

(C. 464.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
April 13, 1870.*

The Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Brussels, reporting that the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies appointed to examine the law on fiscal reforms have agreed to the following modifications :—

The diminution of postage to 10 centimes on single letters in Belgium, and the increase in the duties on spirits, will take place on 1st June next.

The abolition of the excise duty on salt, and of the import duties on fish, and on the sulphites and sulphates of soda, will only take effect on 1st January 1871.

The duty on the importation of carbonate of soda will be reduced, from 1st January 1871, to two francs ; from 1st January 1872, to one franc ; and will be completely abolished in 1873.

The Belgian salt refiners will receive a reduction of 12 per cent. on the duties on salt in warehouse on 31st December 1870.

(C. 474.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
April 14, 1870.*

The Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Yedo, transmitting the subjoined Notification which he has issued for the information of British subjects, in consequence of a request to that effect received from the Government of Japan :—

NOTIFICATION.

The undersigned, in common with the Representatives of the other Treaty Powers, has been requested by the Japanese Government to make known, for the information of their respective countrymen, the determination of the Japanese Government to enforce the provisions of the Treaties in respect to the trading of foreign vessels in non-opened ports in Japan.

The United States has accordingly to warn British subjects of the penalties they incur by the commission of any breach of the aforesaid stipulations.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

H. B. M.'s Legation,

Yedo, December 21, 1869.

(C. 476.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
April 14, 1870.*

The Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon, transmitting a Decree of the Portuguese Government, dated March 28, 1870, which imposes an additional duty upon the importation of Flour into that country.

The following are the Articles of that Decree :—

ART. 1. From and after the date of this Decree, all flour imported through the sea-ports of the continental part of the Kingdom shall pay, in addition to the duty of 800 reis (3s. 6^d.) per 100 kilogrammes, as provided in the Decree of the 11th April 1865, a further duty of 400 reis (1s. 9^d.) per 100 kilogrammes.

ART. 2. The proceeds of this latter duty shall be kept in deposit in the coffers of the different Custom-houses, until the Cortes shall have decided whether the said additional duty shall be returned to the respective importers or be entered as revenue of the State.

ADMIRALTY, April 11, 1870.

Royal Marine Light Infantry.

Colonel Charles William Adair, C.B., to be one of Her Majesty's Aides-de-Camp, in the room of Colonel Lambrick, promoted. Dated 1st April 1870.

ADMIRALTY, April 6, 1870.

George Marsh, Esq. has this day been promoted to the rank of Staff Captain in Her Majesty's Fleet.

ADMIRALTY, April 9, 1870.

Augustus John Burniston, Esq. has this day been promoted to the rank of Staff Commander in Her Majesty's Fleet.

ADMIRALTY, April 12, 1870.

Captain Francis Marten has been placed on the Retired List, under the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 22d February 1870, from the 1st instant.

Retired Commander William Thorp having attained fifteen years seniority as a Retired Commander, has been allowed to assume the rank and title of Retired Captain from the 13th November 1869, under the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of 9th July 1864.

John Browne, Esq. has this day been promoted to the rank of Navigating Lieutenant in Her Majesty's Fleet, with seniority of 4th January 1870, (confirming a Commission given by Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Kellett, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the China Station), vice Dowdell, deceased.

ADMIRALTY, April 13, 1870.

Captain Edward King Barnard has this day been placed on the Retired List, under the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of 22d February 1870.

In accordance with the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 22d February 1870, the undermentioned Officers have been placed on the Retired List, from the 1st instant :—

Captains :

John Clarke Byng.
Hubert Campion.