

The Undersigned, Plenipotentiaries of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, charged with making a Treaty for the extradition of criminals, upon which they have at this present agreed, having met in conference, took into their consideration the following subjects:—

They directed their attention to the fact that the criminal law of England punishes the crime of infanticide with the same penalty as that of murder, when accompanied by corresponding circumstances, and that it results therefrom that extradition should take place even for attempting to commit that crime.

On the other hand, they observed, that according to the Brazilian law, infanticide is not punished as murder, nor even as manslaughter, but as a crime distinct from both, and by a minor punishment, and that consequently extradition should not take place for the attempt.

They consequently resolved to declare that extradition shall solely take place for the crime of infanticide, and not for an attempt to commit that crime.

With this declaration they agreed to close this conference, from which the present Protocol emanates, which being found in conformity, was signed, each having a copy thereof.

Done in the city of Rio de Janeiro, the thirteenth day of November of 1872.

(L.S.) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.
(L.S.) MARQUEZ DE S. VICENTE.

Reunidos em conferencia os Plenipotenciarios de Sua Magestade a Rainha do Reino Unido da Grã Bretanha e Irlanda, e de Sua Magestade o Imperador do Brazil, abaixo assignados, encarregados de ajustar um Tractado de extradição de delinquentes, em que nesta data accorderão, tomarão em consideração a seguinte materia:

Ponderou-se que a lei criminal Inglesa pune o crime de infanticidio com a mesma pena do crime de *murder*, quando acompanhado das circumstanças deste, e que dahi resulta ter lugar a extradição mesmo por tentativa.

Por outro lado ponderou-se que segundo a lei Brasileira, o infanticidio não é punido como o homicidio sujeito á pena de morte, nem mesmo como homicidio, sim como crime distincto d'elles, e com pena menor, e que consequentemente não deve ter lugar a extradição por tentativa.

Resolverão pois declarar que a extradição só poderá verificar-se pelo crime de infanticidio, e não pela tentativa d'elle.

Com esta declaração entenderão terminar esta conferencia, da qual se lavrou o presente Protocollo, que depois de achar-se conforme foi assignado, ficando cada um com o seu exemplar.

Feito na Corte do Rio de Janeiro aos treze dias de Novembro de 1872.

(L.S.) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.
(L.S.) MARQUEZ DE S. VICENTE.

And whereas the ratifications of the said Treaty were exchanged at Rio de Janeiro on the twenty-eighth day of August last:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, and in virtue of the authority committed to Her by the said recited Act, doth order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after the first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, the said Act shall apply in the case of the said Treaty with the Emperor of Brazil.

Edmund Harrison.

No. 27.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Circular Despatch from The Right Honorable The Secretary of State for the Colonies, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 10th February, 1874.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET, 17th November, 1873.

SIR,—I transmit, for the information of the Colony under your Government, the accompanying copy of a Circular prepared by the Board of Trade, containing all the alterations and additions which have been made in the International Code of Signals Book since March, 1872.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

KIMBERLEY.

The Officer Administering the Government of
HONGKONG.

BOARD OF TRADE.

INTERNATIONAL CODE OF SIGNALS.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS.

The following Alterations and Additions in the International Code of Signals are printed for the information of the Governments of the Countries that have adopted and translated the Signal Book, in order that the corrections may be noted for insertion in the next Editions they may respectively publish.

The following additional Signals should be placed before the Signal H.B., Section I. Part I., containing Danger or Distress Signals.

DISTRESS AND PILOT SIGNALS.

SIGNALS OF DISTRESS.

In the daytime.—The following signals, numbered 1, 2, and 3, when used or displayed together or separately, shall be deemed to be signals of distress in the daytime:—

1. A gun fired at intervals of about a minute;
2. The International Code signal of distress indicated by N C;
3. The distant signal, consisting of a square flag having either above or below it a ball, or anything resembling a ball.

At night.—The following signals, numbered 1, 2, 3, when used or displayed together or separately, shall be deemed to be signals of distress at night:—

1. A gun fired at intervals of about a minute;
2. Flames on the ship (as from a burning tar barrel, oil barrel, &c.);
3. Rockets or shells, of any colour or description, fired one at a time, at short intervals.

SIGNALS TO BE MADE BY SHIPS WANTING A PILOT.

