

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

OF

CANDIDATES

FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF

BOATMAN in the CUSTOMS.

I. Candidates will be examined by the Civil Service Commissioners in the following subjects, viz. :—

1. Reading.

2. Writing from Dictation.

3. The first four Rules of Arithmetic, with the various Weights and Measures.

II. The age for admission is between twenty and thirty years.

III. Candidates will be subjected to a rigid Medical examination as to health and constitution. No Candidate will be eligible for appointment who is less than 5 ft. 4in. in height and 34 in. round the chest, or who, if 5 ft. 10 in. and upwards in height, is less than 35 in. round the chest.

IV. Some practical experience in the management of Boats is insisted on in every case.

V. The attention of Candidates is particularly directed to the following conditions of service:—

(a) The annual salary attaching to the office is £55, rising by £1 10s. per annum to £80.

(b) Men appointed to these posts will be required, in addition to the discharge of ordinary boating duties, to rummage and guard vessels, and to do duty as patrols; they will also be expected to perform any general work which may be required of them, such as cleaning their offices and quarters, acting as messengers, and any other duties necessitated by the exigencies of the service.

(c) The hours of employment are uncertain; they extend over Sundays* and Public Holidays *whenever required*, and vary according to the nature of the duties, which frequently call for extra attendance by night as well as by day; upon such occasions, however, sufficient intervals are allowed for rest and meals. The salary mentioned in paragraph (a) covers all the duties herein specified, as well as all work on Sundays and Public Holidays *whenever required*.

(d) Boatmen will not as a rule be appointed to serve at their native places, and they are at all times liable to removal to any part of the coast of the United Kingdom.

*NOTE.—The extent to which Customs Boatmen are required to be employed on Sundays, whether for the whole or for a part of the day, varies according to local conditions of business.

The average experience of recent years shews that men in this position have been employed for a varying number of hours on about three Sundays out of four.