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Foreign Office, May 4, 1877.

THE following Official Notification of the Blockade of the Russian Ports in the Black Sea, issued by the Turkish Government, has this day been received by telegraph from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople:—

ART. 1. The Ottoman Government declares the whole of the Russian Coast of the Black Sea comprised between Tchuruk Sou on the Asiatic Coast, and the Kilia mouth of the Danube, in Turkey in Europe, to be in a state of blockade.

ART. 2. The blockade thus established will take effect from the 5th of May, and will be maintained by a sufficiently powerful Ottoman Fleet.

ART. 3. A delay of three days, reckoning from the 5th of May, is granted to all merchant vessels wishing to proceed to one of the blockaded ports, and a delay of five days to those who wish to clear from the same. At the expiration of this delay any vessel endeavouring either to enter or to quit the blockaded waters will be treated as an enemy.

ART. 4. As regards the vessels which, being on the voyage, are ignorant of the state of blockade, the Ottoman Fleet, on their arrival in the blockaded waters, shall certify to them the blockade. If after this special notification the ships persist in advancing, they will be considered as an enemy.