In the daytime.—The following signals, numbered 1 and 2, when used or displayed together or separately, shall be deemed to be signals for a pilot in the day time, viz.:—

1. To be hoisted at the fore, the Jack or other national colour usually worn by merchant ships, having round it a white border, one fifth of the breadth of the flag; or
2. The International Code pilotage signal indicated by P T.

At night.—The following signals, numbered 1 and 2, when used or displayed together or separately, shall be deemed to be signals for a pilot at night, viz.:—

1. The pyrotechnic light commonly known as a blue light every fifteen minutes; or,
2. A bright white light, flashed or shown at short or frequent intervals just above the bulwarks, for about a minute at a time.

N.B.—The use of the above Distress and Pilot Signals have been made compulsory in England by the Merchant Shipping Act, 1873. A copy of the Act is attached to this Circular.

The following Geographical Signals have been added.

BTHC	Lequeitio (Lighthouse)	} Spain.	BTJF	Santa Isabel (Fernando Po)	} Gulf of Guinea.	
BTHD	Castrourdiales (Lighthouse)		BTJG	Corisco		
BTHF	San Vicente de la Barquera		BTJH	San Bernardino, Strait of	} Philippine Islands.	
BTHG	Avilés (Lighthouse)		BTJK	Masbate, Island of		
BTHJ	Estaca de Vares (Lighthouse)		BTJL	Sibuyan		
BTHK	Ria de Muros (Lighthouse)		BTJM	Burias		
BTHL	Huelva		BTJN	Panay		
BTHM	Marbella (Lighthouse)		BTJP	Calamianes		
BTHN	Velez-Málaga (Lighthouse)		BTJQ	Cebú		
BTHP	Torrevieja (Lighthouse)		BTJR	Negros		
BTHQ		BTJS	Leite		
BTHR	Mataró		BTJV	Maisi, Point of (Lighthouse)		} Antilles.
BTHS	Alcudia		BTJW	Nipe, Port of		
BTHV	Soller (Lighthouse)		BTKC	Pinos, Island of		
BTHW	St. Cruz de Tenerife (Lighthouse)	BTKD	Manzanillo			
BTJC	Point of Teide	BTKF	Mayaguez			
BTJD	Las Palmas	BTKG	Aguadilla			

N.B.—To correct Geographical Index.

ADDITIONAL SIGNAL STATIONS.

DENMARK.

A Signal Station for the use of ships at sea, in connexion with the Telegraph Station has been opened at Hirtshals on the north-west coast of Jutland.

ENGLAND (Heligoland).

A Signal Station has been established at the Old Lighthouse, Heligoland, from whence communication by telegram with the continent may be obtained.

GERMANY.

A Signal Station has been established on the Lighthouse of the Island of Wangerooge (situated to the westward of the entrance to the River Weser) by which ships of all nations can communicate with the Telegraph Station which is connected with the German mainland telegraph line.

List of Electro-Semaphoric Signal Stations established on the coasts of the Kingdom of Italy.

This list should be placed in the book in lieu of the list sent with Circular No. I., June 1870.

Stations marked thus * are in project, and those marked thus † are in course of construction.

1	Alberoni (Malamocco).*	35	San Benigno (Genoa).
2	Po di Primaro.	36	
3	Colle Paradiso.	37	San Teodoro (Palermo).
4	Cappuccini d'Ancona.	38	Fort Spuria (Faro).
5	Conero Mt.	39	Mt. Itala (Taormina).
6	Colonnella.	40	Cozzo Spadaro.
7	Tremiti Island.	41	Farignana Island.
8	Miletto Tower.	42	Capo Santa Croce.
9	Viesti.	43	Mt. Pellegrino.
10		44	Milazzo.*
11	Saraceno Mt.	45	Lipari.*
12	Bari.	46	Licata.*
13		47	Empedocle Point.*
14	Brindisi (Sea Battery).	48	Maddalena.*
15		49	Cavoli.*
16	San Nicola di Casoli.	50	Spartivento.*
17	Cerfignano.	51	San Pietro.*
18	St. Maria di Leuca.	52	Asinara.*
19		53	Lanterna di Piave.*
20	Capo Spartivento (Calabria).	54	St. Vito Chietino.*
21		55	St. Vito Sul Ionio.*
22		56	Capo Colonna.*
23	Capo d'Armi.	57	Capo Vaticano.*
24	Massa Lubrense.	58	Capo Palinuro.*
25	Capri Island.	59	Mt. Circello.*
26	Procida Island.	60	Civita Vecchia.*
27	Forte d'Ischia.	61	Pianosa I.*
28		62	
29	Ventotene Island.	63	St. Andrea.*
30	Ponza Island.	64	Livorno.*
31	Argentaro Mt.*	65	Punta del Mesco.*
32	Piombino.	66	Capo di Noli.*
33	Palmaria (Spezia).	67	Capo di Mele.*
34	Portofino.	68	Chiaruccia Tower.†

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS.

