

Titles of Naval Rates and their Status Applicable 1830-1847

The following list encompasses most of the titles of 'Rates' which will be found engraved on the reverse of Anchor Type LS & GC medals (1830-1847) – recording an encyclopaedic range of 'Rates' officially in force during 1847. A few titles found on men's service papers – on the date they were awarded the medal – do not feature in this list, such as Chief Boatswain's Mate, Boatswain's Yeoman, Gunner's Yeoman and Armourer's Mate. Although there was not at this time a separate group of ratings later nominated as 'Domestics', it is probable that certain men in the accompanying list were ineligible for the LS & GC medal annotated 'Uncl'.

Rates in order of seniority

1. PO1CL = Working Petty Officer 1st Class (Superior P.O. = S.P.O. on papers)
2. PO2CL = Working Petty Officer 2nd Class (Inferior P.O. = I.P.O. on papers)
3. Uncl = Remainder of Ship's Company
4. Uncl* = Rates probably ineligible for award of LS & GC medal

Able Seaman	Uncl	Coxswain of Pinnace	PO2CL
Acting Cook RN	PO1CL	Flag Officer's Cook	Uncl
Acting 2nd Master RN	PO1CL	Flag Officer's Domestic	Uncl
Admiral's Coxswain	PO1CL	Flag Officer's Steward	Uncl
Armourer	PO2CL	Gunner's Crew	Uncl
Blacksmith	PO1CL	Gunner's Mate	PO1CL
Captain of Afterguard	PO2CL	Gun Room Cook	Uncl*
Captain of Forecastle	PO1CL	Gun Room Steward	Uncl*
Captain of Fore Top	PO1CL	Leading Stoker	PO1CL
Captain of Hold	PO1CL	Master at Arms	PO1CL
Captain of Main Top	PO1CL	Musician	PO2CL
Captain of Mast	PO2CL	Painter	Uncl
Captain of Mastzen Top	PO2CL	Paymaster & Purser's Steward (from 1844)	PO2CL
Captain's Cook	Uncl	Purser's Steward (until 1844)	PO2CL
Captain's Steward	Uncl	Quarter Master	PO1CL
Captain's Coxswain	PO1CL	Ropemaker	PO1CL
Carpenter's Crew	Uncl	Sailmaker	PO1CL
Carpenter's Mate	PO1CL	Sailmaker's Crew	Uncl
Caulker	PO1CL	Sailmaker's Mate	PO2CL
Caulker's Mate	PO2CL	Seaman's Schoolmaster	PO1CL
Cooper	PO2CL	Ship's Cook	PO1CL
Cooper's Crew	Uncl	Ship's Corporal	PO1CL
Coxswain of Launch	PO1CL		

Sick Berth Attendant	Uncl	Yeoman of Signals	PO2Cl
Stoker & Coal Trimmer	Uncl	Yeoman of Store Rooms	Uncl
Subordinate Officer's Cook	Uncl*	Young Gentleman's Cook	Uncl*
Subordinate Officer's Steward	Uncl*	Young Gentleman's Steward	Uncl*
Ward Room Cook	Uncl	(earlier title for Subordinate Officer)	
Ward Room Steward	Uncl		

APPLICABLE 1847-1875

The following list encompasses most of the titles and groups of 'Rates' which will be found engraved on the edge of Victorian Wide Suspension LS & GC medals (1847-1875) – recording an encyclopaedic range of 'Rates' officially in force during 1875. It should be noticed that the status of Chief Petty Officer (CPO) and Leading Seaman/Stoker were introduced during this period, but the title of CPO was rarely used in preference to the man's 'Rate' (e.g. Admiral's Coxswain). Additional sub-specialist suffixes of 'G.I.' (Gunnery Instructor), 'S.G.' (Seaman Gunner), 'T.M.' (Trained Man) or 'Rigger' may occasionally be found engraved on a recipient's award.

There was however one generically titled group – 'Domestics' – to which this broad statement did not apply. In 1875 only Domestics of the First Class were eligible to be considered for award of the LS & GC medal – an exclusive Class limited only to Admiral's Steward, Cook & Domestic as well as Captain's & Ward Room Cook and Steward. This privilege was not extended generally to Domestics 2nd and 3rd Class until the beginning of the 20th century.

Rates in order of Seniority.

1. CPO = Chief Petty Officer	5. Art = Artificers who are not P.Os
2. PO1Cl = Petty Officer 1st Class	6. D1Cl = Domestics 1st Class
3. PO2Cl = Petty Officer 2nd Class	(<i>vide</i> : additional list for D2 & 3CL)
4. S & S = Seamen & Stokers	7. Uncl = Remainder of the Ship's Company

