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憲示

No. 7.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The subjoined Notification, issued by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Canton to the British Mercantile Community at that Port, respecting modifications in the Rate of Duties levied on certain Printed Goods of inferior quality, is published for general information.

By Order,

G. W. CAINE.

Superintendency of Trade, Victoria, Hongkong, 24th March, 1859.

NOTIFICATION.

An Official Communication having been addressed by His Excellency Hang, the Comptroller of Maritime Customs at this Port, to the undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, respecting certain modifications in the Tariff-rate of Duties hitherto levied on a coarse kind of Printed Goods, consisting of Brown and Blue Handkerchiefs and Chintzes of like inferior quality, the annexed Translation is circulated for general information.

It will be seen that, on the representation of Her Majesty's Consul, His Excellency the Hopo has agreed to class these coarse Handkerchiefs and Chintzes among the Unenumerated Articles, and to levy an *ad valorem* Duty of Five per Cent, instead of considering them as heretofore in the same class with the more expensive Handkerchiefs and Chintzes to which the Treaty Tariff had more especially reference, and rendering them liable to a Duty so heavy as to prove in many cases prohibitory.

His Excellency the Hopo further agrees, that hereafter certain Dyed Cottons, named *Kwei-hwa-poo*, and *Chay* or *Te-hwa-poo*, among the Chinese, specimens of which are attached, ranging in Value from Three to Five or Six Taels, and about which frequent discussions have recently arisen, shall be admitted at a uniform Rate of Three Taels, and in like manner be classed among the Unenumerated Articles, on which a Duty of Five per Cent *ad valorem* will be levied.

The arrangements proposed in regard to these Four Articles, being all in favour of the Importer, and a great improvement on the mode of assessing the Duties hitherto in practice, Her Majesty's Consul has informed His Excellency that the British Mercantile Community will be duly advised that these Duties, and no others, will be collected on the above specified Goods.

(Signed,) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK,
Consul.

British Consulate, Canton, March 22d, 1859.

An Official Communication in Reply, addressed to RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, Esquire, H.B.M.'s Consul at Canton, by His Excellency HANG, Comptroller of Maritime Customs, &c., &c., &c. Dated Hien-fung, 9th year, 2d month, 15th day. 19th March, 1859.

I have received your Official Communication (informing me that the Chintzes, Printed Cottons, and Handkerchiefs, now brought to Canton for sale, are of a Quality so much inferior to the Goods that used to be imported when the Tariff first came into operation, that to levy Duties on them according to the Scale prescribed by the said Tariff is almost in effect to prohibit their importation. You further state, that the Shanghai Customs, perceiving the disproportion that existed between the intrinsic Value of the Imports in question and the Tariff Duty levied thereon, have, for some time past, classed them with the Unenumerated Articles, and levied an Import *ad valorem* Duty of Five per Cent, and you request me to adopt the same Rule at this Port.)

On the receipt of your Despatch, I at once examined the specimens enclosed of the Articles to which it referred, consisting of Two Handkerchiefs and One Piece of Chintz, and I saw that in point of fabric they were really of a coarse quality. Your present proposition therefore, to the effect that these coarse Chintzes and Handkerchiefs be classed, as at Shanghai, with the Unenumerated Articles, and admitted on payment of an *ad valorem* Duty of Five per Cent, is a measure of general expediency, being, as it is, in furtherance of Commercial interests and for the prevention of obstacles to Trade. Now, accordance with reality is what I aim at in all matters. In order therefore that your proposal may be complied with, it is right that the Market Price should be ascertained, and the Duty fixed in accordance with the dearness or cheapness of the Goods; in that way, it will be possible to make the change you suggest. For the future, therefore, let this coarse kind of Chintz be valued at Two Taels [about \$2.80] per Piece; and let the value of coloured Handkerchiefs of the Quality sent me be fixed at Six Candareens each [about \$1 per Dozen]: the said Goods will then be admitted at this valuation, and be assessed for Duties at Five per Cent thereon. As regards the fine Chintzes and Turkey-red Handkerchiefs, I shall continue to levy on them the Tariff Duty, and thereby act as is rendered right by equity and reality.

