

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 246.

The following Despatch and its enclosure respecting the sums recently voted by the Legislative Council for the Defences of the Colony are published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 3rd July, 1886.

Secretary of State to the Officer Administering the Government of Hongkong.

(Copy.)

HONGKONG,
No. 63.

DOWNING STREET,
19th May

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 92, of the 25th last, reporting that the Legislative Council had voted the further sum of £60,375 required for the completion of the Defence Works now being constructed in Hongkong, and I have to express my appreciation of the readiness shown by the Council to share in the common burden of the Defences of the Empire.

You will perceive from the enclosed copy of a letter which I have caused to be addressed to the War Office, that there will be no further application to their liberality for the construction of the authorized works.

I have, &c.,

GRANVILLE.

The Officer Administering the Government of
HONGKONG.

The Colonial Office to the War Office.

(Copy.)

DOWNING STREET,
19th May

SIR,—With reference to the letter from this Department, of the 6th of February last, I am directed by EARL GRANVILLE to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary CAMPBELL BANNERMAN, the enclosed despatch from the Officer Administering the Government of Hongkong, reporting that the Legislative Council had voted a further sum towards the completion of the Defence Works now being constructed in that Colony.

I am to state that LORD GRANVILLE thinks that the Colonial Government have behaved with great patriotism and liberality in voting the very large sum of £116,000 for the construction of the fortifications designed to receive the Armament, which will be supplied at the cost of Imperial Funds.

His Lordship feels sure that Mr. CAMPBELL BANNERMAN will agree with him that it will not be possible to ask the Colony to vote any further sums on account of these particular works, and therefore that directions will be given to the officers charged with the expenditure to ensure that the sum voted is not exceeded, making reductions if necessary in order to ensure the desired object.

I am to request the return of the despatch which is enclosed in original.

I am, &c.,

(Signed), R. H. MEADE.

Under Secretary of State

WAR OFFICE.