

Gainsborough Board of Guardians.  
 Guisborough Local Board.  
 Monmouthshire County Council.  
 Newcastle-upon-Tyne Corporation.  
 North Somerset Conservative Association.  
 National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty  
 to Children.  
 Skelton and Brotton Local Board.  
 Salt Schools, Governors of.  
 St. Brendon's Masonic Lodge, Birr, Ireland.  
 Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and  
 Chambers of Agriculture.  
 Bradford Corporation.  
 Bangor Corporation.  
 The National Rifle Association.  
 Rotherhithe Vestry.  
 Soothill Nether Local Board.  
 Westport Union Board of Guardians.  
 Westport Town Commissioners.  
 Barnes Vestry.  
 City of London College.  
 Morley Corporation.  
 Oldbury Local Board.  
 Aylesbury Habitation of the Primrose League.  
 Royal Holloway College.  
 Incorporated Church Building Society.  
 Royal United Service Institution.  
 Catholic Union of Great Britain.  
 Sunderland Corporation.  
 Canterbury Convocation House of Laymen.  
 Additional Curates' Society.  
 Bristol and West of England Ancient Order of  
 Druids.  
 \* Haverfordwest Justices of Peace.  
 Pembroke County Magistrates.  
 All Saints Lodge, No. 170, of Freemasons.  
 Margate Corporation.  
 Suffolk Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons.  
 Suffolk (East) County Council.  
 East Anglia Master Mark Masons Provincial  
 Grand Lodge.  
 Apothecaries' Society.  
 Bedford County Council.  
 Berley Local Board.  
 Carnarvon School Board.  
 Dorset County Council.  
 Eye Corporation.  
 Great Crosby School Board.  
 Leeds and District Off-Licence Holders' Pro-  
 tection Association.  
 Morecambe Local Board.  
 Manchester Presbyterian Church of England.  
 Queen's College, Cork.  
 Salford Corporation.  
 Northwich Victoria Infirmary.  
 Worcester County Council.  
 Carnarvon Union Board of Guardians.  
 Dorset County Justices.  
 Holmfirth Divisional Conservative Association.  
 Liberal Unionist Association.  
 Middleton School Board.  
 Okehampton Corporation.  
 Pontefract Corporation.  
 St. Cybe Masonic Lodge, Holyhead.  
 The Victoria University, Manchester.  
 Wednesfield Local Board.

[A further list will shortly be issued.]

*Foreign Office, March 3, 1892.*

THE Marquis of Salisbury, K.G., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received from the Chinese Minister at this Court, a Note, of which the following is a copy, as to the procedure to be observed in cases where the Provincial Authori-

ties in China may desire to enter into contracts with foreign financial houses for the purpose of obtaining loans:—

*Chinese Legation,*

MY LORD MARQUIS, *February 23, 1892.*

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the enclosed copy of a Circular Note which the Tsungli-Yamên have addressed to the Representatives of China in Foreign Countries, and which they have directed them to communicate to the Courts to which they are severally accredited.

As your Lordship will perceive on perusing the Note, it relates to the procedure to be observed in cases where the Governors-General, Governors, and others may desire to enter into contracts with foreign financial houses with the object of obtaining loans.

Henceforth, no contract for a provincial loan is to be concluded until the local official for whose administration the money is required shall have submitted it to the Central Government, and a notification that the project has received the Imperial sanction shall have been made by the Tsungli-Yamên to the Representative at Peking of the country more immediately concerned in the transaction. Loans contracted by the local authorities in contravention of this procedure will consequently be held to be illegal, and the Chinese Government absolved from all responsibility in connexion with them.

This measure, which has been approved by His Majesty the Emperor, by an Imperial Decree, issued at the instance of the Tsungli-Yamên, dated the 25th of November, 1891, has for its object the safeguarding of Chinese credit and the protection of foreign financiers from the loss and disappointment to which they might be subjected, in consequence of the powers of the Provincial Authorities to pledge the Imperial credit not being clearly defined.

I have the honour to request that your Lordship will be so good as to take such steps as may appear to you best fitted to bring the Circular Note under the observation of English financiers and others whom it may concern.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) SIEH.

The Most Noble the Marquis of Salisbury, K.G.,  
 H.B.M.'s Principal Secretary of State  
 for Foreign Affairs.

Translation of Enclosure

CIRCULAR NOTE addressed by the Tsungli-Yamên to the Representatives of China in foreign countries.

GENTLEMEN,

YOU are aware that loans contracted with foreigners by our Provincial Authorities, Viceroy, and Governors, to meet administrative needs have always been submitted for the preliminary authorization of the Central Government at Peking. This authorization must be requested by a special report presented to the Throne and must be confirmed by an official notification of the Tsungli-Yamên addressed to the Representatives of the powers concerned.

But certain Viceroys and Governors of Provinces having recently taken upon themselves to contract loans, without presenting a report to the Throne, to request its authorization of the same, the Tsungli-Yamên and the Ministry of Finance, sensible of this abuse which is much to be regretted, thought it right to submit the following measure for the approval of the Emperor:—

"For the future, whenever our Provincial