

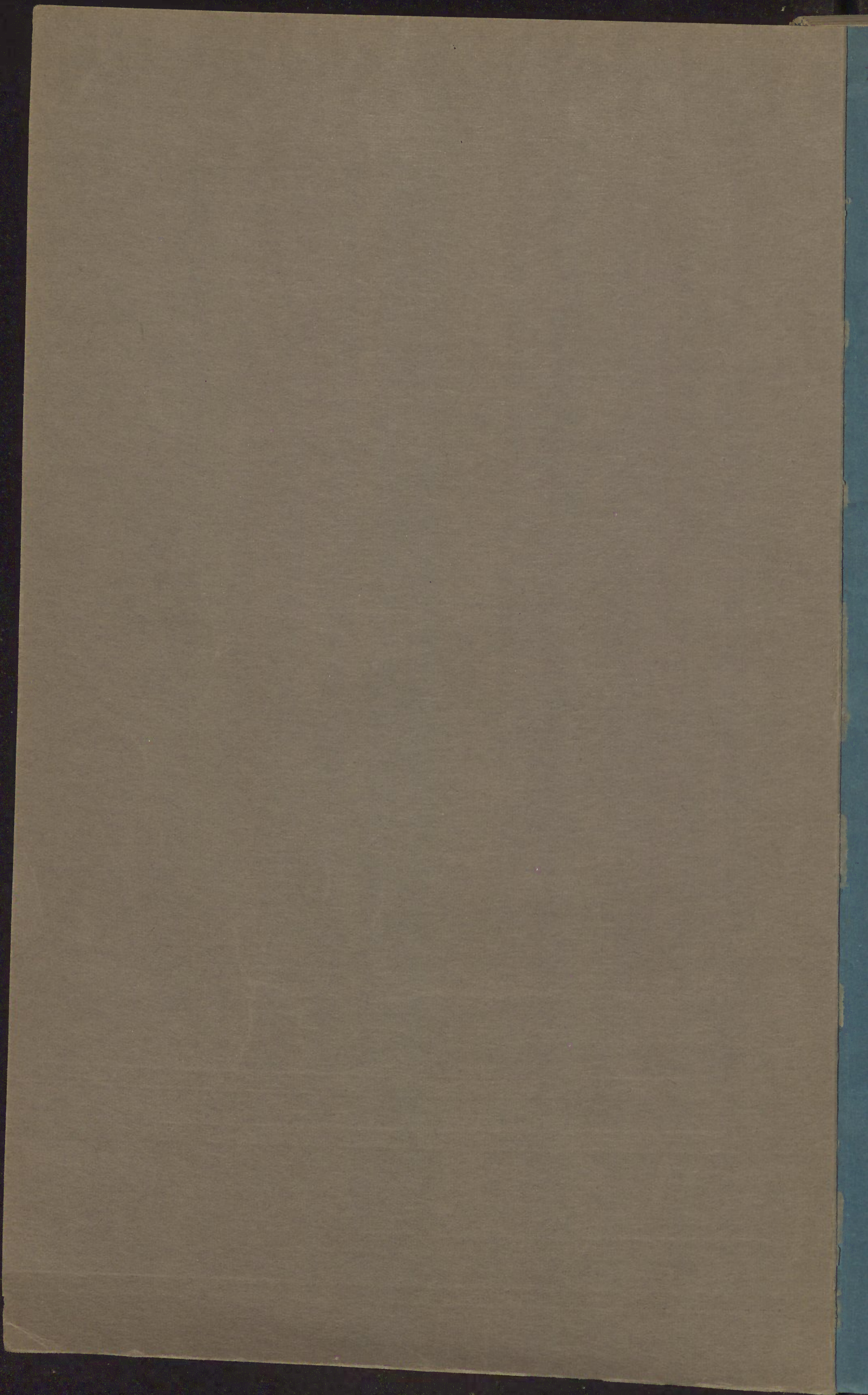


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FRANCE. COMMERCIAL. No. 1 (1872).

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

TREATY OF COMMERCE

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE

OF

1860.

---

*[Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.  
1872.]*

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LONDON:

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1860.



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1872

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Correspondence respecting the Treaty of Commerce between  
Great Britain and France of 1860.

No. 1.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received June 14.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, June 13, 1871.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship, extracted from the "Journal Officiel" of this day, the authentic Report of a short debate which took place yesterday in the National Assembly, on a Bill brought in by the Minister of Finance for augmenting certain taxes and imposing new ones. The Minister gave a brief summary of the measures he proposed.

Your Lordship will perceive that of 488,000,000 francs (19,520,000*l.*) which it is intended to raise, 244,000,000 francs (9,760,000*l.*), or exactly one-half, are to be derived from Customs duties.

5,000,000 francs (200,000*l.*) are to be raised by a revisal of the postal Tariff for printed matter.

The remainder is to be provided for by augmentations of the stamp and registration duties, and of the "Contributions Indirectes." Under the latter head figures a tax on matches.

After some debate the Bill was referred to the Committee on the Budget.

No. 2.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received June 17.)*

My Lord,

*Versailles, June 15, 1871.*

IN my despatch of the 13th instant I communicated to your Lordship a statement made in the Assembly by the Minister of Finance on bringing in a Bill to increase taxation, and I pointed out that one-half of the 488,000,000 francs (19,520,000*l.*) which he proposed to add by this means to the revenue was to be derived from an augmentation of Customs duties.

I had this afternoon some conversation with M. Jules Favre on the subject.

He observed that, in order to give effect to the proposed changes in the Customs Tariff it would be necessary to enter into negotiations with the Governments with whom France had Commercial Treaties. He should, he said, make overtures respecting this matter to Her Majesty's Government as soon as he should be in a position to do so; but it was necessary that the Minister of Finance and the Committee of the Assembly on the Budget should first come to an understanding on the details of the changes. He did not apprehend that he should have any difficulty in bringing the Governments of Europe to agree to them. The notions which had got abroad that the present French Government desired to return to a system of high protective duties were altogether without foundation. The new duties would be imposed entirely for fiscal purposes; and although the Powers of Europe had not come to the help of France during the war, he did not believe that they would desire, by insisting on a rigid adherence to the Treaty Tariffs, to impede her endeavours to raise, in this hour of extreme need, the amount of revenue which the charges brought upon her by the disasters of the war rendered indispensable to her.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.



## [No. 3.]

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, June 17, 1871.*

WITH reference to the proposed financial measures of the French Government, I have to state to your Excellency that considerable anxiety is felt in this country in regard to the bearing which those measures may have on British trade under the Treaty of 1860, and also in regard to the course which the French Government contemplate adopting as to the Treaty itself.

Her Majesty's Government have as yet received no communication from the French Government of their intentions on the latter point, although there have been on more than one occasion allusions to it incidentally made to your Excellency; and Her Majesty's Government are not at present disposed to suggest to your Excellency to elicit by any direct inquiry an express declaration on the subject.

But I recommend the matter to your utmost attention, and you will not fail to report to me, without delay, whatever you may learn respecting it, taking care, however, not to commit Her Majesty's Government in any way as to the view they may take, or the course they may adopt in consequence of any communication that may be made by the French Government, having for its object, to introduce any modifications into the commercial relations between the two countries as established by the Treaty of 1860.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 4.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received June 21.)*

(Extract.)

*Versailles, June 20, 1871.*

IN the course of a conversation which I had with him last night, M. Thiers said that the immediate increase of the Customs revenue would be derived mainly from duties on raw materials, such as silk and wool. This would, he said, render it essential to make a corresponding increase of the duty on foreign goods manufactured from such raw materials; for it would of course be necessary to give to the French manufacturers compensation for the disadvantages to which they would be subjected, by a taxation of the raw material used by them. In order to arrange this he should address himself to the Powers with whom France had Commercial Treaties, and especially to Great Britain. It was not his wish to do away with the principles of the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty; much less had he the least desire to return to a system of prohibitive duties. If indeed Her Majesty's Government preferred abandoning the Treaty altogether, he should be willing to do so; because, in principle, he desired that France should resume complete freedom to regulate her Customs Tariff. His present intention, however, was, he said in conclusion, simply to propose to Her Majesty's Government to agree to a moderate increase of duty on certain specified Articles in the Treaty Tariff.

## No. 5.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received June 24.)*

(Extract.)

*Versailles, June 22, 1871.*

M. THIERS said to me last night that he hoped that the speech respecting the loan which he had made in the Assembly the day before had placed the financial situation of the country in a clear light, and had shown that there was an absolute necessity for increasing the Customs duties. He added that, for his own part, he should be very willing that all Commercial Treaties should be put an end to, in order that France might not be hampered by any engagements with foreign Powers in regulating her commercial system. It was not, however, his intention to propose the abrogation of the Anglo-French Treaty; he should merely ask for a modification of the Treaty Tariff. Such a modification would, he said with some emphasis, be indispensable.



## No. 6.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received June 27.)*

My Lord,

Paris, June 26, 1871.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copies of the Bill brought in by the Government for augmenting taxation, and of the "Exposé des Motifs" by which it is accompanied. These documents have appeared in an unofficial newspaper. I have marked the passages relative to the Customs and Navigation dues.

Your Lordship will see that the proposed increase of duties falls in particular upon sugar, coffee, raw materials, and foreign manufactures, while drawbacks on French goods exported form a part of the plan.

The Government proposes, moreover, to levy a tax upon all vessels arriving from abroad, whether French or foreign, and to impose an extra tax on indirect importation by foreign vessels.

With respect to raw textile materials (cotton, wool, silk, linen, &c.) it is stated in the "Exposé des Motifs" that the new duties cannot be levied until negotiations shall enable the Government to impose on foreign manufactures duties equivalent to the new taxes which will fall upon native manufactures.

Export duties are proposed upon wine, butter, eggs, fruit, &c.

The following new taxes, among other, seem likely to affect foreigners:—

Succession duties on foreign securities belonging to the estates of Frenchmen or foreigners domiciled in France.

Tax on fire and marine insurances effected abroad upon property in France.

Increase of rates on postage.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

## Inclosure in No. 6.

*Extracts from the Bill brought in by the French Government for augmenting Taxation, and from the "Exposé des Motifs" by which it was accompanied.*

[The passages relating to Customs and Navigation Dues only are printed.]

*Extraits de "l'Exposé des Motifs."*

QUELQUE étendues que soient les exigences de la situation actuelle, comme elles ne sont pas de nature à peser sur nos finances d'une manière permanente et normale, il nous a semblé que le meilleur moyen d'y pourvoir était de s'adresser à l'impôt indirect dont la charge pourra être atténuée par de simples modifications de tarifs au fur et à mesure de la diminution de nos besoins. Or, dans cet ordre de produits il n'en est pas de plus élastique, de plus facile à relever, de plus universellement accepté que le revenu des douanes. C'est toujours à cet impôt que les Anglais et les Américains du Nord, ces deux peuples pratiques par excellence, ont réclamé les moyens de pourvoir à des charges exceptionnelles; aujourd'hui encore il rapporte 600 millions à la Grande Bretagne, 750 millions à l'Union Américaine, tandis qu'on l'a réduit en France à 150 millions, y compris même la quote-part provenant du droit de consommation sur les sels de nos marais. Les nécessités du moment, les intérêts compromis de certaines industries nous imposaient le devoir de réviser nos tarifs.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Douanes.*

Dans la catégorie des impôts perçus par l'Administration des Douanes, les augmentations de droits ont paru devoir porter principalement sur les sucres, sur les cafés, et sur les matières brutes dites matières premières. On demanderait un complément de ressources aux taxes de sortie et de navigation.

*Sucres.*—L'impôt des sucres, de 54 francs par 100 kilogrammes avant 1860, ramené alors à 30 francs, reporté à 43 francs en moyenne en 1862, représente environ 70 pour cent de la valeur courante du produit et rapporte à peu près 110 millions. Dans d'autres circonstances, et en raison surtout des intérêts agricoles qui se rattachent à l'industrie sucrière, on aurait pu incliner vers une réduction plutôt que du côté d'une augmentation. Mais nous sommes en face de nécessités trop impérieuses pour qu'elles ne dominent pas de

B 2



beaucoup l'inconvénient qu'il pourra y avoir à payer la livre de sucre quelques centimes de plus qu'avant la guerre. L'expérience a, d'ailleurs, révélé un fait bien digne de remarque : le prix du sucre en entrepôt a souvent présenté des fluctuations considérables sans que la consommation ait cessé de suivre sa marche régulière. Le Gouvernement croit donc devoir proposer d'augmenter la taxe actuelle de trois décimes.

*Cafés.*—De 1816 à 1859 la taxe des cafés était demeurée fixée au taux moyen de 100 francs. Sous l'empire de ce droit la consommation s'était développée sans interruption d'année en année. La dernière période décennale (1850 à 1859) offrait une augmentation de 6 pour cent. En 1860 l'impôt a été réduit de 50 pour cent. Malgré cette diminution considérable, l'accroissement n'a guère dépassée ses proportions antérieures. On a été ainsi amené à penser, au moment de la déclaration de guerre, que l'on pouvait, sans ralentir l'essor de la consommation, revenir au droit de 100 francs. Tel a été l'objet de l'Article 7 de la Loi de Finances du 27 Juillet, 1870. Convient-il aujourd'hui d'aller plus loin ? Sans doute l'impôt actuel est déjà élevé, car les deux sortes de café les plus employés en France, l'Haïti et le Brésil lavé, ne valent en moyenne que 145 et 170 francs. Mais il s'agit d'une denrée dont on use généralement par fort petites quantités, et qui, pour la plus grande part, se consomme dans des établissements publics où le prix de vente, quel que soit le droit, demeure toujours invariable. En présence de nos nécessités financières, une augmentation de 50 francs par quintal métrique semblerait suffisamment justifiée. Elle porterait le droit à 150 francs, et pourrait fournir au budget un appoint considérable.

*Matières brutes.*—Toutes les matières brutes qui étaient admises en franchise depuis 1860 ont paru devoir être tarifées à 20 pour cent de leur valeur, de manière à augmenter d'environ 100 millions les ressources du Trésor.

On ne voit pas, en effet, pour quel motif ces sortes de produits seraient privilégiés, puisque, matières premières pour le vendeur, ils constituent toujours, vis-à-vis de l'acheteur, des produits achevés. La distinction, à la faveur de laquelle ils ont été jusqu'ici ménagés par la Loi de l'Impôt, repose donc sur des raisons qui n'ont rien de décisif.

*Textiles.*—Il est surtout peu équitable d'affranchir de la taxe les textiles destinés au vêtement et à l'ameublement, et nous n'hésitons pas à vous proposer de frapper un droit de 20 pour cent sur ces matières, persuadés que le consommateur en supportera la charge avec la plus grande facilité.

Les statistiques révèlent, en effet, que la fabrique du coton en France livre chaque année à la consommation du pays :—

- De 900 millions à 1 milliard de produits ;
- Celle de la laine de 500 à 600 millions ;
- Celle de la soie de 200 à 300 millions ;
- Celle du lin, du jute et du chanvre de 300 à 400 millions.

Soit en tout 2 milliards et demi environ, prix de fabrique, ce qui représente au moins 3 milliards pour les consommateurs en raison des bénéfices prélevés par les intermédiaires.

L'ensemble des droits qu'il s'agit de faire supporter à la consommation du pays n'étant que de 70 millions, leur proportion par rapport au prix de vente n'est que 2½ pour cent.

Ils n'atteindront dès lors que d'une manière imperceptible les contribuables peu aisés, dont la dépense en linge et en vêtements est généralement minime.

En effet, pour une famille d'ouvriers composée de cinq personnes, cette dépense n'est guère que de 50 fr. par an, ce qui ne donne lieu, d'après le tarif proposé, qu'à un impôt total de 1 fr. 25 c., soit par tête un surcroît de charge de 25 c. seulement.

Cet impôt ne serait même que de 19 c. par tête si l'on admettait que, comme en Angleterre, la consommation, en tissus, des personnes appartenant aux classes ouvrières ne dépasse pas 6 schellings, c'est-à-dire, 7 fr. 50 c. par tête et par an.

Les contribuables qui supporteront de beaucoup la plus large part de l'impôt nouveau seront précisément ceux auxquels leurs moyens de fortune permettent de faire ce sacrifice à l'intérêt général ; ce seront les personnes riches habituées au confortable de la vie, et qui, pour les besoins divers de leur ameublement, consomment toutes sortes de tissus, rideaux, tentures, tapis, linge de table, &c.

L'impôt sur les textiles n'est donc pas seulement un impôt équitable en lui-même, c'est encore un impôt particulièrement recommandable par la facilité avec laquelle il se proportionnera plus exactement que tout autre à la fortune des contribuables.

Quant à sa perception, elle devra nécessairement être différée jusqu'à ce que des négociations nous aient permis d'établir sur les produits étrangers des surtaxes équivalentes à la somme des droits nouveaux qui grèveront nos produits manufacturés.

*Drawbacks.*—Mais comme nous devons éviter attentivement de porter atteinte à nos affaires d'exportation, la tarification des matières brutes exigerait l'adoption de drawbacks à



la sortie. Si une certaine impopularité s'est attachée en France à ce mécanisme, c'est qu'on l'a souvent faussé. En bonne règle le drawback ne doit être que la restitution pure et simple, à la sortie d'un produit, des taxes payées à l'entrée par la matière brute employée à le fabriquer. En fait, on avait greffé sur le drawback une véritable prime, c'est-à-dire, qu'on avait calculé les allocations de manière à faire restituer par le Trésor beaucoup plus qu'il n'avait perçu. Dans de semblables conditions le drawback constituait un abus. Dans son fonctionnement normal il est absolument inattaquable, car il n'est pas rationnel de demander l'impôt des Douanes à une marchandise étrangère qui ne pénètre sur notre territoire que pour en ressortir après avoir alimenté le travail Français. On peut ajouter que le drawback fonctionne déjà aujourd'hui, sous la forme de l'importation temporaire, à l'égard d'un grand nombre de produits.

*Droits de Sortie.*—En matière de droits de sortie, les pratiques de l'Administration Française ont varié. A l'origine nous interdisions l'exportation ou nous la limitions par des taxes élevées, afin de conserver sur notre marché les objets nécessaires à la consommation. Quand le commerce international eut commencé à se développer, ce fut encore à l'exportation principalement qu'on demanda le revenu des Douanes. Le régime qui prévalait alors découlait d'une idée fort simple. Tout droit de Douane augmente le prix de la marchandise; on en frappait le produit Français destiné à être payé par l'étranger plutôt que le produit exotique acheté par les nationaux. Plus tard on fut conduit à la formule inverse: Comme on voulait, avant tout, favoriser l'exportation on réduisit peu à peu et l'on finit par supprimer complètement les taxes de sortie. N'a-t-on point dépassé le but? Nous inclinons à le croire. L'un des plus fermes défenseurs de la liberté commerciale écrivait lui-même, il y a quelques années:—“Une nation chez laquelle tout abonde devrait, pour tirer parti de sa position, non pas prohiber les produits étrangers, mais mettre un droit de sortie sur les siens, comme fait le Pérou pour le guano.” Evidemment, il ne faudrait pas aller trop loin dans l'application d'une telle doctrine; ce serait aujourd'hui d'autant moins opportun que nous n'avons pas cessé, depuis longtemps, d'insister auprès des Puissances étrangères pour les amener à réduire les droits d'entrée sur nos produits. Mais des taxes modérées, établies sous la pression d'impérieuses exigences budgétaires, peuvent, sans entraver la production ou le commerce de la France, se concilier avec nos précédents.

C'est ainsi que nous vous demandons d'établir à la sortie de légers droits sur un certain nombre de produits; sur les vins, les beurres, les œufs, les fruits, &c. Nous avons la confiance que sans entraver l'exportation, nous obtiendrons, par ce moyen, environ 15 millions de francs.

*Droits de Navigation.*—Dans la plupart des pays étrangers, la navigation internationale est soumise à des redevances destinés à rembourser les frais que s'imposent les Etats pour la création, l'entretien, ou l'agrandissement des ports. Aux termes de la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866, une exemption absolue existe à cet égard en France. Dans les circonstances difficiles que nous traversons, une franchise aussi complète se justifierait peu. Le Gouvernement propose donc de frapper du droit de 1 fr. par tonneau les navires de tous pavillons, Français ou autres, arrivant de l'étranger, et d'appliquer également une surtaxe modérée à l'importation indirecte par navires étrangers.

En résumé, déduction faite des drawbacks, ces différentes dispositions donneraient comme résultat financier:—

						Francs.
Sur les sucres, une augmentation de	..	..	..	..	..	33,000,000
Sur les cafés	..	..	..	..	..	20,000,000
Sur les matières brutes	..	..	..	..	..	180,000,000
Sur les fabrications étrangères	..	..	..	..	..	10,000,000
Sur les droits de sortie	..	..	..	..	..	15,000,000
Sur les droits de navigation	..	..	..	..	..	5,000,000
Total	..	..	..	..	..	263,000,000

#### Extrait du “Projet de Loi.”

#### Douanes.

Art. 19. Le Tarif des Douanes, à l'importation, est modifié conformément au Tableau A annexé à la présente Loi.

Les droits *ad valorem* inscrits à ce tableau pourront être convertis en taxes spécifiques



correspondantes en vertu d'Arrêtés du Chef du Pouvoir Exécutif, rendus après avis du Comité Consultatif des Arts et Manufactures.

Art. 20. Des drawbacks pourront être accordés à la sortie des produits fabriqués avec les matières atteintes par ces droits. Le taux en sera fixé par des Arrêtés du Chef du Pouvoir Exécutif rendus après avis du Comité Consultatif des Arts et Manufactures. N'auront droit au drawback que les quantités donnant ouverture à une allocation de 50 fr. au moins par expédition.

Art. 21. Les produits étrangers similaires de ceux qui profiteront des drawbacks seront frappés de surtaxes correspondantes à ces drawbacks et déterminées aussi par Arrêtés du Chef du Pouvoir Exécutif.

Art. 22. Les droits actuellement perçus sur les sucres de toute espèce et de toute origine sont augmentés de trois dixièmes.

Les sucres extraits, par les procédés barytiques, des mélasses dites épuisées sont assujettis à un droit de 25 fr. par 100 kilogrammes, décimes compris.

Le droit sur les glucoses à l'état de sirop et à l'état concret est élevé, en principal, à 10 fr. les 100 kilogrammes, décimes compris.

Art. 23. Il sera perçu à l'exportation pour remboursement des frais de port, de surveillance, et de vérification, des taxes calculées conformément au Tableau B annexé à la présente Loi.

Art. 24. Les navires de tous pavillons venant de l'étranger ou des colonies dans un port de France, chargé en totalité ou en partie, acquitteront, pour frais de quai, une taxe calculée à raison de 1 fr. par tonneau de jauge.

Art. 25. Des Arrêtés du Chef du Pouvoir Exécutif détermineront les marchandises auxquelles des surtaxes d'entrepôt ou de pavillon devront être appliqués, ainsi que la quotité de ces surtaxes.

Les dispositions contraires de la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866, sont rapportées.

(Translation.)

*Extracts from the "Exposé des Motifs."*

HOWEVER imperative the necessities of the present situation may be, as they are not of a nature which would weigh on our finances in a permanent and normal manner, it appeared to us that the best mode of meeting them would be to resort to the indirect duty, the burden of which might be diminished by simple modifications of the Tariffs in proportion to the decrease of our wants.

Moreover, in this class of products nothing is more elastic, nothing easier to augment, or more universally accepted than the Customs Revenue.

It has always been out of this duty that the English and the North Americans (these two most practical people) have found a way of providing for exceptional charges. At the present time it brings in 600 millions to Great Britain, 750 millions to the American Union, whilst it has been reduced to 150 millions in France, including even the amount proceeding from the excise duty on the manufacture of native salt.

The necessities of the time, the interests of certain industries which are at stake, made it our duty to revise the Tariffs.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Customs.*

In the category of duties levied by the Administration of Customs, the augmentations of duties appear to weigh principally on sugar, on coffee, and on raw materials, called first materials. Export and navigation duties would supply the rest of the revenue.

*Sugar.*—The duties on Sugar, of 54 fr. per 100 kilos. prior to 1860, reduced later on to 34 fr., raised to an average of 43 fr. in 1862, represents about 70 per cent. of the current value of the product and brings in about 110 millions. In other circumstances, and moreover, in consideration of the agricultural interests which are connected with the sugar interests, one would have looked rather for a reduction than an augmentation. But we have to face necessities so imperious as to out-balance the inconvenience which would arise from the payment of a few centimes more per pound for sugar than we did before the war. Experience has, moreover, revealed to us a fact well worthy of notice—the price of sugar in bond has frequently fluctuated considerably without creating any disturbance in the regular course of consumption. The Government think it right to propose, therefore, an augmentation of the actual tax by 3 décimes.

*Coffee.*—From 1816 until 1859 the tax on coffee was permanently fixed at the average



rate of 100 francs. While this duty was in force, the consumption increased year by year without interruption. The last decennial period (1850 to 1859) showed an increase of 6 per cent. In 1860 the duty was reduced to 50 per cent. Notwithstanding this considerable decrease the augmentation never exceeded its former limits. One was also led to suppose, at the moment of the declaration of war, that it would be possible to return to the duty of 100 francs without checking the increase of consumption. Such was the object of Article 7 of the "Loi des Finances" of July 27, 1870.

Is it expedient to proceed further now? Doubtless the actual duty has risen, for the two kinds of coffee most used in France, the Haytian and the Brazilian, have not an average value of more than from 145 to 170 francs.

But the provisions generally used in small quantities must now be considered; provisions which for the greater part are consumed in public establishments where the price, whatever may be the duty, always remains the same.

In the presence of our financial wants, an augmentation, of 50 fr. per metrical quintal would seem sufficiently justified. It would bring the duty to 150 fr., and would add to the budget a considerable sum of money.

*Raw Materials.*—All raw materials admitted free of duty since 1860 should be subjected to a tariff at 20 per cent. of their value, in order to increase the resources of the exchequer by about 100 millions.

It is not clear, in fact, why these kinds of products should be privileged, since what are raw materials for the vendor are always, as regards the buyer, manufactured goods.

The distinction which the Customs law has made in their favour rests on grounds which do not appear conclusive.

*Textiles.*—It is, moreover, hardly just to free textiles destined for clothing and furniture from taxation, and we do not hesitate to propose to you to fix a duty of 20 per cent. on these materials, being persuaded that the consumer will easily bear the charge.

The statistics show, in fact, that the fabrication of cotton in France yields to the country each year—

From 900 millions to 1 milliard of products;

That of wool from 500 to 600 millions;

That of silk from 200 to 300 millions;

That of flax, jute, and hemp, from 300 to 400 millions;

Making in all about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  millions price of manufacture, which represents at least 3 milliards for the consumer, allowing for the profits made by the middle men.

The aggregate of the duties to be borne by the consumers being but 70 millions, the proportion they pay in comparison with the retail price is only at the rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

They will thenceforward affect only in an imperceptible manner the needy taxpayers, whose expenditure in linen and clothing is very small.

In fact, for a family of artisans composed of five persons, this expenditure is but 50 fr. a-year, which, according to the tariff proposed, makes a duty only of 1 fr. 25 c. in all, that is, a surplus charge of only 25 c. per head.

This duty would not even amount to 19 c. per head supposing that the consumption, as in England, of tissue fabrics by persons belonging to the working classes did not exceed 6s., that is to say, 7 fr. 50 c. per head per annum.

The taxpayers who will bear the far greater portion of the new tax, are precisely those whose fortunes enable them to make this sacrifice for the general interest: they are those rich persons who are accustomed to a comfortable life, and who, for the requisites of their furniture, use all sorts of tissues, curtains, hangings, carpets, table-linen, &c.

The duty on textiles is not merely an equitable duty in itself, but it is also a duty particularly to be recommended on account of the facility with which it adapts itself more equally than any other to the means of the taxpayers.

With regard to its levying, it must necessarily be delayed until the negotiations enable us to impose additional taxes on foreign products equivalent to the amount of the new duties which will press on our manufacturing products.

*Drawbacks.*—But since we must carefully avoid striking a blow at our export trade, the taxation on raw materials would necessitate the adoption of drawbacks on exports. If this system has been unpopular in France, it is because it has been so frequently broken through.

The drawback ought properly only to be a pure and simple repayment at the exportation of a product of the duties paid at its importation by the raw material used in its manufacture. In fact, they had affixed a real premium to the drawback, that is to say, they had calculated the allowances in such a manner that the Treasury repaid a much greater sum than it had received. Under such circumstances the drawback was an abuse. In its normal application it is perfectly unassailable, for it is not rational to require a



Customs duty on a foreign product which is only imported into our territory for the purpose of being exported after having contributed to French industry. It may be added that the drawback is in force already at the present time, on provisional importation, with respect to a great quantity of products.

*Export Duties.*—As regards the export duties, the practice of the French Administration has varied. Originally, we prohibited exportation, or we restricted it by means of high taxes, in order to keep the articles necessary for our consumption in our market. When international commerce had begun to be developed, it was chiefly on exports that the Customs revenue was looked for. The system which was then in use originated from a most simple idea. Every Customs duty increases the price of goods; it fell on French products which would be paid for by the foreigner, rather than on foreign products bought by the native consumer.

Afterwards, the opposite system was adopted, as it was desired, before all, to favour exportation. The export duties were reduced little by little, until they were finally completely abolished. Have we not gone beyond the mark? We are inclined to think we have. One of the strongest supporters of commercial liberty wrote some years ago:—"A nation, which has everything in abundance, in order to take advantage of her position, should not prevent the importation of foreign products, but put an export duty on her own, as Peru does with regard to guano." The application of this doctrine must naturally not be carried too far; it would be the more inopportune at the present moment as we have not ceased for some time past to urge on foreign Powers a reduction of the import duties on our products. But moderate duties imposed under pressure of imperious financial necessities, can, without fettering the productive power or commerce of France, be reconciled with precedent.

Thus, we request you to place a small export duty on a certain number of products: on wines, butter, eggs, fruits, &c. We are confident that, without fettering the exportation, we should obtain, by these means, about 15 millions of francs.

*Navigation Dues.*—In most foreign countries, international navigation is subject to certain contributions destined to repay the expenses to which the State is put, for the creation, maintenance, or improvement of the ports. By the terms of the Law of the 18th May, 1866, an entire exemption, as regards this, exists in France. Under the difficult circumstances in which we are placed, an immunity so complete as this can scarcely be justified. The Government proposes, therefore, to fix a duty of 1 fr. per ton. on vessels of every flag, French or otherwise, arriving from abroad, and equally to put an additional tax on indirect importations in foreign vessels.

To sum up, drawbacks being deducted, these different arrangements give the following financial result:—

							Francs.
On sugars, an increase of .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	33,000,000
On coffee .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,000,000
On raw materials .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	180,000,000
On foreign manufactures .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,000,000
On export duties .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,000,000
On navigation dues .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,000,000
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	263,000,000

#### Extract from the Bill.

##### Customs.

Art. 19. The Customs Tariff, on importations, is modified in conformity with Table A annexed to the present Law.

The duties *ad valorem* inserted in this Table will be convertible into specific corresponding taxes, issued by order of the chief of the Executive Power, with the consent of the Consulting Committee of Arts and Manufactures.

Art. 20. Drawbacks may be granted on the exportation of products made from materials subject to these duties. Their rate will be fixed by orders issuing from the Chief of the Executive Power, with the consent of the Consulting Committee of Arts and Manufactures. Only quantities which pay a duty of 50 fr. at least on re-exportation will have a right to the drawback.

Art 21. Foreign products similar to those which profit by drawbacks will be subjected



to differential duties corresponding to these drawbacks, and fixed in like manner by order of the Chief of the Executive Power.

Art. 22. The duties now levied on sugars of every kind and origin are increased by three-tenths.

Sugars extracted by barytic processes from molasses already used are subjected to a duty of 25 fr. per 100 kilos., décimes included.

The duty on glucous matters in a state of syrup and in a solid state, is raised to 10 fr. the 100 kilos., décimes included.

Art. 23. Taxes calculated in accordance with Table B annexed to the present Law, will be levied on exportation to repay the harbour, warehousing, and attendant expenses.

Art. 24. Ships of all nations coming from abroad or from colonies to a French port, freighted in whole or in part, will pay, as quay dues, a tax calculated at the rate of 1 fr. per ton.

Art. 25. Orders of the Chief of the Executive Power will specify the goods to which "surtaxes d'entrepôt ou de pavillon" will be applied, as well as the amount of these taxes.

The contrary provisions of the Law of 19th May, are revoked.

#### No. 7.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received June 29.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, June 28, 1871.*

IN my despatch of the day before yesterday, I transmitted to your Lordship a copy, which had just appeared in an unofficial newspaper, of the scheme for increasing taxation, submitted by the Government to the Committee of the Legislative Assembly.

In addition to the obvious results which the intended increase of import duties and imposition of export duties cannot fail to produce on foreign trade if the scheme be sanctioned by the Assembly, three other proposals contained in it have been pointed out to me as likely to exercise an unfavourable influence on British interests.

In the "Exposé des Motifs" it is stated that no change will be made with regard to coal and iron. It is, nevertheless, proposed to lay a duty of 1 franc per ton upon all ships, French or foreign, coming from abroad. It would seem that this duty would have the effect of giving a considerable advantage over sea-borne coal, not only to native French coal, but to that imported by land from other countries.

In the same document the intention is announced of putting an end to a practice which has prevailed on the French railways, of charging a lower rate of freight on goods passing through France *in transitu* to foreign countries than on goods in general. The practice has, I believe, been adopted, in order to enable the French railways to compete successfully for the transit freight with the railways of Belgium and other neighbouring countries. The cessation of it may be inconvenient and disadvantageous, in the case of British goods sent *in transitu* through France.

Lastly, it has been suggested to me that the benefits which have attended the reduction of the import duties on wine in England will be in some measure neutralized by the proposed imposition in France of an export duty on wine sent abroad.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

#### No. 8.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, July 1, 1871.*

THE Duc de Broglie, who called on me to-day, told me that in the changes about to be made there was no question of protection against free trade; that a largely increased revenue was required for the payment of the expenses of the war, and other absolutely necessary objects; and that the increase of Customs duties is merely for fiscal purposes.

Political economical questions may be, with many others, postponed for a time; that it is impossible to tax raw materials without taxing the finished manufactures; that the increase will turn on textile manufactures, and not on coal and iron.

There are two courses—the French may denounce the Treaty, taking as the time

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that which is fixed in the Treaty, which at the time that it expires will set them at liberty; or we may negotiate as to fresh terms at once.

I received the statement *ad referendum* to the Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 9.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received July 3.)*

(Extract.)

*Versailles, July 1, 1871.*

M. JULES FAVRE told me this afternoon that an official person, versed in financial and commercial matters, would probably be sent to London next week to negotiate with Her Majesty's Government on the subject of the alterations which the French Government desired to make in the Customs Tariff settled by the Commercial Treaty.

M. Jules Favre went on to say that it was not the intention of the French Government to propose any departure from the principle of the Treaty, or any considerable modification of its details; on the contrary, he affirmed that all they intended to ask was that they should be enabled to augment some of their Customs duties, in order to procure an addition to the revenue, which was indispensable under present circumstances.

In fact, the French proposal would, M. Jules Favre said, be that the duties on "textiles" should be raised. He did not conceive that Her Majesty's Government would make any difficulty in consenting to a change which would be of material benefit to France, under the present strain upon her finances. He added, that the duties on coal and iron, which were, he believed, the most important to British interests, would not be altered.

I simply answered that, undoubtedly, your Lordship and Her Majesty's Government in general were most sincerely anxious to be of use to France.

## No. 10.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received July 5.)*

My Lord,

*Versailles, July 4, 1871.*

M. THIERS told me last night that he had desired the Duc de Broglie to state to your Lordship, as he himself had done to me, the general views of the French Government with regard to the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty. He intended, he said, to send M. Ozenne to London to explain the details of the changes which would be proposed, and as soon as these details were settled he would, if I would allow him, himself undertake the office of communicating with me upon them.

M. Thiers went on to say that these changes would bear mainly, if not entirely, upon the duties on textile matters. An increase of these duties was, he observed, essential to the execution of the measures for augmenting the revenue which were imposed upon France by the disasters of the war. He felt confident that, viewed in this light, the proposals he was about to make could not give rise to any displeasure on the part of Her Majesty's Government. For his own part he was of opinion that the best course would be to allow the Treaty to subsist, and merely to make certain changes in the Tariff prescribed by it. If, however, Her Majesty's Government should prefer any other course, he should be ready to meet their wishes: only it must be remembered that the increase of duties which he contemplated was an absolute necessity for France.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.



## No. 11.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, July 5, 1871.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 1st instant, I have to request that you will ask the French Government to be so good as to furnish the Government of Her Majesty with a written statement of their proposals with respect to a modification of the Treaty of Commerce.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 12.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received July 8.)*

My Lord,

*Versailles, July 6, 1871.*

THIS afternoon, in obedience to the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of yesterday, I informed M. Jules Favre that I was instructed by your Lordship to ask the French Government to be so good as to furnish the Government of Her Majesty with a written statement of their proposals with respect to a modification of the Treaty of Commerce.

M. Jules Favre said that of course a written communication would be proper, and added that M. Ozenne, the Director of the Department of Foreign Trade in the Ministry of Commerce, would be sent to London as soon as the details were settled, and that then the precise alterations which the French Government thought necessary would be laid before Her Majesty's Government.

He went on to say that the progress of the Committee on the Budget made it probable that M. Ozenne might be dispatched in a few days. Some changes would, he observed, probably be made in the scheme originally presented by the Government to the Assembly; and, among other alterations, it would, perhaps, be found advisable to abandon the drawback upon the exportation of silk goods.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) LYONS.

## No. 13.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, July 17, 1871.*

M. DE BROGLIE called upon me this afternoon at the Foreign Office, and brought with him M. Ozenne, with whom I already had the pleasure of being acquainted.

M. Ozenne stated the necessities of French finance, and made some observations to the effect that whatever taxes were imposed they must have a restrictive effect on trade and commerce; that articles upon which increased Customs duties were to be levied would, in a slight degree only, affect our commerce.

He mentioned the articles upon which no increase was proposed, dwelling upon some. On my observing that the Customs duties were very high, he entered into some explanations as to the advantage the temporary admission of iron was to the British producer.

He then communicated to me a project for the revision of the Commercial Treaty with this country, of which the accompanying Memorandum contains the substance, and in answer to my observations that, as regards the imposition of tonnage duty, its effect would amount to a differential protection to French and to land-borne goods, he defended the imposition of this duty on the ground that it was one which was almost universally levied.

He denied that there would be any differential protection to French vessels in the indirect trade, and denied also any intention on the part of his Government to interfere with the reduced Tariffs on goods carried *in transitu* by French railways. He made no defence of the duties imposed upon the export of wines.

