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**GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 204.**

The following Despatch, with its enclosure, is published.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 7th May, 1898.

HONGKONG.  
 No. 76.

DOWNING STREET,  
 24th March, 1898.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you for your information with reference to my despatch No. 148 of the 23rd July last the document noted below on the subject of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

EDWARD WINGFIELD,  
*for the Secretary of State.*

*The Officer Administering the Government of*  
 HONGKONG.

Date	Description of Document.
1897, 13th October.	Order in Council.

AT THE COURT AT BALMORAL,

The 13th day of October, 1897.

PRESENT,

**THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.**

WHEREAS there was this day read at the Board a letter from the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to the Lord President of the Council, transmitting the Draft of a Supplemental Charter which it is proposed to grant to the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China:

HER MAJESTY, having taken into consideration the said letter, and the Draft Supplemental Charter accompanying it, was pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to approve thereof, and to order, as it is hereby ordered, that the Right Honourable Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart., one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, do cause a Warrant to be prepared for Her Majesty's Royal Signature, for passing under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom a Supplemental Charter in conformity with the said Draft, which is hereunto annexed.

C. L. PEEL.

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**DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER referred to in foregoing  
Order in Council.**

VICTORIA by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting.

1. Whereas by Our Royal Charter under Our Great Seal bearing date at Westminster the 29th day of December in the 17th year of Our Reign (in this Our Charter called "the original Charter") a Company was incorporated by the name of the Chartered Bank of India Australia and China with a Common Seal for the purpose of carrying on in London under the management of a Court of Directors by means of Banks or Branch Banks the business of banking in any of Our Colonies or Dependencies in Australia and New Zealand in the Islands of Ceylon or Hong Kong or at any other Port town city or place in China where a Consulate had been or might thereafter be established or which might be under the superintendence of the principal superintendent of trade at Hong Kong provided that no such Banks or Branch Banks should be established in any of Our Colonies or Dependencies in Australia or New Zealand unless the previous assent thereto of the Commissioners of Our Treasury should have been signified in writing under their hands or the hands of any two of them and for the purpose of establishing Agencies in the Chief Ports of India and in any of Our Colonies or possessions eastward of the Cape of Good Hope in which no Banks or Branch Banks might have been established in virtue of Our Charter and in other chief ports or places of trade in the East in order to conduct the business of exchange deposit and remittance in connection with their other establishments but subject to the conditions in the Original Charter contained.

2. And whereas by a Supplemental Charter under Our Great Seal dated the 20th day of July 1861 We authorized the said Company to establish a Bank or Branch Bank in the Island of Singapore for the purpose of carrying on the general business of banking under the provisions of the Original Charter in the Island of Singapore and adjoining British Settlements that is to say Penang and Malacca but subject to the conditions in the said Supplementary Charter contained.

3. And whereas by the Original Charter We declared that on the determination of the term of twenty-one years from the date thereof the privileges thereby conferred on the said Company should cease unless We Our heirs or successors should by writing under Our Great Seal declare to the contrary and should authorize the said Company to continue incorporated under the Original Charter for a further term of ten years or for such period and under such conditions as We Our heirs and successors should think fit.

4. And whereas by the Original Charter and the deed of Settlement made in pursuance thereof and the bye-laws made in pursuance of such deed the Commissioners of Our Treasury (in this Our Charter referred to as the Treasury) the Secretary of State in Council of India and the Secretary of State for the Colonies were authorized or required to exercise control over the management of the said Company in divers matters.

5. And whereas the period of years specified in the Original Charter expired on the 29th day of December 1874 and by a Supplemental Charter under Our Great Seal dated the 10th day of November 1874 We authorized the said Company to continue incorporated under the Original Charter as amended by the said Supplemental Charter for a further period of ten years.

6. And whereas by the said last mentioned Supplemental Charter it was declared that it should be lawful for the said Company to carry on its business without the control or interference of the Treasury the Secretary of State in Council of India and the Secretary of State for the Colonies save as in the said Supplemental Charter provided and it was by the said Supplemental Charter provided that the control of the Treasury over an increase of capital not exceeding the amount of Two million pounds and over the establishment of Banks or Branch Banks in any of Our Colonies or Dependencies in Australia or New Zealand and the power of Her Majesty to revoke the Original Charter on the representation of the Treasury that its conditions had been violated should be retained as contained in the Original Charter.