In the event of the discovery of any error of translation or otherwise, or if any alterations and additions are required in the Code to meet the wants of any particular country, it is requisite that *before they are adopted* notice of such should be sent to the Assistant Secretary, Marine Department, Board of Trade, London. This course of proceeding is absolutely necessary in order to secure uniformity in all editions of the Code.

When any alteration or addition has been made by the Board of Trade, notice of it will be sent by that Board to the country which had suggested it, and also to all the countries in which the Code has been adopted and translated.

(Signed) THOMAS GRAY.

Circular No. III,

September 1873.

*(In continuation of Circular No. I.,
dated June 1870, and
Circular No. II., dated March 1872.)*

Circular No. 650.

BOARD OF TRADE, *August 1873.*

M. 11,422.

1873.

MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1873.

Appended is a Copy of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1873. Officers performing any duties in connexion with the Marine Department of the Board of Trade will do well to make themselves acquainted with its provisions. Copies of this Circular may be distributed gratuitously amongst seafaring persons or persons likely to be interested in any of the subjects referred to in it.

THOMAS GRAY.

Merchant Shipping Act, 1873.

CHAPTER 85.

An Act to amend the Merchant Shipping Acts.

[5th August, 1873.]

BE it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Preliminary.

1. This Act may be cited as the Merchant Shipping Act, 1873. Short title.
2. This Act shall be construed as one with the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, and the Acts amending the same, and the said Acts and this Act may be cited collectively as the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 to 1873. Construction of Act.

Registry (Part II. of Merchant Shipping Act, 1854).

3. Every British ship registered after the passing of this Act shall before registry, and every British ship registered before the passing of this Act shall, on or before the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, be permanently and conspicuously marked to the satisfaction of the Board of Trade, as follows: Particulars to be marked on British ships.

Her name shall be marked on each of her bows, and her name and the name of her port of registry shall be marked on her stern, on a dark ground in white or yellow letters, or on a light ground in black letters, such letters to be of a length not less than four inches, and of proportionate breadth:

Her official number and the number denoting her registered tonnage shall be cut in on her main beam:

A scale of feet denoting her draught of water shall be marked on each side of her stem and of her stern post in Roman capital letters or in figures, not less than six inches in length, the lower line of such letters or figures to coincide with the draught line denoted thereby. Such letters or figures shall be marked by being cut in and painted white or yellow on a dark ground, or in such other way as the Board of Trade may from time to time approve.

The Board of Trade may, however, exempt any class of ships from the requirements of this section or any of them.

If the scale of feet showing the ship's draught of water is in any respect inaccurate, so as to be likely to mislead, the owner of the ship shall incur a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds.

The marks required by this section shall be permanently continued, and no alteration shall be made therein, except in the event of any of the particulars thereby denoted being altered in the manner provided by the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 to 1873.

Any owner or master of a British ship who neglects to cause his ship to be marked as aforesaid, or to keep her so marked, and any person who conceals, removes, alters, defaces, or obliterates, or suffers any person under his control to conceal, remove, alter, deface, or obliterate any of the said marks, except in the event aforesaid, or except for the purpose of escaping capture by an enemy, shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds, and any officer of customs on receipt of a certificate from a surveyor or inspector of the Board of Trade that a ship is insufficiently or inaccurately marked may detain the same until the insufficiency or inaccuracy has been remedied.

Provided that no fishing vessel duly registered, lettered, and numbered in pursuance of the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868, shall be required to have her name and port of registry marked under this section.

Provided also, that if any registered British ship is not within a port of the United Kingdom at any time before the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, she shall be marked as by this section required within one month after her next return to a British port of registry subsequent to that date.

4. The record of the draught of water of any sea-going ship required under section five of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1871, shall, in addition to the particulars thereby required, specify the extent of her clear side in feet and inches. Particulars to be entered in record of draught of water.

The term "clear side" means the height from the water to the upper side of the plank of the deck from which the depth of hold as stated in the register is measured, and the measurement of the clear side is to be taken at the lowest part of the side.

