

authorize and empower you, or any five or more of you, to call for, have access to, and examine all plans, designs, estimates, and contracts for all works of defence now in progress or under Our consideration, or any other plans or designs that may be laid before you for the same object.

And We do give and grant to you, or any five or more of you, full power and authority to call before you such persons in Our Civil, Military, or Naval Services, as you shall judge likely to afford you the best and fullest information upon the subject of this Our Commission, and to enquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do, by these presents, will and ordain, that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you, Our said Commissioners, or any five or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof, and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And Our further will and pleasure is, that you, Our said Commissioners, or any five or more of you, upon due inquiry into the premises, do report to Us, in writing, under your hands and seals, your several proceedings, under and by virtue of this Commission, together with what you shall find touching or concerning the premises.

And We further ordain, that you, or any five or more of you, may have liberty to report to Us your proceedings under this Commission from time to time, should you judge it expedient so to do.

And for your assistance in the due execution of these presents We have made choice of Our trusty and well-beloved William Francis Drummond Jervis, a Captain in Our Corps of Royal Engineers and Major in Our Army, to be Secretary to this Our Commission, and to attend you, whose services and assistance We require you to avail yourselves of from time to time as occasion may require.

Given at Our Court at Osborne, the twentieth day of August, in the twenty-third year of Our reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,
SIDNEY HERBERT.

Foreign-Office, August 25, 1859.

The Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. James F. Maguire as Consul at Melbourne for the United States of America.

(1128.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
August 25, 1859.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Petersburg, transmitting the following translation of an Imperial

Ukase which has been issued, reducing the duty on Foreign Iron imported into Russia.

UKASE OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF ALL THE RUSSIAS TO THE SENATE.

In accordance with the Ukase of His Imperial Majesty, the Senate gave hearing to the Report of the Minister of Finance, dated the 19th June, 1859, No. 9386, to which is annexed a copy of the opinion of the Council of State (confirmed by His Majesty on the 16th of June last), respecting the reduction of import duty on foreign, wrought, and cast iron. In the said opinion of the Council of State, it is stated:—The Council of State, in the Department of Economy, at the General Meeting, at its General Meeting having considered the proposal of the Minister of Finance respecting the reduction of import duty on foreign, wrought, and cast iron, gave their opinion; that:—

1st.—That cast and wrought iron not made up, arriving direct into the Empire, either by land or sea, in every place except the ports of the Sea of Azoff, to be subject to the following duties:—

	Copecks.
Cast iron in a raw state ...	5 per pood.
Wrought iron:	
Bay, rail, and scrap iron ...	35 ditto.
Assorted iron ...	45 ditto.
Boiler, plate, sheet, and cube iron	70 ditto.

2nd.—The import of foreign, cast, and wrought iron direct from abroad into the ports of the Sea of Azoff to remain for the present prohibited; and

3rd.—The existing duties on these metals, as per tariff of 1857, for the Kingdom of Poland, to remain in force in that kingdom for the present, without modification.

On the original opinion of the Council of State it is written: His Imperial Majesty having considered the opinion of Council of State, with reference to the reduction of the import duties on cast and wrought iron, deigned to confirm and order its execution.

(Signed) ORLOFF,
President of the Council of State.

16th June, 1859.

Ordered,—The execution of this confirmed opinion of the Council of State to be entrusted to the Minister of Finance, by ukase, by which also to inform all government, district, and military authorities, the ministers and general governors, the departments of the senate, and to be published in the Gazette of the Senate, of which to inform the printing office, and for the information of the Secretaries of State for the Kingdom of Poland, of the Grand Duchy of Finland, and the Chief Manager of the Second Department of His Imperial Majesty's own Chancellerie, in the Department of the Ministry of Justice, to give them copies of this announcement, 9th July, 1859.

For information and guidance. By His Majesty's order, relative to the reduction of import duties on foreign cast and wrought iron.

1st Department:

*War-Office, Pall-Mall,
26th August, 1859.*

1st Regiment of Life Guards, Cornet and Sub-Lieutenant Charles Wilmer Duncombe to be Lieutenant, by purchase, vice A. E. H. G. Viscount Grey de Wilton, who retires. Dated 26th August, 1859.

Algernon William Fulke Greville, Gent., to be Cornet and Sub-Lieutenant, by purchase, vice Duncombe. Dated 26th August, 1859.