Able Seaman (& A.B. Cadet's Servant)	S & S	Captain of Main Top	PO1Cl
Admiral's Cook	D1Cl	Captain of Mast	PO2Cl
Admiral's Coxswain	CPO	Captain of Mizzen Top (Title introduced circa 1870)	PO2Cl
Admiral's Domestic	D1Cl	Captain's Cook	D1Cl
Admiral's Steward	D1Cl	(Ship Classes 1st-4th)	
Armourer	PO1Cl	Captain's Coxswain	PO1Cl
Armourer's Crew	Art	Captain's Steward (Ship Classes 1st-4th)	D1Cl
Assistant Sick Berth Attendant	Uncl	Carpenter's Crew	Art
Bandmaster	PO1Cl	Carpenter's Mate	PO1Cl
Bandsman	Uncl	Caulker	PO1Cl
Barber	Uncl	Caulker's Mate	PO2Cl
Blacksmith	PO1Cl	Chief Bandmaster	CPO
Blacksmith's Crew	Art	Chief Boatswain's Mate	CPO
Boatswain's Mate	PO1Cl	Chief Captain of Forecastle	CPO
Butcher	Uncl	Chief Carpenter's Mate	CPO
Captain of Afterguard (by 1870 Quarter Deck Men)	PO1Cl	Chief Gunner's Mate	CPO
Captain of Forecastle	PO1Cl	Chief Quartermaster	CPO
Captain of Foretop	PO1Cl	Chief Stoker	CPO
Captain of Hold	PO1Cl	(Title introduced circa 1873)	

Chief Yeoman of Signals	CPO	Seaman's Schoolmaster	CPO
Cook's Mate	Uncl	(title abolished circa 1863)	
Cooper	PO2CI	2nd Captain of Afterguard	PO2CI
Cooper's Crew	Art	(by 1870 Quarter Deck Men)	
Coxswain of Barge	PO2CI	2nd Captain of Forecastle	PO2CI
Coxswain of Cutter	PO2CI	2nd Captain of Foretop	PO2CI
Coxswain of Launch	PO1CI	2nd Captain of Hold	S & S
Coxswain of Pinnace	PO2CI	2nd Captain of Maintop	PO2CI
Domestic (<i>Vote</i> : other D1CLs)	D1CL	2nd Captain of Mizzen Top	PO2CI
Engine Room Artificer	CPO	(Title abolished circa 1870)	
Gunner's Mate	PO1CI	2nd Head Krooman	Uncl
Head Krooman	PO2CI	Ship's Cook	CPO
Krooman	Uncl	Ship's Corporal 1st-2nd Class	PO1CI
Lamptrimmer	Uncl	Ship's Steward 1st-3rd Class	CPO
Leading Seaman	S & S	(& Steward for General Mess)	
Leading Stoker	PO1CI	(& Cabin Steward)	
Master At Arms	CPO	Ship's Steward's Assistant	Uncl
Musician	PO2CI	Shipwright	Art
Naval Schoolmaster	CPO	Shoemaker	Uncl
(title introduced circa 1863)		Sick Berth Attendant	PO2CI
Painter 1st Class	PO1CI	Sick Berth Steward	PO1CI
Painter 2nd Class	PO2CI	Signalman	PO2CI
Paymaster and Purser's	PO2CL	Stoker & Coal Trimmer	S & S
Steward (Title abolished 1852)		Tailor	Uncl
Plumber	PO1CI	Tinsmith	Art
Plumber's Crew	Art	Ward Room Cook	D1CI
Plumber's Mate	PO2CI	(Ship Classes 1st-2nd)	
Quartermaster	PO1CI	Ward Room Steward	D1CI
Ropemaker	PO1CI	(Ship Classes 1st-2nd)	
Sailmaker	PO1CI	Writer 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Class	CPO
Sailmaker's Crew	Art	Yeoman of Signals	PO1CI
Sailmaker's Mate	PO2CI	Yeoman of Store Room	S & S

Domestics 2nd and 3rd Class in 1875, & 1888

* Ineligible for LS & GC

Captain's Cook *	D2CI	Gun Room Steward	D2CI
(Ships below 4th Class)		Secretary's Servant	D2CI
Captain's Cook's Assistant	D3CI	Ward Room Cook *	D2CI
Captain's Servant	D2CI	(Ships below 2nd Class)	
Captain's Steward *	D2CI	Ward Room Steward *	D2CI
(Ships below 4th Class)		(Ships below 2nd Class)	
Commander's Servant	D2CI	Ward Room Cook's Assistant	D3CI
Engineer's Cook	D2CI	Ward Room Officer's Servant	D3CI
Engineer's Servant	D2CI	Ward Room Servant	D3CI
Gun Room Cook	D2CI	Warrant Officer's Cook	D2CI
Gun Room Servant	D3CI	Warrant Officer's Servant	D3CI

COAST GUARD PERSONNEL

(Eligible for LSGC from March 1873)

Boatman	A.B.	Chief Boatman in Charge	CPO
Commissioned Boatman	PO2CL	Divisional Carpenter	PO1CL
Chief Boatman	PO1CL		

APPLICABLE 1875 – 1900

The following list encompasses most of the titles and groups of 'Rates' entitled to receive the LS & GC medal at the turn of the century. However, during the time the Victorian Narrow Suspension LS & GC medal was awarded (1875-1902) many of the older titles in the previous list (1847-1875) were used on the edge of that award.