Every master of a sea-going ship shall, upon the request of any person appointed to record the ship's draught of water, permit such person to enter the ship and to make such inspections and take such measurements as may be requisite for the purpose of such record, and any master who fails so to do, or impedes or suffers anyone under his control to impede any person so appointed in the execution of his duty, shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

5. Where a foreign ship, not having at any previous time been registered as a British ship, becomes a British ship, no person shall apply to register, and no registrar shall knowingly register such ship, except by the name which she bore as a foreign ship immediately before becoming a British ship, unless with the permission of the Board of Trade granted in manner directed by section six of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1871. Rules as to names of foreign ships placed on British register.

Any person who acts or suffers any person under his control to act in contravention of this section shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds.

6. Where a ship has ceased to be registered as a British ship by reason of having been wrecked or abandoned, or for any reason other than capture by the enemy or transfer to a person not qualified to own a British ship, such ship shall not be re-registered until she has, at the expense of the applicant for registration, been surveyed by one of the surveyors appointed by the Board of Trade and certified by him to be seaworthy. Restrictions on re-registration of abandoned ships.

Masters and Seamen (Part III. of Merchant Shipping Act, 1854).

7. Any agreement with a seaman made under section one hundred and forty-nine of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, may, instead of stating the nature and duration of the intended voyage or engagement as by that section required, state the maximum period of the voyage or engagement, and the places or parts of the world (if any) to which the voyage or engagement is not to extend. Agreements with seamen.

Agreements with fishermen.

8. The owner or master of any British vessel engaged in fishing off the coast of the United Kingdom may enter into an agreement with any person employed on such vessel that such person shall be remunerated wholly by a share in the profit of the fishing adventure.

Every such agreement shall be in writing or in print, or partly in writing and partly in print, and shall be signed by the contracting parties in the presence of a superintendent or deputy superintendent of a mercantile marine office.

The superintendent or deputy superintendent shall, before such agreement is signed, read and (if necessary) explain the same to the contracting parties, and shall attest the signature of the agreement, and certify that it has been read to and agreed to by the contracting parties.

Any such agreement, if made in the manner by this section required, shall be valid and binding on all the contracting parties, notwithstanding anything contained in section one hundred and eighty-two of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854.

Compensation to seamen for unnecessary detention on charge of desertion.

9. If a seaman or apprentice belonging to any ship is detained on a charge of desertion or any kindred offence, and if upon a survey of the ship being made under section seven of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1871, it is proved that she is not in a fit condition to proceed to sea, or that her accommodation is insufficient, the owner or master of the ship shall be liable to pay to such seaman or apprentice such compensation for his detention as the court having cognizance of the proceedings may award.

Power for Board of Trade to establish mercantile marine offices and to hold examinations at certain ports.

10. In any case where the business of a mercantile marine office is conducted otherwise than under a local marine board, the Board of Trade may, if they think fit, instead of conducting such business at a custom house or otherwise, establish a mercantile marine office, and for that purpose procure the requisite buildings and property, and from time to time appoint and remove all the requisite superintendents, deputies, clerks, and servants. They may also in the like case make all such provisions and exercise all such powers with respect to the holding of examinations for the purpose of granting certificates of competency as masters, mates, or engineers, to persons desirous of obtaining the same, as might have been made or exercised by a local marine board.

Power for Her Majesty, by Order in Council, to apply certain provisions of Merchant Shipping Acts to foreign ships.

11. Whenever it has been made to appear to Her Majesty that the government of any foreign state is desirous that any of the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 to 1873, relating to the engagement and discharge of seamen, shall apply to the ships of such state, Her Majesty may by Order in Council declare that such of the said provisions as are in such order specified, shall, subject to the limitations, if any, contained in the order, apply, and thereupon, so long as the order remains in force, such provisions shall apply, subject to the said limitations, to the ships of such state, and to the owners, masters, officers, and crews of such ships, when not within the jurisdiction of such state, in the same manner in all respects as if such ships were British ships.

It shall be lawful for Her Majesty from time to time by Order in Council to add to, alter, or repeal any order made under this section.

Safety and Prevention of Accidents (Part IV. of Merchant Shipping Act, 1854).

Survey of ships suspected of being unseaworthy.

12. Where the Board of Trade have received a complaint or have reason to believe that any British ship is by reason of the defective condition of her hull, equipments, or machinery, or by reason of overloading or improper loading, unfit to proceed to sea without serious danger to human life, they may, if they think fit, appoint some competent person or persons to survey such ship, and the equipments, machinery, and cargo thereof, and to report thereon to the Board.

