

CIRCULAR No. 46—C

ADMIRALTY, 3rd August, 1869.

Regulations respecting Naval Cadets and Midshipmen.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having decided—

- (1) To increase the time during which naval cadets will be under training, part of such time being spent in sea-going training ships, and the whole period being considered one of probation;
- (2) To introduce the system of limited competition for naval cadetships; and
- (3) Still further to reduce the number of naval cadets annually entered;

have been pleased to make the following regulations:—

1. These regulations will take effect after the examination in August 1869.

2. Two Examinations for naval cadetships will be held annually under the direction of the Admiralty Director of Education, viz., on the third Wednesday in June, and on the last Wednesday in November, but the appointments, as cadets, of the successful candidates will date from the 15th July or the 15th January.

3. The first examination under these regulations will take place in November 1869.

4. No candidate will be eligible for examination in November, whose age will not be within the prescribed limits on the 15th January following, or for examination in June whose age will not be within the prescribed limits on the 15th of July following.

5. The limits of age for examination in November 1869, will not be less than 12 nor more than 14 years of age.

For examination in June 1870 not less than 12 nor more than 13 and a-half years of age.

After June 1870 no candidate is to be examined who is under 12 or above 13 years of age.

6. The number of naval cadets to be entered at each examination will for the present be reduced to 37; and twice the number to be entered will be nominated to compete for cadetships.

Should fewer than the authorized number pass at any examination the difference will be made up at the next examination, and the number nominated will be proportionately increased.

7. Every candidate will be required to pass the medical examination according to the prescribed regulations, and must have been found physically fit for the Royal Navy.

He must be in good health and free from any physical defect of body, impediment of speech, defect of sight or hearing, and also from any predisposition to constitutional or hereditary disease or weakness of any kind, and in all respects well developed and active in proportion to his age.

Any candidate rejected at the medical examination will be finally excluded from the Royal Navy.

8. The candidate will be required to produce (1) a certificate of birth or declaration thereof made before a magistrate; (2) a certificate of good conduct from the masters of any schools at which he may have been educated within the two previous years, or, if educated at home, from his tutors or the clergyman of the parish in which he resides; and (3) a certificate of good health.

9. The candidates will be required:—

	Marks assigned.
(a.) To read a passage from a modern standard English author with intelligence ..	100
(b.) To write English from dictation correctly in a legible hand	100
(c.) To read, translate, and parse a passage from French	100
N. B.—The aid of a dictionary will be allowed in this translation.	

They will also be required to have a satisfactory knowledge of:—

(d.) Arithmetic, as far as proportion and vulgar and decimal fractions	150
(e.) Scripture history	100

No candidate will be qualified to compete unless he obtains at least four-tenths of the marks assigned to each of these subjects, and 250 marks in the aggregate.

10. Candidates so qualified will be further examined in such of the following subjects as they may select:—

	Marks assigned.
(f.) Arithmetic. Miscellaneous examples ..	100
(g.) Algebra. The first four rules and fractions (Miscellaneous questions) ..	100
(h.) Euclid. Book I., Prop. XXII. ..	100
(i.) French. Translation of English into French	100
(k.) Latin. To read, translate, and parse a passage from the first two books of Cæsar de Bello Gallico, or Virgil's Æneid, and to translate easy passages from English into Latin	100
(l.) English History. From the Commencement of the reign of James I. to the present day	100
(m.) The outlines of modern geography ..	100
(n.) Any one living foreign language except French. To read, translate, and parse a passage, and to render an English passage into it	100
(o.) Elementary drawing	100

No marks amounting to less than one-sixth in a voluntary subject will be counted towards the total.

11. A candidate who obtains the number of marks described for passing, but who may not be successful in the competition, will be allowed to compete again at the next examination without a fresh nomination. No candidate will be allowed to compete more than twice.

12. Candidates rejected for the first time at the examination in August 1869, are to be allowed a second trial in November without a fresh nomination; but they must then compete with other candidates, and should they not succeed in the competition they will not be allowed another trial.

13. Any candidate who fails to appear at the next examination after he has obtained a nomination will not be allowed to present himself without a fresh nomination, except in the case of illness, certified by a physician or surgeon, approved by their Lordships, in which case non-appearance will have the effect of unsuccessful competition, entitling the candidate to present himself at the following examination only.

14. Every flag officer (except an admiral superintendent of a dockyard), on hoisting his flag, will be allowed three nominations for competition; every commodore of the first class two; every captain appointed to the command of a ship of whatever class) except captains of stationary ships, captains superintendent of dockyards, or victualling yards, and the captain of the yacht), one; but no officer will be allowed to exercise this right a second time within three years; and no captain appointed to a ship during her commission will be allowed a nomination if the right has been exercised within a year during the same commission by a previous captain.

A fresh nomination will be allowed to the officer should a candidate be rejected at the medical examination, but not in the event of the candidate failing to pass the test at the examination under the Director of Education.

15. Seven nominations will be given annually to the colonies, under the regulations hitherto in force as to nomination and examination; but the limits of age will be the same as for candidates nominated in the United Kingdom,—and cadets passing in the colonies will, in