

## No. 16 of 1890.

### An Ordinance to establish a Volunteer Reserve.

**Preamble.**

**W**HEREAS it is expedient to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a volunteer reserve in this colony : Be it therefore enacted by the Governor of Ceylon, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows :

**Short title.**

**1** This Ordinance may be cited as "The Volunteer Reserve Ordinance, 1890."

**Definitions.**

**2** In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires—

"Commanding officer" shall mean the commanding officer of the Ceylon volunteers.

"Adjutant" shall mean the adjutant of the Ceylon volunteers.

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- 3** (1) It shall be lawful for the Governor to keep up a force in this colony called "the volunteer reserve," to consist of—
- (a) Officers, non-commissioned officers, and men who have duly served in Her Majesty's regular or reserve forces; and
- (b) Officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Ceylon volunteers who have been returned as efficient for not less than two years.
- (2) Only such officers and men shall be eligible for the volunteer reserve as are between twenty and fifty years of age, and are resident outside a radius of ten miles from the headquarters of a reserve district.
- 4** Every person who desires to be admitted into the volunteer reserve under the regulations hereinafter mentioned shall apply in writing to the adjutant to be duly enrolled as by those regulations provided, and shall upon his enrolment being sanctioned take the following oath, or, if he be not a Christian, make the following affirmation, before any justice of the peace having jurisdiction in the place where such oath or affirmation is taken or made :
- I, ———, do sincerely promise and swear (or do solemnly, sincerely, and truly affirm and declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, her heirs and successors according to law, and that I will faithfully serve Her Majesty in Ceylon for the defence thereof against all her enemies and opposers whatever.
- 5** A nominal roll of members of the volunteer reserve shall be kept by the adjutant, who shall furnish to the officers in command at headquarters of reserve districts the names and addresses of such members as may be residing within their respective districts.
- 6** (1) Every person enrolled as a member of the volunteer reserve shall forward to the adjutant on the thirty-first day of July and the thirty-first day of December in each year a certificate in the form A in the schedule hereto from his employer or the head of the public department in which he may be serving; and if such person has no employer, and is not serving in any public department, he shall forward to the adjutant at the respective dates afore-mentioned an affidavit made by himself before a justice of the peace in the form B in the schedule hereto, and every such affidavit shall be free from stamp duty.
- (2) Upon such person removing from one reserve district to another, he shall forthwith report such removal to the adjutant, specifying the district to which he shall have removed, and giving his address.
- 7** It shall be the duty of the commanding officer to cause the name of any person who, without sufficient excuse, fails to furnish the certificate or affidavit required by section 6, or who fails, without being specially exempted therefrom, to fulfil the requirements of section 10, to be struck off the roll, and such person shall thereupon cease to be a member of the volunteer reserve.

Constitution  
of volunteer  
reserve.

Qualifications.

Oath.

Nominal roll.

Certificate.

Notice of  
removal from  
one reserve  
district to  
another.

Striking off  
the roll.

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## Resignation.

**8** Any member of the volunteer reserve may at any time, except whilst on actual duty when called out under section 12, resign from the reserve, provided he shall give fourteen days' notice in writing to the commanding officer, unless such officer shall dispense with such notice. Provided also that it shall be lawful for the Governor to allow any member to resign at any time, and under any circumstances, subject to such conditions as the Governor shall see fit to impose.

## When member of reserve may join corps of Ceylon volunteers.

**9** If at any time a member of the volunteer reserve shall reside within a radius of ten miles from the headquarters of a reserve district for any period exceeding twenty-eight days, he shall at once report himself to the officer in command of the company of volunteers thereat, and if willing thereto he may be taken on the strength of such corps, and his name removed from the roll of the volunteer reserve.

## Efficiency.

**10** Every member of the volunteer reserve must render himself efficient by attending in the first year of his enrolment, and thereafter at least once in every three years, a course of drill and musketry training at such time and place as may be appointed for the purpose by the commanding officer, unless such member shall be specially exempted from so attending by such officer.

## Governor may disband or remove any member.

**11** The Governor may at his discretion disband the volunteer reserve enrolled under this Ordinance, or any part thereof, or remove therefrom any member. Provided that the whole or part so disbanded, or the member removed, shall remain subject to the liabilities, if any, imposed upon such as shall be disbanded or removed by any regulations to be made under section 17.