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...ertain Cotton Fabrics, named *Kwei-hwa-poo* and *Chay* or *Te-hwa-poo*, [Dyed Cottons,] have been brought to this Port; and it occurred, that the Merchants argue and dispute the point when the said Goods are being valued for Duty Assessment. Now, the question range in Value from Three to Five or Six Taels per Piece. I therefore propose to admit them at a fixed valuation, say Five per Piece, and collect on them an *ad valorem* Duty of Five per Cent. In this way we will be able to preserve uniformity and to avoid confusion and irregularity.

I send for your inspection specimens of the *Kwei-hwa-poo* and *Chay-hwa-poo*; and I request that you will consider my proposal favour me with a Reply. Further, the Handkerchiefs and Chintz, sent to me by you, will be retained as Specimens in my Office. I will refer you will bring these matters to the cognizance of the Merchants, in order that they may act in accordance therewith, as will be most expedient.

In conclusion, therefore, I send you this official Reply, and avail myself of the opportunity to wish you all the blessings of the season. A

Translated by,

(Signed,) ROBERT HART,
Acting Interpreter.

True Copies,

H. F. HANCE.

NOTICE.

The Sittings of the SUPREME COURT, in its ORIGINAL JURISDICTION, will be held on the First day of April, A.D. 1859, at 10 o'clock Noon.

By Order of the Court,

NORMAN RAMSAY MASSON,
Acting Registrar.

POST-OFFICE NOTIFICATION.

THE GENERAL MAILS per Steamer "ADEN," will close on TUESDAY, the 23rd inst at 6 o'clock P.M.

SUPPLEMENTARY MAILS will be made up every morning. LETTERS received from 6 A.M. for a late fee of 6d., and from 12 o'clock P.M., for a late fee of 1s. News papers posted between the 11th and Half-past 12 o'clock P.M., must be sent to the Post-Office.

F. W. MITCHELL,
Acting Post-Master.

Hongkong,
23rd March, 1859.

Steam for
PENANG, POINT DE GALLE,
SUEZ, MALTA, MARSEILLES,
& SOUTHAMPTON;

ALSO,

GOA, MADRAS, & CALCUTTA.
PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steam-ship "ADEN," CAPTAIN BARNARD, with Her Majesty's Mails, Passengers, and Cargo, will leave this for the above on WEDNESDAY, the 30th March,

Passengers will be received on board until 5 P.M. and CARGO until 2 P.M. on the 29th.

For particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSAGE, apply to the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Hongkong.

WEIGHTS AND VALUE OF PACKAGES ARE REQUIRED.

A Declaration of the Contents and Value of Packages for the Overland Route is required by the Government, and must be delivered to the Company's Agents with the Goods or with Parcels; and the Company do not become responsible for any Detention or Loss which may happen from incorrectness on the part of the Shipper.

MAXN. FISCHER,
Superintendent.

Peninsular & Oriental
Steam Navigation Company's Office,
21st March, 1859.

NOTICE.

ROBERT SCOTT WALKER has joined the Firm, which will, from this day, be carried on in the title of WALKER, BORRADAILE & Co.

THOS. S. BORRADAILE & Co.
25th November, 1858.

IN THE COURT FOR THE RELIEF OF INSOLVENT DEBTORS AT CALCUTTA.

In the Matter of the "ASIATIC MARINE INSURANCE OFFICE."

