



The Edinburgh Gazette

November 19, 1915.

War Office,
November 16, 1915.

The Royal Red Cross Warrant.

George R.I.

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India. To all whom these Presents shall come Greeting :-

WHEREAS Her late Majesty Our Beloved Grandmother Queen Victoria by a Warrant dated the 23rd day of April 1883, did institute, constitute and create a Decoration designated "The Royal Red Cross" to be awarded in recognition of special services rendered in nursing the sick and wounded of Our Army and Navy, and did make, ordain and establish certain rules and ordinances for the government of the same, which rules and ordinances were subsequently amended by Royal Warrants dated the 11th day of December 1897, the 24th day of July 1902, and the 8th day of September 1909:

AND WHEREAS it is Our Royal Will and Pleasure that further provision shall be made for the recognition of such special services rendered in nursing the sick and wounded of Our Army and Navy:

NOW THEREFORE We do hereby declare that the rules and ordinances heretofore in force for the government of the said Decoration shall be abrogated, cancelled and annulled, and We are pleased to make, ordain and establish the following rules and ordinances in substitution for the same, which shall from henceforth be inviolably observed and kept:-

Firstly:

The Decoration shall be styled and designated "The Royal Red Cross", and shall be divided into two Classes.

The First Class shall consist of a Cross, enameled red, edged with gold, having on the arms thereof the words Faith, Hope, Charity, with the date of the institution of the Decoration: the centre having thereon in relief the Royal and Imperial Effigy. On the reverse thereof the Royal and Imperial Cipher and Crown shall be shown in relief on the centre.

The Second Class shall consist of a Cross which shall be of the same form and size as in the First Class, but shall be of frosted silver and shall have superimposed thereon a Maltese Cross enameled red not exceeding half its dimensions, the centre having thereon in relief the Royal and Imperial Effigy. The reverse shall have inscribed on the arms thereof the words Faith, Hope, Charity, and the date of institution of the original Decoration, and shall bear in the centre in relief the Royal and Imperial Ciphers and Crown.

Secondly:

The Cross in either Class shall be attached to a dark blue riband edged red, of one inch in width, tied in a bow and worn on the left shoulder.

Thirdly:

The decoration may be worn by the Queen Regnant, the Queen Consort, or the Queen Dowager of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; and it shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, to confer the Decoration upon any of the Princesses of the Royal Family of Great Britain and Ireland; also upon the Queens or Princesses of Foreign Countries who may have specially exerted themselves in providing for the nursing of the sick and wounded of Foreign Armies and Navies.

Fourthly:

It shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, to confer either Class of this Decoration upon any members of the Nursing Services without restriction as to rank, or upon other persons engaged in nursing duties whether subjects or foreign persons, who may be recommended to Our notice by Our Secretary of State for War or by the First Lord of the Admiralty, as the case may be, for special devotion and competency which they may have displayed in their nursing duties with Our Army in the Field, or in Our Naval and Military Hospitals.

Fifthly:

The number of awards in the First Class of the Decoration shall not exceed two per cent, of the total establishment of Nurses, and the number of awards in the Second Class of the Decoration shall not exceed five per cent of the total establishment of Nurses, the allotments to be proportionate to the numbers of each Nursing Service, provided nevertheless that it shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, to make such additions as, under exceptional circumstances, We may deem fitting.

Sixthly:

Recipients of the Second Class of the Decoration shall be eligible for advancement to the First Class as vacancies may arise.

Seventhly:

Recipients of the First Class of the Decoration shall be designated Members of the Royal Red Cross, and shall be entitled to the letters R.R.C. following their names. Recipients of the Second Class of the Decoration shall be designated Associates of the Royal Red Cross, and shall be entitled to the letters A.R.R.C. following their names.

Eighthly:

It shall be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, to confer either Class of the Decoration upon any ladies, whether subjects or foreign persons, who may be recommended to Our notice by Our Secretary of State for War as having voluntarily undertaken the duties of establishing, conducting or assisting in hospitals for the treatment of sick and wounded soldiers and sailors of Our Army and Navy, or of Our Indian Military Forces or of the Naval and Military Forces of Our Self-governing Dominions beyond the Seas, or as having performed valuable services with the Red Cross or kindred societies at home or abroad, or as having otherwise rendered eminent services in the care of sick and wounded soldiers and sailors of Our Army and Navy; and it is hereby ordained that all persons appointed under this Clause shall be regarded as Honorary Members or Associates, and their appointment shall be additional to the establishment ordained in the Fifth Clause of this Our Royal Warrant.

Ninthly:

The names of those upon whom We may be pleased to confer the Decoration shall be published in the London Gazette, and a registry thereof kept in the office of Our Secretary of State for War.

Tenthly:

In order to make such additional provision as shall effectually preserve pure this honourable distinction, it is ordained that if any person on whom such distinction shall be conferred shall by her conduct become unworthy of it, her name shall be erased, by an order under the Royal Sign Manual, from the register of those upon whom the said Decoration shall have been conferred. And it is hereby declared that We, Our Heirs and Successors, shall be the sole judge of the conduct which may require the erasure from the register of the name of the offending person, and that it shall at all times be competent for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, to restore the name if such restoration should be justified by the circumstances of the case.

Lastly:

We reserve to Ourselves, Our Heirs and Successors, full power of annulling, altering, abrogating, augmenting, interpreting, or dispensing with these Regulations, or any part thereof, by a notification under the Royal Sign Manual.

Given at Our Court at St James's, this Tenth day of November 1915, in the Sixth year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

H. H. Asquith.