

(1123.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
September 23, 1863.*

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 Consul at San Francisco, announcing that the Collector at that port has issued a notice that no vessel, other than steamers and packets known to be engaged on regular lines, or in the employ of the army or navy, will be allowed to leave port between sunset and sunrise; and that all vessels on entering the port must report to the revenue cutter or guard ship, to be stationed in a convenient position for the purpose, before proceeding to anchorage.

(1126.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
September 23, 1863.*

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 Decree of the Swiss Federal Assembly, dated the 15th of August 1863, fixing the duty on framed and unframed pictures at 3f. 50c. the gross quintal.

(1131.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
September 24, 1863.*

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 Chargé d'Affaires in Peru, transmitting a copy of a Decree, dated 29th June 1863, respecting the issue of a new decimal coinage in Bolivia, of which the following is a translation:—

ARTICLE 1. The alloy of the National coin shall be 900 thousandths, or nine-tenths fine.

2. There shall be five denominations of silver coin:—

1. The bolivian or whole dollar, which shall be of the weight of 500 grains of the Castilian mark.
2. The half-bolivian, or half-dollar, of 250 grains.
3. The "tomin," weighing 100 grains.
4. The tenth of the bolivian or real, weighing 50 grains.
5. The half-real, weighing 25 grains.

3. The bolivian or dollar is divided, as regards its value, into one hundred centimes or "centenas; (?) each centime shall be represented by a copper coin, the intrinsic value of which and the cost of fabrication corresponds approximately with the value which it represents.

There shall be two denominations of copper coinage:—

1. The piece of one centime, and
2. That of two.

4. No one shall be obliged to receive in copper coin any value but those below the half-real or piece of 25 grains of silver.

5. The variation less or more in alloy must not exceed three thousandths.

6. The under or over weight shall be the same as at present, according to the respective ordinances or the several denominations of silver coin.

7. The proportion between the value of the coin hereby decreed and that of 400 grains in circulation, is as 5 to 4, or as a 100 to 80.

There is the same proportion between the ancient "tostons" of eight "dineros" and the coin the issue of which is now decreed.

8. There shall likewise be in the Republic five kinds of gold coin, with the denominations of ounce, half-ounce, quarter or double crown, crown, and half-crown.

The alloy of the gold coin shall likewise be of 900 thousandths, and the weights of the several denominations such as respectively correspond, that is to say:—

The ounce shall be 500 grains of the Castilian mark.

The half-ounce 250 grains.

The double crown 100 grains.

The crown 50 grains.

And the half-crown 25 grains.

9. Every ounce of gold shall be received and paid for at the mint and the office of state at 17½ bolivians or dollars, as hereby decreed.

10. The variation of alloy for good coin shall be one thousandth, less or more.

11. The variation in weight of the same shall be according to the present regulations observed at the mint.

12. The diameter of the several denominations of silver and gold coin shall correspond with that of the old Spanish coins of each metal.

The copper piece of two centimes shall be of the same diameter as the half-bolivian.

The piece of one centime the same as the "tomin," or fifth of a bolivian.

13. The type, or impression of the National coin, both of gold and silver, shall be as follows:—

On the obverse the shield of the arms of the Republic.

On the reverse a wreath formed of two branches of laurel and olive interlaced. Within the wreath shall be read the particular denomination of the coin in large characters, as "one bolivian," "half a bolivian," etc., the fraction being put in figures below; and within the same wreath shall be read, in small characters, and in one line, "500 grains," "250 grains," etc. In the upper part of the exergue shall be placed the following legend, "Union is strength," and in the lower part the date or year of fabrication, which shall have on one side the sign denoting the mint from which the coin has been issued, and on the other the initials of the assayers in the usual form.

On the rim shall be struck the following inscription, in raised letters: "Bolivia, free and independent, 1825."

14. The type of the copper coins shall be as follows:—

On the obverse a wreath of laurel and olive, and within the inscription, in figures and letters, "1 centime," "2 centimes."

On the reverse, in the middle of the field of the piece, shall be read in three lines, symmetrically arranged, "Union is strength."

15. The Executive is authorized to issue this coinage for circulation as soon as may be possible.

16. It is likewise authorized to submit to public competition, and to adjudge to the best offer, the direction and service, by private enterprise, of the offices for melting and weighing at the National mint of Potosi.

17. The Government is authorized in like manner to purchase a new coining machine, and to set it up in the said mint.