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Foreign Office, January 4, 1867.

(No. 2, Quarantine.)

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received, from Her Majesty's Consul at Puerto Rico, a despatch, of which the following is extract :—

"Puerto Rico, December 6, 1866.

"Your Lordship will doubtless have heard from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Thomas, that three epidemics, yellow fever, small-pox, and cholera morbus, are raging in that Island.

"In consequence of this calamity the strictest sanitary regulations have been decreed by the Captain-General of this Island, amounting, indeed, to absolute non-intercourse, and it requires the personal representations of the French Consul and myself to obtain a relaxation in favour of the mails, which have been since landed and embarked, under very stringent precautions."

(No. 1, General.)

The Secretary of State has also received, from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Venice, the notice, of which the following is a translation, issued by the Central Maritime Government of Trieste :—

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

IT having again frequently occurred that merchant vessels bound to the Port of Lissa have not hoisted their colours till after the firing of the signal gun from the Fort, the attention of navigators is called (in order to avoid unpleasant consequences) to the strict observance of the ministerial prescriptions published by this Government in a previous notice of the 5th August, 1863, No. 6,966, according to which :

Austrian and foreign vessels are required to hoist their colours whenever they shall stop or pass within the distance of three nautical miles in the limits of an I. R. fortress, or other fortified work, in the maritime coast of Austria.

From the I. R. Central Maritime Government. Trieste, the 14th December, 1866.

THE PRESIDENT.
GODEL-LANNOY.

(No. 2, General.)

The Secretary of State has also received, from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, the Decree, of which the following is a translation, issued by the Government of Brazil :—

(Translation.)

ACTS OF THE EXECUTIVE POWERS.—MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

DECREE.

Opening of the Rivers Amazonas, Tocantins, and S. Francisco.

WITH a view to promote the aggrandizement of the Empire, ever facilitating its international intercourse more and more, and imparting animation to the navigation and commerce of its River Amazonas, and to its confluent Tocantins and S. Francisco, having heard the opinion of my Council of State, it is my will to decree as follows :—

Art. 1st. The navigation shall be opened to vessels of all nations from 7th September, 1867, of the River Amazonas, as far as the frontiers of Brazil; of the River Tocantins, as far as Cametá; of the Tapajoz, as far as Santarem; of the Madeira, as far as Borda; and of the River Negro, as far as Manáos.

Art. 2nd. On the same date fixed upon in Art. 1st, the navigation of the River S. Francisco, as far as the City of Penedo, shall be opened.

Art. 3rd. In those confluent of the River Amazon, as and in the parts of same where only one bank belongs to Brazil, the navigation, as far as concerns their respective limits and police regulations, will depend on previous arrangement with the boundary States.

Art. 4th. The present dispositions in no respect alter the observances prescribed by the Treaties in force with the Republics of Peru and Venezuela, in conformity with the regulations already despatched for that purpose.

Art. 5th. My Ministers and Secretaries of State will carry out the agreement treated of in Art. 3rd, through the proper departments, and will expedite the necessary regulations for the effective execution of this Decree. Let Antonio Coelho de Sá e Albuquerque, of my Council, Senator of the Empire, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, so understand and cause it to be executed.

Palace of Rio de Janeiro, 7th December, 1866, 46th (year) of the Independence and of the Empire, with the sign-manual of His Majesty the Emperor.

ANTONIO COELHO DE SA E ALBUQUERQUE.