



# Paymaster General Act 1848

## 1848 CHAPTER 55

An Act for consolidating the Offices of Paymasters of Exchequer Bills and Paymaster of Civil Services with the Office of Paymaster General, and for making other Provisions in regard to the consolidated Offices. [14th August 1848]

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Forty-eighth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for regulating the Issue and paying off of Exchequer Bills*, Provision was made for the Appointment by the Commissioners of the Treasury of a Paymaster or Paymasters, and such other Officers and Clerks as they might deem necessary, for performing the Duties connected with the paying off of Exchequer Bills and the Interest thereupon: And whereas under the said Act Paymasters have been appointed, who are herein-after referred to as the Paymasters of Exchequer Bills: And whereas by an Act passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth, intituled *An Act to regulate the Office of the Receipt of His Majesty's Exchequer at Westminster*, Provision was made for the Appointment by the Commissioners of the Treasury of a Paymaster or Officer, with such Number of Clerks and Assistants as the said Commissioners might deem requisite, for the Payment of Salaries, Allowances, and Incidents, and other Charges previously payable in detail at the Exchequer, under the Authority of Parliament, or under the Royal Sign Manual, or under the Authority of the Commissioners of the Treasury duly authorized by Law to order such Payments, and for carrying on and executing the several Duties connected with or incident to such Payments : And whereas under the last-mentioned Act a Paymaster has been appointed, who is hereinafter referred to as the Paymaster of Civil Services: And whereas it is expedient to provide for the Execution of the Duties of the Paymasters appointed under the said Acts by the Office of Her Majesty's Paymaster General, constituted under an Act passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth:

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same,

## **Power to Treasury to abolish Offices of Paymasters of Exchequer Bills and of Civil Services.**

That from and after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any Three or more of them, to abolish the Offices of the Paymasters of Exchequer Bills and of the Paymaster of Civil Services, and to make Provision for the Discharge of the Duties now executed in those Offices by the Office of Her Majesty's Paymaster General.

## **II Duties of abolished Offices transferred to Paymaster General.**

And be it enacted, That from and after the Abolition of the said Offices, and the Transfer of the Duties thereof to Her Majesty's Paymaster General, all the Interests, Titles, Powers, Authorities, Privileges, and Duties now vested in, or either by Law or Usage exercised by, the said Offices so abolished respectively, shall be and the same are hereby declared to be transferred to and vested in and may be exercised by the said Paymaster General, or by such Person or Persons as may be duly authorized from Time to Time to perform the Duties of such Paymaster General, in as full and ample a Manner to all Intents and Purposes as they were vested in and might have been exercised by the Paymasters of Exchequer Bills and Paymaster of Civil Services respectively.

## **III Letters of Attorney to continue in force.**

And be it enacted, That no Letter of Attorney or other Authority for the Payment or Receipt of all or any Part of any Salary, Allowance, Incident, or other Charge now payable by the said Paymaster of Civil Services shall be invalidated or revoked by the Abolition of the Office of such Paymaster, but every such Letter of Attorney and other Authority shall continue in force and may be acted upon in relation to and by the said Paymaster General in the same Manner as the same might have been acted upon in relation to and by the Paymaster of Civil Services if his Office had not been abolished.

## **IV Treasury to make new Regulations for Office of Paymaster General.**

And whereas by reason of the Transfer of the Duties of the said Offices to the Office of Her Majesty's Paymaster General it will be necessary that new Regulations should be prescribed for the Government of the Office of Her Majesty's Paymaster General; be it therefore enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury and they are hereby empowered to prescribe such Rules and Regulations and to issue such Orders from Time to Time in all Matters and Things relating to the said Office, for the Safety, Economy, and Advantage of the public Service, as they shall see fit, which Rules, Regulations, and Orders shall be of full Force and Authority, and shall be observed by the Comptroller General of Her Majesty's Exchequer, and by the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and by all Bodies and Persons whatsoever, in relation to all Matters and Things therein contained.

## **V Regulations to be laid before Parliament.**

And be it enacted, That a Return, setting forth all Rules, Regulations, and Orders which shall have been prescribed and issued by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury in relation to the Duties of the said Office shall be laid before Parliament within Six

Weeks from the Date of the Issue thereof, if Parliament be then sitting, and if not then sitting within Six Weeks from the Day of the next ensuing Meeting of Parliament.