Having heard all that M. Ozenne had to say, I told him that I had at present no



instructions from the Cabinet, and that I declined entering into any politico-economical discussions on the subject; but I requested him to put in writing what he had said, and I promised to bring it before Mr. Gladstone and my colleagues without loss of time.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

### Inclosure in No. 13.

#### *Projet.*

#### (A.)

IL ne serait apporté aucune modification au régime actuel :—

1. Des fontes, fers, aciers, et de leurs dérivés à quelque degré de fabrication qu'ils soient.
2. Des houilles et cokes.
3. Des bâtiments de mer et des coques de bâtiments de mer en fer.
4. De la verrerie et de la cristallerie (sauf reprise du droit sur le plomb qui entre dans la fabrication des cristaux).
5. Des poteries.
6. Des produits chimiques à base de sel et de la plupart des autres (l'exception ne porterait que sur les produits chimiques dont la matière première devra être frappé d'un droit d'entrée), tels que la céruse, le blanc de zinc, les extraits de bois de teinture, &c.
7. Poisson d'eau douce et de mer frais, secs, salés, ou fumés, à l'exception de la morue.
8. Fromage de pâte dure.
9. Bière.

#### (B.)

Conformément aux dispositions de l'Article IX du Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, la charge résultant de l'impôt sur les matières premières serait reportée sur les produits fabriqués dont la nomenclature suit :—

#### 1. *Industries Textiles.*

Chanvre, brut et teillé .. .. 10 francs les 100 kilogrammes.  
Lin, brut et teillé .. .. 15 francs „ „

Ces droits représentent environ 10 pour cent du prix de la matière. Ils seraient reportés sur les fils et les tissus de lin et de chanvre proportionnellement à la surcharge qui résulterait de la perception de cet impôt. (Il n'y aurait pas de "drawback" à la sortie des fils et des tissus.)

Coton en laine .. .. 40 francs les 100 kilogrammes.

Ce droit représente 20 pour cent.

Report comme ci-dessus sur les fils et les tissus de la charge résultant de l'impôt. (Le "drawback" à la sortie des fils et tissus serait égal au droit supplémentaire.)

Laine en masse.

Le droit n'est pas encore déterminé d'une manière absolue. En tout cas le droit supplémentaire à établir en sus des taux actuelles à l'entrée en France serait proportionnel à la charge résultant de l'impôt.

Soies en cocons, grégés, ou moulinées .. .. 5 pour cent.

Pas de "drawback" à la sortie. Etablissement d'un droit de 2½ à 3 pour cent sur les soieries importées en France.

#### 2. *Industries Secondaires. (Droits à déterminer.)*

Fleurs artificielles.  
Objets de mode.  
Mercerie de toute sorte.  
Boutons autres que de passementerie.  
Instruments de musique.  
Cire à cacheter.  
Encre à écrire.

#### (C.)

Rectifications de Tarif conformément aux résultats de l'enquête Parlementaire faite en 1869 et 1870, par le Corps Législatif :—

Fils de coton, du No. 60 à 100, 3 pour cent.

„ du No. 101 à la fin de l'échelle actuelle, 5 pour cent.

Tissus de coton taxés à 10 pour cent, tels que mousseline, tulles, brillantés, &c., 5 pour cent en sus des droits actuels.

Fils de laine cardée, ramener au No. 5 le point de départ actuellement fixé au No. 10.

Tissus de laine mélangés de coton, 5 à 8 pour cent d'augmentation.

Fils de lin et de chanvre, même augmentation que pour les fils de coton.

Tissus de lin et de chanvre, pour l'application des divers droits, compter le fil de trame comme le fil de chaîne dans l'espace compris dans un carré de 5 millimètres.

Linge damassé, porter à 15 pour cent le droit qui a été réduit à 10 pour cent par le Traité avec l'Autriche. La Convention du 16 Novembre, 1860, avec l'Angleterre avait admis le droit de 16 pour cent.



(D.)

*Droit de Tonnage.*—Ce droit, qui existe dans tous les pays d'Europe, même en Angleterre, sauf en France, devait être rétabli sur les navires Français, aussi bien que sur les navires étrangers. Les conditions de la concurrence resteraient les mêmes qu'aujourd'hui au point de vue des relations maritimes.

(E.)

Les surtaxes de pavillon telles qu'elles figurent au projet de Loi présenté par le Ministre des Finances ne sont pas une protection pour le navire Français contre la navigation étrangère, c'est une protection contre les entrepôts. Ainsi le pavillon Anglais peut charger au Brésil des cafés aux mêmes conditions que les navires Français pour les importer en France. Le pavillon Anglais venant des ports Anglais avec des cafés chargés dans les entrepôts de Londres ou de Liverpool ne sera pas dans des conditions plus défavorables que les navires Français venant des mêmes entrepôts. En d'autres termes les navires étrangers et les navires Français seront traités sur le même pied quand ils font les mêmes opérations.

(Translation.)

*Project.*

(A.)

NO modification will be introduced into the existing Tariff:—

1. For cast-iron, iron, steel, and their derivatives, in whatever state of manufacture they may be.
2. For coals or coke.
3. For vessels and hulks of vessels in iron.
4. For glass or crystal wares (without prejudice to the duty on lead which enters into the fabrication of crystals).
5. For pottery wares.
6. For chemical products derived from salt and most others (except only those of which the raw material is taxed on importation, such as white lead, white of zinc, extracts of dyeing wood, &c.)
7. Freshwater and sea fish, if fresh, dry, salted, or smoked, with the exception of cod.
8. Hard cheese.
9. Beer.

(B.)

In conformity with the provisions of Article IX of the Treaty of January 23, 1860, a corresponding duty to that placed on raw materials will be imposed on manufactured articles:—

#### 1. *Textile Industries.*

Hemp, raw and hackled	.. .. .	10 francs the 100 kilogrammes.
Flax, raw and hackled	.. .. .	15 francs .. .. .

These duties represent about 10 per cent. of the price of the material. They will be levied upon threads and linen and hempen tissue proportionately to the surcharge which will result from the imposition of this tax. (There will be no drawback upon the export of flax and tissues.)

Cotton wool	.. .. .	40 francs the 100 kilogrammes.
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This duty represents 20 per cent.

The equivalent of the amount resulting from the tax to be levied as above upon threads and tissues. (The drawback on the export of threads and tissues will be equal to the supplementary duty.)

Wool in quantities.

The duty has not yet been absolutely fixed. In any case, the supplementary duty to be established over and above the actual rate upon imports into France will be equal to the charge resulting from the tax.

Silks in cocoons, raw, or milled.

No drawback upon export. Establishment of a duty of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 per cent. upon silk goods imported into France.

#### 2. *Secondary Industries. (Duties not fixed.)*

Artificial flowers.  
Articles of fashion.  
Mercery of every sort.  
Buttons other than for haberdashery.  
Musical instruments.  
Sealing wax.  
Writing ink.



## (C.)

Tariff rectifications, conformably to the results of the Parliamentary Inquiry made in 1869 and 1870 by the Legislative Body :—

- Cotton threads, from No. 60 to 100, 3 per cent.
- „ from No. 101 to the end of the present scale, 5 per cent.
- Cotton tissues taxed at 10 per cent., such as muslins, tulles, brilliants, &c., 5 per cent. above the actual duties.
- Woollen thread, carded: the point of departure at present fixed at No. 10 to be brought back to No. 5.
- Woollen tissues mixed with cotton, 5 to 8 per cent. of augmentation.
- Flaxen and hempen threads, same augmentation as for cotton threads.
- Flaxen and hempen tissues: for the application of the various duties, the thread in warp to be counted like the thread in weft, within the space included in a square of 5 millimetres.
- Damasked linen: the duty, which had been reduced to 10 per cent by the Treaty with Austria, to be raised to 15 per cent. The Convention of the 16th November, 1860, with England had admitted the duty of 16 per cent.

## (D.)

*Tonnage Duty.*—This duty, which exists in all the countries of Europe, even in England, except in France, will be re-established upon French as well as upon foreign vessels. The conditions of competition will remain the same as at present as regards shipping matters.

## (E.)

The differential duties, such as they appear in the project of Law, presented by the Minister of Finance, are not a protection to French shipping against foreign shipping, but a protection against the entrepôts. Thus, the English flag is able to ship at Brazil coffees for importation into France upon the same conditions as French vessels. The English flag, coming from English ports with coffees shipped from the entrepôts of London or Liverpool will not be placed in a less favourable position than French vessels coming from the same entrepôts. In other words, foreign and French vessels will be treated on the same footing when they carry on the same undertakings.

## No. 14.

*The Duc de Broglie to Earl Granville.*—(Received July 19.)

*Londres, le 18 Juillet, 1871.*

L'AMBASSADEUR de France présente ses compliments empressés à son Excellence M. le Comte Granville, et a l'honneur de lui envoyer ci-joint :—

1. Une rectification à la note relative au Traité de Commerce remise le 17 ;
2. Un relevé des dates d'expiration des divers Traités de Commerce conclus par la France depuis 1860.

(Translation.)

*London, July 18, 1871.*

THE French Ambassador presents his respectful compliments to his Excellency the Earl Granville, and has the honour to forward to him herewith :—

1. A rectification of the note relative to the Treaty of Commerce transmitted on the 17th.
2. A summary of the dates of expiration of the various Commercial Treaties concluded by France since 1860.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

*Erratum in the Note left at the Foreign Office by the Duc de Broglie.*

*Sub littera (A).*

Article 4. Cet Article doit être rétabli ainsi que suit :—  
 “ De la verrerie et de la cristallerie (sauf reprise du droit sur le plomb qui entre dans la fabrication des cristaux).”



(Translation.)

*Sub littera (A).*

Article 4. This Article ought to run as follows:—

“Of glass and crystal ware (without prejudice to the duty on lead which enters into the fabrication of crystals).”

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

*Statement of the Dates of Expiration of Treaties of Commerce concluded by France since 1860.*

1. Angleterre	..	..	..	4 Février, 1870
2. Belgique	..	..	..	1 Mai, 1871
3. Italie ..	..	..	..	17 Janvier, 1875
4. Suisse	..	..	..	1 Juillet, 1875
5. Zollverein	..	..	..	1 Juillet, 1875
6. Pays-Bas	..	..	..	1 Juillet, 1875
7. Suède et Norvège	..	..	..	14 Février, 1877
8. Autriche	..	..	..	1 Janvier, 1877
9. Portugal	..	..	..	11 Juillet, 1878
10. Etats Pontificaux	..	..	..	20 Juillet, 1877

(Translation.)

1. England	..	..	..	4th February, 1870.
2. Belgium	..	..	..	1st May, 1870.
3. Italy	..	..	..	17th January, 1875.
4. Switzerland	..	..	..	1st July, 1875.
5. Zollverein	..	..	..	1st July, 1875.
6. Netherlands	..	..	..	1st July, 1875.
7. Sweden and Norway	..	..	..	14th February, 1877.
8. Austria	..	..	..	1st January, 1877.
9. Portugal	..	..	..	11th July, 1878.
10. Pontifical States	..	..	..	20th July, 1877.

No. 15.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received July 22.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, July 21, 1871.*

M. THIERS having invited me to call upon him yesterday at Versailles, was so good as to explain to me at some length his views and intentions with regard to the Commercial Treaty between France and England.

There was, he said, an absolute necessity for introducing some modifications; but, in his opinion, the Treaty itself should be preserved. To do away with it altogether would, he thought, throw the commercial relations of the two countries back into chaos, and give rise to many embarrassing questions. It would, moreover, excite public opinion on both sides of the Channel, and interfere with the promotion of good-feeling between the French and English peoples.

In considering, therefore, the necessity which the disasters of France had imposed upon her, M. Thiers had endeavoured rather to render the maintenance of the Treaty possible, than to bring it to an end. The Treaty itself provided that the two Contracting Parties might, by common consent, introduce into it such modifications as experience might show to be desirable. He had endeavoured to act in the spirit of this Article. He had considered the interests of both countries, and had confined himself to proposing such changes only as the lapse of time and the progress of events had rendered essential.

There were two points of view from which the question must be regarded—“Protection” and “Revenue.”

As regarded “Protection” it was, he thought, impossible to deny that experience



had shown that the calculations on which some of the duties in the Treaty Tariff were based had been made, or admitted, carelessly by the French negotiators; and had exposed French manufacturers to a competition with which it was impossible they could contend. This had been especially the case with the articles which in France were produced principally at Roubaix, and in England, he believed, at Bradford. It had certainly been one of his objects to restore to French industry such an amount of protection as was essential to its existence; but the increase of duties which he proposed was extremely moderate, and would, indeed, he affirmed, in many instances do no more than bring them in practice to the standard already established by the Treaty. It would simply serve to guard against the frauds which had been perpetrated by various means, and especially by false declarations.

M. Thiers proceeded to state the details of the increase of duties which he proposed. These details have been already submitted to your Lordship by M. Ozenne; and I should despair of being able to repeat M. Thiers's statement so exactly as to give an idea of the grace and lucidity which made these dry and complicated matters, when treated by him, clear and interesting. Having gone through them in his own admirable manner, he said that he would not ask me to commit myself to an opinion, but that he was sure I must perceive that the increase was very moderate, and that the interests of England would not seriously suffer by the changes which he proposed.

M. Thiers went on to say that he had thought it right to let me see that, to a certain extent, protection had entered into his calculations, but, he added, that protection was in truth a very small part of the question. It was the overpowering necessity of providing the means of meeting the enormous charges which the war and its disastrous consequences had thrown upon France that was the real cause of his proposal to modify the Commercial Treaties. He was obliged to have recourse to every feasible means of balancing the revenue and the expenditure.

After making every possible reduction in the expenditure there was still an immense deficit to be provided for, and the means must be sought in all directions, and after having proposed augmentations of the internal imposts, he was obliged to have recourse to Customs duties, and to call upon the foreign Powers with whom France had Commercial Treaties to give him their co-operation.

He had addressed himself to England first, as being the country whose trade was most important, and whose example would have the greatest effect upon other nations. His intention was, of course, that all countries should be placed on a footing of perfect equality; he asked no concessions from England which should not be equally obtained from other Treaty Powers. He would positively assure me that his intention was, that no Power should be placed in a more advantageous position than England.

M. Thiers concluded by asking me whether I thought he might count upon the co-operation of Her Majesty's Government.

I said that I could answer for Her Majesty's Government taking his proposals into consideration immediately, and in the most friendly spirit; but that, of course, I could not give any further opinion until I should receive instructions from your Lordship, after the question had been considered in the Cabinet.

I observed to M. Thiers that France had numerous Treaties of Commerce, some of which, I thought, did not expire for seven or eight years; and I asked him whether he had been in communication with other Powers, and had reason to believe that no one of them would insist upon maintaining the privileges obtained by its Treaty to the extreme limit of time stipulated.

M. Thiers said that he had hitherto made only a general communication to the other Powers of his desire to modify the Tariff—a communication, in short, similar to those he had made to us before dispatching M. Ozenne to London. He had preferred coming first to an understanding with England. He had great confidence in our friendship; England was the nation which had the largest interests at stake, and she was, moreover, a great and entirely independent Power, which could not be suspected of having yielded to pressure. It was not to be supposed that Belgium or Switzerland would reject terms to which England had consented. It was to be remembered, too, that the other Treaties contained a clause similar to the IXth Article of the English Treaty, and that, consequently, France could establish at once Customs duties to counterbalance internal duties. At all events, M. Thiers said he authorized me to state to your Lordship, from him, that he considered himself bound to secure to England all the advantages which should be retained by any Power.

It is to be presumed, therefore, that M. Thiers would be willing to make a formal written stipulation to this effect, if Her Majesty's Government should consent to an arrangement modifying the Treaty.



*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, July 29, 1871.*

THE Duc de Broglie called on me to ask whether Her Majesty's Government wished to keep M. Ozenne, who was anxious to return to the work of his Department, any longer in London. On my saying that I saw no objection to M. Ozenne's departure, his Excellency observed that he was himself against a step which might be interpreted as a rupture, and might tend to encourage us to delay negotiations.

M. Thiers, the Duke continued, was desirous of knowing whether we agreed to negotiate on the principles communicated to us by him, and the first question he would put to M. Ozenne on his return would be to that effect.

I repeated to M. de Broglie that we had no wish for unnecessary delay; that Sir Louis Mallet had been put into communication with M. Ozenne, in the hope of learning the definite proposals of the French Government; that the President of the Board of Trade had summoned Delegates from the different Chambers of Commerce interested in the proposed alterations to obtain information from them, and to ascertain their wishes on the subject.

I explained to his Excellency that one great difficulty as to any curtailment of the time reserved by the Treaty was that individual traders had, on the faith of a formal covenant between the two nations, entered into contracts to deliver articles at fixed periods and prices into France, the anticipated profits of which would be turned into great losses by an unexpected duty or modification of the stipulated duration of the Treaty.

The Delegates now complained that, without a definite proposal on the part of the French Government, they could neither form nor give an opinion, and I reminded his Excellency that we had from the first asked for a definite proposal in writing, but hitherto in vain. No doubt his Excellency had allowed M. Ozenne to give me a Memorandum of his first conversation with me, which Sir Louis Mallet had sought to amplify by further conversations with that gentleman; but the result was still so meagre that we could make but little progress until we were in possession of a definite proposal on the part of his Government.

The Duc de Broglie replied that he had given me all the information which his instructions afforded him, and he, therefore, begged of me to furnish him with questions about anything that had been omitted or did not appear to be clear in M. Ozenne's Memorandum, that he might at once communicate with Paris, and obtain immediate answers from his Government.

I promised to lay this request before the Cabinet, and, having done so since, instructions have been already given to frame such a list of questions.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 17.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 2.)*

(Extract.)

*Versailles, August 1, 1870.*

M. THIERS told me last night that he was anxiously awaiting your Lordship's answer to his overtures for a modification of the Commercial Treaty. He had, he said, left to England the choice either of allowing the Treaty to expire altogether or of making in it some changes of a very moderate character and preserving all the rest. The IXth Article of the Treaty enabled either of the Contracting Parties to impose Customs duties to counter-balance internal duties imposed on similar articles produced at home. This principle, laid down by the Treaty itself, provided for many cases; and all that could be necessary in the application of it would be to settle the details, so that the import duties might be in exact proportion to the internal duties. All, in fact, that was asked of England was to consent to a very moderate augmentation of the duties on some textile fabrics, and, in return for this all the rest of the Treaty was to be allowed to remain in force.

I said that it appeared to me that Her Majesty's Government had acted with as much promptitude as was possible. They could not, of course, assent off-hand to proposals of this nature without carefully examining the details and ascertaining the effect that the adoption of them might have on British interests in general, and on contracts already entered into by British merchants. Her Majesty's Government had, however, immediately

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placed Sir Louis Mallet in communication with M. Ozenne, and the President of the Board of Trade had summoned delegates from the Chambers of Commerce, in order to confer with them on the French proposals. The principal cause of delay appeared to arise from the fact that these proposals had not yet been stated in writing in a definite form. I said that M. Thiers had no doubt been made aware of this by M. Ozenne, who had, I believed, returned to France.

M. Thiers answered that the definite statement which was required should be supplied; and he expressed a hope that the consent of Her Majesty's Government would be given to the proposals before the prorogation of the English Parliament.

## No. 18.

*Earl Granville to the Duc de Broglie.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Foreign Office, August 5, 1871.*

REFERRING to the conversation which I had the honour of holding with your Excellency on the 28th ultimo on the subject of the modifications which the French Government are desirous of making in the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty, and to your Excellency's request to be made acquainted with any points upon which Her Majesty's Government desired further information, I now beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that, before it will be possible for Her Majesty's Government to come to any decision with regard to the proposals for the revision of the Treaty which are contained in the Memorandum communicated by M. Ozenne, it will be necessary that they should be informed whether the French Government still adhere to the programme of the Memorandum in question, or whether they desire to make any modification in it before proposing it as a basis of negotiations.

2. Are the rectifications of the Tariff in the case of textiles, and which are represented to be in accordance with the results of the "enquête" by the French Chamber in 1869 and 1870, considered as essential features in any revision of the Tariff fixed by the Treaty of 1860?

3. What is the intention of the French Government as regards the taxation of raw materials which are both produced in France, and are also imported from abroad?

4. What is the intention of the French Government with respect to the drawbacks to be accorded to French manufactures made from raw materials which are subjected to new taxation?

Finally. What are the precise rates of the proposed import duties on raw materials?

As it is clear that the course to be adopted by Her Majesty's Government in regard to the proposed modifications must, to a very considerable extent, depend upon the answers returned to the foregoing questions. I should be glad if your Excellency would procure for Her Majesty's Government as full information as possible upon the points above adverted to.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 19.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, August 5, 1871.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th ultimo, I inclose, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a letter which I have addressed to the Duc de Broglie on the subject of the modifications which the French Government are desirous of making in the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty.\*

I am, &c.,  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

\* No. 18.



*Memorandum communicated to Earl Granville by the Duc de Broglie, August 4, 1871.*

*Questions posées par le Gouvernement de  
Sa Majesté Britannique.*

*Réponses de l'Ambassadeur de France.*

1. Les rectifications de tarif applicables aux textiles, lesquelles sont présentées comme conséquence de l'enquête à laquelle se sont livrées les Chambres Françaises en 1869 et 1870, sont-elles considérées comme des points essentiels dans le cas où l'on procéderait à une révision des tarifs fixés par les Traités de 1860?

La décision à prendre par le Gouvernement Anglais dépendra, jusqu'à un certain point, de la décision donnée à cette question.

2. Quelle est l'intention du Gouvernement Français à l'égard de la tarification des matières premières qui sont tout à la fois produites dans le pays et importées de l'étranger?

3. Quelles sont les intentions du Gouvernement Français à l'égard des drawbacks qui seront accordés aux produits des manufactures nationales fabriqués avec des matières premières soumises aux droits nouveaux?

4. Finalement, quel est le chiffre des droits qu'on se propose d'établir à l'importation des matières premières?

1. Les rectifications de tarif indiquées, pour les textiles, dans la note remise au Comte Granville le 17 Juillet dernier, font partie des conditions essentielles de l'entente à intervenir entre les deux Gouvernements et de laquelle dépend la prolongation du Traité de 1860.

Alors même que l'enquête faite en 1869 et 1870 n'aurait pas révélé les besoins de certaines industries textiles, les charges nouvelles qui vont résulter pour l'ensemble de la production du pays d'impôts qui ne s'élèveront pas à moins de 600 millions de francs, auraient mis le Gouvernement Français dans l'obligation de réclamer un exhaussement de tarif pour les industries dont il s'agit. Ce relèvement des droits rentrerait dans les modifications prévues par l'Article 21 du Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860.

On se réserve d'ailleurs d'examiner les objections qui pourraient être présentées sur le taux des augmentations de droits demandées pour les textiles.

2. L'impôt à établir ne portera que sur les matières premières importées de l'étranger. Il n'est, comme on vient de le dire, que la compensation des charges ajoutées par l'établissement des impôts nouveaux, à celles dont la production nationale est déjà grévée.

3. L'intention du Gouvernement Français, comme l'indique la note remise au Comte Granville, est de ne pas accorder de drawback à la sortie des tissus de soie, de lin, ou de chanvre. En tout cas les drawbacks, quand ils seront établis, ne pourront dépasser la quotité des droits compensateurs qui seraient fixés.

Le Gouvernement Français se réserve toutefois de recourir, s'il le trouve préférable, au régime de l'admission temporaire, telle qu'elle est réglée par l'Article 5 de la Loi du 5 Juillet, 1836.

4. 20 pour cent de la valeur pour les matières premières nécessaires à la fabrication des textiles;

10 pour cent sur les matières tinctoriales, sur certains métaux secondaires (cuivre, plomb, &c.), et sur quelques produits chimiques à l'exception des dérivés du sel.



(Translation.)

*Questions put by the Government of Her  
Britannic Majesty.*

*Answers of the French Ambassador.*

1. Are the rectifications of the Tariff in the case of textiles, which are represented to be in accordance with the results of the "enquête" by the French Chamber in 1869 and 1870, considered as essential features in any revision of the Tariff fixed by the Treaty of 1860?

The course to be adopted by the English Government will depend, up to a certain point, on the answer given to this question.

1. The rectifications of the Tariff indicated, in the case of textiles, in the note transmitted to Earl Granville on the 17th of July last, form part of the conditions essential to the understanding to be arrived at between the two Governments, and on which depends the prolongation of the Treaty of 1860.

Even if the inquiry made in 1869 and 1870 had not disclosed the wants of certain textile industries, the new burdens which will result to the entire amount of our native produce from imposts, which will not reach less than 600 millions of francs, would have placed the French Government under the necessity of demanding an increase of tariff for the industries in question. This augmentation of duties would come under the modifications provided for by the Treaty of January 23, 1860.

The right, moreover, is reserved for examining the objections which might be raised to the scale of increased duties demanded for textiles.

2. What is the intention of the French Government as regards the taxation of raw materials which are both produced in France and are also imported from abroad?

2. The duty to be established will only affect raw materials imported from abroad. It is only, as has just been said, a compensation for burthens added by the establishment of new duties to those with which native produce is already weighted.

3. What is the intention of the French Government with respect to the drawbacks to be accorded to French manufactures made from raw materials which are subjected to new taxation?

3. The intention of the French Government, as pointed out by the note to Lord Granville, is not to grant any drawback on the exportation of tissues of silk, flax, or hemp. In any case the drawbacks, when they are established, will not exceed the amount of the compensatory duties which will be fixed.

The French Government reserves to itself, however, the right of returning, if it finds it preferable, to the system of temporary admission, such as is fixed by Article 5 of the Law of July 5, 1836.

4. Finally, what are the precise rates of the proposed import duties on raw materials?

4. Twenty per cent. *ad valorem* for raw materials necessary to the fabrication of textiles; 10 per cent. on dyeing materials, on certain secondary metals (copper, lead, &c.), and on certain chemical products, with the exception of the derivatives of salt.

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No. 21.

*Earl Granville to the Duc de Broglie.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Foreign Office, August 5, 1871.*

I HAVE laid before the Cabinet the papers which your Excellency sent to me last night,\* having reference to the modifications which the French Government are desirous of

\* No. 20.



introducing into the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty ; and I now beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that while Her Majesty's Government thank your Excellency for these successive memoranda which you have been good enough to communicate to me, the latter do not constitute as complete and definite a proposal, as a draft version of the Treaty of 1860, altered as is proposed by the French Government, would have done.

I have already made known to your Excellency one great difficulty which presents itself in dealing with any modifications of the existing Treaty in the sense required by the French Government, viz., that of providing for the interests of individuals who have entered into contracts or made their arrangements for future deliveries of goods, unless the French Government would be prepared to compensate them on some just and reasonable principle.

Her Majesty's Government, for reasons with which I need not at present trouble your Excellency, are desirous to avoid negotiating as to details of tariffs, but would prefer to resume an unfettered liberty to deal with all articles of foreign commerce, as fiscal interests or policy may require. They would be glad, however, to assist the French Government in regard to the question of the duration of the Treaty, so far as any changes, interposed with a view to fiscal purposes are concerned, provided the difficulty to which I have above alluded as affecting contracts for future deliveries, could be overcome, in which case they would consent to some shortening of the period of notice specified in the existing Treaty, relying, of course, on the French Government consenting to prolong the most-favoured-nation clause.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 22.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 9.)*

(Extract.)

*Versailles, August 7, 1871.*

M. DE REMUSAT expressed to me this afternoon a strong desire to obtain very speedily the consent of Her Majesty's Government to the proposals which had been made to them respecting the modification of the Commercial Treaty. He observed that answers would be given immediately to the questions put by the British authorities respecting the details of the proposed changes, and that he hoped that the proposals would be viewed in England in their true light, as based upon fiscal necessities, and not upon protection.

I assured him that Her Majesty's Government had every possible desire to be useful and agreeable to the Government of France, but I remarked that of course in a matter of so much importance it was necessary to ascertain carefully what would be the real operation of the proposed changes, and in what manner they would affect contracts already entered into.

## No. 23.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 12.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, August 11, 1871.*

M. THIERS having written to ask me to come and see him in order that he might speak to me on the subject of the Commercial Treaty, I waited upon him last night at Versailles.

His language respecting England and Her Majesty's Government was very courteous and friendly in form, but the substance of the communication which he made to me appears to be—

That England must choose between agreeing to the proposed modification of the Tariff and the unconditional denunciation of the whole Treaty ;

That although, if England agree to the modification, every security will be given against her being thereby placed in a less advantageous position than any other Power, still, if the Treaty be denounced, she must not expect that, after it has expired, she will either in principle or in practice be placed upon the footing of the most-favoured nation ;

That during the interval between the denunciation and the expiration of the Treaty, the increased duties could and would be levied in virtue of the IXth Article ;

Finally, that it is essential that the answer of Her Majesty's Government be given without delay.



M. Thiers began by telling me that the negotiation in London had taken a turn which he had been far from expecting, but that he did not regard the question as definitively settled. He would certainly (he said) be justified in putting an end to the communications, and denouncing the Treaty at once. But this was not what he wished. He had endeavoured throughout to show the utmost consideration to England, and he desired to do so still. He had from the first stated that the choice lay between the abandonment of the Treaty and the adoption of the small modifications of the Tariff which he had proposed.

He then entered at some length into the details of the proposed augmentation of duties, with a view to showing that, in arranging it, regard had been shown for British interests and that it was in fact extremely moderate. He maintained, that the result of the Parliamentary Inquiry of last year would have been that, if the Imperial Government had been maintained, England would have been called upon to consent to an increase of duties at least as large as that which was now suggested.

The Treaty had, M. Thiers went on to say, been always regarded by his present colleagues and himself, as disadvantageous, not to say, disastrous, to France. They had, nevertheless, abstained from promoting a violent reaction against it. They objected in principle to rushing into extreme opposition to the state of things which had remained in existence after the fall of the Empire. They had, therefore, confined their modification of the Treaty Tariff to a few moderate changes which their fiscal necessities, and the state of the French manufacturing interest, rendered indispensable. They had not touched coal or iron, which were articles of the greatest importance to England; they had in fact only asked for a very moderate increase of the duties on textile fabrics. They had hoped that by so doing they should have conciliated the friendly feelings of England, and obtained from her a ready acquiescence in their proposals.

M. Thiers did not admit that a consent to the increase he proposed could fairly be considered by Her Majesty's Government as a retrograde step and a departure from the principles of free trade. In his opinion the really retrograde policy would be to reject the small modification which was proposed, and thus throw over the principle of the Treaty and the numerous liberal commercial arrangements which would remain.

It remained therefore, he said, for Her Majesty's Government to decide whether they would agree to the changes he had proposed to them, or would give up altogether the benefits which England derived from the Treaty. For his own part he should prefer getting rid of the Treaty altogether, for he conceived that, commercially, it had been advantageous to England and injurious to France. Still he was willing to preserve it as a bond of union between the two countries. If, however, it was to be abolished, he must secure to France perfect freedom to regulate her Tariff as suited her own interests. It would be utterly unreasonable for England to expect that the most-favoured-nation Article could be retained, if the rest of the Treaty were abrogated. He should always act in a friendly spirit towards England in settling the Tariff; but he could not forget that England was a much more formidable competitor in commerce than any other nation. Concessions which might safely be made to other countries might very reasonably be withheld from her. For instance, it would be certainly for the interest of France that she should furnish herself with Colonial articles brought direct to her own ports rather than resort, as at present, to the depôts of such goods in Great Britain. This was a case peculiar to England. Nothing could be farther from his intention than to be influenced by any spirit of retaliation. On the contrary, he should use his best endeavours to promote commerce and friendly intercourse between the two countries. Nor, if the Treaty were denounced, should he be on that account less friendly to England in political matters. He should none the less adhere to the principle on which he was now acting. He conceived that, while each country preserved complete freedom of action, a cordial and intimate understanding between them was beneficial to themselves and to mankind.

It was, however, evident that, in making his financial and commercial arrangements, the interest and necessities of France must be paramount. If, therefore, the modifications of the Tariff, which he deemed essential, were not agreed to by Her Majesty's Government, he must denounce the Treaty, and with it the most-favoured-nation clause; and in the meantime must make use of the power conferred by the IXth Article which would, he conceived, fully justify him in raising any amount of Customs duties as an equivalent for internal taxes.

In conclusion, M. Thiers said that he was unwilling to press Her Majesty's Government in any unbecoming manner, but that it was very important that their answer should be given immediately, in order that the French Government might complete arrangements which were of urgent importance, and might indeed in case of need proceed to denounce the



Treaty. He begged me to report what he had said to your Lordship, and renewed the assurances of his desire to treat the matter in the most friendly spirit.

There was very much of what fell from M. Thiers in which it was of course impossible for me to acquiesce, but I have purposely avoided lengthening this despatch by recording my own part of the conversation. The language of M. Thiers indicates sufficiently the nature of the observations I made.

I promised M. Thiers to make as faithful a report as my memory would allow of the views he had expressed, though I did not conceal from him that it would in some respects be a painful task; and I suggested that he should also direct his own representatives in London to communicate his sentiments fully and accurately to your Lordship.

M. Thiers said that M. Ozenne would return to London on Monday next (the 14th instant), with full instructions.

## No. 24.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, August 15, 1871.*

M. DE GAVARD called on me to-day with M. Ozenne and requested the latter to explain to me M. Thiers' views respecting the answer which Her Majesty's Government had sent to his proposal for modifying the Commercial Treaty.

I declined discussing this proposal until I had laid it before my colleagues; and for this purpose I requested M. Gavard and M. Ozenne to put in writing that which they had said.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 25.

*M. Gavard to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15.)*

M. le Comte,

*Le 15 Août, 1871.*

VOICI une note qui résume exactement, je le crois, les explications que M. Ozenne a eu l'honneur de vous donner aujourd'hui.

Dans le cas où le Cabinet jugerait utile de donner suite à cet entretien, je suis autorisé ainsi que M. Ozenne à continuer l'examen des propositions du Gouvernement Français avec Sir Louis Mallet ou telle autre personne que votre Excellence voudra bien désigner.

Veillez, &c.

(Signé) CH. GAVARD.

(Translation.)

M. le Comte,

*August 15, 1871.*

THE inclosed note sums up precisely, I think, the explanations which M. Ozenne had the honour to give you to-day.

Should the Cabinet think fit to give effect to this interview, I am authorized, with M. Ozenne, to continue the examination of the proposals of the French Government with Sir L. Mallet or any other person whom your Excellency may be pleased to name.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) CH. GAVARD.

## Inclosure in No. 25.

*Résumé of Conversation between Earl Granville and M. Ozenne.*

*Londres, le 15 Août, 1871.*

LA communication faite le 5 Août courant par M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique répond aux ouvertures faites par l'Ambassadeur de France pour la révision du Traité de Commerce conclu le 23 Janvier, 1860, entre la France et l'Angleterre.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne considère pas le dernier memorandum



comme constituant une proposition aussi complète et aussi précise que l'eût été une communication du Traité de 1860 modifié dans le sens des propositions du Gouvernement Français.

Entrant dans cette dernière pensée le Gouvernement Français a renvoyé à Londres M. Ozenne avec les instructions nécessaires pour compléter les explications réclamées par le Gouvernement Anglais.

Si le Chef du Pouvoir Exécutif du Gouvernement Français n'avait consulté que ses propres convictions économiques, il n'aurait pas hésité, comme le Gouvernement Anglais semble l'y convier, à dénoncer le Traité de 1860 et à recouvrer ainsi sa liberté d'action.

Mais ses vues se sont portées plus haut, il a craint que la dénonciation du Traité de Commerce n'amènât un refroidissement dans les relations des deux peuples par suite du froissement d'intérêts qui en serait la conséquence. Il a donc fait et il continuera à faire tous ses efforts pour empêcher un résultat aussi regrettable.

Le Traité dénoncé, le Gouvernement Français, tout en cherchant à ne pas placer le commerce Anglais dans une situation relativement désavantageuse, ne saurait concéder, par voie diplomatique, le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée; car ce qu'il aurait enlevé d'une main, il le rendrait de l'autre avec des avantages plus grands de durée et d'allègement de Tarif que ne le comportent le Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, et les Conventions des 12 Octobre et 16 Novembre qui en dérivent.

La dénonciation du Traité Franco-Anglais amènerait inévitablement la dénonciation du Traité Franco-Belge expiré depuis le 1 Mai dernier. Or, l'Angleterre et la Belgique sont les deux pays avec lesquels la France a les relations commerciales les plus étendues.

Ces deux Traités dénoncés, un point d'appui important manquerait pour résister aux impatiences de ceux qui en France (et ils sont nombreux) préconisent les doctrines protectionnistes.

Le Gouvernement Français persiste à penser que dans les propositions par lui faites au Gouvernement Anglais, il y a les éléments d'une entente équitable entre les deux pays.

Pour satisfaire au désir exprimé par la communication du 5 Août dernier M. Ozenne est autorisé, dans le cas où le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique le jugerait utile, à se mettre en rapport avec Sir L. Mallet et à préparer de concert avec lui, et sur les bases déjà posées, un projet de Traité complet.

Ce mode de procéder permettrait au Gouvernement Anglais d'apprécier dans leur ensemble les avantages qu'on lui offre et les concessions qu'on lui demande, et il y a tout lieu de penser qu'il reconnaîtrait que l'équilibre que les auteurs du Traité de 1860 ont voulu établir entre les forces productives de la France et de l'Angleterre est respecté.

En effet, comme on l'a déjà dit, les charges nouvelles qui doivent peser sur le peuple Français seront annuellement de 600 millions; et qu'on les demande directement aux matières nécessaires à l'industrie ou qu'on les puise à d'autres sources, elles n'en pèseront pas moins sur l'ensemble de la production du pays tout entier.

(Translation.)

*London, August 15, 1872.*

THE communication made on the 5th instant, by Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replies to the overtures made by the French Ambassador for the revision of the Treaty of Commerce, concluded on the 23rd January, 1860, between France and England.

The Government of Her Britannic Majesty does not consider the last memorandum as forming as complete and as precise a proposal as a communication of the Treaty of 1860, modified in the sense of the proposals of the French Government, would have been. In compliance with the above view the French Government has despatched M. Ozenne to London, with the necessary instructions to complete the explanations asked for by the English Government.

If the Chief of the Executive Power of the French Government had consulted only his own economic convictions, he would not have hesitated, as the English Government seem to invite him to it, to denounce the Treaty and so to recover his freedom of action.

But he took a higher view; he feared that the denunciation of the Treaty would bring on a coolness in the relations of the two nations in consequence of the conflict of interests which would result from it. He has therefore made and will continue to make every effort to avoid so lamentable a result.

Were the Treaty denounced, the French Government, with every endeavour not to place English trade in a relatively disadvantageous position, could not grant, diplomatically, the treatment of the most-favoured nation; for what it had taken with one hand it would



give with the other, with greater advantage in length and in lowness of Tariff than are allowed by the Treaty of January 23, 1860, and the Conventions of October 12 and November 16, resulting therefrom.

The denunciation of the Anglo-French Treaty would inevitably entail the denunciation of the Franco-Belgian Treaty, which expired on the 1st of May last.

Moreover, England and Belgium are the two countries with which France has the most extended commercial relations.

Were these two Treaties denounced, an important stand-point would be lost in resisting the eagerness of those who in France (and they are many) preach Protectionist doctrines.

The French Government continues to think that, in the proposals made by it to the English Government, there are the elements of an equitable understanding between the two countries.

To satisfy the wish expressed in the note of the 5th of August last, M. Ozenne is authorized, should the Government of Her Britannic Majesty think fit, to place himself in communication with Sir L. Mallet, and to prepare, in conjunction with him, and on the bases already laid down, a complete scheme for a Treaty.

