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tion of the minimum French tariff rates has been prolonged to February 23rd, 1902, beyond which date the French Government, under the Law of 24th February, 1900, has no power of further prolonging the application of these rates.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant.

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Officer Administering the Government of Hongkong.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 767.

With reference to Government Notification No. 645 of the 29th of October last, the following despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies and its enclosure are published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 10th December, 1901.

Hongkong. No. 371.

Downing Street, 6th November, 1901.

SIR,-I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 17th ultimo, and to inform you that I telegraphed to you on the 24th ultimo, stating that I had received from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation a cheque for £12,500 being the contribution of the Colony of Hongkong towards the National Memorial to Her late Majesty Queen VICTORIA, and that the generosity of the Colony was highly appreciated.

2. I enclose a copy of a letter which has been received from the Mansion House, London,

acknowledging the receipt of this contribution.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor,

Sir H. A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,

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THE MANSION HOUSE, LONDON, E.C., London, E.C., October 31st, 1901.

Sir,-I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day sending, by direction of Mr. Secretary Chamberlain, a cheque for £12,500 as the contribution of the Colony of

Hongkong to the National Memorial to Her late Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

The Lord Mayor will be obliged if you will tender his thanks to the Secretary of State for making this remittance and will request Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to do him the honour of conveying to the Colony of Hongkong his most grateful acknowledgments for their munificent contribution towards a movement which appeals to the hearts and sympathies of all classes of His Majesty's subjects throughout the Empire. It may be interesting to add that this is the first Colonial contribution to the Fund. I enclose a formal receipt.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) W. J. SOULSBY, Secretary to the Lord Mayor.

The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION .-- No. 768.

The following Returns of Deaths, for the month of October, 1901, are published. By Command,

> J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 14th December, 1901.