## Governor may call out the volunteer reserve.

**12** (1) The Governor may call out the volunteer reserve or any part thereof in case of imminent national danger from without, or in case of internal rebellion or insurrection, and when it is so called out it shall be placed and be liable to act under the orders of the senior officer in command of Her Majesty's troops in this colony.

## Every member to report himself when summoned.

(2) Every member so called out shall, within seventy-two hours of the receipt of a summons from the officer in command at the headquarters of the reserve district within which such member may reside, report himself at such headquarters.

## Form of summons, and how served.

(3) Every such summons shall be substantially in the form C in the schedule hereto, and shall be sent by a special messenger or by registered letter through the post addressed to such member, and if so sent by post shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the letter containing the same would be delivered in the ordinary course of post.

## Proof of service.

(4) In proving such service by post, it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter was properly addressed and registered at the post office.

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13 Every member of the volunteer reserve reporting himself as required by section 12 shall be attached to, and shall form part of, the corps of the Ceylon volunteers until he shall be relieved from service by order in writing under the hand of the commanding officer, when he shall revert to, and become a member of, the volunteer reserve.

Members reporting themselves to serve as part of corps of Ceylon volunteers.

14 All members of the volunteer reserve, so long as they shall be attached to, and shall form part of, any corps of Ceylon volunteers, shall have all such powers, protections, and privileges, and be liable to all such duties, responsibilities, and penalties as by law volunteers have and are liable to in Ceylon.

When so serving to be subject to the law applicable to Ceylon volunteers.

15 The following shall be reserve districts and the headquarters thereof for the purposes of this Ordinance :

Reserve districts and headquarters.

No. 1 Reserve District, Headquarters, Colombo	} For members residing in	{	Western and Sabara-
No. 2 Reserve District, Headquarters, Kandy			gamuwa Provinces.
No. 3 Reserve District, Headquarters, Kurunégala			do. { Central, Uva, Northern, North-Central, and Eastern Provinces.
No. 4 Reserve District, Headquarters, Galle			do. { North-Western Pro- vince. Southern Province.

16 Every person who shall produce a certificate in writing signed by the adjutant as having been enrolled as a member of the volunteer reserve, and as having conformed himself to the requirements of this Ordinance and of any regulations made under section 17, shall be exempted from the liability to labour imposed by section 49 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1861, and from any tax payable in labour or in money in commutation of such labour.

Exemption from tax payable in labour or in money in commutation thereof.

17 (1) The Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, may from time to time make and, when made, amend or revoke regulations for the admission and enrolment, as also the government and discipline, of the volunteer reserve, and may in and by such regulations impose a penalty not exceeding ten rupees for every breach thereof.

Rules affecting admission, enrolment, government, and discipline of the volunteer reserve.

(2) All such regulations so made or amended shall be published in the *Government Gazette*, and when so published shall have the full force and effect of law.

SCHEDULE A.

(Place) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, 18 —.

I hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_, No. — of the Volunteer Reserve, residing at \_\_\_\_\_, in No. — Reserve District, has been continuously stationed during the last six months at \_\_\_\_\_, outside a radius of ten miles from \_\_\_\_\_, being the headquarters of such district ; that he has had no opportunity of attending drills or musketry training, and that to the best of my belief he is within the prescribed limits of age, and physically fit for military service.

(Signature of Employer or Head of Department.)

SCHEDULE B.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, No. — of the Volunteer Reserve, residing at \_\_\_\_\_, in No. — Reserve District, do swear (*or* solemnly, sincerely, and truly declare and affirm) that I have been continuously stationed during the last six months at \_\_\_\_\_, outside a radius of ten miles from \_\_\_\_\_, being the headquarters of such district; that I have had no opportunity of attending drills or musketry training, and that I am within the prescribed limits of age, and physically fit for military service.

Sworn (*or* affirmed)  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 18 —.                      Signature \_\_\_\_\_.  
Before me, \_\_\_\_\_,  
Justice of the Peace.

SCHEDULE C.

No. — Reserve District Headquarters.  
(Place) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, 18 —.

No. — (*give rank and name*) of the Volunteer Reserve.

You are hereby summoned to report yourself at the above-named headquarters within seventy-two hours of receiving this summons.

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Rank) \_\_\_\_\_

Commanding No. — Reserve District.

19th November, 1890.