This mode of procedure would allow the English Government to estimate in their totality the advantages offered to it and the concession asked of it, and there is every ground for thinking that it would acknowledge that the balance which the authors of the Treaty of 1860 wished to establish between the productive forces of France and of England is respected.

In fact, as has already been said, the new burdens which have to be laid on the French people will amount annually to 600 millions; and whether they are directly levied on materials necessary to industry, or whether they are derived from other sources, they will not the less weigh, for that reason, on the total production of the whole country.

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No. 26.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 16.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, August 14, 1871.*

M. DE REMUSAT called upon me here yesterday, and spoke to me of your Lordship's letter of the 5th instant to the Duc de Broglie respecting the Commercial Treaty.

He said that he was very much surprised by the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of the French proposals, and the more so as the objections to them stated in your Lordship's letter did not appear to be very important.

In the first place, he thought that the authorities in England had been slow in examining the proposals; and now he hardly understood the object of the observation in your Lordship's letter that the communications of the French Government did not constitute as complete and definite a statement as would have been furnished by a draft version of the Treaty of 1860, specifying the alterations which the French Government desired to make. Surely this was a mere matter of form, and any ordinary Clerk could, in a very short time, reduce the French proposals into the shape of amendments to the Treaty.

I said to M. de Rémusat that I could not admit that there had been any tardiness in England. The proposed modifications were of great importance and affected the interests of individuals as well as commercial interests in general. Some consideration, therefore, was necessary, but Her Majesty's Government had lost no time in putting the French agent, M. Ozenne, in communication with an officer of the Board of Trade, and in consulting Representatives of the Chambers of Commerce. Undoubtedly, some difficulties had arisen from the want of a distinct business-like statement in writing of the French proposals. I had more than five weeks ago asked the French Government to furnish the Government of Her Majesty with such a statement, and I had, I confessed, been at a loss to account for the apparent hesitation of the French negotiators.

M. de Rémusat proceeded to mention the objection founded on the necessity of providing for the interests of individuals who had entered into contracts, or made their arrangements for future deliveries of goods, on the faith of the continuance of the Treaty Tariff. He said that he did not see his way to giving compensation in such cases, but he conceived that the interests in question might be sufficiently cared for by according some reasonable delay, before the new Tariff should come into operation.

These were, M. de Rémusat went on to say, matters of detail which might be arranged; but he was certainly astonished at the apparent desire of Her Majesty's



Government rather to put an end to the whole Treaty, than admit the very moderate changes in the Tariff proposed by France. He himself held free trade principles, and he should see with very great regret the overthrow of the whole system of commercial intercourse between France and England, which had been established by the Treaty. To sweep that system away, would be to give great encouragement to the Protectionist party in France; and might lead to demands from that Party which the Government and the Assembly might be unable to resist. It would surely be wiser to modify a few details, than to throw everything into confusion, and give up the advantages of the remaining parts of the Treaty. It was (M. de Rémusat observed) impossible in human affairs to apply abstract principles absolutely; and certainly he thought that as, in framing the Treaty originally, so now in maintaining it, the practical promotion of the cause of free trade was more important than an uncompromising adherence to scientific maxims.

Your Lordship will observe that M. de Rémusat threw out the idea that some reasonable delay might be granted, in order to provide for the interests of persons who had made contracts on the faith of the Treaty. In the conversation which I had on the 10th instant with M. Thiers, he, on the other hand, summarily disposed of the interests of such persons, by saying that, of course every change in a Tariff must be disadvantageous to some individuals, but that changes essential for the general good must nevertheless be made.

I saw M. Thiers again at Versailles last night. He told me that he had dispatched M. Ozenne to London, with instructions to make your Lordship fully acquainted with the views of the French Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 27.

*Earl Granville to M. Gavard.*

M. le Chargé d'Affaires,

*Foreign Office, August 21, 1871.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have communicated to my colleagues your letter of the 15th instant and the Memorandum which accompanied it, on the subject of the revision of the Treaty of Commerce between this country and France; and I beg you will acquaint the French Government with the great satisfaction which the friendly assurances therein contained as to the manner in which they wish to proceed in the matter have afforded to Her Majesty's Government.

M. de Rémusat, in a conversation with Lord Lyons, stated, with reference to the desire of Her Majesty's Government to obtain a definite statement as to the alterations which the French Government seek to make in the Treaty of 1860, that this "was a mere matter of form, and any ordinary clerk could, in a very short time, reduce the French proposals into the shape of amendments to the Treaty."

You are aware that Her Majesty's Government have considered that, without such a statement, they could not rightly understand the scope of the French proposals; and, for obvious reasons, it could only be properly prepared by a French authority. Her Majesty's Government do not wish that unnecessary delay should take place in the discussion of the question; and I trust, therefore, that you will feel yourself authorized in asking M. Ozenne to draft the Treaty, such as is now proposed by the French Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 28.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 23.)*

(Extract.)

*Versailles, August 22, 1871.*

M. THIERS said to me last night that he saw with pleasure that the paragraph respecting the Commercial Treaty in the Royal Speech on the prorogation of Parliament admitted the idea of friendly negotiation on the subject.



*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received August 30.)*

My Lord,

*Versailles, August 29, 1871.*

M. THIERS told me last night that M. Ozenne had returned from London, and that he had been requested there to prepare a draft showing the modifications proposed by the French Government in the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty.

M. Thiers expressed his own belief that the two Governments would be able to come to an understanding on the subject.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received September 2.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, September 1, 1871.*

YOUR Lordship is aware that among the proposals for increasing the taxation made by the French Government is one for imposing a general tonnage duty on all ships, French and foreign, and a differential duty on foreign ships engaged in indirect trade with France. It is, in short, proposed to re-establish the "surtaxes de pavillon et d'entrepôt," and to abrogate the Law of the 19th May, 1866.

The Bill for the purpose will probably be very soon brought before the Assembly; and it is not improbable that, although it will meet with some opposition, it may be passed before the Assembly adjourns. The adjournment is expected to take place towards the middle of this month.

Some foreign nations may possibly have Navigation Treaties which would give them a claim to resist the extension of the differential duties to their ships, in virtue either of direct stipulations or of clauses entitling them to the treatment of the most-favoured nation. I venture to ask your Lordship's instructions on the question whether Great Britain has a right to resist the imposition of these duties on her shipping.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received September 6.)*

Extract.)

*Paris, September 5, 1871.*

ON the Bill on the Mercantile Navy coming up, on the order of the day of the National Assembly yesterday, M. Pouyer-Quertier, the Minister of Finance, requested that it might be postponed until after the House had come to a decision upon the duties on raw materials ("matières premières et matières brutes"). This was agreed to.

The object of the Bill on the "marine marchande" is, as your Lordship knows, to impose a tonnage duty on all vessels, French and foreign, and to impose differential duties on foreign vessels engaged in the indirect trade with France.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received September 9.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, September 8, 1871.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship, extracted from the "Journal Officiel" of this day, the Report of the Budget Committee to the Assembly on that part of the law for increasing taxation which relates to the mercantile marine.

The Committee reports strongly in favour of re-establishing the "surtaxes de pavillon" and the "surtaxes d'entrepôt," with a view mainly to protecting French-merchant ships against foreign competition. It reports also in favour of tonnage dues on French and foreign merchant-ships alike, and of an increase of the tax on granting the French flag to foreign-built ships.

It proposes to fix the amount of the "surtaxes" by law instead of leaving it to be



regulated by Decrees of the Chief of the Executive Power, as was proposed by the Government.

It states that the Government has yielded on this point.

The amount and details of the new taxes are stated in the *Projet de Loi* with which the Report concludes.

As I had the honour to report to your Lordship in my despatch of the 15th instant, the Assembly, at the request of the Minister of Finance, has deferred the consideration of this Bill on the mercantile navy until it shall have decided the question of the duties on raw materials.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 32.

*Extract from the "Journal Officiel" of September 8, 1871.*

*Rapport fait au nom de la Commission du Budget, chargée d'examiner le Projet de Loi relatif à des Impôts Nouveaux et à des Augmentations d'Impôts (Articles 24 et 25 du Projet de Loi Marine Marchande), par M. Ancel, Membre de l'Assemblée Nationale.*

LA nécessité de pourvoir à l'acquittement des charges si considérables que les malheurs du pays ont créées pour nos finances, a imposé au Gouvernement et à votre Commission du Budget le devoir d'étudier les impôts déjà éprouvés, ceux dont la perception est facile. C'est ainsi que l'Assemblée a voté des augmentations de droits sur diverses denrées de consommation, et c'est ainsi qu'elle demandera des recettes nouvelles et importantes à d'autres sources du revenu public.

Aujourd'hui nous venons vous proposer, d'accord avec le Gouvernement, d'imposer à la navigation marchande, en modérant leur quotité, les droits de tonnage et les surtaxes de pavillon qu'elle acquittait avant la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866. Le rétablissement de ces taxes est d'autant plus légitime qu'il apportera, nous l'espérons, à la marine marchande Française un encouragement et une force que sa situation réclame impérieusement.

En effet, la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866, qui détruisait toute protection pour cette grande industrie de la marine marchande, a justifié malheureusement les appréhensions qu'avaient exprimées dans tous les ports de mer et ailleurs les nombreux adversaires du régime nouveau.

Dans l'enquête si étendue, si sérieuse, ouverte l'année dernière, des opinions très-diverses se sont produites sur les moyens de venir en aide à la marine marchande, et de compenser l'inégalité des conditions dans lesquelles elle se trouve vis-à-vis de la plupart des marines étrangères, mais personne n'a nié cette inégalité, cette souffrance, ni la nécessité d'y remédier.

Les uns ont pensé qu'un remaniement complet de nos Règlements maritimes pourrait suffire; que l'on pourrait y ajouter un système de primes moyen dont il a été parlé dans le Congrès des Etats Unis. D'autres, et ce sont de beaucoup les plus nombreux, ont insisté pour le rétablissement des surtaxes de pavillon et d'entrepôt.

Un système de primes appliqué à la navigation tout entière d'un grand pays serait si nouveau, il aurait, avec l'ensemble de notre législation douanière, si peu d'analogie, qu'il faudrait une longue étude et de grandes précautions avant de créer un précédent qui pourrait tenter d'autres industries.

Quant au remaniement des Règlements, il est sans doute utile d'en modifier plusieurs, mais en réalité une telle révision n'apporterait au prix des armements qu'un faible allègement, alors même que l'on voudrait porter atteinte à l'inscription maritime, à cette institution qui vient de prouver encore quels hommes elle sait préparer, quels défenseurs elle donne au pays et aux lois, ailleurs même que sur les flottes.

Restent les surtaxes de pavillon et d'entrepôt qui avant la Loi de 1866 pouvaient compenser partiellement les causes d'infériorité que la nature même des choses crée pour notre marine. Nous disons partiellement, car il faut bien le répéter, ce n'est pas pour les transports directs, c'est-à-dire, pour ceux de pays à pays, que nous entendons assurer une préférence au pavillon Français. Non, les produits Anglais venant directement de l'Angleterre ou de ses colonies, ceux des Etats Unis d'Amérique, ou de tous autres pays, importés directement par les navires Anglais, Américains, par les navires nationaux enfin, sont mis à l'abri de toute surtaxe de pavillon par les Traités de Réciprocité.



Quand, en 1822, le Gouvernement de la Restauration a contracté avec les Etats Unis les Traités qu'on lui a reprochés, il a fait ce qui était inévitable. Les Etats Unis avaient la production du coton, ils ont exigé que leurs navires fussent reçus dans nos ports aux mêmes conditions que les navires Français, sous peine de frapper d'un droit de sortie les cotons destinés pour la France; il fallait bien alors subir la réciprocité. Le même fait s'est reproduit plus tard, en 1826, avec l'Angleterre, qui possède la houille dont on ne peut se passer.

La nation qui a ainsi chez elle la matière encombrante, c'est-à-dire, le fret, doit rester maîtresse de la navigation.

En France nous n'avons pas un produit de gros volume, un produit recherché partout, comme le charbon, comme le coton peuvent l'être. Nous n'avons que les produits de notre sol, ceux de nos industries, qui ne peuvent pas former ce que l'on appelle un fret de sortie important. Les cotons nous sont apportés presque en totalité par les navires Américains, les produits de l'Angleterre et de ses colonies viennent par des navires Anglais. Souverains du vaste territoire des Indes, les Anglais y ont fait prévaloir leurs modes, leurs usages, et nos cargaisons ne peuvent pas entrer en concurrence avec les leurs.

Nos ressources, comme navigation, sont dans les importations de nos colonies, importations déjà réduites, car depuis la Loi du 3 Juillet, 1861, les colons peuvent envoyer leurs sucres ailleurs qu'en France et par tous pavillons. Elles sont encore dans le commerce que nous avons conservé avec l'Amérique du Sud. Là aussi des Traités de Réciprocité ont été contractés avec le Brésil, le Chili, le Pérou, avec Monte Video, Buenos Ayres; mais comme ces pays n'ont pas de marine ou en ont une très-inférieure à la nôtre, les transports peuvent nous rester. Nous avons là les avantages maritimes qui naissent de la réciprocité.

Eh bien, c'est précisément à ce dernier refuge de notre navigation que la Loi de 1866 s'est attaquée. Elle a voulu que les pavillons Anglais, Américains, Allemands, tous les pavillons, pussent venir prendre au Brésil, à La Plata, à Saint Domingue, et jusque dans nos colonies, les produits de ces pays pour les apporter en France au même taux, avec le même privilège que s'ils étaient le pavillon Français ou le pavillon national de ces pays; c'est ce que l'on appelle la navigation indirecte, le tiers pavillon.

Ainsi, au lieu de posséder seuls ces derniers débris de notre commerce maritime, nous les partageons avec l'Amérique, avec l'Angleterre, qui ont des marines bien plus puissantes et mieux organisées que la nôtre, et nous les partageons aussi avec les marines du Nord, avec celles de l'Allemagne et de l'Italie, qui naviguent à meilleur marché que nous. Voilà ce qu'a fait la Loi de 1866, loi qu'aucune des industries Françaises ne réclamait et que le Gouvernement d'alors a imposée. Cette loi n'était applicable, au point de vue général des surtaxes, que trois ans après sa promulgation, c'est-à-dire, au mois de Juin 1869: mais, d'une part, des Traités Conventionnels supprimaient déjà les taxes de pavillon sur plusieurs articles importants; de l'autre, l'appréhension des effets de la loi a jeté le découragement; les constructions des navires se sont arrêtées, la décroissance des armements Français a été rapide, et à mesure que les surtaxes se sont éteintes l'invasion du pavillon étranger dans les transports maritimes a grandi.

Ainsi, avant 1860, nous recevions par navires Français la plus grande partie des produits des Mers des Indes et de la Mer du Sud. Grâce aux Traités nouveaux, nos navires se sont vu préférer successivement les navires étrangers. En 1869, sur un poids total de 221,000,000 kilogrammes, représentant les principales marchandises que l'Inde et l'Océanie nous fournissent, 50,000,000 kilogrammes seulement, c'est-à-dire, le quart environ, sont venus sous notre pavillon. Le reste, 171,000,000 kilogrammes, a été importé sous pavillon étranger, soit directement, soit par la voie des entrepôts. Dans les Mers du Sud, sur un poids total de 116,000,000 kilogrammes, la part de notre marine n'a été que de 43,500,000 kilogrammes, tandis que celle de la marine étrangère s'élevait à 72,500,000 kilogrammes. Des résultats analogues se sont produits, dans les derniers mois de 1869, au Brésil, à La Plata, et dans les pays voisins, aussitôt que la surtaxe de pavillon s'est trouvée supprimée à titre général par la Loi de 1866. Nous n'avions reçu de ces contrées, en 1866, sous pavillon étranger, que 10,600,000 kilogrammes de café, bois, peaux, &c. En 1869, quoique le nouveau régime n'ait daté que du 11 Juin, les importations sous pavillon étranger ont atteint 31,000,000 kilogrammes; elles ont ainsi immédiatement triplé.

Une autre et irrécusable preuve du déclin de notre marine se trouve dans le chiffre de son effectif. En 1869, le tonnage de nos navires à voiles était inférieur à celui de 1859 (932,000 tonneaux, au lieu de 961,000 tonneaux); dans la période décennale précédente, de 1850 à 1859, ce tonnage s'était accru de près de 50 pour cent (674,000 tonneaux en 1850, 961,000 tonneaux en 1859); de 1859 à 1869, l'effectif de notre marine à vapeur a



été porté, il est vrai, de 65,000 tonneaux à 143,000 tonneaux ; mais l'augmentation appartient toute entière à la marine subventionnée, qu'il est juste d'écarter, puisqu'elle a des emplois spéciaux, et que pour elle, d'ailleurs, la subvention constitue un avantage bien supérieur à celui qui peut résulter des surtaxes.

Si nous voulons comparer l'effectif des marines d'Angleterre et d'Amérique, avec lesquelles il nous faut partout lutter, nous trouvons qu'en 1867, en regard des 15,602 navires, tant à voiles qu'à vapeur, que possédait la France, et qui formaient un tonnage de 1,048,679 tonneaux, l'Angleterre avait 40,905 navires dont le tonnage total était de 7,232,672 tonneaux.

A la même époque, la marine Américaine s'élevait, malgré les réductions que lui avait infligées la guerre de sécession, à 3,957,515 tonneaux ; la marine Italienne atteignait 815,516 tonneaux ; celle des Pays-Bas, 538,676 tonneaux. A ces concurrences si redoutables viennent s'ajouter celles des ports du Nord, qui fermés pendant quatre mois, envoient leurs navires sur nos côtes, où le bas prix de leurs armements leur permet d'enlever à notre grand cabotage une partie de ses transports.

C'est, Messieurs, pour ressaisir les transports qui échappent à notre grande navigation, et pour arrêter la décroissance visible de nos armements, qui sont la seule école pratique où l'Etat trouve des marins, des matelots pour armer lui-même ses flottes ; c'est dans ce but que le Gouvernement a proposé à l'Assemblée l'Article 25 du Projet de Loi relatif aux impôts nouveaux, qui est ainsi conçu : "Des arrêtés du Chef du Pouvoir Exécutif détermineront les marchandises auxquelles des surtaxes d'entrepôt ou de pavillon devront être appliquées, ainsi que la quotité de ces surtaxes. Les dispositions contraires de la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866, sont rapportées."

Nous avons pensé qu'il n'était pas possible que ces surtaxes fussent fixées autrement que par la Loi. Le Gouvernement s'est rendu à cet avis, et c'est d'accord avec lui que nous vous proposons séparément les dispositions suivantes :—

Les surtaxes de pavillons sont divisées dans le projet en trois catégories, répondant : (1) à la navigation dans les mers d'Europe et dans la Méditerranée ; (2) à la navigation dans l'Atlantique ; (3) à la navigation au delà des Caps Horn et de Bonne Espérance.

Pour la première catégorie, la surtaxe sera de 75 centimes par kilogramme (7 francs 50 centimes par tonneau de fret environ).

Ceux d'entre vous, messieurs, qui habitent dans les ports, le long des côtes qui bordent les trois mers sur lesquelles la France est si heureusement assise, ont pu suivre cette navigation si intéressante qui se nomme le petit et le grand cabotage, ils savent ce qu'elle souffre par la concurrence dominante des chemins de fer ; et au point de vue des relations avec les pays de l'Europe et du bassin de la Méditerranée, elle rencontre la concurrence si redoutée des Norvégiens, des Suédois, des Allemands dans la Manche, et sur l'Océan celle des Italiens et des Grecs dans la Méditerranée. C'est cependant cette navigation qui, dans la Flandre, en Normandie, en Bretagne, dans la Provence, entraîne vers la mer les populations du littoral, au grand profit du pays, et forme une pépinière admirable de marins robustes et dévoués, dans laquelle l'Etat vient puiser le recrutement de ses flottes. Cette faible protection de 75 centimes par 100 kilogrammes sera pour eux un encouragement.

Pour la seconde catégorie de la navigation, celle qui s'étend dans l'Atlantique, la surtaxe serait de 1 franc 50 centimes par 100 kilogrammes (soit 15 francs par tonneau de fret, qui était fixé à 20 francs avant la Loi de 1866). Enfin, pour la troisième catégorie, 2 francs par 100 kilogrammes (soit 20 francs par tonneau de fret, établi à 30 francs avant 1866).

Nous croyons que ces surtaxes, ainsi réduites, seraient pour les armements maritimes Français un encouragement proportionné aux distances, sans qu'il y ait à craindre que les prix des transports s'élève jamais à un taux excessif.

Sans doute des transformations considérables se préparent ; il semble que le navire en fer sera celui de l'avenir, et l'une de ces merveilleuses conquêtes auxquelles la science nous a habitués peut rendre possibles, même par la vapeur, une partie des transports de commerce. Mais les clartés et les perfectionnements de la science appartiennent à tous, et elles ne changeront pas, au point de vue de la marine, les forces relatives des pays qui tous sauront se les approprier.

D'ailleurs, ces transformations nécessiteront des dépenses considérables, et en France les capitaux ne se portent pas volontiers vers la marine.

Pour les surtaxes d'entrepôt, le projet fixe à titre général le chiffre de 3 francs par 100 kilogrammes. L'expérience démontre qu'au-dessous de ce taux ces surtaxes deviennent insuffisantes, les entrepôts de Londres et d'Anvers étant pour ainsi dire voisins de nos grands centres de consommation, et la différence des droits se trouvant en partie annulée par la différence des frais de transport. Quand il s'agit de marchandises d'une grande valeur et d'un faible poids, l'expérience a démontré aussi qu'il faut tenir compte



du premier de ces éléments pour établir les surtaxes, qui pourraient, si on n'avait égard qu'au poids, se trouver annulées par les simples variations des cours.

Aussi proposons-nous de maintenir pour cette classe de marchandises les surtaxes spéciales qui existent aujourd'hui.

### *Francisation des Navires.*

Le rétablissement des taxes maritimes devait conduire à l'examen du droit d'entrée aujourd'hui appliqué aux navires étrangers dont on demande la francisation. Ce droit est purement nominal, 2 francs par tonneau, soit  $\frac{1}{3}$  à  $\frac{1}{2}$  pour cent de la valeur, selon que les navires sont en bois ou en fer.

Ainsi, nos constructeurs sont sans aucune protection contre la concurrence des constructeurs étrangers. C'est aussi de la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866, que date ce régime. Il se combinait avec la faculté accordée à nos constructeurs par la même loi de faire venir de l'étranger, en franchise de droits, toutes les matières brutes ou fabriquées qu'ils employaient. En fait, il n'y avait pas là un équilibre de conditions: l'importation des navires étrangers s'est développée, tandis que le travail allait se ralentissant et manquait bientôt à nos constructeurs. Déjà, l'année dernière, les plaintes les plus vives s'élevaient dans tous les ports; aujourd'hui, de Dunkerque à Bayonne nos chantiers sont déserts.

Les dispositions législatives qui ont permis la francisation des navires étrangers sont de date récente. La Loi du 21 Septembre, 1793, réservait aux seuls bâtiments construits en France le droit de porter le pavillon Français. Ce fut un Décret du 17 Octobre, 1855, motivé sur l'insuffisance de notre matériel naval pendant la guerre de Crimée, qui dérogea pour la première fois à la règle, en établissant une taxe de 10 pour cent sur la valeur des navires achetés à l'étranger. En même temps les constructeurs étaient autorisés à recevoir en franchise de droits les matériaux dont ils se servaient. Des réclamations en sens divers s'étant produites, le Décret, dont les effets avaient été limités à trois années, ne fut pas renouvelé; mais en 1860 et 1861, l'ancienne prohibition qui excluait les navires étrangers fut définitivement levée par les Traités. Suivant leurs stipulations, les bâtiments en bois et ceux en fer étaient imposés à environ 10 pour cent de leur valeur. Ces barrières furent supprimées par la Loi de 1866, qui admet l'entrée moyennant le droit illusoire de 2 francs par tonneau. Ce sont les chiffres des Tarifs Conventionnels de 1860 et 1861 que le Gouvernement a proposé de faire passer dans le Tarif des Douanes pour l'introduction des navires en bois et en fer. Il nous a paru que ces Tarifs compensaient en effet pour les constructeurs Français l'ensemble des charges qui pèsent sur eux, et nous vous proposons de les fixer ainsi:—

Bâtiments grésés et armés à voile, en bois, 40 francs par tonneau de jauge; en bois et fer, 50 francs par tonneau de jauge; en fer, 60 francs par tonneau de jauge.

Bâtiments grésés et armés, à vapeur, droits ci-dessus, augmentés du droit afférent à la machine.

Coques de bâtiments de mer, en bois, 30 francs par tonneau de jauge; en bois et fer, 40 francs par tonneau de jauge; en fer, 50 francs par tonneau de jauge.

Nous souhaitons vivement que cette protection puisse ranimer l'industrie des constructions navales, qui a toujours tenu une si grande place dans les industries de la France, et à laquelle nos constructeurs, nos ingénieurs, ont su attacher un degré de perfectionnement qui n'a été dépassé dans aucun pays; puis, on l'a dit avec raison dans le Congrès des États Unis: "Une nation qui se résout à acheter ses vaisseaux au lieu de les construire elle-même, ne tarde pas à cesser de naviguer."

Les propositions relatives au rétablissement de surtaxes de pavillon et à la francisation des navires, n'ont pas été admises à l'unanimité dans la Commission. Une faible minorité les a combattues et a demandé que son opinion fût exprimée dans le rapport.

Nos honorables collègues ont dit que, selon eux, le rétablissement des surtaxes de pavillon et de surtaxes d'entrepôt imposerait des charges au commerce, sans venir en aide à la marine marchande, et que, dans tous les cas, une question aussi complexe qui touche à tant d'intérêts ne devait pas être résolue incidemment ainsi que le Gouvernement l'a demandé, à propos de la Loi du Budget, et qu'elle devait être renvoyé à l'examen d'une Commission Spéciale, qui ne prononcerait qu'après enquête.

Il a été répondu qu'après l'enquête si complète, si prolongée, qui avait eu lieu l'année dernière jusque dans les mois de Juillet et d'Août, l'utilité d'une enquête nouvelle ne se comprendrait pas; toutes les questions ayant été exposées, toutes les opinions ayant pu se produire, et se trouvant consignées dans les procès-verbaux de l'enquête qui ont été imprimés, publiés, et qui sont à la disposition des députés. Une nouvelle information aurait d'autant moins sa raison d'être que les terribles événements survenus depuis en



France n'ont pu qu'aggraver la situation périlleuse de la marine marchande, tandis que les marines rivales ont pu continuer tranquillement leurs opérations et profiter même des obstacles que l'interruption des affaires créait dans plusieurs de nos ports, aux armements Français.

La question est donc connue, et, comme l'explique ce rapport, le Gouvernement a été conduit à l'introduire parce que les taxes qui peuvent gréver la navigation sont d'une perception facile et éprouvée.

Enfin, Messieurs, une dernière disposition vous est soumise, c'est le droit de tonnage. Ce droit, que la Loi du 18 Octobre, 1793, avait fixé à 15, 20, et 30 centimes par tonneau pour les bâtiments Français, suivant la navigation à laquelle ils étaient employés, et uniformément à 2 francs 50 centimes pour les navires étrangers, a souvent varié en raison des Traités contractés avec les divers pays.

La Loi de 1866 a supprimé ce droit ; il a été maintenu exceptionnellement au Havre, où son produit est employé avec le concours de la Chambre de Commerce aux travaux d'agrandissement du port. Il semble que le produit du droit de tonnage devrait, en effet, être appliqué toujours à l'entretien et à l'amélioration des ports ; telle était la pensée qui l'avait fait créer, et, dans cet ordre d'idées, il est équitable que les navires nationaux eux-mêmes n'en soient pas exempts, puisqu'ils profitent du service rendu par l'Etat, qui est chargé de cet entretien. Au reste, ce droit ne peut être productif qu'à la condition que tous les navires, sans exception, le payeront ; car les Traités de Navigation, concédant, par mesure de réciprocité, le traitement national à presque tous les bâtiments étrangers, la franchise accordée aux navires Français leur profiterait, et le droit serait nul. Dans cette situation, il nous a paru que la taxe devait être modérée afin qu'elle ne fût jamais un obstacle pour la navigation.

Le cabotage en demeurera complètement affranchi.

Le Gouvernement avait proposé le droit uniforme de 1 franc par tonneau pour les autres navigations. Nous l'avons maintenu à ce taux pour les navigations lointaines, pour le long-cours, et nous le réduisons à moitié, soit 50 centimes par tonneau, pour les bâtiments de tous genres naviguant dans les mers d'Europe et dans la Méditerranée. Les règles et les usages appliqués autrefois, soit aux paquebots à vapeur, soit aux navires dont les voyages sont multipliés, seront rétablies afin de charger le moins possible les services de ces navires, pour lesquels toutefois l'exemption ne peut pas être admise. Le mouvement d'entrée dans nos ports, des navires de tout pavillon, s'est élevé, en 1869, à 6,584,293 tonneaux, qui se divisent ainsi :—

							Tonneaux.
Navigation des mers d'Europe et de la Méditerranée	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,130,788
Autre navigation	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,453,505
Total égal	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,584,293

Au taux de 50 centimes et de 1 franc, le droit de tonnage produirait 4,108,895 francs.

Les surtaxes de pavillon et d'entrepôt ajouteraient facilement 6,000,000 ; ce serait ainsi un revenu total approximatif de 10,000,000, sans parler des droits de francisation des navires étrangers que le projet procurerait au Trésor.

Telles sont, Messieurs, les mesures que nous vous proposons d'adopter au point de vue de la navigation marchande. Ces mesures assureront à l'Etat un revenu réel et légitime. Dans la pensée du Gouvernement comme dans la nôtre, elles ne créeront point pour la marine Française une protection exclusive de la concurrence étrangère. Elles rendront à nos constructions navales une part de travail et d'activité, qui profitera dans tous nos ports à de nombreux ouvriers, et nous éviterons ce péril d'être prochainement tributaires des étrangers pour le renouvellement et pour l'entretien de nos navires. Enfin cette grande industrie de la marine marchande, qui porte aux extrémités du monde le renom et la civilisation de la France, continuera d'être aussi l'école pratique de sa marine militaire ; elle assurera ainsi une partie de la force politique et de la grandeur du pays, de celle que nos récents désastres eux-mêmes n'ont pas diminuée. Aucun intérêt commercial Français et sérieux ne sera atteint, nous en avons la conviction. Vous aurez seulement arrêté la décadence fatale dont une législation imprudente a frappé deux des industries vitales du pays.

*Projet de Loi.*

Article 1. Les marchandises importés par navires étrangers seront passibles de surtaxes de pavillon fixés par 100 kilogrammes comme ci-après :—

Des pays d'Europe et du bassin de la Méditerranée, 75 centimes.



Des pays hors d'Europe, en deçà des Caps Horn et de Bonne Espérance, 1 franc 50 centimes.

Des pays au delà des Caps, 2 francs.

Art. 2. Les marchandises des pays hors d'Europe seront passibles à leur importation des entrepôts d'Europe d'une surtaxe de 3 francs par 100 kilogrammes.

Cette disposition n'est pas applicable aux marchandises que les lois actuellement en vigueur assujettissent à des surcharges plus élevées.

Art. 3. Les dispositions des Articles 1 et 2 sont applicables aux relations de l'Algérie avec la France et avec l'étranger.

Art. 4. Les droits à l'importation des bâtiments de mer sont fixés comme suit :—

Bâtiments grésés et armés à voiles en bois, 40 francs par tonneau de jauge ; en bois et fer, 50 francs par tonneau de jauge ; en fer, 60 francs par tonneau de jauge.

Bâtiments à vapeur, droits ci-dessus, augmentés du droit afférent à la machine.

Coques de bâtiments de mer en bois, 30 francs par tonneau de jauge ; en bois et fer, 40 francs par tonneau de jauge ; en fer, 50 francs par tonneau de jauge.

Ces droits ne seront pas applicables aux navires étrangers dont l'achat antérieur à la promulgation de la présente loi sera justifié par des actes authentiques.

Art. 5. Les navires de tout pavillon, venant de l'étranger ou des colonies et possessions Françaises, chargés en totalité ou en partie, acquitteront, pour frais de quai, une taxe fixée par tonneau de jauge, savoir :—

Pour les provenances des pays d'Europe ou du bassin de la Méditerranée, 50 centimes ;

Pour les arrivages de tous autres pays, 1 franc.

En cas d'escales successives dans plusieurs ports pour le même voyage, le droit ne sera payé qu'à la douane de prime-abord.

Art. 6. Les Articles 1, 3, et 5 de la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866, sont et demeurent rapportés.

(Translation.)

*Report made in the name of the Budget Committee, charged with the Examination of the Project of Law relative to new Imposts and Augmentations of Imposts (Articles 24 and 25 of the Project of Law on the Mercantile Marine), by M. Ancel, Member of the National Assembly.*

THE necessity of providing for the discharge of the very considerable burdens which the country's misfortunes have created for our finances, has imposed upon the Government and upon your Budget Committee the duty of studying the imposte already in force, which are easy of realization. Thus it happens that the Assembly has voted the augmentation of duties upon various articles of consumption, and that it will ask for new and important returns from other sources of the public Revenue.

In the present instance, we propose to you, with the consent of the Government, to levy upon the merchant navy, with a reduction in their amount, the tonnage duties and differential dues on shipping to which it was subject previously to the Law of the 19th of May, 1866. The re-establishment of these taxes is so much the more legitimate, inasmuch as it will, as we hope, extend to the French merchant navy an encouragement and a force which its situation imperatively requires.

In fact, the Law of the 19th of May, 1866, which destroyed all protection for this great industry of the merchant navy, has unhappily justified the apprehensions which had been expressed in every seaport and elsewhere by the adversaries of the new régime.

During the very extended and serious inquiry which was set on foot last year, very varied opinions were pronounced as to the means of rendering assistance to the merchant navy, and of rectifying the inequality of the conditions under which it found itself placed in comparison with the majority of foreign navies, but no one has denied this inequality, this disadvantage, nor the necessity for finding a remedy.

Some have thought that a complete rearrangement of our maritime regulations might suffice, with the addition of a system of premiums, of which mention has been made in the Congress of the United States.

Others, and these by far the most numerous, have insisted upon the establishment of the differential duties on shipping and taxes on goods in bond.

A system of premiums applied to the entire navigation of a great country would be so new—it would have so little in common with the general tone of our Customs Legislation, that lengthened investigation and great precautions would be necessary before creating a precedent which might affect other industries.



As regards the rearrangement of the Regulations, it is without doubt desirable to modify several of them, but in reality such a revision would effect only a slight alleviation of the cost of shipments, even if it were wished to strike a blow at the maritime inscription, that institution which has been just proving what sort of men it is capable of turning out, what defenders it gives to the country and to the laws, elsewhere, moreover, than on board the fleets.

There remain the differential duties and the taxes on bonded goods, which, prior to the law of 1866, were able to afford partial compensation for the causes of inferiority which the very nature of things creates for our navy. We say partial, for it must be always borne in mind that it is not for the direct transports—that is to say, from one country to another, that we aim at assuring a preference to the French flag. No, English products, coming directly from England or her colonies, those of the United States of America, or of any other countries, imported direct by English, American—in a word, by native vessels, are shielded from any differential duty by Reciprocity Treaties.

When, in 1822, the Government of the Restoration contracted with the United States the Treaties for which it has been blamed, it did that which was inevitable.

The United States had the production of cotton, and they required that their vessels should be received in our ports upon the same conditions as French vessels, on pain of levying an export duty upon the cottons destined for France; it was therefore necessary to submit to reciprocity. The same fact reproduced itself later, in 1825, in the case of England, who possesses coal, which we cannot do without.

Thus the nation which possesses the lading material, that is to say, the freight necessarily remains mistress of the navigation.

In France we have no product of great bulk in general demand, such as coal or cotton. We have but the products of our soil, of our industries, which cannot form what is called an important export freight. Cottons are brought to us almost entirely in American vessels, the products of England and of its colonies arrive in English vessels. Rulers of the vast territory of India, the English have caused their fashions and customs to prevail there, and our cargoes are unable to enter into competition with their own.

Our resources such as navigation, consist of the importations from our colonies; importations already diminished, as since the Law of the 3rd July, 1861, the colonists are able to send their sugars elsewhere than to France and under all flags. They consist also in the commerce which we have retained with South America. There, also, reciprocity Treaties have been contracted with Brazil, Chili, Peru, with Monte Video and Buenos Ayres; but as these countries either have no navy, or have one much inferior to our own, the transport may remain in our hands. There we possess the maritime advantages which arise from reciprocity.

Now, it is precisely this last refuge of our navigation that the law of 1866 has attacked. It provided that the English, American, German, or any other flags should be enabled to come and gather from Brazil, the River Plata, St. Domingo, and even from our colonies, the productions of these countries and to carry them to France at the same duties, with the same privilege as if they had been the French flag or the native flag of those countries; this is what is termed indirect navigation or intermediate flag ("tiers pavillon").

Thus, instead of retaining exclusive possession of these last shreds of our maritime commerce, we share them with America and England, who possess navies much stronger and better organized than our own, and we also share them with the navies of the north, with those of Germany and Italy which carry at a cheaper rate than ours. This, then, is what the Law of 1866 has done, a Law against which none of the French industries protested and which the Government of the time put into force. This Law was not applicable from the general point of view of the differential duties, until three years after its promulgation, that is to say, until the month of June 1869; but, on the one hand, Conventional Treaties already suppressed the differential dues on several important articles; on the other, the apprehension of the effects of the law caused discouragement: ship-building has been stopped, the decrease of French cargoes has been rapid, and, in proportion as the differential duties have been abolished, the intrusion of foreign flags in the maritime carrying trade has increased.

Moreover, before 1860, we used to receive in French ships the greater part of the products of the Indian and Southern Seas. Thanks to the new Treaties, our vessels have seen themselves successively supplanted by foreign shipping. In 1869, out of a total weight of 221,000,000 kilos., representing the principal merchandizes furnished by India and Oceania, only 50,000,000 kilos., that is to say, about one-fourth, arrived under our flag. The remaining 171,000,000 kilos. have been imported under a foreign flag, either directly or through the bonded warehouses. In the Southern Seas, out of a total weight of 116,000,000 kilos., the share of our shipping has been but 43,500,000 kilos.,



while that of the foreign shipping has risen to 72,500,000 kilos. Similar results were produced, during the last months of 1869, in Brazil, in the River Plata, and in neighbouring countries ever since the differential shipping duty was once for all suppressed by the Law of 1866. We only received from these countries in 1868, under a foreign flag, 10,600,000 kilos. of coffee, wood, skins, &c. In 1869, although the new *régime* only dated from the 11th of June, the importations under a foreign flag had reached 31,000,000 kilos.: that is to say, they had immediately tripled.

