

(C. 666.)

Board of Trade, Whitehall, May 30, 1870.

The Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Brussels, enclosing a copy of a Law published in the "Moniteur Belge" of the 17th instant.

In accordance with the provisions of this Law the excise duty on raw salt and sea salt, the import duty upon refined salt, upon sulphate, sulphite, and carbonate of soda, as well as upon fish of all kinds, is abolished; the rate of postage upon single letters, forwarded from one part of the kingdom to another, is fixed at 10 centimes; and the rate for books, bound or in boards, will be 1 centime per 30 grammes or fraction of 30 grammes.

The Law also increases the excise duty upon the manufacture of brandy, and fixes the minimum quantity to be exported at 5 hectolitre instead of 10, as heretofore.

Article 12 alters the import duty leviable upon distilled spirits, and fixes it as follows:—

		fr. c.				
Brandy of all kinds...	in cask	of 50 degrees or less	of Dutch manufacture	77	50	
			other	72
		for every degree above 50 degrees	of Dutch manufacture	1	55	} per hectolitre.
			other	
	in bottle, and liqueurs without distinction as to strength		145	00		
Other alcoholic liquors	102 00	

This Law will come into operation on the 1st of June of the present year, so far as distillation, and the postage of books and letters are concerned, and on the 1st June 1871 for all the other provisions; except that an import duty will be levied upon carbonate of soda of 2 francs during the year 1871, and of one franc during the year 1872.

TREASURY WARRANT.

We, the undersigned, being two of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, in pursuance of the power enabling us in this behalf, direct as follows:—

On and from the date hereof the several rates of postage and regulations now in force applicable to letters and packets consisting of British, Colonial, or Foreign newspapers, of books, publications, or works of literature or art, of printed votes or proceedings of the Imperial Parliament or the Colonial Legislatures, or of patterns or samples of merchandize, posted in or passing in transit through the United Kingdom, transmitted by the post from the United Kingdom to New Zealand or Australia, by British packet-boat, viâ Southampton and Suez, shall be chargeable upon and applicable to letters and packets of a like description posted in or passing in transit through the United Kingdom, transmitted by the post from the United Kingdom to New Zealand or Australia, viâ the United States, the sea conveyance from the United Kingdom to the United States being by British packet-boat, and from the United States to New Zealand and Australia being by Colon packet-boat.

Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, the twenty-fifth day of May one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

W. P. ADAM.
W. H. GLADSTONE.

WHITEHALL, May 24, 1870.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed John Jones of Newtown, in the county of Montgomery, Gentleman, to be a Commissioner to administer oaths in the High Court of Chancery in England.

Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the City and County of the City of Edinburgh, and Liberties thereof.

Edinburgh Artillery Regiment of Militia.

Frederick Campbell, gent. to be Lieutenant. Dated 13th May 1870.

Frederick W. Carter, gent. to be Lieutenant. Dated 13th May 1870.

Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Denbigh.

Denbighshire Yeomanry Cavalry.

The Honorable William Edward Fitzmaurice to be Supernumerary Major. Dated 26th May 1870.

Captain Tom Naylor Leyland to be Major, vice Fitzmaurice, promoted. Dated 26th May 1870.

Lieutenant William Thorold to be Captain, vice Leyland, promoted. Dated 26th May 1870.

Cornet John Fairfax Jesse to be Lieutenant, vice Thorold, promoted. Dated 26th May 1870.

Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Essex.

2d Essex Artillery Volunteer Corps.

Cyrus Plaistow Trapand to be First Lieutenant, vice Jolly, resigned. Dated 10th May 1870.

Honorary Assistant-Surgeon Rea Corbet to be Assistant-Surgeon. Dated 10th May 1870.

Commission signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Glamorgan.

7th Glamorganshire Rifle Volunteer Corps.

Thomas Gray, gent. to be Ensign. Dated 26th May 1870.