Although the substantive rate of Chief Petty Officer was introduced in 1853 as the highest attainable by lower-deck men, it was not used as a title to describe particular grades of men (in official 'Wages Table - Ship's Company') until 1890. Its regular introduction from that year (or earlier) hid each man's duty such as Admiral's Coxswain and all the senior seamen Captains of Tops etc. Similarly the titles of Petty Officers 1st and 2nd Class found frequently on LS & GC medals during this period (1875-1902) also hid their former descriptive 'Rates' such as Quarter Master or Yeoman of Signals etc.

In a few cases additional details to the man's name, rate and ship may be found on the edge of the long service medal. The suffix of 'Pensioner' is known for men not receiving their reward until they became pensioners. Certain sub-specialist qualifications may appear as suffixes, e.g. 'S.G.' = Seaman Gunner, 'S.G.T.' = Seaman Gunner & Torpedo Man, 'T.M.' = Trained Man, 'G.I.' = Gunnery Instructor, 'T.I.' = Torpedo Instructor, 'Diver' or 'Rigger' (Royal Yachts). The title of Ship's Steward may be qualified by additions of (say) '.. for General Mess' or '.. for Cadet's Mess'. The word 'Skilled' may appear for some tradesmen either as a prefix or suffix.

Able Seaman	Chief E.R.A. 2nd Cl
Armourer	Chief Petty Officer (Seaman Class)
Armourer's Crew	Chief Sick Berth Steward
Armourer's Mate	Chief Stoker
Assistant Sick Berth Attendant	Chief Torpedo Artificer
Bandmaster	Chief Writer
Band Corporal	Chief Yeoman of Signals
Bandsman	Cook's Mate
Blacksmith	Cook's Mate 2nd Cl
Blacksmith's Crew	Cooper
Blacksmith's Mate	Cooper 2nd Cl
Butcher	Cooper's Crew
Carpenter's Crew	Domestic 1st Class
Carpenter's Mate	Engine Room Artificer
Caulker	E.R.A. 2nd - 3rd Cl
Caulker's Mate	Head Krooman
Chief Armourer	2nd Head Krooman
Chief Bandmaster	Krooman
Chief Carpenter's Mate	Lamp Trimmer
Chief Cook	Leading Carpenter's Crew
Chief Engine Room Artificer	Leading Seaman

16 Jan	McCARTHY, James	Sgt R.M. ADM 1/3286 & 1/4948	Plymouth Div	27
16 Jan	NICOL, James	Pte R.M. ADM 1/3286	Plymouth Div	21
24 Jan	PIKE, James	'Late' Chief Bosun's Mate ADM 1/1372 ADM 1/4614 Duplicate June 1836. Original stolen and melted down. <i>Vide</i> : text under 'Case Law' and reference to prefix 'Late'.	VOLAGE	27
1 Feb	HUTT, James	Q.M.	SOUTHAMPTON	24
1 Feb	JENKINS, Wilham	Q.M. ADM 1/2087, L.20 NGS/Navarino	SOUTHAMPTON	21
18 Feb	BENTLEY, John	Pte R.M. ADM 564	Chatham Div	21
28 Feb	WALSH, Dennis	M.A.A. ADM 1/2208, M.17 37/7895	BRITON	24
5 Mar	BROWN, Anthony	'Late' Admiral's Coxswain ADM 1/2622, T.12	WARSPITE	25 *
5 Mar	McPHERSON, Michael	Q.M. 29/26/96	WARSPITE	23
5 Mar	GIBSON, Robert	Q.M. (Acting Gunner RN for 15 years, but never confirmed as a Warrant Officer)	WARSPITE	38
5 Mar	MARTINBURY, Abraham	Captain After Guard	WARSPITE	21
5 Mar	WHITE, John	Captain of Mast ADM 1/2622, T.12	WARSPITE	23
13 Mar	WOOLLEY, Henry	M.A.A. (ex R.M.)	VICTORY	29
13 Mar	HARDING, William	Coxswain of Launch ADM 1/1372, A.193	VICTORY	21
27 Mar	SMILIE, Alexander	'Late Royal Marine' (a Pte) ADM 158/66 Normal Reverse	Woolwich Div	24 *
18 Apr	FENNING, John	Captain Forecastle	DONEGAL	?
18 Apr	DWYER, Edward	Captain of Mast ADM 1/1819, F.36	DONEGAL	?
5 May	FRAZIER, David	Captain's Coxswain	SAN JOSEF	28
5 May	COOK, Samuel	M.A.A. ADM 1/1688, C.44	SAN JOSEF	25
15 May	HANKS, Thomas	'Late' Pte Marine Inverted Reverse ADM 564/213	Portsmouth Div	21 *
18 May	KELLY, Patrick	Q.M.	CALEDONIA	22
18 May	WILLIAMS, William	A.B.	CALEDONIA	25
18 May	SIMMONDS, John	Bosun's Mate	CALEDONIA	26
18 May	BARNES, William	Yeoman of Signals ADM 1/1967, H.73	CALEDONIA	22