

## General Order $\frac{18}{1898}$ .

CUSTOM HOUSE, LONDON,

21st March, 1898.

### WATERGUARD OFFICERS ABOVE THE RANK OF BOATMAN: RE-ORGANIZATION OF ESTABLISH- MENT.

The Board have had under consideration the organization of the Waterguard Branch of their Establishment in respect of the classes above that of Boatman. The existing arrangements date from the period when, as the result of the Treasury Minute of 24th March, 1891, there was created a separate Waterguard Staff for the larger Ports of the United Kingdom; and they have necessarily been on a somewhat tentative basis. Reviewing them in the light of the experience gained during the past six years, it has appeared to the Board that the distribution of the higher and supervising staff was not altogether appropriate to the requirements of the Service, and they have therefore obtained the authority of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to certain alterations of classification and rates of pay which will result in making the future Establishment stand as follows above the rank of Boatman:—

	£		£	s.		£
1 Inspector ... ..	600	...	20	0	...	650
2 Assistant Inspectors ...	450	...	15	0	...	550
14 Chief Preventive Officers ... ..	225	...	10	0	...	400
<u>42 Preventive Officers</u> <u>Upper Section</u> ... ..	160	...	7	10	...	200
309 Preventive Officers, Lower Section ... ..	90	...	5	0	...	150

The Preventive Officers of the new Upper Section will be employed on duties of the following character; as leading Waterguard Officers in Ports where there are several Preventive Officers; as Officers in charge of certain special stations; on detective duty; and to some extent as Officers in charge of re-rummaging crews: and they will so far take the place of Officers now employed on re-rummaging and other special duties, that the re-rummaging and special allowances of £25 per annum will be withdrawn.

In effecting the necessary changes the Board have obtained the authority of the Treasury to make the following arrangements, for the purpose of avoiding the infliction of undue hardship on individuals:—

- (a.) Existing Assistant Inspectors will retain the scales of pay on which they are now serving;
- (b.) Existing Preventive Surveyors will retain the title and scale of pay of their present class, but without reversionary interest in the present scales of pay of the Assistant Inspectorships;
- (c.) Existing Chief Preventive Officers will be allowed to proceed to the new maximum of the class (£400) by the annual increments of the class; but they will have no right of succession to the class of Preventive Surveyor, which will be allowed to die out;
- (d.) For every two vacancies in the ranks above that of Preventive Officer, Upper Section, one promotion will be made to the new class of Chief Preventive Officer, until such time as the number of superior posts is reduced to the proposed total of 17.

The Board will forthwith proceed to allcate the posts of Upper Section Preventive Officer to the several Ports, and to make the necessary promotions.

By Order,

JOHN COURROUX.