Another and an irrefragable proof of the decline of our shipping is to be found in its effective force. In 1869 the tonnage of our sailing vessels was inferior to that of 1859 (932,000 tons instead of 961,000 tons); during the preceding decennial period, from 1850 to 1859, this tonnage had increased by nearly 50 per cent. (674,000 tons in 1850, 961,000 tons in 1859). From 1859 to 1869 the effective of our steam navy, had, it is true, reached from 65,000 tons to 143,000 tons; but the increase appertains entirely to the subventioned shipping which should properly be left out of calculation, inasmuch as it is employed on special services, and, moreover, as the subvention constitutes for it a far superior advantage to that which would result from differential duties.

If we compare the effective of the shipping of England and America, with which we have everywhere to contend, we find that, in 1867, against 15,602 vessels, both sailing and steamers, possessed by France, and which gave a tonnage of 1,048,679 tons, England had 40,905 vessels, the total tonnage of which amounted to 7,232,672 tons.

At the same period, the American shipping had risen, notwithstanding the reductions which the war of secession had inflicted upon it, to 3,957,515 tons; the Italian shipping reached 815,516 tons; that of the Netherlands, 538,676 tons. To these formidable competitors have been recently added those of the northern ports, which, closed during four months, send their vessels to our coasts, where the low cost of their equipments enables them to carry off from our coasting trade a portion of its freights.

It is, Gentlemen, in order to recover the freights which escape our great carrying trade and to arrest the visible decrease in our equipments, which form the sole practical school to which the State looks for seamen—for men-of-war's men—wherewith to arm its fleets; it is with this object that the Government has proposed to the Assembly Article 25 of the Project of Law relative to the new imposts, which runs thus:—

“The decrees of the Chief of the Executive Power will determine the merchandize to which the warehousing or shipping duties are to apply, as also the amount of these duties. The dispositions to the contrary of the Law of the 19th May, 1866, are repealed.”

We have considered that it would not be possible that these differential duties should be determined otherwise than by law. The Government has come to the same conclusion, and it is with their concurrence that we propose to you the following respective arrangements:—

The differential duties are divided in the project into three categories, answering firstly, to the shipping trade in the European Seas and in the Mediterranean; secondly, to the shipping trade in the Atlantic; thirdly, to the shipping trade beyond Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope.

For the first category, the duty will be at the rate of 75 c. per kilo. (about 7 fr. 50 c. per ton of freight).

Those among you, Gentlemen, who reside at the ports along the coasts skirting the three seas on which France is so happily situated, will have been able to follow the course of that very interesting shipping trade known as the small and great coasting trade; they know how it suffers through the dominating competition of the railways; and, with regard to its relations with the countries of Europe and of the basin of the Mediterranean, it undergoes the formidable competition of the Norwegians, Swedes, and Germans in the Channel, and upon the Ocean; that of the Italians and of the Greeks in the Mediterranean. It is nevertheless this trade, which, in Flanders, in Normandy, in Brittany, in Provence, draws towards the Sea the populations of the coast, to the great profit of the country, and forms an admirable nursery for robust and devoted sailors, whence the State draws its supply of recruits for its fleets.

This slight protection of 75 c. per 100 kilos. will prove an encouragement for them.

As regards the second category of the shipping trade, *i.e.*, that which extends to the Atlantic, the differential duty would amount to 1 fr. 50 c. per 100 kilos. (or 15 fr. per ton of freight, which was fixed at 20 fr. previously to the Law of 1866). Lastly, for the third category, 2 fr. per 100 kilos. (or 20 fr. per ton of freight, settled at 30 fr. before 1866).

We believe that these differential duties, thus reduced, would hold out an encouragement to the maritime equipments of France in proportion to the distances, without there being any ground for fearing that the cost of transport would ever rise to an excessive rate.



Without doubt, considerable changes are in preparation ; the iron ships would seem to be that of the future, and one of these marvellous achievements to which science has accustomed us, may render possible, even by steam, a part of the traffic of commerce.

The discoveries and improvements, however, of science appertain to all, and they will not alter, with respect to shipping, the relative powers of the countries who all know how to make use of them.

On the other hand, these transformations will necessitate considerable expenses, and in France capital does not easily flow in the direction of shipping.

For the warehousing duties, the Project fixes, once for all the proportion of 3 fr. per 100 kilos. Experience shows that below this amount these duties become unavailing, the bonding warehouses of London and of Antwerp being, so to speak, neighbours of our great centres of consumption, and the difference of the duties finding itself partly annulled by the difference in the cost of transport. When it is a question of merchandize of great value and of small weight, experience has shown that it is necessary to take into consideration the first of these elements in establishing differential duties which might, if only weight were regarded, find themselves annulled by the mere variation of the market.

We therefore propose to maintain for this class of merchandize the special differential duties already in force.

#### *Registration of Vessels.*

The re-imposition of taxes on shipping necessarily led to the examination of the present import duty on foreign vessels of which the registration is demanded. This duty is purely nominal, 2 fr. a ton, one-third to one-half per cent., according as the vessels are of wood or iron.

Thus, our builders have no protection against the competition of foreign builders. This *regime* dates also from the Law of May 19, 1866. It was combined with the facility accorded to our builders by the same Law for the importation from abroad, free of duty, of all the materials either in a raw or manufactured state which they used. In fact, there was in that no balance of conditions. The importation of foreign ships has developed itself, whilst building became less brisk and our builders were soon without work. Already, last year, the loudest complaints were made at all the ports ; at the present time our workshops from Dunkirk to Bayonne are deserted.

The legislative arrangements which allowed the registration of foreign vessels are of recent date. The Law of September 21, 1793, reserved the right of carrying the French flag to ships built in France only. It was a Decree of October 17, 1855, issued in consequence of the insufficiency of our naval material during the Crimean War, which caused for the first time a departure from the rule, by establishing a tax of 10 per cent on the value of ships purchased abroad. At the same time the builders gained the right of receiving free of duty the materials which they used. Remonstrances of various kinds having been made, the Decree, the action of which had been limited to three years, was not renewed ; but in 1860 and 1861 the ancient prohibition excluding foreign ships was definitely removed by the Treaties. According to the stipulations in them, wooden and iron ships were taxed at about 10 per cent of their value. These restrictions were abolished by the law of 1866, which permits their entry in consideration of the illusory duty of 2 fr. a ton. It is the amount of the Conventional Tariffs of 1860 and 1861 which the Government has proposed to introduce into the Customs Tariff for the introduction of vessels of wood and of iron. It has appeared to us that these Tariffs in fact afforded to the French builders a compensation for the aggregate charges which weighed upon them, and we propose to you to fix them as follows :—

Rigged and fitted sailing ships of wood, 40 fr. per ton ; of wood and iron, 50 fr. per ton ; of iron, 60 fr. per ton.

Steam-ships rigged and fitted, the duties above-mentioned with the addition of the duty imposed on the machinery.

Hulls of seagoing ships of wood 30 fr. a ton ; of wood and iron, 40 fr. a ton ; of iron, 50 fr. a ton.

We earnestly trust that this protection may restore the industry of ship-building, which has always held such an important place in French industries, and in which our constructors and our engineers have attained a degree of perfection which has been surpassed by no country, and it has been said with reason in the United States' Congress, "a nation which arrives at the determination to purchase its vessels, instead of constructing them, will soon cease to navigate."

The propositions relative to the re-establishment of the differential duties on shipping, and the registration of vessels, have not been unanimously agreed to by the Commission.



A small minority disputed them, and demanded that its opinion should be embodied in the report.

Our honourable colleagues said that, in their opinion, the re-establishment of the differential duties on shipping, and of duties on goods in bond, would impose charges on commerce, without coming to the assistance of the merchant navy, and that, in any case, a question so complex, and touching so many interests, could not be settled without consideration, as the Government demanded, in connection with the Budget Law; but that it should be referred to the examination of a Special Committee, which would only decide upon it after investigation.

It was objected that, after such a thorough and prolonged inquiry as had taken place last year, as late as the months of July and August, the utility of a fresh inquiry was not apparent; all the points having been explained, and all opinions having been stated and entered in the minutes of the investigation, which have been printed and published, and which are at the disposal of the deputies.

There would be less reason for a fresh inquiry, as the terrible events which have taken place since in France, have only aggravated the perilous situation of the merchant navy, while rival navies have been able tranquilly to continue their operations, and even to profit by the obstacles which the interruption of affairs occasioned in several of our ports to the fitting out of French vessels.

The question is therefore known, and, as this report explains, the Government has been led to introduce it as the taxes leviable on navigation are proved to be easy of collection.

In short, Gentlemen, a final arrangement is submitted to you: that is, the tonnage duty. This duty, which the Law of October 18, 1793, had fixed at 15, 20, and 30 c. a ton for French vessels, according to the nature of their employment, and uniformly at 2 fr. 50 c. for foreign vessels, have frequently varied by reason of Treaties concluded with different countries.

The Law of 1866 abolished this duty; it was maintained exceptionally at Havre, where the revenue is employed, with the concurrence of the Chamber of Commerce, in the enlargement of the port. It seems that the revenue of the tonnage duty should, in fact, be applied always to the maintenance and to the improvement of the ports. Such was the idea which had originated it, and, in accordance with this view, it is right that native vessels themselves should not be exempted, since they profit by the service rendered by the State, which is charged with the maintenance in question. Moreover, this duty can be productive only conditionally on its payment by all vessels, without exception; for Navigation Treaties granting, by reciprocity, native treatment to almost all foreign vessels, they would enjoy the immunity accorded to French vessels, and the duty would amount to nothing. Under these circumstances it has appeared to us that the tax shall be lessened, so that it might never prove an obstacle to navigation.

The coasting trade will remain completely untouched by it.

The Government had proposed the uniform duty of 1 fr. a ton for the other classes of navigation. We have maintained it at that figure for distant voyages, for long sea, and we reduce it to one half, that is, 50 c. a ton for all vessels, of all descriptions, navigating in European waters, and in the Mediterranean. The regulations and usages formerly applied, whether to steam-ships, or to ships which go from place to place, will be re-established, so as to tax as little as possible the employment of such vessels; for which, however, exemption cannot be admitted. The amount of entries in our ports, of ships of all flags, rose, in 1869 to 6,584,293 tons, which are thus divided:—

						Tons.
Navigation of European waters and the Mediterranean	..	..	..	..	..	5,130,788
Navigation in other seas	..	..	..	..	..	1,453,505
Total	..	..	..	..	..	6,584,293

At the rate of 50 c. and of 1 fr., the tonnage duty would produce 4,108,895 fr.

The differential duties on shipping and on warehousing would add easily 6,000,000 fr.; it would thus make an approximate total revenue of 10,000,000 fr. without counting the duty for registration of foreign vessels which the project would bring to the Treasury.

Such are, Gentlemen, the measures, the adoption of which as regards the merchant navy, we propose to you. These measures will assure to the State a real and legitimate revenue. In the opinion of the Government, as in our own, they will create for the French merchant navy no protection which will exclude foreign competition. They will restore to our shipbuilding interests such a degree of work and activity, which will be to the advantage of numbers of workpeople in all our ports, and we shall avoid the danger of



becoming before long dependent on foreigners for the repair and maintenance of our vessels.

In short, this great industry of the merchant navy which carries to the ends of the earth the renown and the civilization of France, will continue also to be the practical school of its war navy; it will thus insure a portion of our political influence and the greatness of the country, of that which our recent disasters themselves have not diminished. No serious French commercial interest will be injured, we are convinced. You will have arrested only the fatal decline which an imprudent legislation has allowed to injure two of the vital industries of the country.

*Project of Law.*

Article 1. Merchandize imported in foreign vessels will be subject to differential duties fixed as follows per 100 kilos.

From European countries and the basin of the Mediterranean, 75 c.

From countries out of Europe on this side of the Capes Horn and of Good Hope, 1 fr. 50 c.

From countries beyond the Capes, 2 fr.

Art 2. Merchandize of countries out of Europe will be subject at their importation from the bonded warehouses of Europe to a surtax of 3 fr. per 100 kilos.

This arrangement is not applicable to goods which existing laws subject to higher surcharges.

Art. 3. The arrangements of Articles 1 and 2 are applicable to the communications of Algeria with France and with foreign countries.

Art. 4. The duties on the importation of seagoing ships are fixed as follows:—

Rigged sailing-ships of wood, 40 fr. a ton; of wood and iron 50 fr. a ton; of iron, 60 fr. a ton.

Steam-ships, duties as above, increased by the duty attaching to the engine.

Hulls of wooden seagoing ships, 30 fr. a ton; of wood and iron, 40 fr. a ton; of iron, 50 fr. a ton.

These duties shall not be leviable on foreign vessels the purchase of which anterior to the promulgation of the present Law can be proved by authentic documents.

Art. 5. Vessels of all flags, coming from foreign countries or from French Colonies and possessions, wholly or partly laden, will pay as a quay charge a fixed tax per ton, namely:—

For arrivals from the countries of Europe or from the basin of the Mediterranean, 50 c.

All arrivals from other countries, 1 fr.

In the case of successive calls at several ports during the same voyage, the duty shall be paid only at the Custom-house of the port first touched at.

Art. 6. Arts. 1, 3 and 5, of the Law of May 19, 1866, are and remain abrogated.

No. 33.

*The Duc de Broglie to Earl Granville.—(Received September 14.)*

*Londres, le 13 Septembre, 1871.*

LE Duc de Broglie présente à son Excellence M. le Comte Granville les assurances de sa haute considération, et il a l'honneur de lui transmettre ci-jointe le texte d'un projet de Traité de Commerce, accompagné de deux Tableaux (A et B).

Cette communication répond au désir qui a été exprimé au nom du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique dans la note de son Excellence le Comte Granville en date du 21 Août.

(Translation.)

*London, September 13, 1871.*

THE Duc de Broglie presents the assurances of his highest consideration to his Excellency the Earl Granville, and has the honour to transmit to him herewith the text of a project of a Commercial Treaty, accompanied by two Tables (A and B).

This scheme accords with the desire expressed in the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, in the note of his Excellency the Earl Granville, dated August 21st.



## Inclosure 1 in No. 33.

*Draft of Treaty of Commerce between France and Great Britain.*

## ARTICLE I.

LES marchandises d'origine ou de manufacture Britanniques énumérées dans le Tableau (A) annexé au présent Traité resteront, à leur importation en France, soumises aux droits établis, à la suite du Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, par les Conventions intervenues entre les Hautes Puissances Contractantes les 12 Octobre et 16 Novembre de la même année.

## ARTICLE II.

Les suppléments de droits inscrits dans le Tableau (B) annexé au présent Traité seront en outre des droits compensateurs fixés conformément aux dispositions de l'Article suivant, accordés aux fils et tissus énumérées dans le dit Tableau (B).

## ARTICLE III.

Outre les droits fixés par les Conventions des 12 Octobre et 16 Novembre, 1860, ainsi que par la disposition inscrite dans l'Article précédent, les marchandises reprises au Tableau (C) annexé au présent Traité paieront, à titre de compensation des impôts établis en France sur les matières premières et les matières tinctoriales, un supplément de droits dont la quotité a été déterminée, d'un commun accord, entre les Hautes Puissances Contractantes et inscrite dans le dit Tableau (B).

Dans le cas où la situation financière de la France permettrait de réduire les taxes imposées sur les matières tinctoriales qui entrent dans la fabrication des produits énumérés dans le Tableau (C), une réduction correspondante sera faite dans le taux des droits dits compensateurs.

## ARTICLE IV.

Les stipulations du Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, et des Conventions annexés des 12 Octobre et 16 Novembre de la même année, demeureront en vigueur pour celles qui ne dérogent pas aux dispositions du présent Traité.

## ARTICLE V.

Le présent Traité ne sera valable qu'autant que le Président de la République Française aura été autorisé par l'Assemblée Nationale à exécuter les engagements contractés dans les Articles qui précèdent.

## ARTICLE VI.

Le présent Traité restera en vigueur jusqu'au 1 Janvier, 1877.

(Translation.)

## ARTICLE I.

GOODS of British origin or manufacture enumerated in the Table (A) annexed to the present Treaty, will, on their importation into France, remain subject to the duties established in accordance with the Treaty of the 23rd January, 1860, by the Conventions entered into between the High Contracting Powers of the 12th October and 16th November of the same year.

## ARTICLE II.

The supplementary duties inscribed in the Table (B) annexed to the present Treaty will, besides the compensatory duties fixed in conformity with the provisions of the following Article, be imposed on threads and tissues enumerated in the said Table (B).

## ARTICLE III.

Besides the duties fixed by the Conventions of the 12th October and the 16th November, 1860, as also by the provision inscribed in the preceding Article, goods included in the Table (C) annexed to the present Tariff will pay, as compensation for



taxes established in France on raw and dyeing materials, a supplementary duty, the amount of which has been fixed upon by common consent between the High Contracting Powers, and inscribed in the said Table (B).

Should the financial situation of France permit a reduction to be made in the taxes imposed on the dyeing materials which enter into the fabrication of the products enumerated in the Table (C), a corresponding reduction will be made in the rate of duties called compensatory.

#### ARTICLE IV.

The stipulations of the Treaty of the 23rd January, 1860, and of the Conventions annexed of the 12th of October and the 16th November of the same year, will remain in force as regards those which are not opposed to the provisions of the present Treaty.

#### ARTICLE V.

The present Treaty will not be valid until the President of the French Republic has been authorized by the National Assembly to execute the engagements contracted in the preceding Articles.

#### ARTICLE VI.

The present Treaty will remain in force until the 1st of January, 1877.



## Inclosure 2 in No. 33.

TABLEAU A.—Maintien du régime actuel pour les produits ci-après désignés.

Dénomination des Articles.		Taux des Droits d'Entrée.	
		Bases.	Droits.
			Fr. c.
COMBUSTIBLES ET MINERAUX.			
HOUILLE :—			
Crue ou carbonisée .. .. .	Les 100 kilo.	0	12
METAUX.			
FER :—			
Minerai de fer .. .. .	..	Exempts	
Mâchefer, limailles et scories de forges .. .. .	..	id.	
Fonte brute en masse .. .. .	Les 100 kilo.	2	0
Débris de vieux ouvrages en fonte .. .. .	id.	2	0
Fonte épurée, dise "mazée" .. .. .	id.	2	75
Ferrailles et débris de vieux ouvrages en fer .. .. .	id.	2	75
Fer brut en massiaux ou prismes retenant encore des scories .. .. .	id.	4	50
Fers en barres carrées, rondes, ou plates, rails de toutes formes, fers d'angles et à T, et fils de fer, sauf les exceptions ci-après .. .. .	id.	6	0
Fers feuillards en bandes d'un millimètre d'épaisseur ou moins .. .. .	id.	7	50
Tôles laminées ou martelées de plus d'un millimètre d'épaisseur, en feuilles pesant 200 kilogrammes ou moins, et dont la largeur n'excède pas 1 mètre 20 centimètres, ni la longueur 4 mètres 50 centimètres .. .. .	id.	7	50
Tôles en feuilles pesant plus de 200 kilogrammes, ou bien ayant plus de 1 mètre 20 centimètres de largeur, ou plus de 4 mètres 50 centimètres de longueur .. .. .	id.	7	50
Tôles minces et fers noirs en feuilles d'un millimètre d'épaisseur ou moins .. .. .	id.	10	0
(Les feuilles de tôle ou fers noirs, planes, découpées d'une façon quelconque, paieront un dixième en plus des feuilles rectangulaires.)			
Fer étamé (fer blanc) .. .. .	id.	13	0
Fil de fer de cinq-dixièmes de millimètres de diamètre et au-dessous, qu'il soit étamé, cuivré, ou zingué .. .. .	id.	10	0
ACIER :—			
Aciers en barres de toute espèce .. .. .	id.	13	0
Aciers en tôles de plus de 2 millimètres d'épaisseur .. .. .	id.	18	0
Aciers en tôles de 2 millimètres d'épaisseur ou moins .. .. .	id.	25	0
Fils d'acier même blanchi pour cordes d'instruments .. .. .	id.	25	0
Manganèse (minerai) .. .. .	..	Exempt	
OUVRAGES EN FONTE MOULES, NON TOURNES NI POLIS.			
FONTE :—			
1re Classe. Coussinets de chemin de fer, plaques ou autres pièces coulées à découvert .. .. .	id.	3	0
2e Classe. Tuyaux cylindriques, droits, poutrelles et colonnes pleines, cornues pour la fabrication du gaz .. .. .	id.	3	75
3e Classe. Poteries et tous autres ouvrages non désignés dans les deux classes précédentes .. .. .	id.	4	50
Ouvrages en fonte, polis ou tournés .. .. .	id.	6	0
Ouvrages en fonte, étamés, émaillés, ou vernissés .. .. .	id.	10	0
FERRONERIE, comprenant—			
FER :—			
Pièces de charpente .. .. .	Les 100 kilo.	8	0
Courbes et solives pour navires .. .. .			
Ferrures de charrettes et wagons .. .. .			
Gonds, pentures, gros verroux, équerres et autres gros ferrements de portes ou croisées non tournés ni polis .. .. .	id.	8	0
Grilles en fer plein, lits, sièges et meubles de jardin avec ou sans ornements accessoires en fonte, cuivre, acier .. .. .			
(Les essieux, et ressorts, et bandages de roues ne sont pas compris dans cette nomenclature, et figurent parmi les pièces détachées de machines.)			



Dénomination des Articles.	Taux des Droits d'Entrée.	
	Bases.	Droits.
		Fr. c.
<b>SERRURERIE, comprenant—</b>		
Serrures et cadenas en fer de toute sorte, fiches et charnières en tôle, loquets, targettes, et tous autres objets en fer ou tôles, tournés, polis, ou limés pour ferrure de meubles, portes, et croisées .. ..	Les 100 kilos.	12 0
Clous forgés à la mécanique .. ..	id.	8 0
Clous forgés à la main .. ..	id.	12 0
Vis à bois, boulons et écrous .. ..	id.	8 0
Ancres .. ..	id.	8 0
Câbles et chaînes en fer .. ..	id.	8 0
Outils en fer pur, emmanchés ou non .. ..	id.	10 0
Tubes en fer étirés, soudés par simple rapprochement, de moins de 9 millimètres, raccords de toute espèce .. ..	id.	20 0
Tubes en fer étirés, soudés sur mandrin et à recouvrements .. ..	id.	20 0
Hameçons de mer, étames ou non .. ..	id.	50 0
Articles de ménage et autres ouvrages non-dénommés :—En fer ou en tôle, émaillés, étamés ou vernissés .. ..	id.	16 0
<b>ACIER :—</b>		
Outils en acier pur (limes, scies circulaires ou droites, faux, faucilles et autres non dénommés) .. ..	id.	32 0
Aiguilles à coudre de moins de 9 centimètres .. ..	id.	200 0
Aiguilles à coudre de 9 centimètres ou plus .. ..	id.	100 0
Hameçons de rivière en acier, bleuis ou non .. ..		
Plumes métalliques, en métal autre que l'or et l'argent .. ..	id.	20 0
Petits objets en acier, tels que perles, coulants, broches, et dés à coudre ..	id.	32 0
Articles de ménage et autres ouvrages en acier pur non dénommés ..	Valeur	15 pour cent
Coutellerie de toute espèce .. ..	id.	10 „ „
Instruments de chirurgie, d'optique, et de précision .. ..		
<b>ARMES DE COMMERCE :—</b>		
Armes blanches .. ..	Les 100 kilos.	40 0
Armes à feu .. ..	id.	240 0
<b>METEAUX DIVERS.</b>		
Outils en fer rechargés d'acier, emmanchés ou non .. ..	Les 100 kilos.	15 0
Objets en fonte et fer non polis, le poids du fer étant inférieur à la moitié du poids total .. ..	id.	4 50
Objets en fonte et fer non polis, le poids du fer étant égal ou supérieur à la moitié du poids total .. ..	id.	8 0
Objets en fonte et fer polis, émaillés, ou vernissés, même avec ornements accessoires en fer, cuivre, laiton ou acier .. ..	id.	12 0
Coiles métalliques en fer ou en acier .. ..	id.	10 0
Chaudronnerie .. ..	id.	20 0
Ouvrages en plaqué, sans distinction de titre .. ..	id.	100 0
Ouvrages en métaux, dorés ou argentés, soit au mercure soit par les procédés électro-chimiques .. ..	id.	100 0
Orfèvrerie et bijouterie en or, argent, platine, ou autres métaux .. ..	id.	500 0
<b>MACHINES ET MECANIQUES.</b>		
<b>APPAREILS COMPLETS :—</b>		
Machines à vapeur fixes, avec ou sans chaudières, avec ou sans volants ..	id.	6 0
Machines pour la navigation avec ou sans chaudières .. ..	id.	12 0
Machines locomotives ou locomobiles .. ..	id.	10 0
Tenders complets de machines locomotives .. ..	id.	8 0
Machines pour la filature .. ..	id.	6 0
„ pour le tissage .. ..		
„ pour fabriquer le papier .. ..		
„ à imprimer .. ..		
„ pour l'agriculture .. ..		
„ à bouter les plaques et rubans de cardes .. ..		
Metiers à tulle .. ..	id.	10 0
Cardes non garnies .. ..	id.	10 0
Chaudières à vapeur en tôle de fer, cylindriques ou sphériques, avec ou sans bouilleurs ou réchauffeurs .. ..	id.	8 0
Chaudières à vapeur tubulaires en tôle de fer, à tubes en fer étirés, ou en tôle clouée, à foyers intérieurs, et toutes autres chaudières de forme non-cylindrique ou sphérique simple .. ..	id.	13 0
Chaudières à vapeur en tôle ou en fonte et tôle .. ..	id.	25 0
Gazomètres, chaudières découvertes, poêles et calorifères, en tôle ou en fonte et tôle .. ..	id.	8 0



Dénomination des Articles.	Taux des Droits d'Entrée.	
	Bases.	Droits.
		Fr. c.
Machines outils, et machines non-dénommées, contenant 75 pour cent de fonte et plus .. .. .	Les 100 kilos.	6 0
Machines outils contenant 50 à 75 pour cent de leur poids en fonte ..	id.	10 0
Machines outils contenant moins de 50 pour cent de leur poids en fonte ..	id.	15 0
PIECES DETACHEES DE MACHINES.		
Plaques et rubans de cardes sur cuir, caoutchouc, ou sur tissus purs ou mélangés .. .. .	id.	50 0
Dents de rots en fer .. .. .	id.	30 0
Rots, ferrures ou peignes à tisser, à dents de fer .. .. .	id.	30 0
Pièces en fonte, polies, limées, et ajustées .. .. .	id.	6 0
Pièces en fer forgé, polies, limées et ajustées ou non, quel que soit leur poids .. .. .	id.	10 0
Ressorts en acier pour carrosserie, wagons et locomotives .. ..	id.	15 0
Pièces en acier, polies, limées, ajustées ou non, pesant plus d'un kilogramme .. .. .	id.	25 0
Pièces en acier, polies, limées, ajustées ou non, pesant un kilogramme ou moins .. .. .	id.	35 0
Or battu en feuilles .. .. .	Le kilo.	100 0
Carrosserie .. .. .	La valeur	10 pour cent.
Bâtiments de mer construits dans le Royaume Uni, non encore immatriculés ou naviguant sous pavillon Britannique, en fer .. ..	{ Par tonneau de jauge Fran- çais }	Fr. c.
		60 0
Coques de bâtiments de mer, en fer .. .. .	id.	10 0
N.B. Les machines et moteurs installés à bord de ces bâtiments seront taxés séparément d'après le chiffre des droits spécifiés sous la rubrique "Machines et Mécaniques."		
PRODUITS CHIMIQUES.		
Iode .. .. .	}	Exempts.
Brome .. .. .		
Acide sulfurique .. .. .		
„ nitrique .. .. .		
„ tartrique .. .. .		
„ benzoïque .. .. .		
„ borique .. .. .		
„ citrique .. .. .		
„ arsénieux .. .. .		
Oxide de fer .. .. .		
„ d'urane .. .. .		
Safre et autres composés du cobalt .. .. .		
Sulfures d'arsenic .. .. .		
Chlorure de potassium .. .. .		
Iodure de potassium .. .. .		
Salin de betteraves .. .. .		
Carbonate de potasse .. .. .		
Nitrate de potasse .. .. .		
Sulfate de potasse .. .. .		
Tartrate de potasse .. .. .		
Cendres végétales, vives et lessivées .. .. .		
Lies de vin .. .. .		
Borax brut .. .. .		
Nitrate de soude .. .. .		
Soude de varech .. .. .		
Phosphates naturels .. .. .		
Citrates de chaux .. .. .		
Sulfate de magnésie .. .. .		
Carbonate de magnésie .. .. .		
Chlorure de magnésium .. .. .		
Phosphore blanc .. .. .	Les 100 kilos.	Fr. c.
Prussiate jaune de potasse .. .. .	id.	40 0
„ rouge de potasse .. .. .	id.	20 0
Cuanna en poudre .. .. .	id.	30 0
Acide hydrochlorique, acide muriatique .. .. .	id.	5 0
Soude caustique .. .. .	id.	0 60
Carbonate de soude (sels de soude) à tous degrés .. .. .	id.	5 0
Soude artificielle brute .. .. .	id.	3 0
Carbonate de soude cristallisée (cristaux de soude) .. .. .	id.	1 50
		1 50



Dénomination des Articles.	Taux des Droits d'Entrée.	
	Bases.	Droits.
		Fr. c.
Sulfate et sulfite de soude .. .. .	Les 100 kilos.	1 20
Sulfate cristallisé (sel de Glauber) .. .. .	id.	0 70
Bicarbonate de soude et autres sels de soude non dénommés .. .. .	id.	3 50
Chlorure de chaux .. .. .	id.	2 80
Chlorate de potasse .. .. .	id.	25 75
Outremer .. .. .	id.	15 0
Phosphore rouge .. .. .	Valeur	10 pour cent.
Aluminium .. .. .		
Aluminate de soude .. .. .		
Chromates de potasse .. .. .		
Couleurs non dénommées sèches et en pâtes ou liquides .. .. .		
Vernis à l'essence .. .. .	id.	5 pour cent.
„ à l'esprit de vin .. .. .		
Produits chimiques non dénommés .. .. .	id.	5 pour cent.
VERRERIE.		
Miroirs ayant moins d'un mètre carré .. .. .	id.	10 pour cent.
Glaces :—		Fr. c.
Brutes .. .. .	{ Par mètre carré de superficie	1 50
Etamées ou polies .. .. .	id.	4 0
Bouteilles de toutes formes .. .. .	Les 100 kilos.	1 30
Verres :—		
A vitre .. .. .	id.	3 50
De couleur, polis ou gravés .. .. .		
De montre et d'optique .. .. .		
Vitrifications .. .. .		
Emaux .. .. .		
Objets en verre non dénommés .. .. .		
Groisl et verre cassé .. .. .	..	Exempt.
Cristal de roche brut ou ouvré .. .. .	..	id.
Nota.—Le cristal monté sera taxé comme la bijouterie et l'horlogerie.		
POTERIES.		
POTERIE GROSSIERE :—		
Carreaux, briques et huiles .. .. .	..	Exempt.
Cornues à gaz, tuyaux de drainage et autres, creusets de toute sorte, y compris ceux en graphite et plombagine .. .. .		
Pipes en terre .. .. .		
Vernissées ou non de toutes formes .. .. .		
Vernissées avec décorations et reliefs unicolores ou multicolores, platerie et creux .. .. .		
	Les 100 kilos.	Fr. c. 5 0
POTERIE DE GRES :—		
Ustensiles et appareils pour la fabrication des produits chimiques .. .. .	..	Exempt.
Commune de toute sorte, platerie et creux, comprenant la forme bouteille, les carafes, objets de ménage, ustensiles de cuisine .. .. .	Les 100 kilos.	4 0
FAIENCE :—		
Stannifère, pâte colorée, glaçure blanche .. .. .	..	Exempt.
Glaçure colorée, majoliques vernissées multicolores .. .. .	Valeur	15 pour cent.
Fine .. .. .		
Grès fin .. .. .		
Porcelaines de toute sorte, blanche ou coloré ou décoré, parian, et biscuit blanc .. .. .	id.	10 pour cent.
ARTICLES DIVERS.		
Caoutchouc ouvré :—		Fr. c.
Pur et mélangé .. .. .	Les 100 kilos.	20 0
(N.B. Les ouvrages en gutta percha suivront le même régime.)		
Cirage de toute sorte .. .. .	id.	4 0
Poissons d'eau douce :—		
Frais .. .. .	..	Exempt.
Préparés .. .. .	Les 100 kilos.	10 0
Poisson de mer frais, sec, salé ou fumé, à l'exclusion de la morue .. .. .	id.	10 0
Epices préparés (sauces) .. .. .	id.	25 0
Fromages de pâte dure .. .. .	id.	10 0
Pière .. .. .	{ 2 francs par hectolitre, plus le droit de consommation.	
Ardoises :—		
Pour toitures .. .. .	Les 1000 kilos.	4 0
En carreaux ou en tables .. .. .	Les 100 kilos.	10 0



(Translation.)

TABLE (A).—The present scale is maintained for the productions hereafter specified.

Description of Articles.		Rates of Import Duties.	
		Fr.	c.
COMBUSTIBLES AND MINERALS.			
COAL—			
Raw or carbonised .. .. .		0	12 per 100 kilog.
METALS.			
IRON—			
Ore of .. .. .			Free.
Filings, slag, and dross from the forge .. .. .			"
Pig and fragments of old cast iron .. .. .		2	00 per 100 kilog.
Purified cast, called "mazée," and old broken wrought iron .. .. .		2	75 "
Crude, in lumps or prisms, not freed from the dross .. .. .		4	50 "
Bars, square, round, or flat; rails of all shapes and dimensions; angle and T iron; and wire, with the exceptions hereinafter mentioned .. .. .		6	00 "
Hoops, of the thickness of 1 millim. or less .. .. .			
Sheet, rolled or hammered, exceeding 1 millim. in thickness .. .. .		7	50 "
In plates weighing 200 kilogs. or less, and of which the breadth does not exceed 1 m. 20 centim., nor the length of 4 m. 50 centim. .. .. .			
In plates exceeding 200 kilogs. in weight, or 1 m. 20 centim. in breadth, or 4 m. 50 centim. in length .. .. .		7	50 "
Sheet, thin, and black iron, in plates of 1 millim. or less in thickness .. .. .		10	00 "
(N.B.—Thin sheet and black iron in flat plates, cut out or trimmed in any way, to pay one-tenth more than rectangular plates.)			
Sheets, tinned, coppered, covered with zinc or lead .. .. .		13	00 "
Wire, not exceeding $\frac{5}{10}$ millim. in diameter, whether tinned, coppered or covered with zinc .. .. .		10	00 "
STEEL—			
In bars of all kinds .. .. .		13	00 "
Sheet, exceeding 2 millim. in thickness .. .. .		18	00 "
Sheet, not exceeding 2 millim. in thickness, and wire, including bright wire for instruments .. .. .		25	00 "
Manganese (ore) .. .. .			Free.
CAST IRON MANUFACTURES NOT TURNED OR POLISHED.			
CAST IRON—			
1st Class. Chairs for railways, plates and other castings from the open mould.		3	00 per 100 kilog.
2nd Class. Cylindrical pipes (straight), rafters, solid columns, and gas retorts .. .. .		3	75 "
3rd Class. Pots and all other manufactures not included in the preceding classes .. .. .		4	50 "
Polished or turned .. .. .		6	00 "
Tinned, enamelled, or varnished .. .. .		10	00 "
IRONWARES, including—			
WROUGHT IRON—			
Frameworks .. .. .			
Knees and girders for ships .. .. .			
Ironwork for carts and waggons .. .. .			
Hinges; clamps; large bolts; braces, and other fastenings of doors and windows, not polished or turned .. .. .		8	00 "
Gratings (solid); beds; seats and furniture for gardens, with or without ornaments or adjuncts in cast iron, steel, or copper .. .. .			
(N.B.—Axles, springs, and tires for wheels are not included in the above category, but are classed among detached pieces of machinery.)			
SMALL IRONWARES ("SERRURERIE"), including—			
Locks and padlocks of all sorts, bolts and hinges, in sheet iron, latches and flat bolts, and all other articles in wrought or sheet iron for fastenings of doors or windows, and furniture polished, filed, or turned .. .. .		12	00 "
Nails, forged by machinery .. .. .		8	00 "
Ditto, ditto by hand .. .. .		12	00 "
Wood screws, screw-bolts, and nuts .. .. .		8	00 "
Anchors .. .. .		8	00 "
Chains and chain cables .. .. .		10	00 "
Tools, in pure iron, with or without handles .. .. .			
Tubes of wrought iron, simply welded, of less than 9 millim., and fittings of tubes .. .. .		20	00 "
Tubes in wrought iron, welded on a mandril, or lap-welded .. .. .		20	00 "
Fish-hooks (for sea fishing), tinned or not .. .. .		50	00 "
Household articles and other wares unenumerated—			
In wrought or sheet iron, varnished or tinned .. .. .		16	00 "



Description of Articles.		Rates of Import Duties.	
		Fr.	c.
<b>STEEL WARES—</b>			
Tools in pure steel; files; saws, circular or straight; scythes, sickles, and other unenumerated .. .. .		32	00 per 100 kilog.
Needles for sewing, less than 5 centim. in length .. .. .		200	00 "
Ditto of 5 and more centim. in length .. .. .		100	00 "
Fish-hooks (for river fishing), blued or not .. .. .		100	00 "
Metallic pens (other than gold or silver) .. .. .		100	00 "
Small articles of ornament, such as beads, purse garniture, brooches, and thimbles .. .. .		20	00 "
Household articles and other wares unenumerated .. .. .		32	00 "
<b>CUTLERY—</b>			
Of every description .. .. .		15	per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Instruments, surgical, optical, and philosophical .. .. .		10	" "
<b>ARMS, not being implements of war—</b>			
Side-arms .. .. .		40	00 per 100 kilog.
Fire-arms .. .. .		240	00 "
<b>SUNDRY METALS.</b>			
Tools of iron tipped with steel, with or without handles .. .. .		15	00 "
Articles made partly of cast and partly of wrought iron, not polished, if the weight of wrought iron is less than half the total weight .. .. .		4	50 "
Ditto, if half or more than half the total weight .. .. .		8	00 "
Ditto, polished enamelled or japanned, and with ornamental adjuncts in iron, copper, brass, or steel .. .. .		12	00 "
Wire gauze of iron or steel .. .. .		10	00 "
Copper wares .. .. .		20	00 "
Plated manufactures of every description .. .. .		100	00 "
Manufactures of metal gilt or silvered by the mercurial or electro-plate processes .. .. .		100	00 "
Plate and jewellery of gold, of silver, platina, or other metals .. .. .		500	00 "
<b>MACHINES AND MACHINERY.</b>			
<b>WITH APPARATUS COMPLETE—</b>			
Steam-engines, stationary, with or without boilers or fly-wheels .. .. .		6	00 "
Ditto, marine, with or without boilers .. .. .		12	00 "
" locomotives and portable engines. .. .. .		10	00 "
Tenders for locomotive engines, complete .. .. .		8	00 "
Spinning machines. .. .. .		6	00 "
For weaving .. .. .			
For paper-making .. .. .			
For printing .. .. .			
For agricultural machines, and machines for making sheets and fillets of cards		10	00 "
Lace-making machines .. .. .			
Carding machines, not furnished .. .. .		10	00 "
Steam-boilers, of sheet iron, of cylindrical or spherical shape, with or without boiler-pipes or heating-pipes .. .. .		8	00 "
Ditto, tubular, of sheet iron, with tubes of wrought iron, copper, or brass, or of sheet iron rivetted, with interior furnaces, and all other boilers not of cylindrical or spherical shape .. .. .		13	00 "
Ditto, ditto, of sheet steel of every shape .. .. .		25	00 "
Gasometers, open boilers, furnaces and stoves, in sheet iron, or in cast and sheet iron .. .. .		8	00 "
Machines for making machines ("machines outils") and machines not enumerated—			
Containing 75 per cent. or more of their weight in cast iron .. .. .		6	00 "
Containing 50 per cent. and less than 75 per cent. of cast iron .. .. .		10	00 "
Containing less than 50 per cent. of cast iron .. .. .		15	00 "
<b>DETACHED PARTS OF MACHINES.</b>			
Sheets and fillets of cards on leather, india-rubber, or other materials .. .. .		50	00 "
Dents of reeds, in iron .. .. .		30	00 "
Reeds, complete, in iron .. .. .			
Pieces in cast iron, polished, filed, and adjusted .. .. .		6	00 "
Pieces in wrought iron, polished, filed, and adjusted or not, without distinction of weight .. .. .		10	00 "
Steel spring for carriages, waggons, or locomotives .. .. .		15	00 "
Pieces in steel, polished, filed, adjusted or not: weighing more than 1 kilog. .. .. .		25	00 "
Ditto, 1 kilog. and less .. .. .		35	00 "
Gold leaf .. .. .		100	00 per kilog.
Carriages .. .. .		10	per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .



Description of Articles.	Rates of Import Duties.	
	Per ton of French measurement—	
	Fr.	c.
Ships and boats, built in the United Kingdom, not registered or sailing under	60	00
British flag, in iron .. .. .	10	00
Hulls of ships, in iron .. .. .		
N.B.—The machines and machinery on board such ships shall be charged separately, according to the rates fixed by the Tariff for "Machines and Machinery."		
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS AND DYE STUFFS.		
Iodine .. .. . Bromine .. .. . Acids— Sulphuric .. .. . Nitric .. .. . Tartaric .. .. . Benzoic .. .. . Boracic .. .. . Citric .. .. . Arsenic .. .. . Oxides— Of iron .. .. . „ uranium .. .. . Zaffre and other combinations of cobalt Sulphuret of arsenic .. .. . Chloride of potassium .. .. . Iodide of potassium .. .. . Salts of beetroot .. .. . Carbonates of potash .. .. . Nitrate of potash .. .. . Sulphate of potash .. .. . Tartrates of potash .. .. . Vegetable ashes, quick and lixiviated Lees of wine .. .. . Borax, raw .. .. . Nitrate of soda .. .. . Kelp .. .. . Phosphates, natural .. .. . Citrates of lime .. .. . Sulphate of magnesia .. .. . Carbonate of magnesia .. .. . Chloride of magnesium .. .. . Phosphorus, white .. .. . Yellow prussiate of potash .. .. . Red prussiate of potash .. .. . Turmeric, in powder .. .. . Hydrochloric acid (muriatic acid) .. .. . Caustic soda .. .. . Carbonate of soda (salt of soda) of all degrees .. .. . Artificial soda (raw) .. .. . Carbonate of soda, crystallized (crystals of soda) .. .. . Sulphate of soda and sulphite of soda .. .. . Sulphate of soda crystallized (Glauber's salts) .. .. . Bicarbonate of soda, and other salts of soda, not specified .. .. . Chloride of lime .. .. . Chlorate of potash .. .. . Artificial ultramarine .. .. . Red phosphorus .. .. . Aluminium .. .. . Aluminate of soda .. .. . Chromates of potash .. .. . Colours not specified, dry, in paste and liquid .. .. . Varnish— Essential oil .. .. . Spirit of wine .. .. . Chemicals not specified.. .. .		
Free.		
40 00 per 100 kilog.		
20 00		"
30 00		"
5 00		"
0 60		"
5 00		"
3 00		"
1 50		"
1 50		"
1 20		"
0 70		"
3 50		"
2 80		"
25 75		"
15 00		"
10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .		
5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .		
GLASS AND CRYSTAL WARE.		
Mirrors of less than 1 mètre square .. .. .	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .	
Plate glass and mirrors—	1 50 per mètre square superficial	
Unpolished .. .. .		
Silvered or polished .. .. .	4 00	
Bottles of all shapes .. .. .	1 30 per 100 kilog.	
Window-glass, plain .. .. .	3 50	



Description of Articles.							Rates of Import Duties.		
							Fr.	c.	
Glass, coloured, polished, or engraved, and for watches and optical purposes ..								Free.	
Vitrifications .. .. .									
Enamelled glass .. .. .									
Articles of glass not enumerated .. .. .									
Broken glass and cullet .. .. .									
Rock crystal, rough or worked .. .. .							Free.		
N.B.—Rock crystal mounted will pay as jewellery and watches.							Free.		
EARTHENWARE AND POTTERY.									
COMMON WARE—									
Tiles of all kinds, bricks, and fire-bricks .. .. .							Free.		
Gas retorts, drainage pipes, and others .. .. .							Free.		
Crucibles of all sorts, including those of plumbago or black lead .. .. .							Free.		
Clay pipes .. .. .							Free.		
Glazed or not, of all shapes .. .. .							Free.		
Id., with decorations in relief, of one or more colours, flat or hollow.. .. .							5 00 per 100 kilog.		
STONEWARE—									
Utensils and apparatus for the manufacture of chemical products .. .. .							Free.		
Common of all sorts, flat and hollow, including bottles, flasks, household articles, and kitchen utensils .. .. .							4 00 per 100 kilog.		
EARTHENWARE—									
With tin glaze-coloured paste, white glaze .. .. .							Free.		
With coloured glaze, majolica, with varnish of more than one colour .. .. .							15 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .		
Fine earthenware .. .. .									
Fine stoneware .. .. .									
Porcelain, white, coloured, or decorated, of all kinds, Parian and biscuit (white) .. .. .							10 „ „		
VARIOUS ARTICLES.									
India-rubber manufactures—									
Pure or mixed .. .. .							20 00 per 100 kilog.		
N.B.—Articles of gutta-percha pay the same duties as india-rubber.									
Blacking of all kinds .. .. .							4 00 „		
Fish, fresh water—									
Fresh .. .. .							Free.		
Prepared.. .. .							10 00 per 100 kilog.		
Fish, sea—									
Fresh, dry, salted, or smoked (except cod) .. .. .							10 00 „		
Sauces and pickles .. .. .							25 00 „		
Cheese, hard .. .. .							10 00 „		
Beer. .. .. .							2 fr. per hectolitre, in addition to the internal tax.		
Slates—									
For roofing .. .. .							4 00 per 1,000.		
In squares or slabs .. .. .							10 00 per 100.		

## Inclosure 3 in No. 33.

## TABLEAU (B).—Rectifications des Droits fixés par les Conventions de 1860.

## INDUSTRIE DU LIN ET DU CHANVRE.

Fils de lin ou de chanvre mesurant au kilogramme, écrus :—

De 24,000 à 36,000 mètres ..	..	..	augmentation 3 pour cent ..	48 fr. les 100 kilos.
36,000 à 72,000 „ ..	..	..	id. ..	80 „ „
72,000 et plus ..	..	..	id. ..	133 „ „

A reporter l'augmentation proportionnellement sur les fils blanchis ou teints et retors écrus, blanchis ou teints.

Pour les tissus. Modification dans l'assiette du droit qui sera établi, comme pour les tissus de coton, d'après le nombre de fils qu'ils présentent en trame et en chaîne.

## INDUSTRIE DU COTON.

Fils de cotons simples, mesurant au  $\frac{1}{2}$  kilogramme, écrus :—

De 61,000 à 70,000 mètres ..	..	..	augmentation 3 pour cent ..	Fr. c.
71,000 à 80,000 „ ..	..	..	id. ..	0 80 le kilo.
81,000 à 90,000 „ ..	..	..	id. ..	0 93 „
91,000 à 100,000 „ ..	..	..	id. ..	1 20 „
101,000 à 110,000 „ ..	..	..	id. ..	1 33 „
111,000 à 120,000 „ ..	..	..	augmentation 5 pour cent ..	1 80 „
121,000 à 130,000 „ ..	..	..	id. ..	2 10 „
131,000 à 140,000 „ ..	..	..	id. ..	2 40 „
141,000 à 150,000 „ ..	..	..	id. ..	2 66 „
151,000 à 160,000 „ ..	..	..	id. ..	3 33 „
161,000 et au-dessus ..	..	..	id. ..	4 50 „



Augmentation proportionnelle sur les fils simples, blanchis et teints, retors en deux bouts, écrus, blanchis, et teints sur les chaînes ourdies, écrus, blanchies et teintes.

Broderies à la main ou à la mécanique	..	augmentation 5 pour cent	..	15 pour cent à la valeur.
Gazes et mousselines brodées ou brochées pour ameublement, tentures ou habillement	..	" "	..	15 pour cent.

#### INDUSTRIE DE LA LAINE.

Fils de laine cardées, blanchies ou non, mesurant au kilogramme :—

De 5,001 à 10,000 mètres	..	..	augmentation 5 francs	..	15 fr. les 100 kilos.
10,001 à 15,000	"	..	id.	..	20 "
15,001 à 20,000	"	..	id.	..	25 "
20,001 à 25,000	"	..	id.	..	30 "
25,001 à 30,000	"	..	augmentation 10 francs	..	35 "
30,001 à 35,000	"	..	id. 5 francs	..	40 "

Au-dessus de 35,000, mêmes droits que les fils de laine peignée.

#### TISSUS DE LAINE MELANGES.

De soie ..	..	..	..	augmentation 5 pour cent	..	15 pour cent.
De coton	..	..	..	" 8 pour cent	..	18 "

(Translation.)

TABLE (B).—Rectifications of the Duties fixed by the Conventions of 1860.

#### FLAX AND HEMP FABRICS.

Unbleached yarns of flax or hemp, measuring to the kilogramme :—

From 24,000 to 36,000 metres	..	..	increase 3 per cent.	..	48 fr. 100 kilog.
" 36,000 to 72,000	"	..	ditto	..	80 "
" 72,000 and beyond	"	..	ditto	..	133 "

The duties on bleached or dyed yarns and unbleached, bleached, or dyed twists to be proportionately raised.

As regards tissues, a modification in the imposition of the duty to be established, as with cotton tissues, according to the number of threads in warp and weft.

#### COTTON FABRICS.

Unbleached single cotton yarns, measuring to the  $\frac{1}{2}$  kilogramme :—

From 61,000 to 70,000 metres	..	..	increase 3 per cent.	..	Fr. c. 0 80 the kilog.
" 71,000 to 80,000	"	..	ditto	..	0 93 "
" 81,000 to 90,000	"	..	ditto	..	1 20 "
" 91,000 to 100,000	"	..	ditto	..	1 33 "
" 101,000 to 110,000	"	..	increase 5 per cent.	..	1 80 "
" 111,000 to 120,000	"	..	ditto	..	2 10 "
" 121,000 to 130,000	"	..	ditto	..	2 40 "
" 131,000 to 140,000	"	..	ditto	..	2 66 "
" 141,000 to 170,000	"	..	ditto	..	3 33 "
" 171,000 and beyond	"	..	ditto	..	4 50 "

Proportionate increase on single yarns, bleached and dyed, twists in two strands, unbleached, bleached and dyed on warped yarns, unbleached, bleached, and dyed.

Embroidery by hand or machine .. .. increase 5 per cent. .. 15 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Gauzes and muslins, embroidered or figured, for furniture, hangings, or dresses .. .. ditto .. .. "

#### WOOLLEN FABRICS.

Carded woollen yarns, bleached or not, measuring to the kilogramme :—

From 5,001 to 10,000 metres	..	..	increase 5 francs	..	15 fr. 100 kilog.
" 10,001 to 15,000	"	..	ditto	..	20 "
" 15,001 to 20,000	"	..	ditto	..	25 "
" 20,001 to 25,000	"	..	ditto	..	30 "
" 25,001 to 30,000	"	..	increase 10 francs	..	35 "
" 30,001 to 35,000	"	..	increase 5 francs	..	40 "

About 35,000 the same duties as for combed wool.

#### MIXED WOOLLEN TISSUES.

Of silk	..	..	..	..	increase 5 per cent.	..	15 per cent.
Of cotton	..	..	..	..	" 8 "	..	18 "

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*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, September 18, 871.*

HER Majesty's Government have had under consideration your Excellency's despatch of the 1st instant, relative to the proposal to reimpose differential charges upon foreign shipping in the indirect trade with France, which were abolished in 1866; and I have now to observe to you that as the Navigation Treaty of 1826 between Great Britain and France only assimilates the British and French flags in the direct trade between the two countries, and as the abolition of the differential charges which it is now proposed to reimpose was effected by the independent action of France, and not in virtue of Treaty engagements so far as this country is concerned, Her Majesty's Government can only found any remonstrance which they may think it right to make against the measure in question on the grounds of its unfriendly and inequitable character towards British interests.

Navigation Treaties concluded by France with several foreign countries assimilate the shipping of the latter in respect of charges to French ships in the indirect as well as in the direct trade. The intended measure will therefore inflict special and exceptional injury on the shipping of those countries, including Great Britain, which are not protected by Treaties of an equally extensive nature, and will doubtless give rise to feelings of irritation on the part of shipowners, in this country as well as elsewhere, who are affected by it.

But there is another feature in this case which calls for notice. After the repeal of the English Navigation Laws, repeated attempts were made by the Governments of Great Britain and France to conclude a Treaty of Navigation, which should include the indirect as well as the direct trade, the one insuperable obstacle having always been the existence in the United Kingdom of certain local exemptions in favour of particular classes of British vessels, the abolition of which the Government of France made an indispensable condition of such a Treaty, but which the English Government steadily declined to abolish.

On the occasion of the French Decree of 1866, by which all differential charges on foreign shipping in the indirect trade were prospectively abolished, on condition of reciprocity, Her Majesty's Government, after communication with the French Government on the subject, proceeded (in order to fulfil the conditions of reciprocity required by the Decree, and thus secure the full extension of its provisions to British shipping) to provide for the extinction of the local exemptions in question by the Act 30 and 31 Vict., cap. 15.

Under these circumstances it can scarcely be regarded as an equitable proceeding on the part of the French Government to withdraw within five years from British shipping the advantages which were secured by the Decree of 1866; and Her Majesty's Government consider that such a course affords a very legitimate ground of complaint and remonstrance.

It is also to be observed that a considerable sum of money has been voted by Parliament and paid by the Treasury of this country during recent years, under the "Harbours and Passing Tolls, &c., Act, 1861," for the express purpose of buying up at several British ports the right to levy differential dues on foreign shipping.

Your Excellency will be so good as to take the first opportunity of speaking on this subject to M. Thiers and M. de Rémusat in the terms of this despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

*Memorandum communicated by MM. Gavard and Ozenne to the Board of Trade.*

*Importations de l'Angleterre en France. Appréciation des effets que peuvent produire les Modifications à apporter au Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860.*

LES importations de l'Angleterre en France se sont élevées pendant l'année 1869 au chiffre de 651 millions de francs.

Dans ce chiffre total, les produits compris au Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, figurent pour 511 millions de francs, dont 435 millions de francs sont restés dans le pays même et 76 millions ont été répartis par les acheteurs primitifs dans les pays qui avoisinent la France.

Il convient maintenant de rechercher quelle sera, pour l'ensemble de ce mouvement commercial, l'influence des modifications qui résulteront de la révision du Traité de 1860



sur les bases proposées par le Gouvernement Français. Cette révision comporte trois situations distinctes :—

1. Maintien du régime actuel pour tous les produits repris au Tableau (A).
2. Augmentation de droits pour quelques uns de nos produits textiles énumérés dans le Tableau (B).
3. Enfin, droits compensateurs des taxes établies sur les matières premières ou sur les matières tinctoriales entrant dans la composition ou dans la fabrication des produits indiqués dans le Tableau (C).

Le premier groupe (Tableau A) donne, pour les importations en France, les chiffres suivants :—

	Francs.	Francs.
Industrie du fer et ses dérivés—		
Fers, fontes, aciers .. .. .	21,706,000	
Batiments de mer .. .. .	7,449,000	
Machines et mécaniques .. .. .	9,225,000	
Outils et ouvrages en métaux .. .. .	5,630,000	
Aiguilles à coudre .. .. .	614,000	
Plumes et becs de plumes métalliques .. .. .	497,000	
		45,121,000
Houille et coke .. .. .		31,892,000
Industrie des produits chimiques—		
Soudes de toute sorte .. .. .	1,644,000	
Acides de toute sorte .. .. .	1,471,000	
Iode brut et raffiné .. .. .	523,000	
Nitrate de potasse et de soude .. .. .	516,000	
Phosphore .. .. .	351,000	
Prussiate de potasse, jaune et rouge .. .. .	420,000	
		4,925,000
Verrerie .. .. .		554,000
Poterie .. .. .		755,000
Poissons .. .. .		5,687,000
Caoutchouc ouvré pur ou mélangé .. .. .		4,896,000
Cirage de toute sorte .. .. .		8,000
Épices préparées ("sauces") .. .. .		68,000
Fromage de pâte dure .. .. .		145,000
Ardoises .. .. .		56,000
Total .. .. .		94,107,000

Ainsi le premier groupe présente dans l'ensemble une valeur de 94 millions de francs. Tous les produits qui en font partie restent au Tarif qui leur a été attribué par les Conventions des 12 Octobre et 16 Novembre, 1860, bien que la production de ces mêmes articles soit chargée indirectement de tous les impôts nouveaux qui vont peser sur le pays. Comparativement à l'ensemble du chiffre total des produits repris au Traité de 1860, c'est 20 pour cent.

Le deuxième groupe (Tableau B) comprend les quelques produits ci-dessous énumérés qui appartiennent aux industries textiles :—

	Francs.	Francs.
Fils de lin et de chanvre—		
L'augmentation demandée ne porte que sur la moitié des fils qui sont importés en France; on ne doit donc porter ici que la moitié de l'importation totale, qui est de 6,086,000 francs, soit .. .. .		3,043,000
Tissus de lin et de chanvre—		
Il ne s'agit ici que d'une simple correction de Tarif, qui a pour objet, comme cela existe pour les tissus de coton, de compter les fils de trame et les fils de chaîne. Il n'en résulte aucune augmentation de droits, donc .. .. .		Pour mémoire.
Fils de coton—		
Comme pour les fils de lin et de chanvre, il ne s'agit que de la moitié des classes du Tarif, et précisément des numéros que l'Angleterre importe le moins. Le total étant de 6,165,000 francs, c'est la moitié à porter ci-contre, soit .. .. .		3,082,000
Tissus de coton—		
Augmentation de 5 pour cent pour les espèces ci-après déterminées:		
Broderies à la main ou à la mécanique .. .. .	175,000	
Mousselines .. .. .	389,000	
Gaze .. .. .		
		564,000
Fils de laine—		
Il ne s'agit dans le nouveau classement proposé que des fils de laine cardée dont l'Angleterre ne nous envoie pas un kilogramme .. .. .		Mémoire.
Tissus de laine mélangés .. .. .		39,830,000
Total .. .. .		46,519,000



Le gros chiffre est celui des tissus de laine mélangés d'autres matières, notamment de coton. Dans quelle mesure une augmentation de 5 à 8 pour cent ralentira-t-elle les importations, il est difficile de le préjuger. On doit toutefois faire remarquer qu'au moment de la conclusion du Traité du 23 Janvier, les négociateurs Anglais avaient admis pour les quatre premières années un droit de 15 pour cent. Sous l'empire de ce droit on importait des quantités notables de tissus mélangés; en voici le chiffre pour l'année 1862, 26,633,000.

En tous cas, les articles à l'égard desquels des augmentations de droits sont demandées ne s'élèvent qu'à 46 millions, qui, comparés au chiffre de 651 millions qui donne l'ensemble des importations totales de l'Angleterre en France, ne représentent pas plus de 7 pour cent de ce même ensemble, et 9 pour cent pour les produits repris au Traité.

Le troisième groupe comprend tous les produits qui ne sont repris ni au Tableau (A) ni au Tableau (B).

Ce groupe est évidemment et de beaucoup le plus considérable, et forme un chiffre de 300 millions. Mais il s'agit ici de produits qui appartiennent beaucoup plus au commerce qu'à la production Anglaise, et dont la nature est telle que ces produits viendront toujours sur le marché Français.

Ainsi la soie, 101 millions; la laine, 67 millions; le coton en laine, 40 millions; le jute en brin teillé ou étoupes, 7 millions; c'est-à-dire, quatre articles qui à eux seuls forment un total de 215 millions de francs, soit plus des deux-tiers du chiffre des produits repris au Tableau (C), ou le tiers des importations totales.

D'un autre côté il ne faut pas oublier que les droits compensateurs qui sont demandés ne sont que la représentation des charges qui vont peser directement sur nos industries, et que, par conséquent, il n'y aura à ce point de vue rien de changé dans les conditions relatives de production des deux peuples, et que si l'un d'eux doit souffrir c'est évidemment celui qui supporte non seulement l'impôt qui frappe les matières premières, mais encore, sous la forme indirecte, tous les autres impôts demandés au pays.

Enfin, entre ce qu'on appelle le commerce général, c'est-à-dire, la totalité des produits importés d'Angleterre, et ce qu'on désigne sous le nom de commerce spécial; c'est-à-dire, la partie de l'importation totale qui reste dans la consommation du pays importateur, il y a un écart de 100 millions qui ne sont pas atteints par les droits, puisqu'il s'agit de marchandises destinées à être revendues à l'étranger. C'est donc un sixième, ou 16 pour cent, du commerce total qui ne sera nullement affecté par les changements de Tarif qui doivent être accomplis en France.

(Translation.)

*Importations from England into France. Estimate of the effects which may be produced by the Modifications to be adopted in the Treaty of January 23, 1860.*

THE importations from England into France have risen during the year 1869 to the amount of 651 millions of francs.

In this whole amount the articles comprised in the Treaty of January 23, 1860, figure for 511 millions, of which 435 millions of francs remained in the country itself, and 76 millions were distributed by the original purchasers in the countries bordering on France.

It is advisable now to ascertain what will be the influence, as regards this entire commercial movement, of the modifications which will result from the revision of the Treaty of 1860, on the bases proposed by the French Government. This revision admits of three distinct positions:—

1. The maintenance of the existing *régime* for all the articles enumerated in Table (A).
2. Increase of duties on some of our textiles enumerated in Table (B).
3. Finally, compensatory duties for taxes imposed on raw materials as dye-stuffs entering into the composition or manufacture of the articles mentioned in Table (C).

The first group (Table A) gives the following figures as regards importations into France:—

Trade in iron and its derivatives—				Francs.	Franc.
Iron, cast iron, steel	..	..	..	21,706,000	
Ships	..	..	..	7,449,000	
Machinery of all kinds	..	..	..	9,225,000	
Tools and metal articles	..	..	..	5,630,000	
Sewing needles	..	..	..	614,000	
Metallic pens and pen-nibs	..	..	..	497,000	
				<hr/>	45,121,000



	Francs.	Francs.
Coal and Coke .. .. .	..	31,892,000
Chemicals—		
Sodas of all kinds .. .. .	1,644,000	
Acids of all kinds .. .. .	1,471,000	
Iodine, raw and refined .. .. .	523,000	
Nitrates of potash and soda .. .. .	516,000	
Phosphorus .. .. .	351,000	
Prussiate of potash, yellow and red .. .. .	420,000	
		4,925,000
Glass .. .. .	..	554,000
Earthenware .. .. .	..	755,000
Fish .. .. .	..	5,687,000
Articles in gutta percha .. .. .	..	4,896,000
All kinds of blacking .. .. .	..	8,000
Prepared spices (sauces) .. .. .	..	68,000
Hard cheeses .. .. .	..	145,000
Slates .. .. .	..	56,000
Total .. .. .	..	94,107,000

The first group, therefore, represents altogether a value of 94 millions of francs. All the articles it contains remain under the Tariff which was assigned to them by the Conventions of October 12 and November 16, 1860, although the manufacture of these same articles is charged indirectly with all the new imposts which will weigh upon the country. Compared with the total sum of the articles enumerated in the Treaty of 1860, it is 20 per cent.

The second group (Table B) comprises the few articles enumerated below which belong to the textile industries:—

	Francs.	Francs.
Threads of flax and hemp—		
The increase required will only apply to half the threads imported into France; only the half, therefore, of the whole amount imported, equal to 6,086,000 francs, should be stated here .. .. .	..	3,043,000
Linen and hempen tissues—		
Here it is only a question of a simple correction of the Tariff, with the object of counting the threads in the warp and the woof, as is already done with cotton tissues. It entails no increase of duty .. .. .	..	Memorandum.
Cotton yarns—		
As in the case of flax and hempen yarns, there is only a question of half the classes of the Tariff, and precisely the numbers which England imports least. The total being 6,165,000 francs, the half is stated here .. .. .	..	3,082,000
Cotton tissues—		
Increase of 5 per cent. on the following kinds :		
Embroidery by hand or machinery .. .. .	175,000	
Muslins .. .. .	389,000	
Gauze .. .. .	..	
		564,000
Woollen yarns—		
In the new classification proposed, there is only a question of carded woollen yarns, of which England does not send us a kilogramme .. .. .	..	Memorandum.
Mixed woollen tissues .. .. .	..	39,830
Total .. .. .	..	46,519,000

The largest figure is that of woollen tissues mixed with other materials, principally cotton. It is difficult to judge how much the imports may be diminished by an increase of from 5 to 8 per cent. It must, nevertheless, be observed that at the time the Treaty of January 23 was concluded, the English negotiators had admitted a duty of 15 per cent. for the first four years. During the imposition of this duty considerable quantities of mixed tissues were imported; the amount for the year 1862 was 26,633,000 fr.

In any case the articles upon which an increase of duty is desired only amount to 46 millions, which, compared with the figure of 651 millions, the sum total of all importations from England into France, does not represent more than 7 per cent. of this total, and 9 per cent. of the articles mentioned in the Treaty.

The third group comprises all the articles not mentioned in Table (A) or Table (B). This group is evidently and by far the most considerable, and amounts to 300 millions. But here it refers to articles which belong more to English trade than to English manufacture, and are of such a nature as always to find their way to the French market.

Thus:—silk, 101 millions; wool, 67 millions; cotton wool, 40 millions; jute, in fibre, hackled, or tow, 7 millions; that is, four articles which of themselves alone form



a total of 215 millions of francs, or more than two-thirds of the value of the articles mentioned in Table (C), or one-third of the total imports.

On the other hand it must not be forgotten that the compensatory duties required only represent the charges which will fall directly on our industries, and that consequently there will be no change in the relative conditions of the two peoples as regards productions; and if one of them must suffer it is evidently the one which bears not only the tax that strikes raw materials, but, indirectly, all the other taxes required of the country besides.

In fine, between what is called general trade (that is, the sum total of articles imported from England) and what is designated by the name of special trade (that is, the part of the total importation which is consumed in the importing country), there is a difference of 100 millions, which are not touched by the duties, as they refer to goods destined to be resold abroad. One-sixth, therefore, or 16 per cent. of the total trade, will be in no way affected by the changes in the Tariff which are to be effected in France.

Inclosure in No. 35.

Angleterre (y compris les Possessions de Malte et de Gibraltar).

IMPORTATIONS en France pendant l'Année 1869.

Designation des Marchandises comprises dans les Conventions Supplémentaires des 12 Octobre et 16 Novembre, 1860.	Commerce Général.	Commerce Spécial.
	Valeurs en Francs.	Valeurs en Francs.
Soie et bourre de soie .. .. .	101,288,112	96,266,544
Tissus, passementerie et rubans de laine .. .. .	71,266,584	52,724,546
Laines et déchets de laine .. .. .	67,414,298	66,998,314
Coton en laine .. .. .	40,058,823	39,415,303
Houille crue .. .. .	31,736,074	28,216,770
Tissus, passementerie et rubans de coton .. .. .	31,176,886	13,550,092
Fer, fonte et acier .. .. .	21,705,578	5,089,436
Cuivre, non compris le minerai .. .. .	20,849,290	20,106,744
Batiments de mer .. .. .	12,106,075	12,103,925
Tissus, passementerie et rubans de soie .. .. .	10,222,692	6,718,577
Machines et mécaniques .. .. .	9,225,405	8,593,785
Fils de poil de chèvre .. .. .	7,837,965	7,826,247
Jute en brin ou teillé .. .. .	7,663,299	7,663,299
Tissus, passementerie et rubans de lin ou de chanvre .. .. .	7,161,277	4,923,673
Fils de coton .. .. .	7,027,897	6,165,822
Fils de laine .. .. .	5,915,672	6,611,341
Peaux préparées .. .. .	6,644,752	6,243,037
Fils de lin ou de chanvre .. .. .	6,317,067	6,086,343
Etain brut .. .. .	6,211,960	6,208,687
Outils et ouvrages en métaux .. .. .	5,629,979	4,889,575
Ouvrages en caoutchouc ou en gutta percha .. .. .	4,896,600	4,450,300
Poissons .. .. .	3,290,726	3,126,019
Minerai de cuivre .. .. .	2,522,299	2,522,298
Huitres fraîches .. .. .	2,397,270	2,397,270
Zinc de première fusion .. .. .	2,362,846	2,362,846
Vêtements et pièces de lingerie cousues .. .. .	1,799,179	950,031
Soudes de toute sorte .. .. .	1,643,806	1,618,572
Ouvrages en peau ou en cuir .. .. .	1,561,582	488,504
Plomb, brut .. .. .	1,542,976	1,542,748
Acides de toute sorte .. .. .	1,471,324	1,360,198
Couleurs de toute sorte .. .. .	1,335,369	1,212,760
Poteries, verres, et cristaux .. .. .	1,331,015	1,243,802
Ouvrages en bois .. .. .	647,494	629,983
Aiguilles à coudre .. .. .	613,878	586,386
Orfèverie et bijouterie .. .. .	610,467	250,927
Mercerie et boutons .. .. .	525,596	391,601
Iode brut et raffiné .. .. .	523,410	474,414
Nitrates de potasse et de soude .. .. .	515,177	425,156
Bière .. .. .	504,125	461,728
Plumes et becs de plume métalliques .. .. .	497,360	338,980
Nickel .. .. .	482,611	530,086
Prussiate de potasse cristallisé .. .. .	419,499	352,712
Homards .. .. .	371,633	371,633
Tissus de bourre de soie purs ou mélangés .. .. .	364,739	266,684
Cylindres en cuivre pour impressions, gravés ou non .. .. .	364,117	364,117
Phosphore .. .. .	351,260	215,638
Total .. .. .	511,366,043	435,337,453
Autres articles .. .. .	139,953,241	115,978,015
Total .. .. .	651,319,284	551,315,468



TABLEAU (B).—AUGMENTATION DE DROITS.

Explication du mode suivi pour déterminer les Droits Nouveaux.

Nomenclature des Produits.	Tarif Actuel.		Augmentation.		Droit total.
	Unités.	Droits.	Taux.	Droit.	
Industrie du lin et de chanvre :—					
Fils de lin ou de chanvre, mesurant au kilogramme :—					
Ecrus*—	Kilogrammes.	Francs.	Pour cent.	Francs.	Francs.
24,000 et pas plus de 36,000 mètres .. ..	100	36	3	12	48
36,000 et pas plus de 72,000 mètres .. ..	100	60	3	20	80
72,000 mètres et plus .. ..	100	100	3	33	133
Blanchis ou teints†—					
24,000 et pas plus de 36,000 mètres .. ..	100	48	3	12	60
36,000 et pas plus de 72,000 mètres .. ..	100	80	3	20	100
72,000 mètres et plus. . .	100	135	3	33	168
Retors écrus .. ..	Mêmes droits que sur les fils simples écrus, augmentée de 40 pour cent.				
„ blanchis ou teints .. ..	Idem idem teints ou blanchis, augmentée de 40 pour cent.				
Tissus de lin et de chanvre unis ou ouvrés, présentant en chaîne et en trame dans l'espace de 5 milli-mètres carrés—	Kilogrammes.	Francs.			Francs.
17 fils ou moins‡ .. ..	100	30	Rien n'est changé au taux des droits, qui sont simplement reproduits ci-contre.		30
19, 21, et 23 fils .. ..	100	55			55
25, 27, et 29 fils .. ..	100	90			90
32, 34, et 36 fils .. ..	100	115			115
38, 40, et 42 fils .. ..	100	170			170
44, 46, et 48 fils .. ..	100	200			200
50 fils et au-dessus .. ..	100	400			400
Chaînes ourdies écrues .. ..	Le droit sur le fil simple, augmenté de 50 pour cent.				
„ blanchies .. ..	Le droit sur les chaînes ourdies écrues, augmenté de 15 pour cent.				
„ teintes .. ..	Le droit sur les chaînes ourdies écrues, augmenté de 25 c. par kilog.				
Tissus de coton—					
Broderie à la main ou à la mécanique .. ..	A la valeur	Pour cent. 10	A la valeur	Pour cent. 5	Pour cent. 15
Gazes et mousselines brodées ou brochées pour ameublement, tentures, ou habillement .. ..	„	10	„	5	15
Industrie de laine :—					
Fils de laine cardée, blanchis ou non, mesurant au kilogramme—		Francs.			
5,001 et pas plus de 10,000 mètres .. ..	..	10	..	5	15
10,001 et pas plus de 15,000 mètres .. ..	..	10	..	5	20
15,001 et pas plus de 20,000 mètres .. ..	..	15	..	5	25
20,001 et pas plus de 25,000 mètres .. ..	..	20	..	5	30
25,001 et pas plus de 30,000 mètres .. ..	..	25	..	10	35
De 30,001 à 35,000 mètres .. ..	..	35	..	5	40
Au-dessus de 35,000 mètres .. ..	Mêmes droits que les fils de laine peignée.				
Tissus de laine mélangés—		Pour cent.		Pour cent.	Pour cent.
De soie .. ..	A la valeur	10	A la valeur	5	15
De coton .. ..	„	10	„	8	18
Tissus de lin ou de chanvre, blanchis, teints, ou imprimés .. ..	Même classification que pour les tissus écrus et maintien des droits actuels.				

\* Le droit actuel sur les fils de lin et de chanvre écrus représente 9 pour cent, de la valeur du produit. L'augmentation étant de 3 pour cent, pour déterminer le chiffre du droit à réclamer il suffit de prendre le tiers du droit actuel et de l'ajouter à ce même droit.

† Quel que soit le droit sur le fil écri, la protection pour le blanchissement et la teinture doit rester la même. C'est donc seulement le droit supplémentaire sur l'écri qui doit être ajouté au droit du fil blanchi ou teint.

‡ Il ne s'agit là que d'une simple correction du Tarif, qui consiste à compter, comme cela existe pour les tissus de coton, les fils de trame aussi bien que les fils de chaîne et de cumuler les uns et les autres pour déterminer à quelle classe du Tarif la toile doit appartenir.



Nomenclature des Produits.	Tarif Actuel.		Augmentation.		Droit total.
	Unités.	Droits.	Taux.	Droit.	
Industrie de coton :—					
Fils de coton simple mesurant au $\frac{1}{2}$ kilogramme :					
Ecrus*—		Fr. c.	Pour cent.	Fr. c.	Fr. c.
De 61,000 à 70,000 mètres ..	Le kilogramme	0 60	3 .	0 20	0 80
De 71,000 à 80,000 mètres ..	„	0 70	3	0 23	0 93
De 81,000 à 90,000 mètres ..	„	0 90	3	0 30	1 20
De 91,000 à 100,000 mètres ..	„	1 0	3	0 33	1 33
De 101,000 à 110,000 mètres ..	„	1 20	5	0 60	1 80
De 111,000 à 120,000 mètres ..	„	1 40	5	0 70	2 10
De 121,000 à 130,000 mètres ..	„	1 60	5	0 80	2 40
De 131,000 à 140,000 mètres ..	„	2 0	5	0 66	2 66
De 141,000 à 170,000 mètres ..	„	2 50	5	0 83	3 33
De 171,000 mètres, et au-dessus .	„	3 0	5	1 50	4 50
Blanchis .. ..	Le droit sur le fil simple écreu, augmenté de 15 pour cent.				
Teints .. ..	Idem idem augmenté de 25 c. par kilogramme.				
Retors en deux bouts, écreu ..	Le droit afférent au nombre du fil simple employé au retordage, augmenté de 50 pour cent.				
„ blanchis ..	Le droit sur le fil écreu retors en deux bouts, augmenté de 15 pour cent.				
„ teints ..	Idem idem augmenté de 25 c. par kilog.				

(Translation.)

England (including the Possessions of Malta and Gibraltar).

IMPORTATIONS into France during the Year 1869.

Description of the Articles included in the Supplementary Conventions of October 12 and November 16, 1860.	General Trade.	Special Trade.
	Value in Francs.	Value in Francs.
Silk and waste silk .. ..	101,288,112	96,266,544
Tissues, haberdashery, and ribbons of wool .. ..	71,266,584	52,724,546
Wools and waste wool .. ..	67,414,298	66,998,314
Cotton-wool .. ..	40,058,823	39,415,303
Raw coal .. ..	31,736,074	28,216,770
Tissues, haberdashery, and ribbons of cotton .. ..	31,176,886	13,550,092
Iron, cast-iron and steel .. ..	21,705,578	5,089,436
Copper, not including the ore .. ..	20,849,290	20,106,744
Ships and boats .. ..	12,106,075	12,103,925
Tissues, haberdashery, and ribbons of silk .. ..	10,222,692	6,718,577
Machines and machinery .. ..	9,225,405	8,593,785
Yarns of goat's hair .. ..	7,837,965	7,826,247
Jute in the fibre or hackled .. ..	7,663,299	7,663,299
Tissues, haberdashery, and ribbons of flax or hemp .. ..	7,161,277	4,923,673
Cotton yarns .. ..	7,027,897	6,165,822
Woollen yarns .. ..	5,915,672	6,611,341
Prepared skins .. ..	6,644,752	6,243,037
Yarns of flax or hemp .. ..	6,317,067	6,086,343
Crude tin .. ..	6,211,960	6,208,687
Tools and metal articles .. ..	5,629,979	4,889,575
Articles in caoutchouc or gutta-percha .. ..	4,896,600	4,450,300
Fish .. ..	3,290,726	3,126,019
Copper ore .. ..	2,522,299	2,522,298
Fresh oysters .. ..	2,397,270	2,397,270
Zinc, of first melting .. ..	2,362,846	2,362,846
Clothing and sewn linen goods .. ..	1,799,179	950,031
Soda of all kinds .. ..	1,643,806	1,618,572
Articles in skin or leather .. ..	1,561,582	488,504
Lead in pigs .. ..	1,542,976	1,542,748
Acids of all kinds .. ..	1,471,324	1,360,198
Colours of all kinds .. ..	1,335,369	1,212,760
Pottery, glasses, and crystals .. ..	1,331,015	1,243,802
Articles in wood .. ..	647,494	629,983
Sewing needles .. ..	613,878	586,386
Plate and jewellery .. ..	610,467	250,927
Mercery and buttons .. ..	525,596	391,601

\* Le droit actuel sur les fils de lin et de chanvre écreus représente 9 pour cent. de la valeur du produit. L'augmentation étant de 3 pour cent., pour déterminer le chiffre du droit à réclamer il suffit de prendre le tiers du droit actuel et de l'ajouter à ce même droit.



