

there are any excise duties on the importation for consumption of the said article, and its compounds, can exact from the chiefs of the Custom-houses existing in the territory of the respective State immediate information of such imported articles, expressing the quantity, and also the name of the importers, as necessary particulars in order to guard against any violation of the laws of the State.

SECTION 2.

Of the formalities which must be observed in the (foreign) ports in which Vessels load.

Article 14.

Every captain or super-cargo of a vessel, which may load in a foreign port, bound for national ports (Columbia), shall present to the Consular Agent of the Republic (or who ever may represent him) a manifest, in triplicate, written in the Spanish language, and signed, expressing clearly the following particulars:—

1. The name, class, tonnage, and flag of the vessel.
2. The port of loading, and the national port or ports (*i.e.*, those of Columbia) to which the vessel may be bound.
3. The merchandise intended for each port, with the names of the shippers, consignees, and gross weight of each shipment, in the way they may appear in the manifest; the goods to be in separate lots as they appear in the bills of lading, and the gross weight and total number of packages of all the cargo intended for each port.

Article 15.

Every person shipping goods to the licensed ports of Columbia, shall present to the Consular Agent (or whoever may represent him) in the port, whence the shipment is made, an invoice in triplicate, written in the Spanish language, and expressing:—

1. The name of the shipper, of the consignee, the port intended for, and the name of the vessel.
2. The mark, number, contents, gross weight, and description of each package. In stating the contents, it will be sufficient to give the name or description, quantity, and the material of which each class of merchandise is composed.
3. The total value of the invoice, without the necessity of specifying that of each package.

PARAGRAPH. — In commercial places, where there are public officers, whose duty it is to weigh merchandise for sale, and who give a certificate of the weight they contain, the Consular Agent shall exact likewise, the certificate of such officer, with respect to the weight of the merchandise invoiced, without which formality he shall not certify to the invoice presented.

Article 16.

It is prohibited to express, in the documents treated of in Articles 14 and 15, the same packages for different ports. Consequently, when any shipper breaks through this rule, the Consular Agent shall determine as the place for which said packages are intended, the first of the ports named.

Article 17.

The documents once despatched by the Consular Agent, the destination of the goods cannot be changed from that stated in them; and only in the case at the time of the vessel's arrival, public order be disturbed in the port stated, the importation may be permitted in a port other than that named in these documents.

Article 18.

The Consular Agents shall take a note of the manifests in a register which shall be kept for that purpose; he shall compare it with the invoices presented, and after being convinced of the truth and exactness of said documents, he shall write his certificate at the foot of each of the copies of the manifests and invoices, and return one copy to each of the interested parties for its presentation in the respective Custom-house.

Article 19.

The Consular Agent shall send by the same vessel to the Custom-house of the first of the national ports (*i.e.*, of Columbia) to which the vessel is bound, a copy of the manifest, and to the respective Custom-houses a copy of each invoice, with all the information he may think useful or necessary, to guard against any fraud which may be intended.

The other copies of the manifest and invoices are to be remitted to the Minister of Finance by the first post. The postages incurred are to be borne by the nation.

Article 20.

Consular Agents who have no salary, have the right to a fee of five dollars for the certificate of each manifest, and one dollar for that of each invoice, it being understood that these fees relate to the three copies of each document, and not to each copy. The fees are to be paid by the person who requires the certificate.

SECTION 3.

Of the entry and boarding of Vessels.

Article 21.

Vessels which enter the ports of the Republic, shall be boarded immediately by one of the superior officers of the Custom-house, by the Chief of the Coast Guard Service, and other officers who may be considered necessary for watch over the vessel.

Article 22.

If the vessel be a merchantman, on boarding her, the captain or supercargo shall deliver up—

1. The vessel's register; however when the vessel belongs to a nation which does not exact this formality from Columbian merchant vessels, the said register shall be handed over to the respective Consul; but in such case, the captain or supercargo must present at the Custom-house, immediately after the visit of inspection is over, a certificate from the Consul, in which he certifies that he has received the vessel's register, with the promise of not returning it till it be proved to him by Custom-house documents that the vessel owes nothing to the Custom-house, and has been duly cleared at the said Custom-house.

2. The manifest certified in the port whence she comes, according to Article 14.

If the vessel should have touched at and discharged a part of her cargo in any other national port, the manifest, with the certification of the respective Custom-house, drawn up as provided for by Article 64, must be presented.

3. The document or documents which the Consular Agents address to the Custom-house authorities, with a copy of the manifest and invoices of which Article 19 treats.

4. A list of all the effects on board belonging to the captain and crew, or for their use, and the extra materials belonging to the vessel which have not been included in the manifest.