

henceforth, and from time to time hereafter, during the continuance of this Our Royal Commission, be given, subscribed, or collected, for all or any of the several purposes aforesaid: And also for the purpose of securing such prompt and authentic information as may be required, to aid the just and faithful distribution of the said several sums of money, when so received: And it hath also appeared to Us, that by issuing this, Our Royal Commission, greater efficacy, power, and support, may be given to the benevolent desires of Our loving subjects: And also that the respective claims, merits, and necessities of individual claimants will be duly inquired into: And that by permitting assistance to be rendered by the officers of Our civil, military, and naval services we may prevent the wrong application, by misrepresentation or otherwise, of those contributions which our loving subjects may hereafter, during the continuance of this Our Royal Commission, for the several purposes aforesaid, generously and benevolently supply:

NOW KNOW YE, that We, having taken into our consideration the premises, and being earnestly desirous, in lasting memory of those who have faithfully fallen in Our service, to encourage the loyal and hearty benevolence of Our loving subjects, which may hereafter be directed towards the widows and orphans of the soldiers, sailors, and marines of Our forces, who may now or hereafter be serving abroad in Our armies and fleets, or in services connected with Our present hostilities, and for other the several purposes hereinbefore recited or mentioned, and reposing great trust and confidence in your fidelity, discretion, and integrity, HAVE authorized and appointed, and DO by these presents authorize and appoint you, the said Prince Albert, the said Duke of Newcastle, the said Duke of Wellington, the said Lord Seymour, the said Earl of Derby, the said Earl of Shaftesbury, the said Earl of Aberdeen, the said Earl of Hardwicke, the said Earl of Chichester, the said Earl Nelson, the said Earl Grey, the said Viscount Palmerston, the said Viscount Combermere, the said Viscount Hardinge, the said Baron Rokeby, the said Baron Colchester, the said Baron Panmure, the said Baron Seaton, the said Baron St. Leonards, the said Baron Raglan, the said Sidney Herbert, the said James Lindsay, the said Sir James Robert George Graham, the said Henry Thomas Lowry Corry, the said Edward Ellice, the said Robert Vernon Smith, the said Sir John Somerset Pakington, the said Sir Robert Trockmorton, the said Sir William Parker, the said Sir Thomas Byam Martin, the said Sir John Fox Burgoyne, the said Sir Hew Dalrymple Ross, the said Lord Mayor of Our City of London, the said Joseph Home, the said Thomas Baring, the said John Gellibrand Hubbard, the said John Wilson Patten, the said Samuel Morton Peto, the said Edmund Burke Roche, and the said John Ball, to make full and diligent inquiry into the best mode of aiding the loyalty and benevolence of Our loving subjects, and of ascertaining the best means by which the gifts, subscriptions, and contributions of Our loving subjects can be best applied, according to the generous intentions of the donors thereof, and from time to time to apply the same as you, Our Commissioners, or any three or more of you, shall think fit or direct, either for the immediate relief of such special objects of destitution as may come within the meaning and purpose of such benevolence, or, for any of the purposes aforesaid, to increase, extend, or make additions to any of Our Royal or other charitable institutions already founded for similar purposes within Our United Kingdom. And further, to apply, or to order and direct the application of, all such moneys in such manner as to you Our Commissioners, or to any three or more of you, shall seem fit in the premises; so that you do in all things secure the most impartial and beneficent distribution of all such sums as may hereafter and from time to time be received under or by virtue of this Our Royal Commission.

AND KNOW YE that We do by these presents farther give and grant to you, and to any three or more of you, full power and authority to call before you, or any three or more of you, all such persons in connection with Our civil, military, and naval service, as you shall judge necessary, by whom you may be the better informed of all matters and things most desirable to be done and performed, and to inquire into the premises and every part thereof by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And Our further will and pleasure is, That for the purpose of aiding you in the execution of these premises, We do hereby appoint Our trusty and well-beloved Edmund Gardiner Fishbourne, Esquire, Captain in our Navy, and Our trusty and well-beloved John Henry Lefroy, Esquire, Captain in Our Royal Regiment of Artillery, to be joint Honorary Secretaries to this Our Royal Commission.

And We do command you Our said Commissioners, upon the occurrence of any vacancy in the office of either or both of them the said Secretaries to this Our Royal Commission, that you do from time to time, and as often as the same may occur, proceed according to your discretion to fill up the same by virtue of this Our Royal Commission.