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN.—That by an Order of this Court, bearing date the Fourth day of December, One thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, the SHAREHOLDERS of the said "ASIATIC MARINE INSURANCE OFFICE," are required to pay the further Sum of COMPANY'S RUPEES TWO THOUSAND, assessed in respect of each SHARE held by them respectively, on or before the following dates: that is to say, the SHAREHOLDERS resident in CALCUTTA or the Suburbs thereof, on or before the First day of February next; the SHAREHOLDERS resident in HONGKONG and BOMBAY, on or before the Second day of May next; and the SHAREHOLDERS resident in GREAT BRITAIN, and all other Places not mentioned in the said Order, on or before the First day of August next; and that the Official Assignee will be at liberty to apply that the defaulting Shareholders be adjudged to have committed an Act of Insolvency according to the Provisions of the Indian Insolvent Act.

DENMAN & HATCH,
Attorneys for the Official Assignee.

SMITH & BRIMELOW,
Government Auctioneers, Ship Chandlers, Auctioneers, and Commission Agents.
ESTABLISHED 1844.

Auctioneers to H. M. Naval and Victualling Department.

Nos. 1 & 2 WOODSMAN'S BUILDINGS,
HONGKONG.

NOTICE.

MR JOHN ROBERTS, JUN., will act as Auctioneer during the absence of Mr BRIMELOW from the Colony; and is authorized to sign our Firm per *procurator* from this date.

SMITH & BRIMELOW.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1859.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned have this day entered into Co-partnership under the style of HESSE, EHLERS & Co., for the transaction of a GENERAL COMMISSION BUSINESS.

THEODOR HESSE.
PAUL EHLERS.

Canton, 3d January, 1859.

WITH reference to the foregoing Notice, the Business hitherto carried on by the undersigned, ceases to exist from this date.

All outstanding accounts will be settled by the undersigned.

PAUL EHLERS.

Canton, 3d January, 1859.

NOTICE.

MR HENRY COHEN, is authorized to Sign our Firm per *procurator*.

PHILLIPS, MOORE & Co.
Hongkong, 1st March, 1859.

NOTICE.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY is desirous of receiving any information concerning one

MATTHEW CARSWELL DREW,

a CIVIL ENGINEER & SURVEYOR, who is supposed to have been temporarily resident in this Colony sometime during the last four years. Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 19th January, 1859.

NOTICE.

A DISSOLUTION of the partnership hitherto existing between the former Members of the Firm ADAM & Co., Batavia and Sourabaya, having taken place on the 31st ultimo, the undersigned begs to intimate, that he will continue the Business, as heretofore, at both places, and under the same style as formerly.

Notice is at the same time given, that, from this date, Mr D. T. BRYCE has been admitted as Partner at Batavia and Sourabaya; and that Mr W. W. COOK has been admitted as partner of the Sourabaya Firm.

J. H. ADAM.

Batavia, 1st January, 1859.

NOTICE.

THE Business heretofore conducted in China under the Style of BLENKIN, RAWSON & Co., was closed on the 31st ultimo.

Mr JAMES DOW will sign the name of the Firm in Liquidation.

(Signed) T. S. RAWSON,
S. RAWSON,
WILLIAM KAY,
by their Attorney, W. BLENKIN.
JAMES DOW.
W. THORBURN
W. M. C. NORTON.

China, 1st January, 1859.

NOTICE.

WE have established a BRANCH of our House at Hongkong.

Mr ROWLAND HAMILTON, and Mr HUBERT MARSHALL MURRAY GRAY, are admitted Partners in our Firm.

Mr ROBERT RICHARD WESTALL will sign for us in China per *Procurator*.

SMITH, KENNEDY & Co.
Shanghai, 18th November, 1858.

Offices in the House occupied by the late Mr EDGER, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

COPPER-PLATE PRINTING.

PERSONS having ENGRAVED PLATES may have VISITING CARDS (Enamelled or Plain) printed from them at the Office of the "China Mail."

Printed at the Office of the China Mail, Hongkong.—Price, \$12 per Annum. Single Copies, Thirty-six Cents.

TERMS OF ADVERTISEMENTS.—Five Lines and under, One Dollar; each Additional Line, Twenty Cents—One-half of these charges for each Repetition.