

the oaths required by law to be taken there by the said Peers, and to take their votes; and immediately after such election made and duly examined, to certify the names of the Peers so elected, and to sign and attest the same in the presence of the said Peers the electors, and return such certificate into Our High Court of Chancery of Great Britain: and We strictly charge and command that this Our Royal Proclamation be duly published at the Market Cross, at Edinburgh, and in all the county towns of Scotland, ten days at least before the time hereby appointed for the meeting of the said Peers to proceed on such election.

Given at Our Court at *Windsor*, this twenty-eighth day of *November*, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, and in the fortieth year of Our reign.

GOD save the QUEEN.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 9th day of *December*, 1876.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS Her Majesty's Order in Council, dated 12th February, 1876, intituled "Regulations for the Civil Service," is confined to such parts of Her Majesty's Civil Service as are comprised in the first and second (excluding the third) of the Reports made in the years 1874-75 by the Right Honourable Lyon Playfair and others appointed by the Commissioners of the Treasury to be a Commission for inquiring into various questions connected with the organization of Civil Departments of the State:

And whereas it is expedient that discretion should be given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Inland Revenue, with the previous consent of the Commissioners of the Treasury, to apply the said Order in Council, so far as they may see fit, to such parts of the Inland Revenue Service as are comprised in the said Third Report:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the said Commissioners of Inland Revenue may, so far as they may see fit, and with the previous consent of the Commissioners of the Treasury, apply the said Order in Council to the Inland Revenue Service accordingly.

C. L. Peel.

War Office, December 9, 1876.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Captain Henry Frederick Stephenson, of the Royal Navy, to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division of the Third Class, or Companions of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

(S. & C. 2086.)

Board of Trade, 1, Whitehall,  
December 12, 1876.

WITH reference to the notice inserted in the London Gazette of the 1st instant, announcing the intention of the Russian Government to levy

Customs-duties in gold, the Board of Trade have received from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at St. Petersburg, enclosing a copy of the Official Notification of the Russian Government on the subject.

The substance of the Notification is as follows:—

1. From the 1st January, 1877, Customs-duties will be levied in gold.

NOTE.—When goods are sold at auction by the Customs, the duties to which they are liable will be calculated in gold.

2. The Minister of Finance may authorize certain Custom-houses to receive in lieu of Russian gold money, (a) coupons, due or next falling due, of the bonds of Russian metallic loans, of bank bills payable in gold at 4 per cent., of obligations of the Nicholas Railway, and of consolidated railway obligations;

(b) Bonds and obligations already drawn;

(c) Foreign gold money;

(d) Foreign bank notes exchangeable for gold.

The rules approved by the Minister of Finance for the acceptance of these values with the specification of the foreign money and bank notes which may be accepted, and at what rate of exchange, as well as all the alterations which may be introduced into these rules, are to be made public.

3. The State Bank will receive from private persons all the securities, &c., specified in Section 2, and also gold bullion; assignments received from mining administrations on gold raised by them, and drafts payable in gold. The Bank will deliver, in exchange for the above, certificates of deposit for sums indicated in demi-imperials. These certificates will be accepted by Customs offices at the nominal rate, and by private persons at a rate fixed by a common agreement. The State Bank will at any time repay at the nominal rate in demi-imperials any certificates of this kind which may be presented. The Minister of Finance will fix the form and the value of the above-mentioned certificates, and will supply the State Bank with all information necessary to assure the regularity of this operation.

4. The payment of Customs-duties not exceeding 5 rouble. 15 cop. shall be made in silver roubles at the nominal value of those pieces. Payments cannot be made in paper except at double rates.

NOTE.—Until the 1st January, 1878, payments of Customs-duties not exceeding 100 roubles may, as a temporary exception, be made in paper, but only on condition that in such cases double duty is paid.

5. In payments of less than 1 rouble the Customs will accept small silver moneys at their nominal value, and in payments of less than 20 copecks, copper money at its nominal value.

6. All goods on which the Customs-duties have not been paid before the 1st of January, 1877, will be chargeable in gold.

7. Bonds deposited with the Customs before the promulgation of the present regulations may be released on the old conditions, that is to say, on payment in paper. In all other cases bonds deposited with the Customs cannot, after the 1st of January, 1877, be released, except on payment in gold.

8. Securities bearing interest and shares will be accepted in guarantee of Customs-duties upon the old bases, but according to a new valuation made by the Minister of Finance.