Description of the Articles included in the Supplementary Conventions of October 12 and November 16, 1860.						General Trade. Value in Francs.	Special Trade. Value in Francs.
Raw and refined iodine	..	..	..	..	..	523,410	474,414
Nitrates of potash and soda	..	..	..	..	..	515,177	425,156
Beer	..	..	..	..	..	504,125	461,728
Metallic pens and nibs	..	..	..	..	..	497,360	338,980
Nickel	..	..	..	..	..	482,611	530,086
Crystallized prussiate of potas	..	..	..	..	..	419,499	352,712
Lobsters	..	..	..	..	..	371,633	371,633
Pure or mixed tissues of waste silk	..	..	..	..	..	364,739	266,684
Cylinders of copper for printing, whether engraved or not	..	..	..	..	..	364,117	364,117
Phosphorus	..	..	..	..	..	351,260	215,638
Total	..	..	..	..	..	511,366,043	435,337,453
Other articles	..	..	..	..	..	139,953,241	115,978,015
Total	..	..	..	..	..	651,319,284	551,315,468

TABLE (B).—AUGMENTATION OF DUTIES.

Explanation of the method pursued for determining the new Duties.

Description of the Products.	Present Tariff.		Augmentation.		Total Duty.
	Units.	Duties.	Rate.	Duty.	
Manufacture of linen and hemp:—					
Thread of linen or hemp, measuring, per kilogramme:					
Raw*—	Kilogrammes.	Francs.	Per cent.	Francs.	Francs.
24,000 and not more than 36,000 mètres .. ..	100	36	3	12	48
36,000 and not more than 72,000 mètres .. ..	100	60	3	20	80
72,000 mètres and upwards ..	100	100	3	33	133
Bleached or coloured†—					
24,000 and not more than 36,000 mètres .. ..	100	48	3	12	60
36,000 and not more than 72,000 mètres .. ..	100	80	3	20	100
72,000 mètres and upwards ..	100	135	3	33	168
Raw twisted .. ..	Same duties as plain raw threads, increased 40 per cent.				
„ bleached or dyed ..	Ditto as dyed or bleached threads, increased 40 per cent.				
Linen and hempen tissues, smooth or worked, showing in the warp and woof, within the space of 5 millimètres square—	Kilogrammes.	Francs.			Francs.
17 threads or under‡ .. ..	100	30	No change in the rates of duties, which are simply reproduced as follows—		30
19, 21, and 23 threads .. ..	100	55			55
25, 27, and 29 threads .. ..	100	90			90
32, 34, and 36 threads .. ..	100	115			115
38, 40, and 42 threads .. ..	100	170			170
44, 46, and 48 threads .. ..	100	200			200
50 threads and upwards .. ..	100	400			400
Warped threads, raw .. ..	The duty on plain thread, increased 50 per cent.				
„ bleached .. ..	The duty on plain warped threads, increased 15 per cent.				
„ dyed .. ..	The duty on plain warped threads, increased 25 c. per kilogramme.				
Cotton tissues—					
Embroidered by hand or machinery.	<i>ad valorem</i>	Per cent. 10	<i>ad valorem</i>	Per cent. 5	Per cent. 15
Gauzes and muslins embroidered or figured for furniture, tapestry, or clothing .. ..	„	10	„	5	15

\* The present duty upon linen and hempen raw threads represents 9 per cent. of the value of the product. The augmentation being at the rate of 3 per cent., in order to determine the amount of duty to be levied, it is only necessary to take the third of the present duty, and to add it to such duty.

† Whatever may be the duty upon raw thread, the protection for dyeing and bleaching must remain the same. It is, therefore, only the additional duty upon the raw thread which must be added to the duty upon the bleached or dyed thread.

‡ This is only a question of a simple correction of the Tariff, which consists in counting, like as is the case with cotton tissues, the warp threads as well as the woof, and taking them both together, in determining to what class of the Tariff the cloth should belong.



Description of the Products.	Present Tariff.		Augmentation.		Total Duty.
	Units.	Duties.	Rate.	Duty.	
Woollen manufacture :—					
Carded woollen threads, whether bleached or not, measuring per kilogramme—					
5,001 and not more than 10,000 mètres .. .. .	..	Francs. 10	..	5	15
10,001 and not more than 15,000 mètres .. .. .	..	10	..	5	20
15,001 and not more than 20,000 mètres .. .. .	..	15	..	5	25
20,001 and not more than 25,000 mètres .. .. .	..	20	..	5	30
25,001 and not more than 30,000 mètres .. .. .	..	25	..	10	35
From 30,001 to 35,000 mètres .. .. .	..	35	..	5	40
Above 35,000 mètres .. .. .	Same duties as combed woollen threads.				
Mixed woollen tissues—		Per cent		Per cent.	Per cent.
Silk .. .. .	<i>Ad valorem</i>	10	<i>Ad valorem</i>	5	15
Cotton .. .. .	..	10	..	8	18
Linen or hempen tissues, bleached, dyed, or printed .. .. .	Same classification as for raw tissues, and present duties maintained.				
Cotton manufactures :—					
Plain cotton thread, measuring per $\frac{1}{2}$ kilogramme:					
Raw*—		Fr. c.	Per cent.	Fr. c.	Fr. c.
From 61,000 to 70,000 mètres	Per kilogramme	0 60	3	0 20	0 80
From 71,000 to 80,000 mètres	..	0 70	3	0 23	0 93
From 81,000 to 90,000 mètres	..	0 90	3	0 30	1 20
From 91,000 to 100,000 mètres	..	1 0	3	0 33	1 33
From 101,000 to 110,000 mètres	..	1 20	5	0 60	1 80
From 111,000 to 120,000 mètres	..	1 40	5	0 70	2 10
From 121,000 to 130,000 mètres	..	1 60	5	0 80	2 40
From 131,000 to 140,000 mètres	..	2 0	5	0 66	2 66
From 141,000 to 170,000 mètres	..	2 50	5	0 83	3 33
Of 171,000 mètres and over .. .. .	..	3 0	5	1 50	4 50
Bleached .. .. .	The duty on plain raw thread, increased 15 per cent.				
Dyed .. .. .	Ditto ditto increased 25 c. per kilogramme.				
Twisted double, raw .. .. .	The duty applicable to the corresponding plain raw thread used for twisting, increased 50 per cent.				
.. .. . bleached .. .. .	The duty on the raw double twisted thread, increased 15 per cent.				
.. .. . coloured .. .. .	Ditto ditto increased 25 c. per kilogramme.				

## No. 36.

*Memorandum by M. Ozenne relative to the Revision of the Treaty of Commerce of January 23, 1860.*

LE Traité de Commerce conclu le 23 Janvier, 1860, entre la France et l'Angleterre étant expiré, chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes a le droit de le dénoncer et par suite d'en faire cesser les effets après une dernière période de douze mois.

Dans la situation où elle se trouve par suite des événements qui viennent de s'accomplir, la France est obligée de faire face, par l'établissement de nouveaux impôts, aux nécessités financières qui s'imposent au pays. D'un autre côté, si elle avait obéi à la pression des intérêts, très-nombreux et très-ardents chez elle, qui réclament une protection plus énergique que celle qui résulte des Tarifs annexées aux Conventions des 12 Octobre et 16 Novembre, 1860, la France n'aurait pas hésité à se dégager des liens qui gênent sa liberté d'action.

Mais elle a cédé à des inspirations plus élevées ; elle a considéré que dans l'état actuel de l'Europe, alors que les notions du juste et de l'injuste sont troublées à ce point qu'un homme célèbre a pu dire, "La force prime le droit;" il y avait un intérêt de premier ordre à ce que la France et l'Angleterre restassent unies. Or, la dénonciation du Traité de Commerce, surtout en présence de la législation générale de la France, n'aurait pas manqué d'apporter une trouble considérable dans les relations commerciales des deux peuples, en même temps qu'un refroidissement dans les relations politiques des deux Gouvernements, l'un étant nécessairement la conséquence de l'autre.

C'est donc dans une vue de conciliation que le Gouvernement Français a proposé au Gouvernement Anglais de s'entendre pour réviser le Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860. Le

\* The present duty upon linen and hempen raw threads represents 9 per cent. of the value of the product. The augmentation being at the rate of 3 per cent., in order to determine the amount of duty to be levied, it is only necessary to take the third of the present duty and to add it to such duty.



Projet de Convention qu'il a communiqué au Cabinet de Londres témoigne de la modération de ses demandes, surtout si l'on consulte les résultats de l'enquête faite par le Corps Législatif dans la session 1869-70. Si, d'un autre côté, le Cabinet de Versailles réclame sur les produits fabriqués la compensation des impôts qu'il est obligée de mettre sur les matières premières, ce n'est que l'exécution loyale d'une disposition d'ailleurs très-équitable, insérée dans le Traité de 1860.

Cependant, les divers organes de la presse en Angleterre s'inscrivent contre toute modification au Traité de Commerce, et déclarent que mieux vaut le dénoncer que de porter atteinte au principe de la liberté commerciale. Que ce langage soit celui de théoriciens purs, qu'ils veuillent renouveler ces mots tristement célèbres, "Périssent les Colonies plutôt qu'un principe!" on pourrait jusqu'à un certain point le comprendre. Mais que l'opposition qui se manifeste vienne d'hommes pratiques qui connaissent le prix du maintien de bonnes relations entre deux grands peuples, il est difficile de l'admettre à moins qu'ils ne se fassent illusion sur les conséquences douanières, pour le commerce de la France avec l'Angleterre, de la conduite qu'ils conseillent à leur Gouvernement de tenir vis-à-vis de la France.

A côté des Tarifs qui résultent des Traités de Commerce conclus avec les principales Puissances de l'Europe et qui forment le droit conventionnel de la France, le Tarif général antérieur au Traité de 1860 existe avec toutes les restrictions qu'il comporte. C'est une loi de l'Etat qui a toujours force et vigueur, et par conséquent applicable à tous les pays qui ne sont liés à la France par aucune Convention Commerciale. Or, le Tarif général est couvert de prohibitions et défend d'une manière absolue l'importation en France de la plupart des produits manufacturés que l'Angleterre lui fournit. Ainsi, il prohibe l'entrée notamment des ouvrages en métaux, des fils et tissus de coton, des fils et tissus de laine, de la tabletterie, de la faïence fine, de la verrerie, des ouvrages en peau, &c.; il frappe de taxes très-élevées les fers, le cuivre, le plomb, l'étain, les produits chimiques—marchandises qui alimentent le commerce d'exportation l'Angleterre.

Sans doute le Tarif général de la France est un Tarif suranné qui, en fait, n'a pas aujourd'hui d'application réelle. Mais avant qu'il soit remplacé par un Tarif mieux approprié aux besoins actuels de l'industrie et du commerce, il faudra beaucoup de temps, car ce n'est pas une œuvre facile de peser tous les intérêts, et de les concilier en donnant à chacun d'eux la part qui devrait lui revenir dans le système économique qui serait adopté par les représentants légaux du pays. Cette tâche est plus difficile encore lorsque toute liberté d'action étant recouvrée, il n'y a plus de digue à opposer aux convoitises des intérêts mis en jeu.

D'une autre côté, si la dénonciation du Traité avec l'Angleterre doit amener une mesure analogue vis-à-vis de la Belgique, dont le Traité de Commerce avec la France est également arrivée à terme, la situation n'est pas la même à l'égard des autres pays dont les Traités ont des échéances plus ou moins éloignées. Or, privée du point d'appui que lui donnerait un accord avec l'Angleterre, la France n'aurait aucune chance sérieux d'obtenir de ces pays les concessions de Tarif qu'elle réclame aujourd'hui et dont l'intérêt serait d'ailleurs moins grand pour elle, la concurrence et les importations de ces pays étant loin d'égaler celles de l'Angleterre et de la Belgique. En effet, sur une somme totale de 272,000,000 francs, représentant la valeur des produits fabriqués importés en France en 1869, et restés dans la consommation du pays, la part de l'Angleterre et de la Belgique est de 166,000,000 francs, c'est-à-dire, de près des deux-tiers de l'ensemble, et l'Angleterre seule y entre pour 130,000,000, soit près de la moitié du tout. Si du commerce spécial on passe au commerce général, on trouve à peu près la même proportion. Voici les chiffres: produits fabriqués importés en France en 1869, 760,000,000 valeur totale, parmi laquelle l'Angleterre figure pour 179,000,000 et la Belgique pour 104,000,000, soit pour les deux pays 283,000,000, ou près de la moitié de l'ensemble.

Quoiqu'il en soit, et si, comme on vient de la démontrer, la part des pays qui resteraient investis du droit conventionnel est moins forte, pour l'importation des produits fabriqués, que celles de l'Angleterre et de la Belgique, ils n'en auraient pas moins un avantage considérable sur leurs rivaux,—avantage qui, dans un temps donné, pouvait changer, au grand détriment de l'Angleterre, les proportions relatives qui viennent d'être indiquées. Là encore, l'intérêt prédominant est pour une entente entre la France et l'Angleterre pour le règlement de leurs intérêts commerciaux.

Le but de la présente note est uniquement d'établir aussi nettement que possible la situation qui résulterait de la non-acceptation des propositions du Gouvernement Français, qui, il l'a prouvé, attache un grand prix au maintien de bonnes relations entre deux pays dont l'union est une garantie de paix et de stabilité pour l'Europe.

*Londres, le 26 Septembre, 1871.*



(Translation.)

THE Treaty of Commerce concluded on the 23rd of January, 1860, between France and England having expired, each of the High Contracting Parties has the right of denouncing it, and consequently of making its effects to cease after the lapse of twelve months.

In the situation in which France finds herself, in consequence of the events which have taken place, she is freed to meet, by the imposition of fresh taxes, the financial necessities which weigh on the country. On another hand, if France had yielded to the pressure of the very numerous and powerful interests which demand a more energetic protection than that accorded by the tariffs annexed to the Conventions of the 12th of October and 16th of November, 1860, she would not have hesitated to free herself from the bonds which fetter her liberty of action.

But she gave place to loftier inspirations; she considered that in the actual state of Europe, where the views of justice and injustice are clouded to such a point as to cause a celebrated man to remark, "Force overrules right," it was above all important that France and England should remain united. Moreover, the denunciation of the Treaty of Commerce, especially in view of the general legislation of France, could not fail to produce a considerable disturbance in the commercial relations of the two peoples, as well as the cooling of the political relations of the two Governments, the one following necessarily on the other.

It is, therefore, with a conciliatory view that the French Government has proposed to the English Government to come to an understanding for the revision of the Treaty of January 23, 1860. The Project of Convention which was communicated by it to the London Cabinet bears testimony to the moderation of its demands, especially if the results of the inquiry instituted by the Legislative Body during the session of 1869-70 are consulted. If, on the other hand, the Versailles Cabinet demands upon manufactured goods a compensation for the taxes which it is forced to impose on raw materials, it is but a loyal execution of an otherwise very equitable arrangement inserted in the Treaty of 1860.

However, the various organs of the press in England declare against all modification of the Treaty of Commerce, and maintain that it is better to denounce it than to strike a blow at the principle of commercial liberty. Were this language that of pure theorists, did they wish to renew those words mournfully famous, "Perish the colonies rather than a principle!" it would be to a certain point intelligible. But it is difficult to allow that the opposition which manifests itself comes from practical men, who understand the value of the maintenance of good relations between two great people, unless they are under a delusion as regards the consequences in respect to customs, on the trade between France and England, of the line which they advise their Government to follow towards France.

By the side of the tariffs which are the consequence of the Treaties of Commerce concluded with the principal Powers of Europe and which form the conventional duty of France, the general Tariff anterior to the Treaty of 1860 exists with all the restrictions which belong to it. It is a law of the State which still has force and vigour, and is consequently applicable to all countries which are not bound to France by a Commercial Convention. Moreover, the general Tariff is full of prohibitions and absolutely forbids the importation into France of most of the manufactured products which England supplies to her. Thus, notably, it prohibits the introduction of articles in metal, cotton twist, and tissues, woollen twist, and tissues, hardware goods, fine porcelain, glass, articles in leather, &c.; it imposes very high taxes on iron, copper, lead, tin, chemical products—goods which supply the export trade of England.

No doubt the general Tariff of France is an antiquated one, which practically now-a-days has no actual application. But much time will be required before it can be replaced by a Tariff more suited to the actual wants of industry and commerce, for it is no easy task to measure all the interests, and to conciliate them by giving to each the part which should belong to it in the economic system which may be adopted by the legal representatives of the country. This task will be more difficult still when, entire liberty of action having been recovered, there will be no longer any barrier to oppose to the encroachments of the interests engaged.

On another hand, if the denunciation of the Treaty with England entails an analogous measure as regards Belgium, whose Treaty of Commerce with France has equally arrived at termination, the situation is not the same as regards other countries the expiration of the Treaties with which is still distant. Moreover, deprived of the support which an understanding with England would have given her, France would have no real chance of obtaining from those countries the tariff concessions which she now demands, and the



advantages of which, moreover, would be less as regards herself, the competition and the imports of those countries being far from equalling those of England and Belgium. In short, of a total amount of 272,000,000 fr., representing the value of manufactured goods imported into France in 1869 and consumed in the country, the share of England and Belgium amounts to 166,000,000 fr., that is, to nearly two-thirds of the whole, and England alone figures for 130,000,000 fr., that is, nearly half of the whole amount. If from special trade one passes to general trade, one finds about the same proportion. Here are the figures: manufactured products imported into France in 1869, 760,000,000 fr. total value, in which England figures for 179,000,000 and Belgium for 104,000,000 fr., that is, for the two countries, 283,000,000 fr., or nearly one-half of the whole amount.

However it be, and if, as it has first been shown, the proportion belonging to the countries which would remain invested with the conventional duty, is smaller, as regards the importations of manufactured goods, than that of England and Belgium, they would none the less have a considerable advantage over their rivals—an advantage which, in a given time, might alter, to the great detriment of England, the relative proportions which have just been indicated. There, again, the balance of interest is in favour of an understanding between France and England for the settlement of their commercial interests.

The aim of the present note is simply to define as clearly as possible the situation which would result from the non-acceptance of the proposals of the French Government, which, as it has given proofs, attaches a great value to the maintenance of good relations between two countries whose union is a guarantee of peace and stability for Europe.

London, September 26, 1871.

#### No. 37.

*Memorandum by M. Ozenne, entitled "Marine Marchande."*

D'APRES une proposition due à l'initiative parlementaire et qui a revêtu la forme d'un Projet de Loi, les marchandises importées en France par navires étrangers seraient passibles de surtaxe de pavillon fixées par 100 kilogrammes, ainsi qu'il suit:—

1. Des pays d'Europe et du bassin de la Méditerranée, 75 centimes.
2. Des pays hors d'Europe en deça des Caps Horn et de Bonne Espérance, 1 franc 50 centimes.
3. Des pays situés au-delà de ces deux Caps, 2 francs.
4. Des entrepôts d'Europe, pour les marchandises originaires des pays hors d'Europe, 3 francs.

Ces surtaxes de pavillon sont très-modérés; pour s'en convaincre il suffit de se reporter à la législation qui a précédé la réforme économique inaugurée par le Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860.

Avant 1816 il n'y avait que quelques marchandises de grand encombrement, et notamment les denrées coloniales, qui, pour leur importation par navires étrangers, étaient soumises à des surtaxes de navigation. C'est la Loi du 28 Avril, 1816, qui par son Article 7 généralisa le système des surtaxes de pavillon d'après les bases ci-après:—

1. Pour toutes les marchandises dont la taxe était inférieure à 300 francs par 100 kilogrammes, 10 pour cent du droit établi à l'importation par navire Français, quel que soit le pays de provenance.
2. Pour toutes les marchandises dont la taxe était supérieure à 300 francs par 100 kilogrammes, 5 pour cent du droit fixé pour l'importation par navire Français.

Mais, bien que prises à titre général, les dispositions de la Loi du 28 Avril, 1816, n'avaient pas empêché les législateurs de déterminer surtout pour les marchandises de grand encombrement et d'une origine extra-Européenne des surtaxes de pavillon beaucoup plus considérables que celles qui seraient résultées de la Loi précitée.

Pour mieux faire comprendre l'économie de la législation antérieure à 1860, on citera ici quelques exemples s'appliquant, soit d'après la législation générale, soit d'après la législation spéciale, à des produits de grand encombrement:—

#### 1. Régime établi par la Loi du 28 Avril, 1816.

Surtaxes de 10 pour cent du droit de l'importation par navires Français—

Laine—

Par navires Français	..	..	..	..	20 pour cent de la valeur.
Par navires étrangers	..	..	..	..	22 pour cent de la valeur; ou
					10 pour cent du droit.
					Par 100 kilos.

Poils de porc et de sanglier—

					Fr. c.
Par navires Français	..	..	..	..	20 0
Par navires étrangers	..	..	..	..	22 0



Soies teintes—						Fr. c.
Par navires Français	..	..	..	..	..	300 0
Par navires étrangers	..	..	..	..	..	330 0
Fromages—						
Par navires Français	..	..	..	..	..	15 0
Par navires étrangers	..	..	..	..	..	16 50
Chanvre—						
Par navires Français	..	..	..	..	..	8 0
Par navires étrangers	..	..	..	..	..	8 80
Lin peigné—						
Par navires Français	..	..	..	..	..	15 0
Par navires étrangers	..	..	..	..	..	16 50

## 2. Régime Spécial. Surtaxes variant selon la nature des Marchandises.

Grandes peaux brutes fraîches.—						Par 100 kilos.
Par navires Français—						Fr. c.
Des pays hors d'Europe	..	..	..	..	..	5 0
Des entrepôts	..	..	..	..	..	10 0
Par navires étrangers, quel que soit le pays de provenance.	..	..	..	..	..	15 0

Ici la surtaxe sur le pavillon étranger était de 10 francs par 100 kilogrammes relativement à la provenance du pays hors d'Europe et de 5 francs relativement à la provenance des entrepôts (toujours en prenant pour point de comparaison la situation faite aux navires Français).

Sucre brut :—						Les 100 kilos.
Par navires Français—						Fr. c.
De l'Inde	..	..	..	..	..	60 0
Des autres pays hors d'Europe	..	..	..	..	..	65 0
Des entrepôts	..	..	..	..	..	75 0
Par navires étrangers	..	..	..	..	..	85 0
Cafés :—						
Par navires Français—						
De l'Inde	..	..	..	..	..	78 0
Des autres pays hors d'Europe	..	..	..	..	..	95 0
Des entrepôts	..	..	..	..	..	100 0
Par navires étrangers	..	..	..	..	..	105 0

On voit par ces exemples, qui pourraient être multipliés, que le système en vigueur avant 1860 avait un double objet : 1. Exciter le pavillon Français à faire la navigation la plus lointaine, puisque par l'échelle des surtaxes ci-dessus indiquées la taxe à percevoir était d'autant plus faible que la distance parcourue était plus longue. 2. Empêcher l'intervention du pavillon étranger surtout dans la navigation lointaine, puisque pour ce pavillon la surtaxe était d'autant plus élevée que la distance à parcourir était plus longue. Exemple : si un navire étranger arrivait dans un port Français avec un chargement de café pris dans l'Inde, le droit à payer par lui était de 105 francs, tandis que le navire Français faisant la même opération ne devait qu'une taxe de 78 francs, soit un écart ou surtaxe de 27 francs par 100 kilogrammes, laquelle s'abaissait à 10 francs pour les importations des autres pays hors d'Europe (95 francs pour le navire Français, 105 francs pour le navire étranger), et même à 5 francs pour les importations des entrepôts d'Europe (100 francs par navires Français, 105 francs par navires étrangers).

## 3. Régime proposé par l'Assemblée Nationale.

Comme on l'a vu au commencement de cette note, la surtaxe de pavillon est fixée et reste la même, quelle que soit la marchandise importée. Elle ne varie que d'après la provenance.

Supposons un navire étranger important du café en France :—

S'il vient des pays en deça des caps, il paiera 1 franc 50 centimes par 100 kilogrammes.

S'il vient d'au delà des caps, il paiera 2 francs par 100 kilogrammes.

Enfin s'il arrive des entrepôts, il paiera 3 francs par 100 kilogrammes.

Il faut remarquer que cette surtaxe de 3 francs est celle qui avait été établie, même après 1860, sur les marchandises venant des entrepôts d'Europe, savoir, laine, coton, peaux brutes, &c.

Le système des surtaxes de pavillon étant donné, elles ne pouvaient guère être plus faibles que celles proposées par l'Assemblée Nationale.

Londres, le 26 Septembre, 1871.



(Translation.)

BY a proposal due to Parliamentary initiative, which has assumed the shape of a Bill, goods imported into France in foreign vessels would be liable to differential duties on every 100 kilos., fixed as follows:—

1. From European countries and the Mediterranean basin, 75 c.;
2. From countries out of Europe, on this side of Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope, 1 fr. 50 c.;
3. From countries situated beyond the two Capes, 2 fr.;
4. From the entrepôts of Europe, for goods brought from countries out of Europe, 3 fr.;

These differential duties are very moderate; to prove this it is only necessary to refer to the Legislation which preceded the economic reform inaugurated by the Treaty of January 23, 1860.

Previous to 1816 only some heavy merchandize, and more particularly colonial products, on being imported in foreign vessels, were subjected to differential duties. But, the Law of April 28, 1816, by Article VII, generalized the system of differential duties on the following bases:—

1. For all goods on which the tax was lower than 300 fr. per 100 kilos., 10 per cent. of the duty established on importation in French vessels, whatever might be the country of origin.
2. For all goods on which the tax was higher than 300 fr. per 100 kilos., 5 per cent. of the duty fixed for importation in French vessels.

But, although adopted, even if taken in a general sense, the provisions of the Law of April 28, 1816, did not prevent legislators from fixing far heavier differential duties than those which would result from the Law referred to, more especially upon heavy merchandize, and of extra-European origin.

In order the better to explain the financial policy affected by the Legislation previous to 1860, some examples, applying either by general or special Legislation to heavy merchandize, are here annexed:—

#### 1. Régime established by the Law of April 28, 1816.

Additional duties of 10 per cent of the duty on importation in French vessels:

Wool—					
In French vessels	..	..	..	..	20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
In foreign vessels	..	..	..	..	{ 22 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> ; or 10 per cent. of the duty.
					Per 100 kilos.
Bristles, boar and pig—					Fr. c.
In French vessels	..	..	..	..	20 0
In foreign vessels	..	..	..	..	22 0
Dyed silks—					
In French vessels	..	..	..	..	300 0
In foreign vessels	..	..	..	..	380 0
Cheese—					
In French vessels	..	..	..	..	15 0
In foreign vessels	..	..	..	..	16 50
Hemp—					
In French vessels	..	..	..	..	8 0
In foreign vessels	..	..	..	..	8 80
Carded flax—					
In French vessels	..	..	..	..	15 0
In foreign vessels	..	..	..	..	16 50

#### 2. Special régime. Differential duties varying according to the nature of the goods.

Large fresh raw hides—					Per 100 kilos.
In French vessels—					Fr. c.
From countries out of Europe	..	..	..	..	5 0
From entrepôts	..	..	..	..	10 0
In foreign vessels, whatever the country or origin	..	..	..	..	15 0

Under this head the additional duty on the foreign flag was at the rate of 10 fr. per 100 kilos. as regards (arrivals) from other countries out of Europe, and 5 fr. as regards arrivals from entrepôts (taking always as the point of comparison the position given to French vessels).



Raw sugar—						Per 100 kilos.	
In French vessels—						Fr.	c.
	From India	..	..	..	..	..	60 0
	From other countries out of Europe	..	..	..	..	..	65 0
	From entrepôts	..	..	..	..	..	75 0
	In foreign vessels	..	..	..	..	..	85 0
Coffees—							
In French vessels—							
	From India	..	..	..	..	..	78 0
	From other countries out of Europe	..	..	..	..	..	95 0
	From entrepôts	..	..	..	..	..	100 0
	In foreign vessels	..	..	..	..	..	105 0

It will be seen by these examples, which might be multiplied, that the system in force before 1860, had a double object : 1. To encourage the French flag to engage in the more distant trade, since, by the scale of additional charges shown above, the amounts to be levied were lighter in proportion as the distance to be traversed was longer. 2. To prevent the competition of the foreign flag, especially in the distant trade, as in such a case the greater the distance the higher the differential duty.

Example—If a foreign vessel arrived at a French port with a cargo of coffee from India, the duty to be paid would be at the rate of 105 fr., whereas a French vessel, under similar circumstances, would only be liable to a duty at the rate of 78 fr., or a differential duty of 27 fr. per 100 kilos., which would be reduced to 10 fr. on importations from other countries out of Europe (95 fr. for the French vessel, 105 fr. for the foreign vessel), and even to 5 fr. on importations from European entrepôts (100 fr. if in French vessels, 105 fr. in foreign vessels).

### 3. Régime proposed by the National Assembly.

As is shown at the beginning of this note, the additional duty on foreign shipping is fixed, and remains the same, whatever the goods imported. It only varies with the country of origin.

Let us suppose a foreign vessel importing coffee into France. If it comes from countries on this side of the Capes, it will pay 1 fr. 50 c. per 100 kilos. If it comes from beyond the Capes, it will pay 2 fr. per 100 kilos. If it arrives from entrepôts, it will pay 3 fr. per 100 kilos. It must be observed that this differential duty of 3 fr. is the one which was imposed even after 1860 on goods coming from European entrepôts, viz., wool, cotton, raw hides, &c.

The system of differential duties having been established, they could scarcely be lighter than those suggested by the National Assembly.

London, September 26, 1871.

No. 38.

M. Gavard to Earl Granville.—(Received October 21.)

M. le Ministre,

Londres, le 21 Octobre, 1871.

DANS le courant de l'entretien que vous avez bien voulu m'accorder Mercredi en même temps qu'à M. le Préfet de la Seine, vous nous avez parlé de l'opposition que rencontrerait en Angleterre l'établissement d'un droit de 20 pour cent à l'importation en France des matières premières telles que les laines.

J'ai pris sur moi de répondre immédiatement à votre Excellence qu'il me paraissait possible d'écarter du débat auquel va donner lieu l'examen de nos propositions commerciales, la question des droits à établir sur les articles Anglais pour compenser les impôts dont le projet soumis à l'Assemblée Nationale tend à grever les matières premières.

La base de nos demandes demeurant en suspens, tant que la Législature Française ne se sera pas prononcée sur l'impôt des matières premières, et ce point ne pouvant être réglé qu'après la reprise de la session, j'ai pensé qu'il y aurait tout avantage à dégager la négociation de la discussion des droits compensateurs et j'ai exposé ma manière de voir à M. de Rémusat.

Je m'empresse d'informer votre Excellence que le Gouvernement Français a accueilli cette suggestion. On se bornerait en conséquence dans le présent arrangement à stipuler que des droits compensateurs seraient ultérieurement établis, conformément aux dispositions des Traités de 1860, et proportionnellement aux taxes sur les matières premières qui seraient votées par l'Assemblée Nationale. Cette stipulation remplacerait dès lors, dans le projet que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous communiquer, l'Article III, et nous n'aurions plus à nous occuper, quant à présent, du Tableau C.



Votre Excellence appréciera, je n'en doute pas, la portée de cette modification et les avantages qu'on peut en tirer au point de vue du succès de la négociation.

Veuillez, &c.  
(Signé) GAVARD.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

London, October 21, 1871.

IN the course of the interview which you were pleased to grant me on Wednesday, at the same time as to the Prefect of the Seine, you spoke of the opposition which the establishment of a duty of 20 per cent. on importation into France of raw materials such as wool would encounter in England.

I took upon myself to answer your Excellency at once that it appeared to me possible to remove from the discussion to which the examination of our commercial proposals would give rise, the question of duties to be established on English articles to compensate for the taxes with which the Bill submitted to the National Assembly tends to burden raw materials.

The basis of our demands remaining in suspense so long as the French Legislature does not decide respecting the duties on raw materials, and as this point can only be settled after the reopening of the Session, I thought that there would be every advantage in freeing the negotiation from the discussion of compensatory duties, and I have expressed my views to M. de Rémusat.

I hasten to inform your Excellency that the French Government have accepted this suggestion. They will limit themselves consequently in the present arrangement to stipulating that the compensatory duties shall be ultimately settled, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaties of 1860, and in proportion to the taxes on raw materials which will be voted by the National Assembly. This stipulation will henceforth take the place of Article III in the project which I have had the honour to communicate to you, and for the present, we need not give our attention to Table C.

Your Excellency will, I have no doubt, appreciate the extent of this modification and the advantages which may be reaped with a view to the success of the negotiation.

Accept, &c.  
(Signed) GAVARD.

No. 39.

*M. Ozenne to Mr. Gladstone.*

M. le Ministre,

Londres, le 29 Octobre, 1871.

L'ACCUEIL si bienveillant que vous avez bien voulu me faire hier a été, pour moi, un encouragement à préparer la note que j'ai l'honneur de vous remettre ci-annexée.

Je la soumets à votre jugement si éclairé, et je conserve la pensée, qu'en tout cas j'ai été mu par ce sentiment si vif chez moi, qu'il importe de maintenir les relations amicales qui existent si heureusement entre la France et l'Angleterre.

J'ai, &c.  
(Signé) F. OZENNE.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

London, October 29, 1871.

THE very kind reception which you were so good as to grant to me yesterday, has been an encouragement to me to draw up the note which I have the honour to transmit to you herewith.

I submit it to your most enlightened judgment, and I retain the thought that, at any rate, I have been inspired with the feeling which is so strong within me, of what moment it is to maintain the friendly relations which so happily exist between France and England.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. OZENNE.



*Memorandum relative to the Revision of the Treaty of Commerce concluded January 23, 1860, between France and Great Britain.*

LE Traité de Commerce conclu le 23 Janvier, 1860, entre la France et l'Angleterre s'était borné à poser, pour la France, les conditions suivantes :—

1. Levée de toutes les prohibitions existant dans le Tarif Français.
2. Etablissement de droits ne pouvant, dans aucun cas, dépasser 30 pour cent jusqu'au 31 Octobre, 1864, et 25 pour cent depuis cette époque jusqu'à l'expiration du Traité.

Les négociateurs avaient réservé à des Conventions ultérieures le soin de déterminer les Tarifs à percevoir dans les limites maxima ci-dessus fixées.

Pour atteindre ce but le Gouvernement Français procéda à une enquête sur les principales industries engagées dans le Traité. Il voulait, par ce moyen, s'enquérir de la situation relative de la production en France et en Angleterre, afin de compenser, par les taxes à fixer, le désavantage pouvant résulter de la supériorité acquise dans le pays concurrent. C'est ce qui explique pourquoi, dans les Conventions annexes des 16 Octobre et 12 Novembre, 1860, on trouve, tout à la fois, à côté de la franchise complète (tissus de soie) une série de taxes qui, après avoir passé par 5, 10, et 15 pour cent, s'élèvent jusqu'à 25 et 30 pour cent.

Le Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, a donc été une transaction entre le principe du libre échange et le principe de la protection : transaction heureuse, — car, grâce à l'esprit initiateur de la France, les autres pays de l'Europe l'ont successivement suivie dans la nouvelle voie où elle venait d'entrer.

Le Traité de 1860 étant expiré, le Gouvernement Français, dans un intérêt surtout politique, propose au Gouvernement de la Reine de réviser le dit Traité, et d'en proroger les effets jusqu'au 1 Janvier, 1877. Les conditions de cette révision sont de légères augmentations sur quelques produits des industries textiles. Ces augmentations de taxes ont-elles pour but de faire renaître et de glorifier en France le principe de la protection ? Nullement. Avant la chute de l'Empire, le Corps Législatif avait procédé (fin de 1869, et commencement de 1871) à une enquête sur les résultats du Traité de Commerce de 1860. Dans cette enquête, beaucoup de plaintes se sont fait jour, et des augmentations de droits, souvent considérables, ont été réclamées. Sans doute, il faut tenir compte des exagérations qui se manifestent toujours dans les enquêtes de ce genre ; cependant, on peut tenir pour certain que le Gouvernement déchu n'aurait jamais pu renouveler le Traité de 1860 sans réclamer des augmentations de Tarif beaucoup plus considérables que celles qui sont aujourd'hui demandées.

En bornant ainsi ses demandes, M. le Président de la République Française a non seulement fait abnégation complète de ses doctrines économiques, mais encore il a résisté aux tendances du pays, qui, à tort ou à raison, penche beaucoup plus vers le principe de la protection que vers le principe du libre échange et qui, à la venue au pouvoir de l'homme illustre qui dirige les affaires de la France, avait pu espérer la satisfaction de ses désirs.

La pensée qui a dominé l'esprit de M. Thiers lorsqu'il a fait au Gouvernement Anglais des ouvertures pour la révision de Traité de 1860, a été non un pas retrograde ou le retour vers le passé, mais l'intérêt qu'il attache au maintien des relations amicales qui existent entre la France et l'Angleterre et si nécessaires dans l'état politique actuel de l'Europe.

Il est vrai que dans la pensée de l'homme éminent qui dirige si glorieusement les affaires de la Grande Bretagne, les sympathies du peuple Anglais, quel que soit le sort du Traité de 1860, c'est-à-dire, qu'il soit dénoncé ou maintenu avec les modifications demandées, resteront toujours les mêmes pour la France.

Là s'établit la divergence des opinions. Le Gouvernement Français craint que le froissement des intérêts commerciaux, conséquence fatale de la dénonciation du Traité, n'amène bientôt un refroidissement dans les relations politiques. En effet, quelle sera, en cas de dénonciation du Traité, la situation du commerce Anglais vis-à-vis de la France ? C'est le point essentiel qu'il s'agit d'examiner.

Sans doute, il n'entre pas dans la pensée du Gouvernement Français de briser les relations qui se sont établies à la suite du Traité de 1860 et dont l'effet a été de porter de 278 millions (chiffre 1859) à 508 millions de francs (chiffre de 1869) la valeur des marchandises vendues par l'Angleterre à la France.

Mais, quels que soient ses désirs à cet égard, il y a des nécessités qui s'imposent et dont il n'est pas le maître. A côté des Tarifs conventionnels qui, par les Traités successive-



ment conclus, sont les seuls aujourd'hui appliqués en France, il y a le Tarif général qui, n'ayant pas été abrogé, est resté la loi de l'Etat et doit succéder aux Tarifs conventionnels jusqu'à ce qu'un autre Tarif général puisse être établi par l'Assemblée Nationale; car nous ne sommes plus au temps où de simples décrets du pouvoir exécutif pouvaient modifier le régime économique du pays. Or, au milieu des préoccupations politiques qui l'étreignent, chargée d'ailleurs de préparer les lois fondamentales qui sont la conséquence d'un changement si profond dans le régime politique de la France, l'Assemblée Nationale pourrait-elle, dans un délai de douze mois, préparer et voter un nouveau Tarif général, œuvre toujours longue et difficile, car il s'agit de pondérer tous les intérêts, mais qui le devient bien plus encore au milieu d'un pays troublé par les tristes événements qu'il vient de traverser, et sous le poids d'une dette qui change complètement sa situation économique. Et d'ailleurs, on ne saurait se dissimuler qu'en présence du refus d'entrer en négociations sur des demandes aussi modérées que celles du Gouvernement Français, l'Assemblée Nationale ressentirait une irritation qui viendrait encore ajouter aux complications de la situation, et la rendrait moins favorable à la modération alors surtout qu'il n'existerait plus aucune digue à opposer aux partisans du régime protecteur.

