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Foreign Office, January 26, 1894.

SPAIN.—CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN. THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received the following Despatches from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Madrid :---

No. 1.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Earl of Rosebery. (Received December 17.)

MY LORD, Madrid, December 14, 1892. I HAVE the honour to transmit to Your Lordship translation of a Royal Order on the subject of certificates of origin.

I have, &c.

H. DRUMMOND WOLFF. (Signed)

Inclosure in No. 1.

EXTRACT from the Madrid Official Gazette of December 14, 1892.

Ministry of Finance.

ROYAL ORDER.

(Translation.)

IN view of the representations made to this Ministry by the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in London, requesting that-

1. The said Corporation alone, or their representatives in British ports, shall alone be autho-rised to legalize certificates of origin on British goods intended to be conveyed to the Peninsula;

2. That they be authorized to charge a duty of 1 peseta 20 centimes for each certificate of origin which they issue ;

And considering that by Article A, Case 5, Rule 12 of the Tariff, the Chambers of Commerce and Navigation are able to legalize certificates of origin;

The Queen-Regent, in the King's name, &c., has been pleased to order as follows :-

1. That the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in London, as well as such others as have been established by the Government, may, if they think it expedient, allow certificates of origin to be drawn up in the same form as are used by foreign Chambers of Commerce, in conformity with the Regulation A, Case 5 of Rule 12 of the Tariff, provided that it be stated thereon that the person who signs the certificate is the producer or manufacturer of the articles mentioned in the document, or that he is a person authorized by the same to do so.

2. That this authority, which was asked for by the Chamber of Commerce, is not granted for the purpose of enabling them to impose a charge for legalizing the certificates of origin, as the existing law does not sanction such an impost.

I bring this Royal Order to your notice, in order that it may be put into force.

CONCHA. (Signed)

Madrid, October 18, 1892. To the Director-General of Customs.

No. 2.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Earl of Rosebery. (Received January 18.)

Madrid, January 15, 1894.

My Lord, WITH reference to my despatch of the 14th December, 1892, I have the honour to enclose herewith translation of a note from Señor Moret, giving the meaning of the Royal Order of the 18th October, 1892, relating to certificates of origin.

Your Lordship will observe that the Spanish Chambers of Commerce established abroad are authorized to issue certificates of origin in favour of British goods shipped to Spain.

> I have, &c. H. DRÚMMOND WOLFF. (Signed)

Inclosure in No. 2.

Señor Moret to Sir H. Drummond Wolff. (Translation.)

Ministry of State, Palace,

Sir

January 11, 1894.

IN reply to your note of the 5th instant, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the sense or interpretation of the Royal Order, promulgated on the 18th October, 1892, by the Ministry of Finance, is that of authorizing the Spanish Chambers of Commerce established abroad, and therefore those established in England, to authorize in their turn the certificates of origin of merchandize destined for Spain, which the Custom-houses will accept in the same form as those visé by the authorities or Chambers of Commerce of the country of origin.

I have, &c. (By authority), JOAQUIN VALERA, (Signed) Under-Secretary.