

(Enregistré sur les Records le 2 Mai 1904.)

AT THE COURT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE,

The 21st day of April, 1904.

PRESENT,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

LORD PRESIDENT

EARL OF KINTORE

SIR SAVILE CROSSLEY.

Education
Primaire
Obligatoire.
Modification
de l'Article
III.
Certificat
d'Etudes, 5me
Grade au lieu
du 4me Grade.

WHEREAS there was this day read at the Board a Report from the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council for the Affairs of Guernsey and Jersey, dated the 11th day of April, 1904, in the words following, viz.:—

“YOUR MAJESTY having been pleased, by Your General Order of Reference of the 24th day of January, 1901, to refer unto this Committee the humble Petition of the States of the Island of Guernsey, dated the 12th March, 1904, setting forth—1. that by the existing Law relating to Compulsory Primary Education (which Law was adopted by the States on the 9th May, 1900, and sanctioned by an Order of Her late Majesty in Council dated the 17th September, 1900, Primary Education was made compulsory for all children in the Island above the age of 5 and under the age of 13 years; 2. that by the 3rd Article of the said Law certain exemptions were granted, and amongst others the following—

‘ III Sera exempté de l’Instruction Obligatoire: 1904.

‘ (a) L’enfant auquel sera décerné un Certificat dit “Certificat d’Etudes Primaires” constatant qu’il a passé l’Examen de quatrième grade du Code d’Instruction prescrit par le Comité des Etats aux fins de l’Article vingt de la Loi sur l’Instruction Publique Primaire du 12 Décembre 1893 enregistrée sur les Records de cette Ile le 23 Décembre 1893’;

3. that it has been found by experience that children of comparatively tender years are enabled to pass the IVth Standard, and consequently that the above Standard of Exemption is too low; that the Supervisor of Attendance Officers and the States Superintendent of Primary Education in their Report dated the 31st December, 1903, reported (amongst other things) as follows;—

‘ The States have recognised 13 as the age at which a child might be legally employed. We believe that under existing conditions of efficiency, many scholars are becoming legally qualified for employment by passing the 4th Standard at an age not contemplated when the Law was enacted. Thus, at the recently completed Official examination of Guernsey Primary Schools 122 scholars passed the 4th Standard and became qualified for employment while under 11 years of age. Of these 15 were between 9 and 10 and one child qualified for employment at the age of 8 years and 9 months. We are convinced that it was not the intention of the States that children of such tender years should be allowed to leave school and go to work. And we therefore respectfully urge the States Committee to take the necessary steps to obtain an Amendment of the Compulsory

1904.

‘Education Law substituting the 5th for the 4th
‘as the exemption standard in the Primary
‘Schools of the Island’;

4. that the recommendation above referred to was duly brought before the States for their consideration, and at a meeting held on the 2nd day of March, 1904, the States adopted a Resolution that Article III subsection (a) of the Law relating to Compulsory Education should be amended by substituting the word ‘cinquième’ for the word ‘quatrième’ (‘fifth’ for ‘fourth’) in that subsection so that the subsection should hereafter stand in the words and figures set forth in the Schedule to the Petition; and most humbly praying that Your Majesty might be graciously pleased to sanction the proposed Amendment of Article III subsection (a) of the Law relating to Compulsory Primary Education and to order and direct that as from the date of Registration of the Order to be made thereon the said subsection might be read and take effect as if the word ‘cinquième’ were substituted for the word ‘quatrième’ therein so that the said Article III subsection (a) should stand in the words and figures set forth in the Schedule to the Petition :

“THE LORDS OF THE COMMITTEE, in obedience to Your Majesty’s said Order of Reference, have this day taken the said Petition into consideration, and do agree humbly to report, as their opinion, to Your Majesty, that it may be advisable for Your Majesty to comply with the prayer of the said Petition, and to approve of and ratify the said Amendment of the *Projet de Loi* entitled ‘*Loi relative à l’Education Primaire Obligatoire*’.”

HIS MAJESTY, having taken the said Report into consideration, is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to approve of and ratify the said Amendment of the "Loi relative à l'Education Primaire Obligatoire," and to order, as it is hereby ordered, that the same shall have the force of Law within the Island of Guernsey.

1904.

And His Majesty doth hereby further direct that this Order and the said Amendment (a copy whereof is hereunto annexed) be entered upon the Register of the Island of Guernsey, and observed accordingly. And the Lieutenant-Governor or Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Guernsey, the Bailiff and Jurats, and all other His Majesty's Officers for the time being, in the said Island, and all other persons whom it may concern, are to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

A. W. FITZ ROY.
