

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 33.

The following Circular Despatch and its enclosures are published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 26th January, 1889.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET,
3rd December, 1888.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you, for publication in the Colony under your government, a copy of an Agreement between the Governments of Great Britain and Brazil relative to Merchant Seamen Deserters, signed at Rio de Janeiro on the 30th of July last, together with a copy of an Order of the Queen in Council, dated the 17th of November, extending the provisions of the "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," to Brazil.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

KNUTSFORD.

The Officer Administering the Government of

HONGKONG.

Agreement between the Governments of Great Britain and Brazil relative to
Merchant Seamen Deserters.

Signed at Rio de Janeiro, July 30, 1888.

The Government of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Government of the Empire of Brazil, Her Highness the Princess Imperial acting as Regent in the name of His Majesty the Emperor, being desirous, for the benefit of the commerce of the two countries, to facilitate the discovery, apprehension, and surrender of seamen who may desert from merchant-vessels of either country, on the basis of a full and entire reciprocity, have agreed as follows:—

It is mutually agreed that if any seamen or apprentices, not being slaves, should desert from any ship belonging to a subject of either of the Contracting Parties, within any port in the territories or in the possessions or Colonies of the other Contracting Party, the authorities of such port and territory, possession or Colony, shall be bound to give every assistance in their power for the apprehension and sending on board of such deserters, on application to that effect being made to them by the Consul of the country to which the ship of the deserter may belong, or by the deputy or representative of the Consul.

It is understood that the preceding stipulations shall not apply to subjects of the country where the desertion shall take place.

Each of the two High Contracting Parties reserves to itself the right of terminating this Agreement at any time, on giving to the other a year's notice of its wish to that effect.

In witness whereof the Undersigned have signed the present Agreement, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done in duplicate, in the city of Rio de Janeiro, on the thirtieth day of the month of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight.

(L.S.) HUGH WYNDHAM.

(L.S.) RODRIGO A. DE SILVA.

At the Court at *Windsor*, the 17th day of November, 1888.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

Lord President.

Marquess of Lothian.

Sir Henry Ponsonby.

Mr. Robertson.

WHEREAS by the "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," it is provided that, whenever it is made to appear to Her Majesty that due facilities are or will be given for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from British merchant ships in the territories of any foreign power, Her Majesty may by Order in Council, stating that such facilities are or will be given, declare that seamen, not being slaves, who desert from merchant ships belonging to a subject of such power, when within Her Majesty's dominions, shall be liable to be apprehended, and carried on board their respective ships, and may limit the operation of such Order, and may render the operation thereof subject to such conditions and qualifications, if any, as may be deemed expedient.

And whereas it hath been made to appear to Her Majesty that due facilities for recovering and apprehending seamen (not being Brazilian subjects) who desert from British merchant ships in the territories belonging to His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, will be given under an agreement between the Governments of Great Britain and Brazil, signed at Rio de Janeiro, on the thirtieth July, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight.

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue of the power vested in Her by the said "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to order and declare, and it is hereby ordered and declared, that from and after the publication hereof in the London Gazette, seamen, not being slaves, and not being British subjects, who, within Her Majesty's dominions, desert from merchant ships belonging to subjects of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, shall be liable to be apprehended and carried on board their respective ships: Provided always, that if any such deserter has committed any crime in Her Majesty's dominions, he may be detained till he has been tried by a competent court, and until his sentence, if any, has been carried into effect.

And Her Majesty, by virtue of the powers vested in Her by the said "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is further pleased to order and declare that, upon and after the publication hereof in the London Gazette, the Order in Council relating to seamen who desert from the merchant ships belonging to the subjects of the Emperor of Brazil, made by virtue of the said Act, on seventeenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, shall be revoked, and the same is hereby revoked accordingly.

And the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Secretary of State for India in Council, are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

C. L. PEEL.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 34.

The following Notice is published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 26th January, 1889.

POLICE NOTIFICATION.

Notice is hereby given that in view of the approaching Chinese New Year, the Captain Superintendent of Police has been authorised to give permission, under Ordinance 9 of 1886, for Crackers to be fired under the following restrictions:—

In the Districts west of the Cross Roads and of Shing Wong Street, the firing of Crackers will be permitted from 4 P.M. on the 30th January, 1889, until 4 P.M. on the 1st February, 1889.

In the Districts east of the Cross Roads and of Shing Wong Street, Crackers may be fired only between the hours of 4 P.M. of the 30th and 9 P.M. of the 31st January.

No burning Cracker or other fire is to be thrown above the head or near any person or inflammable material, and all reasonable precaution must be taken against accident, as every one is liable for damage arising from his carelessness.

The Police will have strict orders to summon or arrest persons firing Crackers in contravention of the foregoing restrictions.

The Firing of Bombs is strictly prohibited.

By Command,

W. M. DEANE,
Capt. Supt. of Police.

Central Police Barracks, Hongkong, 15th January, 1889.