

*Foreign Office, March 2, 1868.*

**L**ORD STANLEY Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received from Sir Harry Parkes, K.C.B., Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan, copies of the following Notifications, which have been issued by him and by the Governors of Hiogo and Osaka, with regard to the opening of the port of Hiogo and the city of Osaka to foreign trade:—

#### NOTIFICATION.

THE Undersigned hereby makes known to all subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, that the port of Hiogo and the city of Osaka are this day opened to British trade, in accordance with the stipulations of the London agreement of the 6th of June, 1862, by which the execution of the provisions of the Treaty of Yedo in respect to the said port and city was deferred until this date.

The Regulations of Trade attached to the said Treaty will therefore come into effect at Hiogo on and from this date, in the same manner as at the other open ports; and the undersigned has agreed with the Japanese Government that British trade at Osaka shall be conducted in accordance with the annexed regulations, until experience shall show in what manner these may be advantageously modified.

Pending the receipt of Her Majesty's Commissions, Francis Gerard, Myburgh, Esquire, now Her Majesty's Consul at Kanagawa, will officiate as Consul for the Consular district of Hiogo and Osaka, and John Frederick Lowder, Esquire, will act as Vice-Consul for the same district. The Consul will for the present be stationed at the port of Hiogo, and the Vice-Consul at the city of Osaka.

The undersigned has to direct the attention of Her Majesty's subjects to his Notification of the 17th of May, 1867, as containing the conditions upon which building land may be leased by British subjects at Hiogo and Osaka, and in order to estimate the number of lots that should be put up at the first public sale, it is desirable that British subjects wishing to lease land at either of these places, should signify their intention to the Consul or Vice-Consul respectively at an early date.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan.

Her Britannic Majesty's Legation,  
Osaka, January 1st, 1868.

#### *Regulations for the Trade and Residence of Foreigners at Osaka.*

ART. I. As Osaka is not an open port, no foreign merchant vessel can anchor there. Until arrangements shall be made for the establishment of a Custom-house at Osaka, foreigners wishing to import goods into that city must enter them at the Custom-house at Hiogo according to the regulations of Trade attached to the Treaties, and must pay duty there unless duty has already been paid on the same at some other open port of Japan. In the same way, all goods exported from Osaka by foreigners must also be cleared from, and pay duty at Hiogo, before they can be shipped on board any foreign vessel at that port.

ART. II. Lighters, tow-boats, and passage-boats, propelled by steam or sails, and belonging to foreigners, may ply between Hiogo and Osaka for the conveyance of cargo and passengers

under the Regulations hereto annexed, and subject to the provisions of the Regulations of Trade attached to the Treaties.

ART. III. Foreigners living at Osaka shall be free to go where they please within the following boundaries, namely:—On the south the Yamatogawa from its mouth as far as Funabashimura; and a line drawn from that place through Kiokejimura to Sada. The town of Sakai is outside the limits, but foreigners will be at liberty to visit it. The road between Osaka and Hiogo lies outside the limit of ten ri from Kioto. No obstruction shall be opposed to the free circulation of foreigners either by land or water in every part of the city of Osaka open to the Japanese public.

ART. IV. The foregoing articles may be revised at the end of six months or earlier should it be deemed necessary.

#### *Regulations for the Establishment of a Towboat, Lighter, and Passage Boat Service, between Hiogo and Osaka*

1st. No foreign lighter, towboat or passage boat may ply between Hiogo and Osaka, unless furnished with a licence by the Japanese Authorities.

2nd. Whenever application is made for a licence, the Governor of Hiogo and the Consul of the nation to which the boat belongs, shall consider the application and determine whether a licence shall be granted. Each licence must be signed by the Governor; and countersigned by the Consul, and must contain a full description of the boat, in their respective languages.

3rd. Each licence must be cancelled or renewed as the Governor and Consul may determine at the expiration of each year, and a fee of one ichibu per ton measurement, payable to the Japanese Government, will be charged on the issue or renewal of each licence.

4th. No licence shall be issued to any foreign boat or vessel drawing more than eight feet of water.

5th. The Japanese Government may put Custom House Officers on board any licensed boat, whenever they may think proper, or may appoint officers to accompany the said boats, on the passage between Hiogo and Osaka.

6th. All goods taken on board a licensed boat at Hiogo must be accompanied by duty-paid or duty-free certificates, and all goods landed at Osaka, without such certificates, will be liable to seizure and confiscation.

7th. A licensed boat may only take in and discharge goods at Hiogo or Osaka at the wharves indicated by the Japanese authorities, or by means of boats authorized for the purpose by the Japanese Government.

8th. No licensed boat may be employed in any other way than for the conveyance of goods and passengers, or the towage of licensed boats between Hiogo and Osaka, nor may they communicate with any other place, or with any native or foreign vessel on the passage.

9th. The foreign crews of licensed boats or vessels, with the exception of the masters, will not be allowed to land at Osaka.

10th. Any breach of these Regulations, or of any other Regulations that may subsequently be made on this subject, may be punished by forfeiture of licence in addition to such penalty as may be imposed by the Consul of the nation to which the boat belongs under the powers vested in him by his Government for securing the observance of Treaties and Conventions by his countrymen.