Ainsi donc, et quelle que soit la volonté du Gouvernement Français, au Tarif résultant du Traité de 1860 viendrait fatalement se substituer le Tarif général, tarif suranné couvert de prohibitions et de droits élevés qui rendraient impossible les opérations du commerce Anglais avec la France. Une telle situation n'amènerait-elle pas des réclamations de la part des industriels Anglais, qui, si l'on en juge par les délibérations des Chambres de Commerce, semblent faire bon marché du Traité, sans doute parcequ'ils ignorent le traitement qui leur serait réservé après l'expiration des douze mois qui suivraient la dénonciation du dit Traité. Ne pourrait-on pas même craindre qu'ainsi froissés dans leurs plus chers intérêts, ils n'aillent jusqu'à accuser leur propre Gouvernement d'avoir, pour l'unique satisfaction d'un principe, sacrifié ces mêmes intérêts.

Et cependant, en fait, la question de principe n'est pas engagée dans la négociation proposée; il ne s'agit ni d'un pas retrograde, ni d'un retour vers le passé; il s'agit uniquement d'une transaction qui n'est que trop motivée par la situation actuelle de la France, car personne ne peut nier que les impôts nouveaux dont le pays est chargé, et qui ne s'élèvent pas à moins de 650 millions de francs, réagissent sur les conditions du travail, et par suite sur les conditions de la production, que ces impôts l'atteignent soit directement soit indirectement.

(Signé) F. OZENNE.

*Londres, le 29 Octobre, 1871.*

(Translation.)

THE Treaty of Commerce concluded the 23rd of January, 1860, between France and England, limited itself to imposing, for France, the following conditions:—

1. Abolition of all existing prohibitions in the French Tariff.
2. Establishment of duties, not, in any case, to exceed 30 per cent. up to the 31st October, 1864, and 25 per cent. from that date until expiration of the Treaty.

The negotiators reserved for subsequent Conventions the business of determining the Tariffs to be levied within the above fixed maximum limits.

In order to attain this object the French Government instituted an inquiry into the principal industries concerned in the Treaty. They wished by this means to inquire into the relative condition of production in France and England, with a view to compensate, by the imposition of Tariffs, the disadvantage which might result from the superiority obtained by one or the other country. This explains why, in the Supplementary Conventions of the 16th October and 12th November, 1860, one finds, side by side by complete free trade (silk tissues) a series of duties, which, after having passed from 5, 10, to 15 per cent., rise up to 25 and 30 per cent.

So the Treaty of the 23rd January, 1860, has been a transaction between the principle of free trade and the principle of protection; a fortunate transaction, as, thanks to the originating spirit of France, the other countries of Europe have successively followed her in the new path upon which she had entered.

The Treaty of 1860 having expired, the French Government, quite as a political measure, proposes to the Government of the Queen to revise the said Treaty, and to extend its effects to the 1st January, 1877.

The conditions of this revision consist of slight augmentations upon certain products of textile fabrics. Is it the object of these augmentations of duties to restore and uphold in France the principle of protection? Not at all. Prior to the fall of the Empire the

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Legislative Body had commenced an inquiry (end of 1869 and beginning of 1871\*) into the results of the Treaty of Commerce of 1860. In the course of this inquiry several grievances came to light, and augmentations of duties, frequently to a large extent, were asked for. Doubtless, one must take into account the exaggerations which always manifest themselves during inquiries of this nature; nevertheless, one may hold for certain that the deposed Government would never have been able to renew the Treaty of 1860 without demanding much more considerable augmentations of Tariffs than those which are now asked for.

In thus limiting his requests, the President of the French Republic has not only made a complete abnegation of his economical doctrines, but he has even withstood the tendencies of the country, which, whether right or wrong, leans much more towards the principle of protection than towards the principle of free trade, and which on the accession to power of the illustrious man who directs the affairs of France, might have hoped for the realization of its wishes.

The idea which has dominated the mind of M. Thiers at the moment of his making overtures to the English Government for the revision of the Treaty of 1860, has not been a retrograde step nor a return towards the past, but the interest which he takes in the maintenance of the friendly relations which exist between France and England, and which are so necessary in the actual political state of Europe.

It is true that, in the opinion of the eminent man who directs so gloriously the affairs of Great Britain, the sympathies of the English people, whatever may be the fate of the Treaty of 1860—that is to say, whether it be denounced or maintained with the desired modifications, will always remain the same for France.

From thence starts the divergence of opinions. The French Government fears lest the clash of commercial interests, the fatal consequence of the denunciation of the Treaty, may soon bring about a coolness in the political relations. What will be, in effect, in case of the denunciation of the Treaty, the position of English commerce with regard to France? This is the essential point which is to be looked to.

It certainly does not enter into the intention of the French Government to rupture the relations which have been established as a consequence of the Treaty of 1860, and of which the effect has been to raise from 278 millions (calculation of 1859) to 508 millions of francs (calculation of 1869), the value of the goods sold by England to France.

Nevertheless, whatever may be its wishes in this respect, there are necessities which are imposed upon it, and of which it is not the master. By the side of the Conventional Tariffs which, by virtue of successively concluded Treaties, are at present the only ones applicable in France, there is the general Tariff which, not having been abrogated, remains the law of the State, and will have to succeed the Conventional Tariffs until another general Tariff shall have been established by the National Assembly, for we are no longer in a time when mere Decrees of the Executive Power would be able to modify the economical *régime* of the country. Now, in the midst of the political preoccupations which weigh upon it charged, moreover, with the preparation of the fundamental laws which are the result of so radical a change in the political *régime* of France, would it be possible for the National Assembly, within the space of twelve months, to prepare and vote a new general Tariff, always a long and difficult task, involving the weighing of every interest, but which becomes much more so in the midst of a country troubled by the sad events which it has just undergone, and under the weight of a debt which entirely alters its economical situation. And, moreover, one cannot conceal from oneself that, in the face of a refusal to enter into negotiations upon requests so moderate as those of the French Government, the National Assembly would experience an irritation which would add still more to the complications of the situation, and would render it less favourably disposed to moderation, the more so that there would no longer remain any bulwark to oppose to the partisans of the Protectionist *régime*.

Thus, then, and whatever might be the wish of the French Government, for the Tariff resulting from the Treaty of 1860 the General Tariff would inevitably come to be substituted, a superannuated Tariff full of prohibitions and high duties, which would render the operations of English commerce with France impossible. Would not such a state of things lead to complaints on the part of the English trading community, who, if one may judge from the deliberations of the Chambers of Commerce, seem to think lightly of the Treaty, no doubt because they are ignorant of the treatment which would be reserved for them after the expiration of the twelve months following the denunciation of the said Treaty.

Might not one even fear that, thus hurt in their dearest interests, they might not go

\* *Sic.* Qy. 1870.



so far as to accuse their own Government of having for the mere satisfaction of a principle, sacrificed those very interests?

And yet, in fact, the question of principle is not concerned in the proposed negotiation; it is a question neither of a retrograde step, nor of a return to the past; it is solely a question of a transaction which is rendered only too necessary by the actual condition of France, for no one can deny that the new taxes with which the country is burthened, and which amount to not less than 650 millions of francs, react upon the conditions of labour, and consequently upon the conditions of production, whether these taxes operate directly or indirectly.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. OZENNE.

No. 40.

*Earl Granville to Mr. West.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 1, 1871.*

THE French Chargé d'Affaires, during a visit which he paid me on the 24th ultimo, asked whether I had anything to communicate to him on the subject of the French Treaty of Commerce. He said the President of the French Republic wished Her Majesty's Government to know that he would prefer the abrogation of the Treaty, and the recovery by the French nation of perfect freedom of action; but that he sacrificed his own opinions and wishes to the desire of acting in a friendly and conciliatory spirit towards this country.

I informed the French Chargé d'Affaires that the Cabinet had already given serious consideration to the proposals made to them by the Government of France, but that I was not yet in a position to make any communication to him. I did not conceal from him that many difficulties presented themselves to the Cabinet.

The French Government will probably think it more frank and friendly on the part of Her Majesty's Government if, before coming to any decision, they communicate to the French Government the difficulties which occur to them; and I am the more encouraged to take this course in consequence of the conciliatory message from M. Thiers with which the French Chargé d'Affaires was entrusted.

The proposals which were made to Her Majesty's Government by the Government of France assumed for the first time a definite shape in the Draft of Treaty communicated to me by the French Ambassador on the 13th of September.

That Draft consisted of six Articles. The first reserved, without alteration, certain articles included in a Schedule marked (A). The third provided for an increased rate of duty on certain articles enumerated in Schedule (B), over and above the compensatory charges for increased or new duties to be levied in France on raw and dyeing materials to be used in French manufactories, such duties being set forth in Articles II and III; the commodities subject to these increased or new duties being enumerated in a Schedule marked (C), which however did not accompany the Draft Treaty, and has never yet been communicated to Her Majesty's Government. The IVth Article provided for the continued application of the stipulations of the Treaty and Conventions of 1830 where not varied by those of the new Treaty. The Vth Article reserved the action of the French National Assembly; and the VIth provided for the continuance of the new Treaty till the 1st of January, 1877.

It appears from a subsequent communication made to me by the French Chargé d'Affaires on the 21st of October, that the French Government are content to defer the consideration of the IIIrd Article, so far as regards the Schedule (C), until the National Assembly shall have determined the rates to be levied on raw materials imported into France.

The assent of Her Majesty's Government is requested on these grounds:—

The necessity under which France labours of raising a revenue commensurate with the increased charges imposed on her resources by the late war.

The dissatisfaction which had already been felt in France at some of the reductions of duties stipulated for in the Treaty of 1860, and the necessity, arising from the increased burden of taxation, to give some protection to French industry. The French Government are more anxious for the assent of this country to these proposals, in the expectation that other Powers with whom they hope to make arrangements of a similar character, will be induced to follow the example of England.

Other arguments differing in character have been pressed on Her Majesty's Government. It has been said by some of the Representatives of France that it is necessary



to make concessions to save a Treaty, without which France may re-enact duties of a still higher protective, and even of a prohibitive character; while it was stated to Lord Lyons by the President of the Republic that although the French Government believed in the wisdom of leaving nations free to regulate their fiscal measures according to their own sense of necessity and expediency, untrammelled by commercial engagements with foreign Powers, it was desirable to preserve the Treaty, with modifications, for political reasons.

As regards the first of these grounds, it is scarcely necessary for me to say how sincerely Her Majesty's Government sympathize with the Government of France in the embarrassment in which late events have involved it, and how gladly they would contribute to mitigate that embarrassment as far as a due regard for the interests of British trade, and for the great principles on which all trading interests are based would permit them to do so.

Her Majesty's Government fully recognize the soundness of the principle of perfect freedom of action in regard to fiscal matters laid down by the President of the Republic. They freely admit that, in the Treaty of 1860, they waived it, and waived it too in opposition to the views expressed by persons whose opinion was well deserving of consideration. But they did so for two substantial reasons:—First, they hoped—and events have shown that in this they judged rightly—that by the concessions made to France they were furthering an approach to that freedom of trade which they considered to be essential to the material well-being of all nations, and setting, in conjunction with France, an example which other European nations would not be slow to follow, and indeed have followed, to the great benefit of industry and commerce at home and abroad. Secondly, they felt assured that, as common material interests grew up between nations, the foundations of concord would be established between them, and the chances of war diminished.

Actuated by the same spirit, Her Majesty's Government voluntarily went beyond the stipulations of the Treaty of 1860, and specifically as regards the wine and tobacco duties.

Her Majesty's Government are now asked to retrace their steps by becoming parties to the imposition of greater protective duties on British commodities, and thus to give the countenance of this country to a course of action discrediting and damaging the doctrines of Free Trade, the promotion of which was a principal object in the conclusion of the Treaty of 1860.

Coupled with this is an intimation that British shipping may be exposed to some novel duty, and that, further, the indirect trade in British shipping may be subjected to new restrictions to the detriment of the great warehousing trade of this country.

And yet it would seem to be expected that the British Government, subjected to these disadvantages, would continue to observe the other provisions of the Treaty and Conventions of 1860, which interfere with their own fiscal liberty with regard to the duties on coal, wine, and spirits.

Moreover, the Treaty will determine at the end of the term named, and there will then be no provision for insuring to England an equality of treatment with other nations by means of a most-favoured-nation clause.

Her Majesty's Government feel a strong objection to set an example of negotiation for the purpose not of reducing but of increasing protective duties, a policy they believe to be even more injurious to the States who impose them than the States against which they are levelled.

But even if such considerations as these had not presented themselves to Her Majesty's Government, the vagueness of the present proposals of France would necessarily create an additional difficulty in determining how far Her Majesty's Government might, in their anxiety to meet the wishes of France, acquiesce in an increase of duties on British commodities.

Her Majesty's Government are perfectly aware that it would be presumptuous on their part to offer advice to the Government of France as to the best mode of raising the large revenue now required by them. The results of the absence or reduction of Protection on the prosperity of various States are known; so are the extraordinary effects produced in Great Britain by Free Trade upon the industrial classes, the consumers, and the revenue itself. Her Majesty's Government know that, notwithstanding the immense increase of trade between Great Britain and France under the Treaty of 1860, and the benefits which have thereby accrued to the consumers of both countries, yet that these advantages are considered by the President of the French Republic and others in France to have been accompanied with collateral disadvantages, the estimate of which would not probably be affected by any arguments which Her Majesty's Government could advance. They rejoice, however, to think that, as far as the present negotiation is concerned, there is nothing which need disturb the present friendly relations of the two Governments.

If the Government of the Republic is able to obviate the objections which I have



opened for consideration to the present proposals, Her Majesty's Government will be glad to acquiesce in a measure formally proposed to them by France. If, on the other hand, they ultimately find it necessary to leave to France, if she should think fit to use it, the remedy by a denunciation of the Treaty, although they will much regret the result, that regret will be diminished, not only by the knowledge of the personal sentiments of the President of the Republic, but by the conviction that freedom of commercial intercourse can only in the long run be obtained by the belief of the nations concerned in the advantages which it confers; and unreservedly respecting the moral as well as formal right of France to form and act on her own judgment of her own interests, they will not allow even the change they may lament to act unfavourably on the sentiments they have cherished towards the French Government and nation.

You will furnish M. Rémusat with a copy of this despatch.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 41.

*Earl Granville to Mr. West.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 2, 1871.*

I READ this morning to the French Chargé d'Affaires and to M. Ozenne my despatch to you which was sent to Paris last night.\*

M. Ozenne said that it was not for him to speak on behalf of his Government, but that undoubtedly he felt great regret at its contents. It appeared to contain four points:—

1. That Her Majesty's Government refused the settled proposals which had been made to them by the French Government.
2. That they declined to settle anything on the less definite proposals as to the duties which were to compensate for the taxes on raw materials.
3. That they objected to be parties to negotiating a Treaty which involved any increase of protection.
4. That they wished to maintain their friendly relations with France.

I told M. Ozenne that the last two points were correctly stated by him; but that as regarded the first, he had overstated the effect of it. We had refused nothing; we had decided nothing; but we had stated—which we thought it frank and courteous to France to point out—the difficulties which presented themselves to our minds. That with regard to the possible propositions based on what might be the future decisions of the French Cabinet and Assembly, it was not only that we did not wish to give an answer on an hypothetical question, but that we did not like to settle a part of the scheme till we knew the whole plan.

M. Ozenne said he saw no way out of the dilemma. The French had moderated their proposals to the lowest degree that it was possible for them to do, consistently with the pledges which M. Thiers had given, and with the requirements of the Assembly. He saw no hope of saving the Treaty, and the result would be disastrous to France, who could not, in her present circumstances, and in the disjointed state of parties, reform during the next twelve months her Tariff, as established by law, when not modified by Treaties; and a great blow, instead of an almost imperceptible one, would be aimed at the commerce between the countries.

With respect to the observations on the French proposals outside the Treaty, M. Ozenne said that my despatch was in error. It was quite true that an additional tax was imposed on French and English vessels in the direct trade, and a differential tax on the English shipping engaged in the indirect trade; but that no tax was directed against our warehousing trade which did not exist at present.

As to the favoured-nation clause, he considered that there would be no difficulty in placing us on at least as good a footing as Germany.

M. Ozenne did not attempt to answer the arguments which I brought forward in support of the objections which were stated in my despatch, to our accepting the French proposals.

M. Ozenne, in the first place, stated that there was nothing left to detain him here; but at the end of the conversation, though without any suggestion from me, he announced that he should ask M. Thiers for his orders.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

\* No. 40.



*Mr. West to Earl Granville.—(Received November 4.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, November 3, 1871.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant.

At an interview which I had this day with M. de Rémusat, I informed his Excellency that I had received a despatch from your Lordship on the subject of the Commercial Treaty of 1860, and that I was instructed to furnish his Excellency with a copy of it, which I now begged to place in his hands.

As his Excellency seemed desirous that I should read it, I proceeded to do so. He listened most attentively, but made no observation or comment until I had finished reading it.

He then said that the observations contained in this despatch might, he thought, as well have been made at the commencement of the negotiations as at the present moment; and that it scarcely required three months' discussion to arrive at such conclusions. He regretted the view taken by Her Majesty's Government, and feared that it must now lead to the denunciation of the Treaty by the French Government. I remarked to his Excellency that perhaps he could scarcely appreciate, from hearing me merely read your Lordship's despatch, its real import and the friendly tone of its language; and I proceeded to call his Excellency's attention to several passages which I thought might have some weight with him if calmly considered. I explained to him that your Lordship's despatch contained no final decision upon the questions under consideration; but that it only stated objections which had been taken by Her Majesty's Government to the proposals of the French Government, and I laid stress upon that passage in which your Lordship states that if the Government of the Republic is able to obviate those objections, Her Majesty's Government would be glad to acquiesce in a measure formally proposed to them by France.

I told his Excellency that he would, I thought, admit that, in the event of the proposed Treaty coming into force, England, when that Treaty determined, might possibly be placed in a very disadvantageous position, as regarded equality with other nations by means of a most-favoured-nation clause, and that he could scarcely be surprised at Her Majesty's Government looking upon such a possibility in a very serious light. He would therefore, I felt convinced, when he came to consider calmly the contents of your Lordship's despatch, only see in it a proof of the sincere desire of Her Majesty's Government, if possible, to come to an understanding upon points under discussion, and a wish to preserve the principles of a commercial policy which, in their opinion, has conferred such benefits upon Europe.

M. de Rémusat said he could not but acquiesce in the conciliatory language of your Lordship's despatch, but repeated again his regret at its reception. He was, he said, as he had often told me, a "free trader," and consequently could not be content at finding a free trade policy in danger of being reversed. He should, however, do all in his power to prevent the bad effect which he feared the contents of your Lordship's despatch might produce upon some of his colleagues who did not agree with him on commercial matters, and still hoped that the evil consequences of the proposed modifications may be found to be exaggerated. Under any circumstances, said his Excellency, if France and England cannot agree on commercial questions, at all events political ones will not hinder their amicable relations, and he added that he would have desired to have preserved the Treaty as an additional guarantee for such a desirable end.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.

*Mr. West to Earl Granville.—(Received November 11.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, November 10, 1871.*

M. DE REMUSAT told me to-day that the answer to your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, copy of which I had communicated to him, was already prepared, but that he was unable to show it to me as it was at that moment in the President's hands for final approval. "Je suis bien affligé," his Excellency said, at the result of the negotiation; and he added that he thought the Treaty must now be denounced. He could not understand, he continued, why the general objections made by Her Majesty's



Government to the French proposals had not been made at the very outset of the negotiations, and regretted that the matter had been allowed to be discussed in detail in the face of them. He could not admit, moreover, that in agreeing to the modifications which had been proposed by the French Government was involved the abandonment of the policy of Free Trade on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

His Excellency then went on to express his deep regret, as a free trader, at the injurious consequences which he feared would ensue to the commerce of the two countries upon the denunciation of the Treaty, which he seemed to regard as now inevitable. The French Government, however, he said, would wait till the last moment before taking such a course, in the hope that the negotiations might be resumed and some arrangement come to which would relieve them from the necessity of having recourse to it.

I said that his Excellency must be well aware that Her Majesty's Government would never be parties to a reactionary commercial policy, but that, at the same time, they were ready to listen to any proposal based on an augmentation of duties for fiscal purposes. I did not, I said, know precisely upon what base the discussions had been carried on by M. Ozenne, whom I thought, however, would scarcely have proposed to Her Majesty's Government the principle of protection, as he, above all others, must know that it would not be accepted. Since, therefore, the question of the duties on the "matières premières" and "droits compensateurs" had been put aside for the moment, surely it was not necessary to put forward the proposed increase of duty on certain other articles as indicating a return to a protectionist policy; but, on the contrary, it would be more expedient to treat their imposition as a measure deemed necessary by the French Government for fiscal purposes alone, and under the peculiar circumstances in which they were placed.

His Excellency replied that what I had said was, to a certain extent, true, but that, viewing the matter in the light in which it was viewed by certain members of the Government and a large party in the National Assembly, the principle of protection could scarcely be ignored.

His Excellency concluded by saying that the Duc de Broglie would, probably, have already seen your Lordship, and have explained the course which the French Government were prepared to adopt in consequence of your Lordship's communication.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.

No. 44.

*Mr. West to Earl Granville.—(Received November 18.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, November 17, 1871.*

M. DE REMUSAT again repeated to me to-day the determination of the French Government to denounce the Commercial Treaty of 1860; but that he hoped, before the time arrived for doing so, some means would be found of reopening the negotiations.

He alluded to the answer of the French Government to your Lordship's despatch to me of the 1st instant; but as I was not in possession of the precise terms of this document, I declined further discussion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.

No. 45.

*The Duc de Broglie to Earl Granville.—(Received December 1.)*

*Londres, le 30 Novembre, 1871.*

L'AMBASSADEUR de France a l'honneur de transmettre à son Excellence M. le Comte Granville la note ci-jointe qu'il a reçu de son Gouvernement ordre de lui communiquer.

Le Duc de Broglie espère que le Gouvernement Britannique ne se méprendra pas sur les intentions amicales qui ont dicté au Gouvernement Français la ligne de conduite dont la note fait connaître les impérieux motifs, et il sera très empressé de donner à cet égard à M. le Comte Granville toutes les explications verbales qui pourraient être désirées, dès qu'il lui sera permis de s'entretenir avec son Excellence.

Il saisit, &c.

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(Translation.)

*London, November 30, 1871.*

THE Ambassador of France has the honour to transmit to his Excellency Lord Granville the accompanying note, which he has been instructed by his Government to communicate to him.

The Duke de Broglie trusts that the British Government will not mistake the friendly intentions which have dictated to the French Government the line of conduct, the imperative motives for which are explained in the note, and he will be most ready to give to Lord Granville any verbal explanations which may be desired on the subject as soon as he shall have been granted an interview with his Excellency.

He avails, &c.

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Inclosure in No. 45.

*Note-Verbale.*

LE MINISTRE des Affaires Etrangères a reçu du Ministre d'Angleterre la communication de la dépêche par laquelle le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique fait connaître les difficultés que son Gouvernement aperçoit aux modifications proposées par la France au Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, par application des Articles IX et XXI du dit Traité.

Nous nous plaisons à reconnaître dans ce document la confirmation des sentiments d'amitié dont nous avons mainte fois dans le cours d'une délicate négociation recueilli l'expression de la part des Ministres de Sa Majesté.

Le Gouvernement Français n'a jamais mis en doute le sincère désir du Gouvernement Anglais de nous faciliter, autant qu'il peut dépendre de lui, les moyens de faire face aux difficultés financières que nous pouvons avoir à traverser et les assurances que Lord Granville renouvelle à cet égard ont pour nous un grand prix.

Animés des mêmes sentiments et du désir de n'altérer en rien les excellents rapports qui subsistent entre nos deux Gouvernements, nous devons rappeler que, dès l'origine de la négociation, le Président de la République Française, bien que persuadé des atteintes graves que le régime commercial établi en 1860 portait aux intérêts de l'industrie nationale, notamment à ceux de la marine marchande, avait déclaré l'intention de maintenir dans tout ce qu'il a d'essentiel le Traité du 23 Janvier, et de donner ainsi le témoignage du prix qu'il attache à la stabilité des relations bienveillantes entre l'Angleterre et la France. En conséquence, il n'a été proposé de notre part que des modifications sur des points de détail, modifications qui résulteraient d'une enquête ouverte par le Gouvernement précédent et qu'il avait dessein de proposer lui-même. En même temps une création nouvelle de taxes à l'intérieur devait amener à l'extérieur une augmentation de droits correspondante, ainsi que le Traité lui-même l'avait prévu.

Dès le mois de Juillet dernier nos vues ont été communiquées au Gouvernement Britannique; à la suite de nombreux entretiens, complétés par des échanges de notes, le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat a invité le Gouvernement Français à préciser plus nettement ses intentions en libellant ses demandes dans un projet de Traité destiné à remplacer nos anciennes Conventions. Cette proposition a été accueillie comme une manifestation de la volonté du Gouvernement Britannique de sortir des généralités pour aborder les détails, et arriver, s'il était possible, à un arrangement pratique. Nous nous attendions assurément à voir un débat s'engager sur quelques unes des stipulations énoncées; du moins, nous était-il permis d'espérer que les questions de théorie agitées dans les précédents entretiens seraient mises au second rang, et que nos propositions seraient examinées en elles-mêmes. Ramenées à leurs termes véritables, elles avaient été comprises en Angleterre même et dans le monde commercial comme des stipulations discutables, mais contre lesquelles ne s'élevait aucune objection fondamentale. L'opinion publique ne les repoussait plus; ce n'est donc pas sans étonnement qu'au lieu des objections techniques que pouvait provoquer l'examen d'un texte positif, nous avons trouvé reproduites dans la réponse du Principal Secrétaire d'Etat les mêmes considérations générales qui avaient été opposées, il y a quatre mois, au début même de la négociation, et qui auraient pu y mettre immédiatement un terme, si elles avaient été présentées comme un dernier mot. Sans la confiance que nous persistons à mettre dans le bon vouloir et les dispositions conciliantes du Gouvernement Britannique, il nous serait difficile de ne pas voir dans la réponse du Comte Granville une sorte de fin de non recevoir et l'ajournement de toute négociation. Mais nous voudrions conserver un meilleur espoir, et nous rappellerons



que nos demandes se divisaient en deux parties complètement distinctes l'une de l'autre : les premières portaient sur des rectifications de tarif ; elles n'étaient que l'application de l'Article XXI du Traité de 1860. Les secondes avaient pour objet d'établir sur un certain nombre de marchandises les taxes de compensation prévues par l'Article IX. Ces demandes, séparées à dessein, pouvaient être rendues indépendantes les unes des autres. Celles qui étaient relatives aux droits compensateurs avaient été présentées au début de la négociation dans l'hypothèse de l'établissement prochain d'un impôt sur les matières premières ; mais l'Assemblée Nationale s'étant prorogée avant l'adoption de cette mesure préliminaire, la question n'offrait plus un intérêt immédiat, et nous consentions à n'en point presser la solution. D'ailleurs sur ce point, le Gouvernement Anglais ne pouvait élever d'objection au fond, et il ne présentait en effet d'observations que sur le chiffre des taxes projetées.

Quelles étaient donc en définitive les bases sur lesquelles reposait la négociation ? Sur quels points portaient nos propositions ? Elles se résumaient en une simple rectification de Tarif pour les marchandises énumérées au Tableau B du projet, c'est-à-dire, pour un nombre très restreint des produits Anglais importés en France ; ces produits se réduisaient en effet aux fils et aux tissus de lin, de chanvre, de coton et de laine ; et encore convient-il de remarquer que, pour les fils de lin, de chanvre, et de coton, les modifications demandées ne concernent que la moitié seulement des classes du Tarif, celles qui comprennent les numéros dont l'Angleterre importe le moins ; pour les fils de laine, il n'est question que des fils de laine tordus, dont l'importation Anglaise est absolument nulle ; pour les tissus de lin et de chanvre il ne s'agit que d'une simple correction de Tarif sans augmentation de droits ; pour les tissus de coton, deux des catégories seulement sont atteintes dans de très faibles proportions. Il est donc permis d'affirmer qu'en réalité l'unique modification qui puisse présenter de l'intérêt pour l'industrie Anglaise est celle qui porte sur les tissus de laine mélangée.

Est-il possible dès lors de prétendre que le régime commercial sur lequel reposent les relations entre la France et l'Angleterre serait compromis si nos demandes étaient accueillies ? Il faudrait alors considérer l'Article XXI du Traité comme une lettre morte ; car on se demanderait dans quel cas cet Article pourrait trouver son application. Le Traité de 1860 deviendrait un texte inflexible dont toutes les dispositions, s'enchaînant l'une à l'autre, seraient en quelque sorte solidaires. C'est là une doctrine absolue qui ne saurait avoir cours entre des Gouvernements que doit toujours guider l'esprit de transaction, puisqu'ils ont à concilier les intérêts les plus divers.

Il semblerait cependant qu'en opposant des vues générales à des propositions spéciales, le Gouvernement Britannique tend à s'interdire en effet toute transaction et à mettre ainsi le Gouvernement Français dans l'alternative ou de sacrifier des intérêts qu'il ne peut abandonner ou de renoncer à l'ensemble des stipulations consacrées par un Traité dont il acceptait le maintien. Le trouble que cette renonciation entraînerait dans les relations commerciales entre les deux pays ne peut cependant être indifférent à l'Angleterre. Le Traité de 1860 a été assurément en France l'objet des appréciations les plus diverses. Il a soulevé des objections sérieuses, de vives réclamations ; mais s'il a pu porter dans certaines industries de regrettables perturbations, il a donné à d'autres industries un remarquable essor et créé entre la France et l'Angleterre de nouvelles relations dont l'interruption soudaine ne peut être désirée par le commerce Britannique. C'est pour ces motifs que le Gouvernement Français, loin de dénoncer le Traité, avait cru le confirmer en quelque sorte en améliorant quelques détails, en apportant certaines modifications à celles de ses dispositions qui avaient soulevé les plaintes les plus pressantes.

Il nous semble que cette extrême modération de notre part ne portait aucune sérieuse atteinte aux idées de libre échange dont le Gouvernement Britannique semble faire le principal objet de ces préoccupations. Il n'en serait pas de même apparemment si nos propositions étaient définitivement écartées, et si l'abandon du Traité lui-même devenait nécessaire et rendait à l'industrie Française toute sa liberté.

Nous nous refusons à croire que ces considérations ne frappent pas l'esprit éclairé et pratique du Gouvernement Anglais ; nous nous refusons à croire qu'il ne revienne pas à une plus juste appréciation de nos demandes et que la négociation puisse être regardée comme close. Nous restons toujours prêts à la suivre ; mais comme il se peut qu'elle n'amène aucun résultat, nous pensons qu'il faut assigner un terme aux délais que dans ce cas pourraient, en se prolongeant, mettre nos intérêts en souffrance, et nous devons informer le Gouvernement Britannique que notre intention est de dénoncer, dès que l'Assemblée Nationale sera réunie, le Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, dont les effets devront cesser avec l'année qui suivra la dénonciation, conformément aux prévisions de l'Article XXI.

Du reste, nous serons toujours disposés à continuer la négociation. Jusqu'au dernier jour des délais prescrits, la négociation pourra être continuée ou reprise, et nous nous féliciterons toujours d'arriver à une entente avec le Gouvernement de la Reine.

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Quelle que soit, d'ailleurs, la réponse du Principal Secrétaire d'Etat, elle ne saurait altérer en rien les rapports d'amitié qui unissent les deux Gouvernements comme les deux nations, et nos sentiments s'accordent entièrement sur ce point avec ceux que nous avons été heureux de trouver exprimés dans la note communiquée par le Ministre d'Angleterre.

Versailles, le 15 Novembre, 1871.

(Translation.)

*Note Verbale.*

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs has received from the Minister of England the communication of the despatch wherein the Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty states the difficulties which his Government feel with regard to the modifications proposed by France in the Treaty of the 23rd of January, 1860, by the application of Articles IX and XXI of the said Treaty.

We are glad to find in this document the confirmation of the friendly sentiments of which we have frequently received the expression on the part of Her Majesty's Ministers in the course of a delicate negotiation.

The French Government has never doubted the sincere desire of the British Government to facilitate for us, so far as depended upon them, the measures for meeting the financial difficulties which we may have to undergo, and the assurances which Lord Granville renews on this point possess for us a great value.

Animated by the same sentiments and by the desire in no way to alter the excellent relations existing between our two Governments, we must remember that, from the commencement of the negotiation, the President of the French Republic, while convinced of the serious blows which the commercial *régime* established in 1860 was striking at the interests of native industry, especially upon those of the merchant navy, had declared his intention of maintaining in all essential points the Treaty of the 23rd of January, and of thus affording a proof of the value which he attached to the stability of friendly relations between England and France. Consequently, nothing has been proposed on our part beyond modifications on points of detail, modifications which would result from an inquiry instituted by the preceding Government, and which it had itself intended to propose. At the same time, the creation of new inland taxes must lead to a corresponding augmentation of exterior Customs duties, as had been foreseen in the Treaty itself.

Since the month of July last our views have been communicated to the British Government; after the elapse of several interviews, followed up by exchanges of notes, the Principal Secretary of State invited the French Government to state more precisely its intentions by putting on paper its demands in the form of a project of Treaty destined to replace our old Conventions. This proposition was received as a manifestation of the willingness of the British Government to abandon generalities for the consideration of details, and to arrive, if it were possible, at a practical arrangement. We expected certainly to see a discussion arise upon some of the proposed stipulations; at all events it was to be hoped that the theoretical questions agitated during the preceding discussions would be placed in the second rank, and that our propositions would be examined on their own merits. Considered in their true sense they had been understood both in England and in the commercial world as stipulations open to discussion, but against which no fundamental objection was raised. Public opinion was no longer against them; it is not, therefore, without astonishment that, instead of technical objections which might arise upon the examination of a definite text, we have found reproduced in the reply of the Principal Secretary of State the same general considerations which had been opposed four months ago, at the very commencement of the negotiation, and which might, at once, have put an end to it, had they been put forward as an ultimatum. Without the confidence which we still place in the good-will and the conciliatory disposition of the British Government, it would be difficult for us not to see in the reply of Earl Granville a sort of formal objection and the adjournment of all negotiations. But we would desire to retain a more favourable hope, and we will bear in mind that our demands divided themselves into two parts, the one totally distinct from the other: the first had to do with the rectifications of the Tariff; they were but the application of Article XXI of the Treaty of 1860. The second had for object the establishment upon a certain number of goods of the compensatory duties provided for by Article IX. These demands purposely separated, might be rendered independent of one another. Those which related to the compensatory duties had been put forward at the commencement of the negotiation, upon the hypothesis of the proximate establishment of a tax on raw materials; but the National Assembly having been prorogued



prior to the adoption of this preliminary measure, the question was no longer of immediate interest, and we consented not to press for its solution. Besides, the English Government were unable to raise any fundamental objection on this point, and they in fact only offered observations regarding the amount of the projected taxes.

What then, were definitively the bases on which the negotiations reposed? Towards what points were our propositions directed? They consisted in a simple rectification of the Tariff with respect to the goods enumerated in Table B of the project, that is to say to a very limited number of the English products imported into France; these products reduced themselves in effect to threads and linen tissues, hemp, cotton and wool; and here it may be remarked that, as regards linen, hemp, and cotton, the modifications demanded affect only one-half the classes of the Tariff, those which include the numbers of which England imports the least; as to woollen threads, it is only a question of threads of carded wool, of which the importation from England is absolutely nil; as to linen and hempen tissues, two of the categories alone are touched in very slight proportions. It may then be affirmed that, in reality, the only modification which can present any interest for English industry is that which concerns the mixed woollen tissues.

Is it possible after this to pretend that the commercial *régime* upon which rests the relations between France and England would be compromised if our requests were acceded to? It would be necessary in that case to consider Article XXI of the Treaty as a dead letter; for it would be asked in what case this Article would be found applicable. The Treaty of 1860 would become an inflexible text, all the dispositions of which, linked one with the other, would in a way be consolidated. Such an inflexible doctrine as this ought not to prevail amongst Governments which should always be guided by the spirit of a transaction, seeing that they have to conciliate the most opposite interests.

It would nevertheless seem that, in opposing general views to particular proposals, the British Government tend to cut themselves off from all negotiation, and thus to place the French Government in the alternative either of sacrificing interests which it cannot abandon, or of renouncing in their entirety stipulations rendered sacred by a Treaty, of which it accepted the maintenance. The trouble which this renunciation would bring upon the commercial relations between the two countries, cannot nevertheless be indifferent to England. The Treaty of 1860 has assuredly been in France the object of the most diverse opinions. It has been the cause of serious objections and of loud remonstrances; but if it has happened to cause disturbances to be regretted among certain industries, it has given a remarkable impetus to other industries, and created between France and England new relations, the sudden interruption of which could not be desired by British commerce. It is on these accounts that the French Government, far from denouncing the Treaty, have thought in some measure to confirm it, by ameliorating certain details and by applying certain modifications to such of its provisions as had produced the most urgent complaints.

It seems to us that this extreme moderation on our part did not strike any serious blow at the ideas of free trade, which the British Government appear to make the principal object of their preoccupations. It would not apparently be the same thing were our propositions definitively laid aside, and if the abandonment of the Treaty itself became necessary and restored to French industry all its liberty.

We cannot bring ourselves to believe these considerations do not strike the enlightened and practical spirit of the English Government; we refuse to believe that they will not arrive at a more just appreciation of our requests, and that the negotiation can be regarded as closed. We remain always ready to carry it on; but as it may happen that no result will ensue, we deem it necessary to assign a limit to the delays which might in this case, through prolongation, unfavourably affect our interests, and we must inform the British Government that our intention is to denounce, so soon as the National Assembly shall have met, the Treaty of the 23rd of January, 1860, the effects of which will come to an end the year following the denunciation, conformably to the provisions of Article XXI.

For the rest, we shall still always be ready to continue the negotiation. Up to the last day of the term fixed upon, the negotiation can be continued or resumed, and we shall always be happy to arrive at an understanding with the Government of the Queen.

Whatever, in any case, may be the answer of the Principal Secretary of State, it would in no way alter the friendly relations which unite the two Governments as well as the two nations, and our sentiments entirely accord on this point with those which we have been glad to find expressed in the note communicated by the Minister of England.

Versailles, November 15, 1871.



No. 46.

*Earl Granville to the Duc de Broglie.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Foreign Office, December 1, 1871.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 30th ultimo, with its accompanying Memorandum, explaining the views of the French Government on the question of the negotiations which have taken place between the Government of France and Her Majesty's Government respecting the modification of the Commercial Treaty between the two countries of 1860.