7. And whereas by a Supplemental Charter under Our Great Seal dated the 18th day of December 1884 We authorized the said Company to continue incorporated under the Original Charter as amended by the said Supplemental Charters for a further period of ten years.

8. And whereas by a Supplemental Charter dated the 17th day of December 1894 We authorized the said Company to continue incorporated under the original Charter as amended by the said Supplemental Charters for a further period of ten years.

9. And whereas application has been made to Us by the said Company for such an amendment of the original Charter of the said Company as will enable the said Company to establish Branch Banks within the geographical limits within which the said Company can now establish agencies.

10. Now know ye that We by these presents do will and ordain that at any time during the period for which the said Company remains incorporated under the Supplemental Charter dated the 17th day of December 1894 the said Company shall be and are hereby empowered to establish on the following conditions, Branch Banks within the said geographical limits in India, in any of Our Colonies, in any British Protectorate, or in any place outside Our possessions.

- (1) No Branch Bank shall be established by the said Company in India without the previous assent of Our Secretary of State for India in Council.
- (2) No Branch Bank shall be established by the said Company in any of Our Colonies without the previous assent of Our Governor in Council of such Colony.
- (3) No Branch Bank shall be established by the said Company in any British Protectorate without the previous assent of one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.
- (4) No Branch Bank shall be established by the said Company at any place outside Our Possessions except in accordance with the local law of such place and subject to such local law the said Company shall be at liberty to establish Branch Banks, to issue notes, and generally to carry on the business of Bankers in conformity with the provisions of the said Original Charter and of the said Supplemental Charters and of this Supplemental Charter.

11. And whereas by Clause 11 of the said Supplemental Charter dated the 17th day of December 1894 We did will and ordain that the said Company should deposit and keep deposited as in such clause mentioned coin or securities or partly coin and partly securities equal to one third of the maximum amount of notes issued by the said Company which might for the time being have been allocated to the Straits Settlements and Hong Kong respectively.

And whereas We deem it expedient to revoke the said clause and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.

We do therefore hereby will and ordain that from and after the date of this Our Supplemental Charter Clause 11 of the said Supplemental Charter dated the 17th day of December 1894 shall be and is hereby revoked and the following Clause shall from and after the date of this Our Supplemental Charter be substituted for the Clause so revoked.

And whereas in lieu of the proviso in the Original Charter whereby the said Company is bound to keep reserves of specie equal to one third of the notes in circulation at any time which proviso We do hereby revoke and determine We deem it expedient to make other provision for securing the due redemption of the promissory notes issued by the said Company We do therefore hereby further will and ordain that the said Company shall within three months from the date of this Our Supplemental Charter deposit and thenceforth at all times shall keep deposited either with the Crown Agents for Our Colonies in London or with Trustees to be appointed by the Treasury or partly with such Crown Agents and partly with such Trustees coin of denominations to be approved by the Treasury or securities to be so approved or partly such coin and partly such securities equal to one third of the maximum amount of notes, eight million dollars, issuable by the said Company such coin or securities or such coin and securities to be held by the said Crown Agents or by the said Trustees separately or jointly as special funds exclusively available for the redemption of the promissory notes issued by the said Company and in the event of the said Company's becoming insolvent to be applied accordingly so far as may be necessary but without prejudice to the rights of the holders of such notes to rank with other Creditors of the said Company against the assets of the said Company.

12. And whereas by the Original Charter We did Will and Ordain that the Company should not issue notes in the Island of Hong Kong nor in other places in China for any other sum than five dollars or one pound sterling or some multiple of such five dollars or other equivalent amount.

And whereas We deem it expedient to amend such provision of the Original Charter.

We do hereby further will and ordain that the before mentioned provision of the Original Charter shall from the date of this Charter be amended by the omission therefrom of the words "and other places in China."

In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made patent.

Witness Ourselves at

in the

this

year of Our Reign,

day of