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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 572.

The following Circular Despatch with its enclosure is published.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 16th December, 1898.

HONGKONG.

GENERAL.

DOWNING STREET,

7th November, 1898.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the undermentioned despatch respecting the duties to be levied at Kiao-chau.

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.

No. 2.

Viscount Gough to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 24.)

(No. 288. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Berlin, October 21, 1898.

With reference to Sir F. Lascelles' despatch No. 252 of the 6th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that it is stated in the "Cologne Gazette" that within the territory included in the free port of Kiao-chau, no duties will be levied on goods to be consumed in the German district, with the exception of an excise duty on opium. Only goods in transit from and to Chinese territory will be subjected to duty, according to the rates fixed by the Treaties.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GOUGH.