And for the further better and more perfectly enabling all Our loving subjects, according to their desire and ability, and from time to time, and at all times during the existence of this Our Royal Commission, according to their several means and wishes, to contribute to the benevolent and praiseworthy objects aforesaid, and that *Local Committees* may the more readily and speedily be formed throughout Our Kingdom and Dominions, of all Our magistrates, justices of the peace, the clergy, and other of Our loving subjects within all cities, parishes, boroughs, and places in Our Kingdom

and Dominions, and in Our Colonies, possessions, and territories abroad, It is Our Royal will and pleasure, and WE do for such purpose constitute and appoint the Lords Lieutenant, Sheriffs, and Custodes Rotulorum for the time being of the several Counties within Our Kingdom; the Aldermen and Recorder for the time being of Our City of London; the Provost of Edinburgh for the time being; the Lord Mayor of Dublin for the time being; the Lord Mayor of York for the time being; and all other the Mayors, Provosts, Bailiffs, and Bailies for the time being of Our cities, boroughs, and corporate towns; and also all Our Governors-General, Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, and officers administering the Governments for the time being of Our territories and colonial possessions, to be within their several counties, cities, boroughs, governments, and jurisdictions respectively, COMMISSIONERS IN AID of the several duties and services to be performed by you, and for the purposes hereinbefore mentioned to encourage, aid, and assist the establishment of all such *Local Committees* as may be useful or necessary in every town, parish, or place, within the jurisdiction aforesaid, for the several purposes of collecting from time to time all or any gifts, subscriptions, and voluntary contributions as aforesaid, and transmitting the same when so collected to Our Paymaster-General, as is hereinafter mentioned: Provided always, that each and every such Local Committee shall keep a correct account of the moneys collected by them respectively; and each of the said Local Committees shall only be answerable and accountable for the due and speedy transmission to Our said Paymaster-General of all such sum and sums of money as may from time to time be voluntarily subscribed or collected through its own special means and agency.

And We do authorize and empower the said COMMISSIONERS IN AID, under the rules and regulations of you Our said Commissioners, or of any three or more of you, in all other matters to perform and do such acts as may best promote the objects of this Our Royal Commission, during the continuance thereof, and to encourage and aid a due and faithful fulfilment of the benevolent desires of Our loving subjects in this behalf, within their several counties, governments, and jurisdictions aforesaid.

And for the safe custody of all moneys which may hereafter be received for the purposes herein set forth, and of all sums of money already subscribed or given for any such purpose as aforesaid, which may be duly handed over for the purpose of being applied under this Our Royal Commission, Our Royal will and pleasure further is, and We do hereby direct and command Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor, Edward John, Baron Stanley of Alderley, Our Paymaster-General, or Our Paymaster-General for the time being, to receive and safely keep all and every sum and sums of money which by virtue of this Our Royal Commission may at any time or times, and from time to time hereafter during the continuance of this Our Royal Commission, be received and paid, but subject nevertheless to the orders and directions of you Our said Commissioners, or of any three or more of you, and also to such drafts of the Executive and Finance Committee as are hereinafter mentioned, and which may be in accordance with the rules and regulations of you Our said Commissioners.

And to this end We do command Our said Paymaster-General to open and keep a separate account at the Bank of England, and that he do pay to the credit of such account, which shall be called and known by the name of the "PATRIOTIC FUND," all and every sum and sums of money which he may at any time hereafter receive, under or by virtue of this Our Royal Commission, and that Our said Paymaster-General do cause payments to be made therefrom by virtue of such drafts or orders as may be addressed to him by or on behalf of you Our said Commissioners, and, subject to your direction and authority, by your said Secretaries or either of them, or by the said Executive and Finance Committee, or by any two or more of such Committee, for the time being.

And in order to facilitate the imprest to Our said Paymaster-General of any and all subscriptions, donations, and collections of moneys now or hereafter to be made, or which from time to time during the continuance of this Our Royal Commission may be received, for any of the several purposes aforesaid, and also for the purpose of carrying into effect what you Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, shall hereafter direct to be done in respect to the said subscriptions, donations, and collections so expected to be made as aforesaid, We hereby authorize you Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, to nominate and appoint any three or more persons whomsoever, as to you shall seem meet, to be an Executive Committee in the premises; and Our pleasure is that such Executive Committee shall also be a Finance Committee, with power to select their own Chairman, and having the direction and control, under such orders and regulations as may hereafter from time to time be made by you, or by any three or more of you, over the receipts and expenditure of the said several sums of money which from time to time during the continuance of this Our Royal Commission may be collected, as aforesaid; and subject to such your orders and regulations, the said Executive and Finance Committee, or any two or more of them, shall and may order and direct the payment and disbursement of any sum or sums so to be received by Our said Paymaster-General to the account of the said "Patriotic Fund."

And it is Our further will and pleasure that you, or any three or more of you, do from time to time, according to your discre-