Any person so appointed may, for the purposes of such survey, require the unloading or removal of any cargo, ballast, or tackle, and shall have all the powers of an inspector appointed under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854.

Any person who (having notice of the intention to hold such survey) wilfully does or causes to be done any act by which the person appointed to make such survey is prevented from or obstructed in ascertaining the condition of the ship, her equipments, machinery, and cargo, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds.

The Board of Trade may, if they think fit, order that any ship be detained for the purpose of being surveyed under this section, and thereupon any officer of customs may detain such ship until her release be ordered either by the Board of Trade or by any court to which an appeal is given under this Act.

Upon the receipt of the report of the person making any such survey, the Board may, if in their opinion the ship cannot proceed to sea without serious danger to human life, make such further order as they may think requisite as to the detention of the ship or as to her release, either absolutely or upon the performance of such conditions with respect to the execution of repairs or alterations, or the unloading or reloading of cargo, as the Board may impose. They may also from time to time vary or add to such order.

A copy of any such order and of the report upon which it was founded, and also of any variation of or addition to such order, shall be delivered as soon as possible to the owner or master of the ship to which it relates.

When a ship has been detained under this section she shall not be released by reason of her British register having been closed.

Costs of survey.

13. If upon the survey of a ship under this Act she is reported to have been at the time of the survey, having regard to the nature of the service for which she was then intended, unfit to proceed to sea without serious danger to human life, the expenses incurred by the Board of Trade in respect of the survey shall be paid by the owner of the ship to the Board of Trade, and shall, without prejudice to any other remedy, be recoverable by them in the same manner as salvage is recoverable.

If upon such survey the ship is not reported to have been unfit to proceed to sea, having regard to the nature of the service for which she was intended, the Board of Trade shall be liable to pay compensation to any person for any loss or damage which he may have sustained by reason of the detention of the ship for the purpose of survey, or otherwise in respect of such survey.

Where a complaint has been made to the Board of Trade that a ship is not fit to proceed to sea, they may, if they think fit, before ordering a survey of the ship, require the complainant to give or provide such security as they may think sufficient for the payment of the costs and expenses which they may incur in respect of the survey of the ship and of the compensation which they may be rendered liable to pay for loss or damage caused by her detention for the purpose of such survey, or otherwise in respect of such survey.

Where a ship has been surveyed under this Act in consequence of a complaint made to the Board of Trade, if upon such survey being made it appear that such complaint was made without reasonable cause, the expenses incurred by the Board in respect of the survey of the ship and the amount, if any, which the Board may have been rendered liable to pay in respect of any loss or damage caused by her detention shall be recoverable by the Board from such complainant.

All moneys payable by the Board of Trade in respect or by reason of the survey or detention of a ship under this Act shall, subject to the right by this section provided of recovering such moneys from the complainant, be paid out of moneys to be provided by Parliament.

14. If the owner of any ship surveyed under this Act is dissatisfied with any order of the Board of Appeal from decision Trade made upon such survey, he may apply to any of the following courts having jurisdiction in the place of Board of Trade. where such ship was surveyed, that is to say:—

In England, to any court having Admiralty jurisdiction:

In Ireland, to any court having jurisdiction under the Court of Admiralty (Ireland) Act, 1867:

In Scotland, to the court of the sheriff of the county.

The court may, upon such application, if they think fit, appoint one or more competent persons to survey the ship anew, and any surveyor so appointed shall have all the powers of the person by whom the original survey was made. Such survey anew shall, if so required by the Board of Trade or the shipowner, be made in the presence of any person or persons appointed by them respectively to attend at the survey.

The court to which such application is made may make such order as to the detention or release of the ship, as to the payment of any costs and damages which may have been occasioned by her detention, as to the payment of the expenses of the original survey, and of the survey anew, and otherwise as to the payment of any costs of and incident to the application, as to the court may seem just.

Where an application is made under this section to a county court, or in Ireland to a local court, the matter of the application shall be deemed to be an Admiralty cause within the meaning of the County Courts Admiralty Jurisdiction Act, 1868, and the Court of Admiralty (Ireland) Act, 1867.

