

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE REGENT.
The Naval Charitable Society,

FOR THE

RELIEF OF INDIGENT ORPHANS, WIDOWS, AND CHILDREN OF SEA OFFICERS, AND ALSO
 OF SEA OFFICERS REDUCED BY MISFORTUNE TO INDIGENCE.

At a Meeting at the Thatched-House Tavern, on Monday, the 13th of April, 1812,—Present,

PRESIDENT,

Admiral Lord RADSTOCK, in the Chair.

VICE-PRESIDENT,

Admiral Sir JOHN COLPOYS, K. B.

COMMITTEE,

Admiral Lord GAMBIER.
 Admiral Sir C. POLE, Bart.
 Vice-Admiral DOUGLAS.
 Vice-Admiral ESSINGTON.
 Vice-Admiral HUNTER.
 Rear-Admiral GUYOT.
 Lieutenant-Governor BROWELL.
 Captain WILLIAM BAIKIE.
 Captain WILLIAM EDGE.
 Captain EDWARD FELLOWES.

Captain J. T. RODD.
 Captain F. G. SEYMOUR.
 Captain J. W. HOLLAND.
 Captain Hon. W. WALDEGRAVE.
 Captain Lord BALGONIE.
 Captain JAMES BLACK.
 Lieutenant JAMES SYMONS.
 Dr. ROBERTSON.
 Rev. Mr. COOKE.
 Mr. WILLIAM MILLER.

The merits and utility of this Society being daily more and more evident, and the noble and liberal support which it has within the last few years received from a generous and benevolent public, having enabled its conductors to extend its benefits and utility far beyond the expectation of its warmest and most sanguine friends, and in consequence requiring its establishment to be on a greater and more dignified scale,—

Resolved unanimously—That the following persons be the President, Deputy-President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurers, and Secretary of this Society:

PRESIDENT,

Admiral Lord RADSTOCK.

DEPUTY-PRESIDENT,

Admiral Sir JOHN COLPOYS, K. B.

VICE-PRESIDENTS,

Admiral Sir JOHN ORDE, Bart.
 Admiral WILLIAM YOUNG.
 Admiral Lord GAMBIER.
 Admiral Sir CHARLES M. POLE, Bart.
 Admiral Sir J. T. DUCKWORTH, Bart.
 Admiral Sir ROBERT CALDER, Bart.
 Admiral Sir R. BICKERTON, Bart.

Vice-Admiral EDW. THORNBOROUGH.
 Vice-Admiral Sir J. SAUMAREZ, Bart.
 Vice-Admiral JAMES VASHON.
 Vice-Admiral Sir EDWARD PELLEW, Bart.
 Vice-Adm. Hon. Sir A. COCHRANE, Bart.
 Vice-Admiral W. A. OTWAY.
 Vice-Admiral Sir SAMUEL HOOD, Bart.

TREASURERS,

Admiral Sir JOHN COLPOYS, Bart. Admiral ROBERT MAN, and Sir F. J. HARTWELL, Bart.

SECRETARY,

Mr. C. W. AUBREY, Navy-Office.

Resolved—That the Secretary be directed to write to all the Commanders in Chief, requesting them to recommend to their Secretaries to exert themselves to promote the interests of this Society.

Resolved unanimously—That his Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT be humbly solicited to accept the office of PATRON of the Society, and that the following Address be laid before his Royal Highness, by Admirals Lord RADSTOCK, Sir JOHN COLPOYS, and Lord GAMBIER:—

“ SIR,

“ In laying at the feet of your Royal Highness the Prayer of our Petition, we feel a confident assurance in your Royal Highness's approbation of its object, as connected with those public feelings for which your Royal Highness has ever been distinguished.

“ It does not, Sir, become us to speak of the merits of the service to which we have the honour to belong. It would be unnecessary, we rest assured, to urge our suit by a recital of them to your Royal Highness, ever prompt to distinguish public worth, and anxious to reward it upon every question and in every shape, in which it has yet appeared before your Royal Highness. We are satisfied that the Navy of Great Britain will require no advocate to plead in its behalf with the Regent of the British Empire.