#### **VI Balance of Naval Prize Account to be transferred to Paymaster General.**

And whereas an Act was passed In the Tenth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Fourth, intituled *An Act for transferring the Management of Greenwich Out-Pensioners, and certain Duties in Matters of Prize, to the Treasurer of the Navy*, whereby it was directed that the said Treasurer of the Navy should keep a separate Account at the Bank of *England* of all Monies received and paid by him on account of Percentage upon Prizes and otherwise in relation to Naval Prize Services as therein mentioned ; and such Account is now kept at the Bank of *England* under the Title of the Paymaster General's Naval Prize Account: And whereas it is expedient that such separate Account of Monies received and paid for Naval Prize Services should hereafter be kept in the Books of Her Majesty's Paymaster General, and not at the Bank of *England* : Be it therefore enacted, That after the passing of this Act the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* shall, on being required so to do by Her Majesty's Paymaster General, transfer the Balance of the said Naval Prize Account to the Cash Account opened in the Books of the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* in the Name of the Paymaster General for the Time being.

#### **VII Vesting Army Prize "Stock in the Paymaster General and Secretary" at War for the Time being.**

And whereas the Sum of One hundred thousand Pounds Three *per Centum* Consolidated Bank Annuities, arisen from unclaimed and forfeited Shares of Army Prize Money, is now standing in an Account in the Books of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, in the Names of " The Right Honourable Thomas Babington Macaulay, Her Majesty's Paymaster General, and William George Anderson Esquire, Accountant in the Office of Her Majesty's Paymaster General:" And whereas it is expedient to vest the said Stock in the Paymaster General and the Secretary at War for the Time being, subject to the Direction of the Commissioners of *Chelsea* Hospital: Be it therefore enacted, That there shall be opened an Account in the Books of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, to be intituled " The Stock Account of the Paymaster General and Secretary at War, as Trustees for the Army Prize Fund," and such Account shall be a public Account; and upon the Death, Resignation, or Removal of both or either of them the said Paymaster General and Secretary at War for the Time being, and upon the Appointment of their or his Successors or Successor, the Balance of the said Account shall vest in the then Paymaster General and Secretary at War jointly, and when and so long as the Office of One only of them the said Paymaster General and Secretary at War shall be vacant, the said Balance shall vest in the other of them the said Paymaster General or Secretary at War for the Time being, without any Transfer or Act in any of the Cases aforesaid.

#### **VIII As to Transfer of the Stock.**

And be it enacted, That from the passing of this Act the said Sum of One hundred thousand Pounds Three *per Centum* Consolidated Bank Annuities standing in the Names of the said Thomas Babington Macaulay and William George Anderson shall stand transferred to the said Account, so that the same may be held by the said Paymaster General and Secretary at War, subject nevertheless to the Direction of the said Commissioners of *Chelsea* Hospital as to the Application thereof; and the

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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said *Thomas Babington Macaulay* and *William George Anderson* respectively are hereby released from all Claim whatsoever on account of the said Stock, of any thing heretofore done in relation to the same.

**IX Power to grant Power of Attorney for Purchase or Sale of Stock, and for Receipt of Dividends. Power of Attorney exempt from Stamp Duty.**

And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Paymaster General and Secretary at War, and during the Vacancy of the Office of either of them then for the other of them the Paymaster General or Secretary at War for the Time being, by Letter of Attorney duly executed and attested as is required by Law, to authorize all or any of the Cashiers of the Bank of *England* from Time to Time to sell and transfer all or any Part of the Stock for the Time being standing on the Account herein-before authorized to be opened, and to purchase Stock on the said Account, and to receive the Dividends due and to become due on Stock standing in the said Account, and by the said Letters of Attorney, or by Writing under their or his Hands or Hand, to direct the Application of the Monies to be received in respect of such Sales and Dividends; and every such Power of Attorney shall be exempted from Stamp Duty, and it shall not be necessary for the Governor and Company or the said Cashiers to require any Evidence of the Direction of the Commissioners of *Chelsea* Hospital as to the Matters so authorized by such Letters of Attorney and Directions of the said Paymaster General and Secretary at War, or, during the Vacancy of the Office of either of them, by such Letters of Attorney and Directions of the other of them the Paymaster General or Secretary at War for the Time being.

**X Act may be amended, &c.**

And be it enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in the present Session of Parliament.