15. In the case of any ship surveyed under the fourth part of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, the Board of Trade may at the request of the owner authorise the reduction of the number and the variation of the dimensions of the boats required for the ship by section two hundred and ninety-two of that Act, and also the substitution of rafts or other appliances for saving life for any such boats, so nevertheless that the boats so reduced or varied and the rafts or other appliances so substituted be sufficient for the persons carried on board the ship. Power for Board of Trade to vary requirements as to boats.

Section two hundred and ninety-three of the said Act shall extend to any such rafts or appliances in the same manner as if they were boats.

16. In every case of collision between two vessels it shall be the duty of the master or person in charge of each vessel, if and so far as he can do so without danger to his own vessel, crew, and passengers (if any), to stay by the other vessel until he has ascertained that she has no need of further assistance, and to render to the other vessel, her master, crew, and passengers (if any), such assistance as may be practicable and as may be necessary in order to save them from any danger caused by the collision; and also to give to the master or person in charge of the other vessel the name of his own vessel, and of her port of registry, or of the port or place to which she belongs, and also the names of the ports and places from which and to which she is bound. Duties of masters in case of collision.

If he fails so to do, and no reasonable cause for such failure is shown, the collision shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be deemed to have been caused by his wrongful act, neglect, or default.

Every master or person in charge of a British vessel who fails, without reasonable cause, to render such assistance or give such information as aforesaid shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and if he is a certificated officer an inquiry into his conduct may be held and his certificate may be cancelled or suspended.

17. If in any case of collision it is proved to the court before which the case is tried that any of the regulations for preventing collision contained in or made under the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 to 1873, has been infringed, the ship by which such regulation has been infringed shall be deemed to be in fault, unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the court that the circumstances of the case made departure from the regulation necessary. Liability for infringement of regulations in cases of collision.

18. The signals specified in the first schedule to this Act shall be deemed to be signals of distress. Signals of distress.

Any master of a vessel who uses or displays, or causes or permits any person under his authority to use or display, any of the said signals, except in the case of a vessel being in distress, shall be liable to pay compensation for any labour undertaken, risk incurred, or loss sustained in consequence of such signal having been supposed to be a signal of distress, and such compensation may, without prejudice to any other remedy, be recovered in the same manner in which salvage is recoverable.

19. If a vessel requires the services of a pilot, the signals to be used and displayed shall be those specified in the second schedule to this Act. Signals for pilots.

Any master of a vessel who uses or displays, or causes or permits any person under his authority to use or display, any of the said signals for any other purpose than that of summoning a pilot, or uses or causes or permits any person under his authority to use any other signal for a pilot, shall incur a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

20. Her Majesty may from time to time by Order in Council repeal or alter the rules as to signals contained in the schedules to this Act, or make new rules in addition thereto, or in substitution thereof, and any alterations in or additions to such rules made in manner aforesaid shall be of the same force as the rules in the said schedules. Power to alter rules as to signals.

21. Any shipowner who is desirous of using, for the purposes of a private code, any rockets, lights, or other similar signals, may register such signals with the Board of Trade, and the Board shall give public notice of the signals so registered in such manner as they may think requisite for preventing such signals from being mistaken for signals of distress or signals for pilots. Private signals.

The Board may refuse to register any signals which in their opinion cannot easily be distinguished from signals of distress or signals for pilots.

When any signal has been so registered the use or display thereof by any person acting under the authority of the shipowner in whose name it is registered shall not subject any person to any of the penalties or liabilities by this Act imposed upon persons using or displaying signals improperly.

22. If the managing owner, or, in the event of there being no managing owner, the ship's husband or any British ship have reason, owing to the non-appearance of such ship, or to any other circumstance, to apprehend that such ship has been wholly lost, he shall, as soon as conveniently may be, send to the Board of Trade notice in writing of such loss and of the probable occasion thereof, stating the name of the ship and her official number (if any), and the port to which she belongs, and if he neglect to do so within a reasonable time he shall incur a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds. Notice to be given of apprehended loss of ship.

23. If any person sends or attempts to send by, or not being the master owner of the vessel carries or attempts to carry in any vessel, British or foreign, any dangerous goods; (that is to say,) aquafortis, vitriol, naphtha, benzine, gunpowder, lucifer matches, nitro-glycerine, petroleum, or any other goods of a dangerous nature, without distinctly marking their nature on the outside of the package containing the same, and giving written notice of the nature of such goods and of the name and address of the sender or carrier thereof to the master or owner of the vessel at or before the time of sending the same to be shipped or taking the same on board the vessel, he shall for every such offence incur a penalty not exceeding one Restrictions on carriage of dangerous goods.

hundred pounds: Provided that if such person show that he was merely an agent in the shipment of any such goods as aforesaid, and was not aware and did not suspect and had no reason to suspect that the goods shipped by him were of a dangerous nature, the penalty which he incurs shall not exceed ten pounds.

