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**TREASURY MINUTE, DATED DECEMBER 3, 1889, AS TO THE  
LAYING BEFORE PARLIAMENT OF ANNUAL RETURNS AS  
TO THE MERCANTILE MARINE FUND.**

My Lords refer to the Parliamentary Returns Act, 1869 (32 & 33 Vict. c. 86), under which power is given to this Board to order, by Minute to be laid before Parliament, that any account, statement, return, or other document required by Act to be laid before Parliament, shall be discontinued, and shall not be prepared or laid before either House of Parliament if the information contained therein is also given in the Appropriation Accounts prepared under the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act, 1866.

My Lords have before them a letter from the Board of Trade, dated the 1st instant, stating that the Mercantile Marine Fund Account is now annually presented to Parliament with the appropriation accounts referred to above. It is stated that the Board of Trade have for some time past regarded such presentation as a compliance with the requirements of Section 429 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854 (17 & 18 Vict. c. 104).**(b)**

My Lords are satisfied that the information which is required to be given in the return prescribed by Section 429 of the last mentioned Act is now supplied in the Mercantile Marine Fund Account which is presented to Parliament with the appropriation accounts.

They are, therefore, pleased to order that the said return shall no longer be prepared and laid before Parliament as a separate paper.**(c)**

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**(b)** Now repealed and consolidated with other Acts by the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (57 & 58 Vict. c. 60); see section 679 (2) of that Act.

**(c)** See Minute of December 3, 1894, p. 14 below, directing that this Minute shall apply to the Returns prescribed by section 679 (2) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.