“ It will, indeed, be obvious to your Royal Highness, that in a service so extended as that of the British Navy, where the pay must necessarily be very limited, and the opportunity of successful achievement be confined to the fortunate few, many cases of distress must occur, particularly among those who have families. The aggravating circumstances, however, under which that distress is too frequently embittered, can only be fully known to those who have imposed on themselves the painful duty of investigating them. No instance has, indeed, occurred of any one having devoted time and attention to such inquiries, without his feeling the most earnest and anxious wish that more adequate relief might be supplied for objects so meritorious and distressed; and the result has been the formation of “The Naval Charitable Society, for the relief of the indigent Orphans, Widows, and Children of Sea-Officers, and also of Sea Officers reduced by misfortune to indigence;” a Society which, since its institution in 1791, has supplied acceptable and necessary relief in no less than 727 cases of distress.

“ Of this Society, we humbly presume to solicit your Royal Highness to condescend to become the Patron: and we cannot but be confident that under such a sanction, the most beneficial effects may be expected from an institution which offers to the defenders of their country, an alleviation in the hour of distress, and extends relief to those who have lost a husband, or a parent, in the self-devoted victims to the safety and honour of their country.”

Resolved unanimously—That the Secretary be directed to furnish his Majesty's Naval Commissioners at the Out Ports, and also those on Foreign Stations, with a sufficient supply of the books containing the general state of the Society, at the same time requesting them to endeavour to increase the list of its subscribers.

Resolved unanimously—That the proceedings of this day, together with the general state of the Society, be forwarded to every Flag Officer who is not already a subscriber to this Society.

Resolved unanimously,—That the Secretary be directed to transmit copies of the general state of the Society to such Noblemen, Ladies, and Gentlemen who have already subscribed, and also to such as shall be considered as likely, from their known liberality, to give their willing support to this Charity, either by subscription or donation.

Resolved unanimously—That the preceding Resolutions be published in the Morning Post, Times, and the National Adviser.

Resolved—That Donations of a less sum than Five Pounds from persons not belonging to the Navy, cannot be suffered to remain permanently upon the list, unless accompanied by an annual subscription of One Guinea.

(Extract from the Minutes.)

C. W. AUBREY, Secretary.

In addition to the above, the Committee have the gratification of laying before the Members of the Society, the following letter:—

“ Carlton House, April 17th, 1812.

“ MY LORD,

“ I am commanded by the Prince Regent to intreat that your Lordship, as President of the Naval Charitable Society, will have the goodness to convey to the Committee his Royal Highness's best thanks and acknowledgments for their very handsome and acceptable address, and to assure them of the sincere pleasure and satisfaction with which the Prince Regent proudly accepts the office of Patron to this very distinguished and glorious Society.

“ I am also, at the same time, commanded by his Royal Highness to express his particular thanks to your Lordship for the obliging manner in which you have communicated the wishes of the most respectable, dignified, and illustrious names who compose this Committee.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

“ J. M'MAHON.

“ To the Right Hon. Lord Radstock.”

N.B. Subscriptions are received by the following Bankers, &c. viz.—Messrs. Child and Co. Temple-bar; Drummond's and Co. Charing-cross; Marsh, Sibbald, and Co. Berners-street; Godwin and Co. Portsmouth; Bulteel and Co., and J. Kent, Esq. Naval Hospital, Plymouth; by the Treasurers of the Society; and by Mr. C. W. Aubrey, Secretary, Navy Office.

*** The Society meet at the Thatched House Tavern, the first Monday in January, April, July, and October, for the Relief of distressed Cases. There were twenty-one Cases of distress, to which Relief was afforded at the last meeting, on the 13th of April, 1812.*

Hughes, Printer, Maiden-Lane, Covent-Garden.

See preceding letter.

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In accordance with the Committee have the pleasure of laying before the Members of the

Committee the following letter—

"Canton House, April 17th, 1812.

"I am commanded by the Prince Regent to inform that the Committee of the Navy
Committee have the pleasure to convey to the Committee the Royal Highness's best thanks
and acknowledgments for their very handsome and respectable address, and to assure them of the sincere
pleasure and satisfaction with which the Prince Regent generally accepts the office of Patron to the
said distinguished and glorious Society.

"I am also at the same time commanded by the Royal Highness to express his particular thanks to
your liberality for the obliging manner in which you have communicated the wishes of the most
respectable, dignified, and illustrious names who compose this Committee.

"I have the honor to be, &c.

"J. MAHAON.

(Signed)

"To the Right Hon. Lord Bute."

M.E. & Co. have the pleasure to inform the following Messrs. Child and Co. Temple Bar;
Messrs. Child and Co. Temple Bar; Messrs. Child and Co. Temple Bar; Messrs. Child and Co. Temple Bar;
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