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FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1885.

*Foreign Office, March 20, 1885.*

**T**HE following Notes have been received by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, from the French Ambassador at this Court:—

No. 1.

M. Waddington to Earl Granville.—(Received February 20).

M. LE COMTE, *Londres, le 20 Février, 1885.*

LES conditions dans lesquelles se poursuit actuellement la guerre avec la Chine ont déterminé le Gouvernement de la République à user du droit qui lui appartient de considérer désormais et de traiter le riz comme contrebande de guerre. En conséquence, je suis chargé de notifier officiellement à votre Seigneurie que des ordres ont été donnés pour que cette mesure soit mise à exécution à partir du 26 Février par les Commandants des forces navales Françaises.

Mon Gouvernement en s'arrêtant au choix de la date précitée a voulu laisser le temps aux Puissances neutres d'envoyer à leur commerce les avis nécessaires.

Veuillez, &c.,  
(Signé) WADDINGTON.

(Translation.)

MY LORD, *London, February 20, 1885.*

THE conditions under which the war with China is being carried on at the present moment, have determined the Government of the Republic to exercise the right which belongs to it, to consider henceforth and to treat rice as contraband of war. In consequence I am charged to notify officially to your Lordship that orders have been given for the execution of this measure from the 26th of February by the Commanders of the French naval forces.

My Government, in making choice of the date specified, has wished to allow time to the neutral Powers to issue the necessary notifications to traders.

Accept, &c.,  
(Signed) WADDINGTON.

No. 2.

M. Waddington to Earl Granville.—(Received February 24.)

M. LE COMTE, *Londres, le 24 Février, 1885.*

MON Gouvernement a reconnu la possibilité d'admettre, dans l'intérêt du commerce neutre, un tempérament à la mesure que j'ai eu l'honneur de notifier à votre Excellence le 20 de ce mois.

En conséquence, je suis chargé d'annoncer au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine que les

expéditions de riz à destination de Canton et des ports Chinois du sud pourront se poursuivre librement à partir du 26 de ce mois. Seront seules interdites et traitées comme contrebande de guerre les expéditions de riz à destination des ports Chinois au nord de Canton.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) WADDINGTON.

(Translation.)

MY LORD, *London, February 24, 1885.*

MY Government has recognized the possibility of admitting in the interest of the commerce of neutrals, an alleviation of the measure which I had the honour to notify to your Lordship on the 20th instant.

In consequence I am charged to announce to the Government of Her Majesty the Queen that shipment of rice destined for Canton and the southern Chinese ports will be allowed to pass freely from the 26th instant. Shipments of rice destined for Chinese ports north of Canton will alone be prohibited and treated as contraband of war.

Accept, &c.,  
(Signed) WADDINGTON.

*War Office, March 19, 1885.*

**A** DESPATCH, of which the following is a copy, has been received from General Lord Wolseley, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., by the Secretary of State for War:—

MY LORD, *Korti, February 22, 1885.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith Colonel Talbot's report of the death of Major-General Sir Herbert Stewart, K.C.B., an event which has deprived Her Majesty of one of Her bravest soldiers and most brilliant leaders, and has caused amongst all ranks of the Army of the Soudan the most genuine and heartfelt sorrow.

Few commanders have succeeded to a greater degree than Sir Herbert Stewart in winning the affection of those who served with or under him, whilst his many and high military qualities rendered him a General whom England could ill afford to spare. His death is felt by all here at once as a private and a national loss.

Leaders such as he was rare in all armies. It may be long before the service or the country can fill the gap which his death has caused

I have, &c.,

WOLSELEY, General.

The Right Honourable  
Marquis of Hartington.