



# Merchant Shipping Act 1894

## 1894 CHAPTER 60

### PART II

#### MASTERS AND SEAMEN.

##### *Discharge of Seamen.*

#### **127 Discharge before superintendent.**

- (1) When a seaman serving in a British foreign-going ship, whether registered within or without the United Kingdom, is on the termination of his engagement discharged in the United Kingdom, he shall, whether the agreement with the crew be an agreement for the voyage or a running agreement, be discharged in manner provided by this Act in the presence of a superintendent.
- (2) If the master or owner of a ship acts in contravention of this section, he shall for each offence be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.
- (3) If the master or owner of a home trade ship so desire, the seamen of that ship may be discharged in the same manner as seamen discharged from a foreign-going ship.

#### **128 Certificate of discharge and return of certificate to officer on discharge.**

- (1) The master shall sign and give to a seaman discharged from his ship, either on his discharge or on payment of his wages, a certificate of his discharge in a form approved by the Board of Trade, specifying the period of his service and the time and place of his discharge, and if the master fails so to do he shall for each offence be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.
- (2) The master shall also, upon the discharge of every certificated officer whose certificate of competency has been delivered to and retained by him, return the certificate to the officer, and if without reasonable cause he fails so to do he shall for each offence be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds.

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

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**129 Reports of seaman's character.**

- (1) Where a seaman is discharged before a superintendent, the master shall make and sign, in a form approved by the Board of Trade, a report of the conduct, character, and qualifications of the seaman discharged, or may state in the said form that he declines to give any opinion upon such particulars, or upon any of them, and the superintendent before whom the discharge is made shall, if the seaman desires, give to him or endorse on his certificate of discharge a copy of such report (in this Act referred to as the report of character).
- (2) The superintendent shall transmit the reports to the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen, or to such other person as the Board of Trade may direct, to be recorded.

**130 False or forged certificate of discharge or report of character.**

ff any person—

- (a) makes a false report of character under this Act, knowing the same to be false; or
- (b) forges or fraudulently alters any certificate of discharge or report of character or copy of a report of character ; or
- (c) assists in committing, or procures to be committed, any of such offences as aforesaid ; or
- (d) fraudulently uses any certificate of discharge or report of character or copy of a report of character which is forged or altered or does not belong to him,

he shall in respect of each offence be guilty of a misdemeanor.