Penalty for misdescription of dangerous goods

24. If any person knowingly sends or attempts to send by, or carries or attempts to carry in any vessel, British or foreign, any dangerous goods or goods of a dangerous nature, under a false description, or falsely describes the sender or carrier thereof, he shall incur a penalty not exceeding five hundred pounds.

Power to refuse to carry goods suspected of being dangerous.

25. The master or owner of any vessel, British or foreign, may refuse to take on board any package or parcel which he suspects to contain goods of a dangerous nature, and may require it to be opened to ascertain the fact.

Power to throw overboard dangerous goods.

26. Where any dangerous goods as defined in this Act, or any goods which, in the judgment of the master or owner of the vessel, are of a dangerous nature, have been sent or brought aboard any vessel, British or foreign, without being marked as aforesaid, or without such notice having been given as aforesaid, the master or owner of the vessel may cause such goods to be thrown overboard, together with any package or receptacle in which they are contained; and neither the master nor the owner of the vessel shall, in respect of such throwing overboard, be subject to any liability, civil or criminal, in any court.

Forfeiture of dangerous goods improperly sent.

27. Where any dangerous goods have been sent or carried, or attempted to be sent or carried, on board any vessel, British or foreign, without being marked as aforesaid, or without such notice having been given as aforesaid, and where any such goods have been sent or carried or attempted to be sent or carried, under a false description, or the sender or carrier thereof has been falsely described, it shall be lawful for any court having Admiralty jurisdiction to declare such goods, and any package or receptacle in which they are contained, to be and they shall thereupon be forfeited, and when forfeited shall be disposed of as the court directs.

The court shall have and may exercise the aforesaid powers of forfeiture and disposal notwithstanding that the owner of the goods have not committed any offence under the provisions of this Act relating to dangerous goods, and be not before the court, and have not notice of the proceedings, and notwithstanding that there be no evidence to show to whom the goods belong; nevertheless the court may, in its discretion, require such notice as it may direct to be given to the owner or shipper of the goods before the same are forfeited.

Saving as to Dangerous Goods Acts.

28. The provisions of this Act relating to the carriage of dangerous goods shall be deemed to be in addition to and not in substitution for or in restraint of any other enactment for the like object, so nevertheless that nothing in the said provisions shall be deemed to authorise that any person be sued or prosecuted twice in the same matter.

Miscellaneous and Repeal.

Her Majesty may, by Order in Council, declare certain foreign ports of registry.

29. Where, in accordance with the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts, Her Majesty exercises jurisdiction within any port out of Her Majesty's dominions, it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by Order in Council, to declare such port a port of registry (in this Act referred to as a foreign port of registry), and by the same or any subsequent Order in Council to declare the description of persons who are to be the registrars of British ships at such foreign port of registry, and to make regulations with respect to the registry of British ships thereat.

Upon such Order coming into operation it shall have effect as if it were enacted in the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 to 1873, and shall, subject to any exceptions and regulations contained in the Order, apply in the same manner, as near as may be, as if the port mentioned in the Order were an ordinary port of registry.

Fees in respect of surveys, &c.

30. There shall be paid in respect of the several measurements, inspections, and surveys mentioned in the third schedule hereto such fees, not exceeding those specified in that behalf in the said schedule, as the Board of Trade may from time to time determine.

Board of Trade may sue in name of its officers.

31. In any legal proceedings under the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 to 1873, the Board of Trade may take proceedings in the name of any of their officers.

Certain sections not to come into force until 1st November 1873.

32. The following sections of this Act, that is to say, sections sixteen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five, twenty-six, twenty-seven, twenty-eight, shall not come into operation until the first day of November one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three.

Repeal of certain sections of the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1862 and 1871, and of certain other sections of Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854, 1862, and 1871.

