause (b), of this Article, notwithstanding anything he may have done or any character which may have been awarded to him, except "Bad" or "Indifferent," in his previous service.

6. The Admiralty will also consider the case of any man who would be excluded under the foregoing Regulations, but who may be specially recommended on account of his having shown highly exemplary conduct in action, or otherwise; in such cases, however, a Gratuity will not be awarded.

7. It must be distinctly understood that Medals are only granted on the condition that the recipients continue to serve for Long-Service Pension, unless invalided and that, in the event of a man who has been granted a Medal declining to go on serving to complete such time, he shall surrender the Medal on his discharge, unless he has completed fifteen years of service, reckoning for pension, in which case he may retain it.

## 8. To entitle a man to a Gratuity:—

- (a.) He must have served for 15 years with continuous "Very Good" character, and must never previously have been awarded a character below "Very Good," unless for a period not exceeding one year in his first five years reckoning for pension.
- (b.) He must have been awarded the Medal and have never forfeited it.
- (c.) He must have been recommended for the Gratuity on his Service Certificate for the three consecutive years immediately preceding his application.
- (d.) He must have been continuously awarded the character "Very Good" since he received the Medal.
- (e.) He must have completed time for Long Service Pension unless previously invalided, and must be recommended for the Gratuity by the Captain under whom he is serving at the time of application.

## 9. The scale for Gratuities shall be as follows:—

Chief Petty Officers, having served as	£
Chief and First Class Petty Officers	
(OS) or Petty Officers (NS) for not less	
than 10 years .. .. .	20

Petty Officers (NS) having served as such or as First Class Petty Officers (OS) for not less than 10 years .. ..	£ 15
Second Class Petty Officers (OS), with 7 years' service as such, or men of Leading Seaman rank with over 3 years' service as such, and 7 years* subsequent service in that capacity ..	10
Leading Seaman, having served as such for not less than five years .. ..	7
Able Seamen, and others .. ..	5

10. In cases where the man recommended may not have served the full period to entitle him to the Gratuity applicable to his rating, he shall receive such lower rate, with reference to his combined service in several capacities, as in the opinion of the Admiralty, it may be proper to award him.

11. If a man should die before receiving the Gratuity to which he may be entitled, it will be paid to his widow, or next of kin if dependent upon him, provided he shall have completed time for Long Service Pension.

12. Clauses 6, 8, and 15 to 22, of Article 751, are applicable to men who joined the Service before 1st January, 1885.

751. Men holding any of the Ratings specified as eligible for the good Conduct Medal in Appendix XV., Part 1 who entered the Service after 31st December, 1884, may be recommended for the award under the following rules:—

*Note.*—This also applies to all boys who were under the age of 18 on 31st December 1884.

2. To entitle a man to a Medal—

- (a.) He must have served for 15 years with continuous "Very Good" character," and with previous character not inferior to "Good," in service reckoning for pension.
- (b.) He must have been recommended for the award by his Captain on his Service Certificate for the three consecutive years immediately preceding his application.
- (c.) He must be recommended by the Captain under whom he is serving at the time of application.

3. After a man eligible for a Good Conduct Medal under Clause 1 has been awarded 12 years' continuous "Very Good" character as under these Regulations, will count towards the Medal, and if his character should continue to be "Very Good," the Captain, if he considers him deserving thereof, is to enter on his Conduct Sheet or Service Certificate the notations of the recommendations provided for under Arts. 828 and 830, Clause 3.

4. Desertion or Reduction to the Second Class for Conduct will render a man absolutely ineligible

for the award of a Good Conduct Medal, except one reduction within the first five years of a man's time, provided that by his good conduct he earned his restoration to the First Class within 8 months, and that his character for the year in which the reduction occurred was not assessed below "Good." See Clause 2 (a).

5. The Admiralty will nevertheless consider any recommendation which may be made in special circumstances on behalf of a man who can show 15 years of continuous "Very Good" character, although he may be disqualified for the award of a Medal under the ordinary Regulations.

6. If a man's conduct should not have been satisfactory during the interval pending the presentation of the Medal, it is to be withheld, and the particulars of the case reported to the Admiralty.

7. From the date of the award or restoration of a Medal a Continuous Service Man, provided his character is maintained, will commence earning a Good Conduct Gratuity at the rate of 1*l.* a year which is not to be paid until he completes time for Pension. If invalided before completing time for pension, he will be paid 1*l.* for each completed year that he has served since the Medal was awarded or restored.

For each year's service in the following ratings, after the date of the award of the Medal, will be added—

	£	s.	d.
To Chief Petty Officer, Petty Officer (NS) and 1st Class Petty Officer (OS) ..	2	0	0
„ 2nd Class Petty Officer (OS) and men of Leading Seaman rank, with over 3 years' service as such* .. ..	1	0	0
„ Leading Seaman, except as above ..	0	10	0

until the maximum is reached, which will be, for a—

	£	s.	d.
Chief Petty Officer, Petty Officer (NS) and 1st Class Petty Officer (OS) ..	15	0	0
2nd Class Petty Officer (OS) and men of Leading Seaman rank, with over 3 years' service as such* .. ..	10	0	0
Leading Seaman, except as above ..	7	10	0
Able Seaman .. ..	5	0	0

8. If it is desired that men who have received Medals should also be given Gratuities, separate application must be made for the latter on the men becoming eligible for the award.

9. If a man is awarded the character of "Good," instead of "Very Good," after the grant of a Medal, the period of service during which the character of "Good" is awarded will not count for increase of Gratuity, notwithstanding that he may not have been deprived of the Medal.

10. If a man is deprived of his Medal, he will lose all claim to Gratuity; in the event of the Medal

\* In the case of Ratings who are required to pass a qualifying examination for advancement to Petty Officer, this privilege is not to apply to any time served prior to passing the examination.