

PARLIAMENTARY RETURNS

TREASURY MINUTE, DATED DECEMBER 3, 1894, AS TO THE
LAYING BEFORE PARLIAMENT OF THE MERCANTILE
MARINE FUND ACCOUNT.

1894 No. 726

My Lords refer to the Treasury Minute of the 3rd of December, 1889,(a) which directed that the Mercantile Marine Fund Account, which was ordered to be presented annually by Section 429 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854 (17 & 18 Vict. c. 104) should no longer be prepared and laid before Parliament as a separate paper.

Copies of this Minute were laid before both Houses of Parliament on the 11th of February 1890 in pursuance of the Parliamentary Returns Act, 1869 (32 & 33 Vict. c. 86).

My Lords have now before them the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (57 & 58 Vict. c. 60).

It is provided by Section 745 of this Act and the 22nd Schedule thereof that the whole of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, be repealed.

But by Section 679, subsection (2), of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, it is provided that the Board of Trade shall, as soon as may be after the meeting of Parliament in every year, cause the accounts of the Mercantile Marine Fund(b) for the preceding year to be laid before both Houses of Parliament.

My Lords are pleased to declare that the Treasury Minute of the 3rd of December, 1889, applies to the returns prescribed by Section 679 (2) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.

(a) See p. 13 above.

(b) The Mercantile Marine Fund was by 61 & 62 Vict. c. 44. s. 1, abolished as from April 1st, 1899, and its liabilities transferred to the General Lighthouse Fund.