33. Section twenty-nine of the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Act, 1862, and sections four and ten of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1871, are hereby repealed; and on and after the first day of November one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, sections three hundred and twenty-seven and three hundred and twenty-nine of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, sections thirty-three and thirty-eight of the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Act, 1862, and section nine of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1871, shall be repealed; but this repeal shall not affect—

- (1.) Anything duly done before this Act comes into operation;
- (2.) Any right acquired or liability accrued before this Act comes into operation;
- (3.) Any penalty, forfeiture, or other punishment incurred or to be incurred in respect of any offence committed before this Act comes into operation; or,
- (4.) The institution of any legal proceeding or any other remedy for ascertaining, enforcing, or recovering any such liability, penalty, forfeiture, or punishment as aforesaid.

SCHEDULES.

SCHEDULE I.

SIGNALS OF DISTRESS.

In the daytime.—The following signals, numbered 1, 2, and 3, when used or displayed together or separately, shall be deemed to be signals of distress in the daytime:—

1. A gun fired at intervals of about a minute;
2. The International Code signal of distress indicated by N C;
3. The distant signal, consisting of a square flag having either above or below it a ball, or anything resembling a ball.

At night.—The following signals, numbered 1, 2, 3, when used or displayed together or separately, shall be deemed to be signals of distress at night:—

1. A gun fired at intervals of about a minute;
2. Flames on the ship (as from a burning tar barrel, oil barrel, &c.);
3. Rockets or shells, of any colour or description, fired one at a time, at short intervals.

SCHEDULE II.

SIGNALS TO BE MADE BY SHIPS WANTING A PILOT.

In the daytime.—The following signals, numbered 1 and 2, when used or displayed together or separately, shall be deemed to be signals for a pilot in the daytime, viz. :—

1. To be hoisted at the fore, the Jack or other national colour usually worn by merchant ships, having round it a white border, one fifth of the breadth of the flag; or
2. The International Code pilotage signal indicated by P T.

At night.—The following signals, numbered 1 and 2, when used or displayed together or separately, shall be deemed to be signals for a pilot at night, viz. :—

1. The pyrotechnic light commonly known as a blue light every fifteen minutes; or
2. A bright white light, flashed or shown at short or frequent intervals just above the bulwarks, for about a minute at a time.

SCHEDULE III.

TABLE OF MAXIMUM FEES TO BE PAID FOR THE MEASUREMENT, SURVEY, AND INSPECTION OF MERCHANT SHIPS.

1. For Measurement of Tonnage.

	£	s.	d.
For a ship under 50 tons register tonnage	1	0	0
" " from 50 to 100 tons	1	10	0
" " 100 to 200 "	2	0	0
" " 200 to 500 "	3	0	0
" " 500 to 800 "	4	0	0
" " 800 to 1,200 "	5	0	0
" " 1,200 to 2,000 "	6	0	0
" " 2,000 to 3,000 "	7	0	0
" " 3,000 to 4,000 "	8	0	0
" " 4,000 to 5,000 "	9	0	0
" " 5,000 and upwards	10	0	0

2. For the inspection of the berthing or sleeping accommodation of the crew.

£ s. d.

For each visit to the ship 0 10 0

Provided as follows:

1. The aggregate amount of the fees for any such inspection shall not exceed one pound (£1) whatever be the number of separate visits.
2. When the accommodation is inspected at the same time with the measurement of the tonnage, no separate fee shall be charged for such inspection.

3. For the survey of Emigrant ships.

£ s. d.

- a. For an ordinary survey of the ship, and of her equipments, accommodation, stores, light, ventilation, sanitary arrangements, and medical stores 10 0 0
- b. For a special survey 15 0 0
- c. In respect of the medical examination of passengers and crew, for every hundred persons or fraction of a hundred persons examined..... 1 0 0

4. For the inspection of lights and fog signals.

£ s. d.

For each visit made to a ship on the application of the owner, and for each visit made where the lights or fittings are found defective 0 10 0

Provided that the aggregate amount of fees for any such inspection shall not exceed one pound (£1) whatever be the number of separate visits.

No. 28.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Order made by His Excellency the Governor in Council, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 12th February, 1874.

Order made by His Excellency the Governor in Council, under Section 2 of Ordinance No. 17 of 1870, this 12th Day of February, 1874.

The Fee of One Dollar payable to the Officiating Minister for a Certificate of Baptism under Section IX of Ordinance No. 7 of 1872 for registering Births and Deaths in Hongkong; and the like Fee of One Dollar payable under the same Section to the Registrar General or Registrar for registering the Particulars of such Baptism and recording the same upon the Certificate, is hereby reduced to Ten Cents in each case.

A. E. KENNEDY,
Governor.

L. D'ALMADA E CASTRO,
Clerk of Councils.