Permit me to express in the first place, M. l'Ambassadeur, my regret that your Excellency's indisposition on your arrival in London, and my subsequent severe attack of gout, have prevented my renewing, since your return to England, those personal relations which are so agreeable to me.

I hope, in a very few days, to meet your Excellency in London; and I will therefore, for the present, reserve my observations on the Memorandum which your Excellency has been good enough to communicate to me.

I must, however, express my satisfaction that its tone is such as to confirm the hope that the negotiations based on the material interests of each country, whatever may be the result of such negotiations, will in no way affect the friendship of their political relations.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 47.

*Earl Granville to Mr. West.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, December 2, 1871.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a note, with its inclosure, which I have received from the French Ambassador at this Court,\* announcing the intention of the French Government to denounce the Treaty of Commerce which exists between France and this country.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 48.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received December 9.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, December 8, 1871.*

I SENT to your Lordship from Versailles yesterday a telegram informing you that M. Thiers had just read to the Assembly his Message on the commencement of their sittings, and that he stated in it that he intended to propose to them to denounce the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty, but to leave the door open to negotiation during the twelve months which would elapse between the denunciation and the final expiration of the Treaty.

I have this morning communicated to your Lordship by telegraph the text of some of the most important passages relative to the Treaty, and I now do myself the honour to transmit to you herewith the whole of that part of the Message which deals with this subject.

Your Lordship will not fail to observe that M. Thiers makes no allusion to the financial difficulties of France in stating his reasons for proposing to Her Majesty's Government that the Treaty should be modified. The necessity of affording protection in a certain measure to some branches of French industry is the sole ground upon which, in this Message, he bases both his original proposal to negotiate and his present intention to denounce the Treaty.

It will also strike your Lordship that M. Thiers speaks throughout of the abrogation of the Treaty as in itself a desirable subject; that he represents the restrictions which would remain, even if his proposed modifications were agreed to, as very inconvenient to France; and assigns as the motive for submitting to them a desire to maintain a good understanding and cordial relations with England.

\* No. 45.



In the Message the Treaty with Prussia is spoken of as being abrogated. It must not however be forgotten that, by the Treaty of Frankfort, the same commercial advantages are secured to Germany as are enjoyed by several foreign Powers whose Commercial Treaties with France have still several years to run.

In the evening I had some conversation with M. Thiers himself. He said that he hoped Her Majesty's Government would not misunderstand the declaration he had made. His object in denouncing the Treaty was, he told me, simply to prevent the indefinite prolongation of a state of things which was, in his opinion, ruinous to some branches of French industry. The endeavour which, in a spirit of sincere friendship, he had made to come to an understanding with England had already occasioned the loss of very nearly a year, and he could not run the risk of finding himself, after a fresh unsuccessful attempt to negotiate, still bound for another twelve months by the Treaty. He was, however, quite willing to pursue the negotiation on the basis of his original proposals, and there would be ample time, if Her Majesty's Government desired it, to make an arrangement on that basis before the Treaty would actually expire. I begged M. Thiers to remember that it was very repugnant to our feelings to be held up to the French nation as the obstacle to the adoption of measures represented to them as beneficial to their interests. We considered the principles of Free Trade, and the stipulations of the Treaty so far as they were consistent with those principles, to be advantageous to France at least as much as to ourselves. We were, I said, extremely anxious to cultivate the most friendly relations with the French people, but were not willing that it should be represented to them that our friendship was purchased by the sacrifice to us of their commercial interests. I assured M. Thiers that language to this effect could not but disincline us to maintain commercial engagements which appeared to subject us to imputations as painful as they were unjust.

M. Thiers repeated that he was ready to pursue the negotiation on the basis of the modifications he had proposed. He appeared, however, to consider the details of these modifications to be still open to discussion.

M. Thiers did not say whether he intended the denunciation to take effect from the day on which it was made, or from the month of February next. As I understand your Lordship not to be disposed to insist upon the interpretation which would make the Treaty run from February to February, I do not propose to raise any question on this point without further instructions from you.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure in No. 48.

*Extract from "Journal Officiel" of December 8, 1871.*

MAINTENANT, Messieurs, mon devoir est de vous entretenir d'une autre négociation et de vous en rendre un compte succinct, mais également exact et sincère.

Vous savez tous que le Gouvernement de l'Empire avait conclu avec presque toutes les Puissances dont le territoire est contigu au nôtre des Traités de Commerce qui devaient le lier pendant dix années entières. Il avait été convenu qu'après dix ans ces Traités seraient ou revisés ou dénoncés, c'est-à-dire, abolis.

Le principal d'entre eux, celui qui a été signé avec l'Angleterre, est expiré depuis environ une année. Celui qui a été conclu avec la Belgique est arrivé à son terme depuis six mois; le troisième, conclu avec la Prusse, a été emporté par la guerre; les autres, moins importants, avec l'Autriche, la Suisse, l'Italie, doivent durer encore trois ou quatre ans. Mais les trois plus importants, parce qu'ils intéressent notre frontière de plus près, ceux qui ont été conclus avec l'Angleterre, avec la Belgique, avec la Prusse, ne dépendent que de votre volonté. Ils dureront ou s'évanouiront selon que vous le voudrez.

Je ne vous apprendrai rien en vous rappelant la résistance que ces Traités ont rencontrée en France à l'époque de leur conclusion. Ce n'est pas pour avoir aboli les prohibitions absolues qu'on les blâmait, car ces prohibitions étaient désormais condamnées, et moi, Messieurs, qui ai l'honneur de vous parler, je n'avais pas une fois traversé le pouvoir sans en abolir quelques unes. Ce qu'on reprochait à ces Traités, c'était d'avoir été conclus sans le pays, d'avoir introduit sans préparation une liberté absolue, d'avoir dès lors découvert toutes nos industries à la fois, de s'être arrêtés à des tarifs insuffisants, rédigés par les Commissaires étrangers à l'exclusion des nôtres, et d'avoir ainsi causé aux plus importantes productions nationales, telles que les fers, les tissus de toute nature, les produits agricoles, et surtout la marine marchande, un dommage immense, dont l'Alsace, la Lorraine, la Champagne, la Bourgogne, la Flandre, la Normandie, la Bretagne se ressentiront longtemps. (Marques d'assentiment sur divers bancs.)



Si aujourd'hui, à la suite de la guerre qui a fait disparaître tous les approvisionnements, une véritable activité a été rendue à ces diverses branches de notre industrie, ces approvisionnements refaits, la gêne devra reparaître sous le poids renaissant de la concurrence étrangère. Quelques mois avant la chute du dernier Gouvernement, le Corps Législatif lui-même, sentant les fautes de l'Empire sans les oser dire, cherchant à les réparer sans y réussir, avait ordonné une enquête sur les Traités de Commerce, dont la dénonciation était hautement demandée. Il était ressorti de cette enquête que la marine marchande était ruinée, que l'industrie des fers avait été ravagée, que les fils et les tissus de coton, de lin, de laine, avaient subi des dommages considérables, que les tissus mélangés de Roubaix étaient presque détruits, que l'agriculture souffrait dans certains de ses produits essentiels, celui des laines notamment. On en avait généralement tiré la conclusion qu'il fallait, sur tous ces points, apporter quelque remède à un état de choses empirant tous les jours, et particulièrement par rapport à la marine marchande, que les entrepôts étrangers allaient faire disparaître complètement.

La guerre, qui efface toutes les ruines par les siennes, a fait oublier un moment cet état de choses; mais, la paix rétablie, il a reparu à tous les yeux, fort atténué, il est vrai, par la renaissance du travail, mais atténué pour le moment et malheureusement pas pour toujours.

Nous pouvions, certes, dénoncer ces Traités, sauf, bien entendu, votre avis, à vous qui représentez la souveraineté; mais il nous appartenait de négocier pour préparer cette dénonciation. D'immenses intérêts dans nos ateliers, dans nos campagnes, dans nos ports, attendaient et attendent encore cette résolution. Toutefois nous ne l'avons pas prise. Notre motif pour nous abstenir, nous l'avons puisé dans l'esprit de mesure qui doit caractériser tout Gouvernement sérieux et sensé.

Nous n'avons pas voulu nous faire les auteurs d'une réaction industrielle, en substituant les prohibitions au libre échange absolu. Nous entendons, en laissant aux échanges toute la liberté compatible avec la prospérité publique, assurer à nos industries, à celles qui, depuis trois quarts de siècle font la fortune de la France, la protection de tarifs suffisants pour qu'elles n'expirent pas sous la concurrence illimitée de l'étranger. Assez de stimulants pour les empêcher de s'endormir, point assez pour qu'elles soient obligées de renoncer à produire, telle est la politique économique que nous vous proposerons. (Très-bien !)

Dans cette pensée, bien que nous éprouvions une préférence marquée pour l'abrogation des Traités qui nous lient, parce que nous tenons essentiellement à recouvrer la liberté de notre politique commerciale, nous avons pensé qu'il serait plus sage de proposer à l'Angleterre de nous en tenir à une simple modification des Traités existants, modification que sous l'Empire on jugeait indispensable.

Ainsi, en laissant exister tous les tarifs sur les fers et leurs dérivés, sur les houilles, les produits chimiques, la verrerie, la cristallerie, la céramique, les lainages unis, les poissons frais ou salés, sur la plus grande partie de nos échanges, en un mot, nous avons seulement proposé de relever, dans la modeste proportion, tantôt de 3 pour cent, tantôt de 5 pour cent, nos droits sur les filés et tissus de coton, de lin et de laine; quant à ceux de laine mélangée qui avaient fait autrefois la prodigieuse fortune de Roubaix et qui malheureusement ne la font plus, nous avons réclamé une simple élévation de 12 à 18 pour cent. Et ces modestes changements, nous les avons demandés moins pour obtenir une élévation véritable des tarifs existants que pour assurer leur loyale application. Il arrive, en effet, que par les fausses déclarations en douane, les tarifs se trouvent réduits de 3, 4, et même 5 pour cent, de manière que l'augmentation réclamée n'aurait pour effet réel que de rendre sincère l'application des Tarifs de 1860. Telle a été purement et simplement la proposition faite par nous à l'Angleterre.

"Nous préférons," lui avons-nous dit, "la dénonciation du Traité de 1860, parce que, comme vous, nous désirons recouvrer la liberté de nos relations commerciales; mais dans une pensée de bonne entente, de cordiales relations, nous consentons à rester dans des liens pour nous fort incommodes, à condition de les relâcher là où ils nous gênent jusqu'à arrêter la vie de nos principales industries."

Cette manière de nous présenter était si naturelle qu'elle ne pouvait provoquer à première réflexion qu'un accueil favorable. Aussi, des premières paroles des Ministres Anglais soit à Paris, soit à Londres, nous avons pu acquérir, sinon la certitude, du moins l'espérance, que nos propositions seraient accueillies.

Peu à peu, cependant, les dispositions se sont montrées moins favorables, et près d'une année s'est écoulée, sans réponse positive, de manière que le temps qui s'écoule est tout à notre désavantage. Si, en effet, nous avions dénoncé le Traité de 1860 au mois de Février dernier, nous serions très-près de devenir libres aujourd'hui, car il faut une année entre la dénonciation et l'abolition du Traité. Ne l'ayant pas fait, par les raisons que nous venon de vous dire, nous avons perdu environ dix mois; et aujourd'hui encore, du moment où



nous aurons exprimé la volonté formelle de la dénonciation, il nous faudra perdre encore tout une année avant de recouvrer notre liberté.

Cherchant enfin à obtenir une réponse positive, il nous a été opposé, non des calculs de Tarifs, mais une raison de principe. Il nous a été dit, du reste, avec toute la courtoisie qui a toujours été apportée de part et d'autre dans cette négociation, que l'Angleterre, en accédant à notre désir, semblerait abandonner ses principes, et se prêter à un retour en arrière de la part de la principale nation industrielle du Continent.

Cette raison ne nous a pas convaincu. (Sourires.) Si le fond du Traité avait été seulement entamé, on pourrait tout au plus raisonner de la sorte. Mais une telle objection, lorsque trois objets seulement, relatifs à nos industries textiles, sont touchés, quand le fer, ses dérivés, la houille, les produits chimiques et la plupart des matières composant nos échanges ne subissent aucun changement, une telle objection est tout à fait contraire à la réalité des choses.

Est-ce donc sans motif qu'il avait été convenu qu'après dix ans le Traité serait remis en question? Était-ce sans motif que l'Article XXI du Traité avait stipulé qu'après dix ans les Tarifs seraient révisés? Ou l'on prétend que le Traité doit être à tout jamais immuable, et alors les réserves stipulées sont des Articles vainement écrits; ou il faut reconnaître que nous usons d'un droit incontestable, et que nous en usons modérément, en demandant que le Traité de 1860 soit non pas abandonné, mais seulement modifié.

Voici donc la mesure à laquelle nous nous sommes arrêtés définitivement—laquelle est comprise dans notre pouvoir de négocier, mais qui serait non avenue si vous ne l'approuviez pas;—c'est de dénoncer le Traité en consentant à négocier encore, toute une année, de manière à prendre date, dès aujourd'hui, et que le temps à perdre pendant ces nouvelles négociations ne soit pas perdu pour nous seul, et qu'il soit pris sur l'année pendant laquelle le Traité doit rester en vigueur après sa dénonciation. (Vives marques d'approbation sur un grand nombre de bancs.)

Quoiqu'il arrive du reste, abrogation ou simple modification du Traité, nos relations politiques avec l'Angleterre seront aussi amicales que par le passé, et nos Tarifs resteront même ce qu'ils étaient, sauf sur les points qui ont été de notre part l'objet d'une réclamation.

Certes, nous pouvons le dire, aucune négociation n'aura jamais été conduite avec plus de modération, d'esprit de paix: et aucun juge impartial en Europe, même Angleterre, ne pourra nous condamner.

(Translation.)

Now, Gentlemen, it is my duty to speak to you of another negotiation, of which I must give you a succinct account, but at the same time exact and sincere. You all know that the Government of the Empire concluded with nearly all the Powers whose territories adjoin ours, Treaties of Commerce, which were to be binding for ten full years. It was agreed that after ten years, these Treaties should be either revised or denounced, that is to say, abolished. The principal one, that which was signed with England, expired about a year ago. That which was concluded with Belgium reached its limit six months ago; the third, which was concluded with Prussia, was annulled by the war; the others, less important, with Austria, Switzerland, and Italy, have still three or four years to run. But the three most important Treaties, because the frontiers are nearest to our own, those which were concluded with England, Belgium, and Prussia, depend solely upon your will—they will continue or cease to exist, according as you wish.

I shall tell you nothing new in reminding you of the opposition these Treaties encountered in France at the time of their conclusion. It was not for abolishing absolute prohibitions that they were blamed, for these prohibitions were already condemned, and I, Gentlemen, who have the honour of addressing you, I was never once in power without abolishing some of them. The complaint was, that these Treaties had been concluded without consulting the country; that they had introduced absolute liberty without preparation; that they had opened out all our resources at once; that they had fixed upon insufficient Tariffs, drawn up by the foreign Commissioners to the exclusion of our own; and that they had thus caused immense damage to our most important national productions, such as iron, tissues of all kinds, agricultural products, and, above all, the mercantile navy, the effects of which will long be felt in Alsace, Lorraine, Champagne, Burgundy, Flanders, Normandy and Brittany. (Applause from several benches.)

If, at the present time, after a war that has exhausted all our stores, considerable activity has been given to these different branches of industry, when once these stores are renewed, the difficulty will reappear under the weight of foreign competition.

A few months before the fall of the late Government, the Legislative Body, feeling, though not daring to name, the faults of the Empire, endeavouring, though unsuccessfully, to repair them, ordered an inquiry into the Treaties of Commerce, whose denunciation was



so loudly demanded. The result of this inquiry showed that the mercantile navy was ruined; that the iron trade had been destroyed; that the manufacture of spun and woven goods in cotton, linen, and woollens had suffered great damage; that the mixed fabrics of Roubaix had almost ceased to exist; and that agriculture had suffered in some of its most essential productions, especially in wool. The universal opinion was, that upon all these points it was necessary to apply some remedy to a state of things that got worse every day, especially with regard to the mercantile navy, threatened with total annihilation by the system of foreign entrepôts. War, which effaces all ruins by its own, has caused us momentarily to forget this state of things; but now, peace being re-established, it has reappeared to all eyes, much diminished it is true, by the revival of labour, but diminished for a time only, and unhappily not for ever.

It was in our power certainly to denounce these Treaties, subject, of course, to the approval of you who represent the sovereignty; but it was our business to negotiate—to prepare this denunciation. Immense interests in the country, in our workshops, in our harbours, awaited, and are still awaiting this resolution. Still we have not taken it. Our motive for delay was derived from the spirit of caution, which should characterize all serious and sensible Governments.

We did not wish to proclaim ourselves the authors of an industrial reaction by substituting Protection for absolute Free Trade. Our desire is, in giving to trade all the freedom that is compatible with public prosperity, to insure to our own manufactures, to those which for three-quarters of a century have been the wealth of France, the protection of Tariffs sufficient to prevent their being extinguished by unlimited foreign competition. Stimulation that is sufficient to increase their energy, not sufficient to make them abandon the competition, such is our scheme of political economy which we each propose to you. (Hear!)

With this idea, although we would infinitely have preferred abrogating the Treaties which bind us, because we hold essentially to the recovery of our commercial liberty, we have judged it wisest to propose to England a simple modification of the existing Treaties, a modification that was deemed indispensable under the Empire.

Therefore, leaving intact, all the Tariffs upon iron and its derivatives, coal, chemicals, glass, crystal, ceramics, pure woollen goods, fresh and salted fish; in short, the greater part of our trade, we have only proposed to raise, in the small proportion of from 3 to 5 per cent., the duties upon spun and woven goods of cotton, linen, and wool. As for the mixed woollens, which were formerly the cause of the vast wealth of Roubaix, that has unhappily ceased to exist, we have asked for a rise of from 12 to 18 per cent. And these slight changes, we demand less to obtain a real rise in the existing Tariffs than to insure their honest application; for it has been found that, by the false declarations made at the Custom-houses, the Tariffs have been reduced by 3, 4, and even 5 per cent., so that the real effect of the demanded increase would only be to verify the application of the Tariffs of 1860. Such has been the pure and simple proposal made by us to England. We have said to her—

“We should prefer the abolition of the Treaty of 1860, because, like you, we wish to recover liberty in our commercial relations, but with the idea of keeping up a good understanding, and cordial relations, we consent to remain subjected to very inconvenient engagements, on condition of their being relaxed when they impede and almost arrest the circulation, which is the life of our principal manufactures.”

This manner of stating our case was so natural that at first sight, it could not be otherwise than favourably received. Accordingly, from the first words of the English Ministers, both in Paris and in London, we augured, if not the certainty, at least the hope, that our proposals would be entertained.

By degrees, however, less amicable dispositions manifested themselves, and nearly a year has elapsed without a decided answer, so that the time which is slipping away is all to our disadvantage.

If, indeed, we had denounced the Treaty of 1860 in the month of February last, we should now be on the verge of freedom, as it is necessary a year should elapse between denunciation and abolition. Not having done so for the reasons that I have stated to you, we have lost upwards of ten months; and even now, should we formally proclaim our determination to abrogate the Treaty, we must lose another whole year before we can recover our liberty.

Seeking to obtain a positive answer, we were confronted, not by Tariff calculations, but by reasons based on principle. We have been told, with all that courtesy which has been invariably shown on both sides during this negotiation, that if England acceded to our wishes, she would apparently abandon her principles, and encourage a retrograde movement on the part of the principal Continental manufacturing nation. This reasoning has not convinced us. (Laughter.)



If the basis of the Treaty had been in any way attacked, such reasoning might just possibly be admitted; but such an objection is entirely contrary to all reason and reality when three things only are altered, relating to our textile manufactures and when iron and its derivatives, coal, chemicals, and the greater part of the articles in which our trade consists, undergo no change at all.

Was it, then, without any motive that it was agreed to reconsider the Treaty after the lapse of ten years? Was it without any motive that Article XXI of the Treaty contained a stipulation that the Tariffs should be revised at the end of ten years?

Either it must be asserted that the Treaty was to be binding for ever, and then the stipulated reservations are so many Articles written to no purpose, or it must be acknowledged that we are using an incontestable right; and, moreover, that we are using it with moderation, in demanding that the Treaty of 1860 should be modified and not abandoned.

Here, then, is the measure on which we have definitively decided; it does not exceed our negotiating powers, but it will be laid aside if you do not approve of it.

To denounce the Treaty while consenting to negotiate for another whole year, so as to date from to-day, by which means the time to be wasted in these fresh negotiations will not be a loss on our side only, but will be deducted from the year during which the Treaty must remain in force after its denunciation. (Great applause from several benches.)

Whatever may happen, whether the Treaty be abrogated or merely modified, our political relations with England will remain on the same amicable footing as heretofore, and even the tariffs will continue unchanged, with the exception of those articles in which we have demanded a change. We may safely say that never has a negotiation been conducted in a spirit of greater peace and moderation; and no impartial judge in Europe, nor even in England, will be able to condemn us.

## No. 49.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, December 11, 1871.*

I APPROVE the language held by your Excellency to M. Thiers on the subject of the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty, as reported in your Excellency's despatch of the 8th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 50.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 6.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, January 5, 1872.*

I SPOKE to M. de Rémusat this afternoon of the Law about to be discussed in the Assembly, on the subject of the new taxes on the Merchant Navy. In doing so I used as nearly as possible the terms of your Lordship's despatch of the 18th September last.

I began by asking M. de Rémusat whether the Government adhered to the "projet de loi" which had been submitted to the Assembly in the month of September by the Budget Committee, and which reimposed the differential duties affecting foreign shipping which are called "surtaxes de pavillon" and "surtaxes d'entrepôt."

A copy of this "projet de loi" was transmitted to your Lordship with my despatch of the 8th September last.

M. de Rémusat said that the "projet" was the result of an understanding between the Government and the Committee, and that the Government certainly adhered to it.

I observed to M. de Rémusat that the form in which, according to this "projet," special burdens were to be thrown on foreign vessels engaged in the indirect trade would seem to be a differential duty on the merchandize imported by them. I inquired whether I was right in supposing that the "surtaxes de pavillon" were to be levied on the merchandize according to its weight, and not on the ships themselves. M. de Rémusat answered that undoubtedly this was so; that by "surtaxes de pavillon" were to be understood differential duties on the merchandize imported in foreign ships.

I proceeded to ask whether M. de Rémusat had caused careful examination to be made of the several Treaties between France and foreign Powers, and had satisfied himself that none of them contained clauses which would, in the case of one or more countries, prevent the imposing of differential duties, even in this form of "surtaxes de pavillon."

M 2



M. de Rémusat said that he was not prepared to give me a positive answer off-hand, but that he would have the question carefully studied.

I went on to say that, so far as England was concerned, the Navigation Treaty of 1826 assimilated the British and French flags in the direct trade only. The abolition of the differential charges was, I observed, effected by the independent action of France, and consequently England was not protected from their imposition by Treaty engagements. She could only remonstrate against the measure on the ground of its being of an unfriendly and inequitable character to British interests. If any foreign nations were shielded from it by Treaty stipulations of a more extensive description, it would effect special and exceptional injury on the shipping of Great Britain and of other countries in the same position, and would undoubtedly give rise to feelings of irritation on the part of the shipowners affected by it.

M. de Rémusat answered, that he did not conceive that there was any idea of putting England in a less advantageous position than other countries. The "surtaxes de pavillon" were, he presumed, to be applied to all foreign countries alike. He added, that he would without delay look into the question respecting the Treaties which I had suggested.

I went on to say that there was another feature in the case to which I was anxious to call his attention.

In Great Britain there had existed certain local exemptions in favour of particular classes of British shipping, which it was very difficult to abolish. These exemptions had been the one obstacle to the conclusion of a Treaty between England and France, including the direct as well as the indirect trade. On the occasion, however, of the French Law of 1866, by which all differential duties on foreign shipping in the indirect trade were prospectively abolished, on condition of reciprocity, Her Majesty's Government had, after communication with the Government of France, proceeded (in order to fulfil the conditions of reciprocity required by the law) to provide by Act of Parliament for the extinction of the local exemptions in question. A considerable sum had, moreover, been paid by the Treasury for the express purpose of buying up at several British ports the right which had existed there to levy differential dues on foreign shipping. Under these circumstances, it could scarcely, I added, be regarded as an equitable proceeding on the part of the French Government to withdraw within five years from British shipping the advantages given by the Law of 1866; and Her Majesty's Government could not but consider that such a course would afford them a very legitimate ground of complaint and remonstrance.

M. de Rémusat replied that certainly the considerations I had mentioned were deserving of very serious attention.

I begged him to bring them without delay to the notice of the President of the Republic.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 51.

*Earl Granville to the Duc de Broglie.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Foreign Office, January 8, 1872.*

I HAD the honour, on the 1st instant, to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 30th November, inclosing a *note verbale* explaining the views of the French Government on the question of the negotiations which have taken place between the Government of France and Her Majesty's Government respecting the modifications of the Commercial Treaty between the two countries of 1860, and I then stated that I would reserve, for a future occasion, my observations on the note in question.

I would now beg leave, M. l'Ambassadeur, to refer, in the first place, to that part of the note in which it is stated that, since the month of July last, Her Majesty's Government have been in possession of the views of the French Cabinet as to the alterations which they were desirous of making in the Treaty of 1860; and disappointment is expressed, that being in possession of those views, it was not until the receipt of my note of the 1st of November that the French Government were made aware that Her Majesty's Government objected to discuss the details of the French proposals, and declined, on general principles, to entertain them.

Before, however, making any reference to the dates of the communications which have passed between the two Governments on this subject, I would ask permission to refer your Excellency to the ground on which the application to Her Majesty's Government to enter into negotiation for a revision of the Treaty was first based, and which was stated to



be the necessity that existed for France to raise an increased revenue in order to meet the heavy burthens imposed upon her by the late war.

Her Majesty's Government could not but see that this necessity existed; and they felt, therefore, that they would have been wanting in that friendly feeling which exists on the part of all parties in this country towards France, and in which Her Majesty's Government share, if they had not carefully considered whether there was not a possibility of conceding to the proposals of the French Government.

On the receipt, therefore, of the note communicated to me by your Excellency on the 18th of July, by which Her Majesty's Government were made acquainted, for the first time, with an outline of the proposed alterations in the Tariff, it was attentively considered with every wish on the part of Her Majesty's Government to meet, as far as possible, the object which it was believed the French Government had in view, viz., the raising of an increased revenue.

It was found, however, as the result of this examination, that, in the first place, further details would be required before Her Majesty's would be enabled to come to any decision on the French proposals; and, secondly, that where so many important British interests were involved it would be necessary to consult the different Chambers of Commerce in this country, with the view to ascertain the probable effect on the interests they represented of the modifications proposed by the French Government.

Accordingly, on the 5th of August, I had the honour of addressing to your Excellency a note, asking for the further information required by Her Majesty's Government to enable them to come to a decision upon the French proposals.

It was not, however, until the 13th of September, that I had the honour of receiving your Excellency's note, inclosing a Project of a Treaty of Commerce accompanied by two Tables, in which were embodied some of the changes which the French Government proposed to make in the Treaty of 1860.

This Project, however, was far from complete, inasmuch as it left in doubt the amount of duties to be imposed upon a large number of commodities comprised in a 3rd Annex, marked Table C, referred to in Article III of the Project, which Table has not yet been communicated to Her Majesty's Government, in consequence of the French Chamber not having decided upon the amount of duty to be levied upon the Articles comprised in the said Table.

But I did not fail to submit these important documents for the immediate consideration of my colleagues, and steps were also taken to obtain the opinions of the different Chambers of Commerce upon the French Project.

It cannot but be manifest to your Excellency, however, that desirous as Her Majesty's Government may have been to arrive at a prompt decision in regard to the French proposals, the importance of the interests they involved necessitated a very attentive examination of them, which was rendered more difficult by the form in which those proposals were presented. It was not, therefore, until the 1st of November, that I was enabled to communicate to your Excellency the views of Her Majesty's Government, in regard to the proposals embodied in the French Project.

As far, therefore, as regards any charge of delay which may be imputed to Her Majesty's Government in considering the French proposals, it will be seen, on referring to the dates of the notes which have passed on this subject, that between the 18th of July, when your Excellency first communicated to me the outlines of the proposed modifications, and the 5th of August, when I replied by requesting further details, a period of eighteen days elapsed; and between the last mentioned date and the 13th of September, when I had the honour of receiving your Excellency's reply, a further period of thirty-nine days elapsed; and again between the 13th of September, the date of your Excellency's last-mentioned note, and the 1st of November, when I had the honour of communicating to your Excellency the views of Her Majesty's Government on the French proposals, a period intervened of forty-six days.

It would appear, therefore, that Her Majesty's Government took seven days more to consider the French Project of Treaty in all its numerous details, than the Government of the President required to frame their Project, the particulars of which, it is to be presumed, they had already fully considered when they first communicated to Her Majesty's Government through your Excellency the outlines of their Project, on the 18th of July preceding; and I cannot doubt that your Excellency, taking into account the importance of the interests involved, and of the questions that had to be considered, will concur with me in opinion that, in view of the dates which I have quoted, no charge can fairly be brought against Her Majesty's Government of dilatoriness in considering the French proposals.

The result of the consideration by Her Majesty's Government of the French Project of Treaty, although the documents communicated to them did not not enable them to form



a correct judgment as to its full scope and bearing, was a conviction that its provisions were more calculated to afford protection to French manufacturers rather than to provide an increased revenue, and, entertaining this opinion, Her Majesty's Government felt that they could not consistently accept the French proposals as they then stood.

Her Majesty's Government had the less hesitation in coming to this decision, inasmuch as M. Thiers had on more than one occasion expressed a strong opinion that it would be for the interest of France that she should not be hampered by any Treaty engagements with foreign Powers in regulating her commercial system, and it appeared, therefore, that the President was doing some degree of violence to his own opinion, and was deviating from, if not even acting in, a manner contrary to the interests of France when he asked Her Majesty's Government to consent to the proposed modifications of the Treaty.

To have accepted, therefore, the French Project of Treaty would have placed the two Governments in the false position of agreeing on either side to oblige the other to proposals which both Governments believed to be contrary to the best interests of the two countries—an anomalous position which could not fail to lead to much embarrassment.

Should, however, the French Government be enabled to make such modifications in their scheme for a revision of the Treaty of 1860 as would remove the objections which Her Majesty's Government entertain to the French proposals as they now stand on the ground that they are founded on principles of commercial restriction, Her Majesty's Government will be most willing to come, if possible, to an understanding with them on the subject.

It only remains for me to add, M. l'Ambassadeur, that it has been a source of great satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government to be confirmed by the tone of M. de Rémusat's note, and by the assurances contained in it, in the belief that it is equally the desire of both Governments that their political relations should not be at all affected by any decision which may be come to in regard to a revision of the Treaty.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 52.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 10.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, January 9, 1872.*

IN my despatch of the 5th instant, I had the honour to report to your Lordship that I had spoken to M. de Rémusat in the terms of your Commercial despatch of the 18th September last, respecting the proposed duties on merchant vessels; and that I had requested his Excellency to bring what I had said to the notice of the President of the Republic.

I spoke myself to the President in the same terms last night at Versailles.

On my observing that, as regarded indirect trade, England was not protected from the reimposition of differential charges by Treaty, and therefore could only remonstrate against the measure on the ground of its being unfriendly and inequitable to British interests, M. Thiers replied that nothing could be further from his wishes than to impose any special disadvantage on British merchant-vessels. Taking into account the vast trade carried on all over the world by British vessels, he could not suppose that any very sensible effect would be produced on the amount of that trade by the differential charges which had been proposed to the Assembly. It was not, he said, against the competition of English vessels that the French mercantile marine chiefly required protection. Its most formidable rivals were the smaller merchant navies, such, for instance, as those of Italy and Greece in the Mediterranean; and Sweden and Germany in the north. The ships of these countries were worked at an extraordinarily cheap rate, and took freights which English vessels would hardly accept. It was the competition of these ships which was destroying the French navy, and against which protective measures were imperatively required.

I answered that I could not set a low value either on our carrying trade or our entrepôt trade with France. I dwelt upon the irritation which would inevitably be felt by shipowners and others in England, if we were placed on a less advantageous footing than any other nation; and I asked him whether he was sure that there were no Treaties which would prevent the immediate imposition on all foreign ships alike of his intended "surtaxes de pavillon" and "surtaxes d'entrepôt."

M. Thiers answered that he believed it would be necessary to come to some understanding with Austria, but that he was sure he should have no difficulty in doing so. He repeated in general terms his assurance that he had no desire whatever to place England in a less favourable position than any other Power.



I pointed out to M. Thiers that the British Government had, after communication with the Government of France, resorted to special Legislation, and expended large sums of money in order to comply with the provisions of the French Law of 1866; and that to withdraw from British shipping within five years the advantages thus obtained, would be an inequitable proceeding on the part of the French Government, and afford a very legitimate ground for remonstrance and complaint.

M. Thiers only said that, although he was an old Protectionist, he did not intend to pursue a reactionary policy in these matters. The changes he proposed to effect were very moderate, and were, in his opinion, absolutely necessary. I might be sure that, if he should be freed from all Treaty restrictions, he should not resort to a prohibitive or highly protective Tariff, but should simply impose moderate duties, such as those specified in the proposals he had made to Her Majesty's Government.

Finding that I could not elicit anything more definite, I concluded the conversation by observing that opinions might very much differ as to what amount of duty was to be deemed "moderate."

## No. 53.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 10, 1872.*

I INCLOSE, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a note which I have addressed to the Duke de Broglie,\* containing the reply of Her Majesty's Government to the *note verbale* which was presented on the part of the French Government on the 30th November last, respecting the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 54.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 13.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, January 12, 1872.*

M. DE REMUSAT told me this afternoon that he had received from London your Lordship's note to the Duc de Broglie of the 8th instant, containing the answer of Her Majesty's Government to the French communication of the 30th November, respecting the Commercial Treaty.

M. de Rémusat observed that the question of imposing duties on raw materials was now before the National Assembly, and that when the Assembly had come to a decision on the subject the Government of France would be able to give Her Majesty's Government further and more definite information, and perhaps to modify or even abandon a part of their present proposals.

I said that your Lordship's note left the door open to further explanation, and that you would certainly consider any communication from the French Government with an earnest desire to comply with their wishes as far as possible.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

## No. 55.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 15.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, January 14, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, to your Lordship, a complete copy of the Bill brought into the Assembly by the Government, to fix the specific tariff of duties on raw materials.

I inclose also a Table which has been distributed by the Government to every member of the Assembly, giving a comparative statement of the imports and exports before and after the Treaty of 1860.

I have not been able to obtain second copies of either of these documents.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

\* No. 51.



Inclosure 1 in No. 55.

*Projet de Loi portant Fixation des Tarifs spécifiques sur les Matières Brutes, Textiles, et autres.*

23 Janvier, 1872.

*Exposé des Motifs.*

Messieurs,

L'EXPOSE des motifs du Budget de 1872 a développé les raisons qui ont déterminé le Gouvernement à proposer un impôt sur les matières premières, avec exonération complète de droits en faveur des marchandises destinées à l'exportation.

Nous avons l'honneur de soumettre à l'Assemblée Nationale, conformément aux dispositions contenues dans les Articles 14 et 15 du projet de Loi :

1. Les Tarifs spécifiques des droits à l'importation des matières brutes, textiles, et autres ;

2. Les bases suivant lesquelles les droits perçus seront remboursés à l'exportation.

Dans la pensée du Gouvernement, le régime de l'admission temporaire sera substitué au drawback toutes les fois que cette substitution sera possible, et surtout lorsqu'il s'agira d'un produit fabriqué avec une matière première qui a son similaire en France.

D'après l'Article 14 du projet du Budget de 1872, les droits *ad valorem* devaient s'échelonner de 2 à 20 pour cent. Mais vous voudrez bien remarquer que, dans l'établissement des droits spécifiques que nous vous soumettons, le taux de 15 à 16 pour cent de la valeur n'a pas été dépassé, en moyenne, pour les grandes industrie textiles.

*Projet de Loi.*

## Article 1.

Le Tarif des douanes à l'importation est modifié ainsi qu'il suit, décimescompris :—

Peaux brutes---	Fr. c.
Grandes, fraîches .. .. .	15 00 les 100 kilog.
„ sèches, à l'alun (cuirs salés secs) .. .. .	22 50 „
„ „ autres .. .. .	30 00 „
Petites, fraîches .. .. .	22 50 „
„ sèches .. .. .	30 00 „
Pelletteries brutes, apprêtées ou en morceaux cousus .. .. .	20 pour cent de la valeur.
Laines en masse, par 100 kilog. de laine entièrement dégraissée et desséchée à l'absolu, avec reprise de 17 pour cent pour l'humidité normale. .. .. .	80 00 les 100 kilog.
Le rendement imposable sera calculé d'après l'état des laines et leur provenance, conformément au tableau A ci-joint (page 20). Si la douane ou le commerce jugent que le rendement réel s'écarte de 3 pour cent, soit en plus, soit en moins, de la moyenne légale, ils pourront recourir au titrage par un bureau de conditionnement, mais il ne sera tenu compte que de la portion du rendement réel qui sera ou inférieure ou supérieure à la tolérance de 3 pour cent.	
Déchets de laine---	
Autres que la bourre lanice et tontisse .. .. .	80 00 par 100 kilog. entièrement épurés.
Bourre lanice et tontisse .. .. .	30 00 les 100 kilog.
Chiffons de laine et lisières de drap .. .. .	80 00 „
Crins bruts préparés ou frisés .. .. .	75 00 „
Cheveux non ouvrés .. .. .	12 00 le kilog.
Poils pour la filature---	
De chèvre, de chevron, ou de chameau .. .. .	Régime des laines.
De vache, de cheval, et autres poils grossiers .. .. .	4 00 les 100 kilog.
Poils---	
Pour la chapellerie (de lièvre, de lapin, &c.) .. .. .	125 00 „
Pour la brosserie (de porc, de sanglier,) en masse .. .. .	50 00 „
Poils de porc et de sanglier, en bottes de longueurs assorties. .. .. .	180 00 „
Plumes de parure---	
De coq et de vautour .. .. .	3 00 le kilog.
Autres---	
Blanches .. .. .	20 00 „
Noires. .. .. .	8 00 „
De toute autre couleur .. .. .	3 00 „



	Fr. c.	
Plumes à écrire, brutes .. .. .	20 00	100 kilog.
Plumes à lit, non apprêtées .. .. .	200 00	"
Cire—		
Brute (brune, jaune, ou blanche) .. .. .	100 00	"
Résidu de cire .. .. .	20 00	"
Graisses animales autres que de poissons—		
Suifs, saindoux et dégras de peaux .. .. .	20 00	"
Autres .. .. .	50 00	"
Oufs de volaille et de gibier .. .. .	4 00	"
Viandes salées .. .. .	4 00	"
Soies—		
En cocons, frais .. .. .	1 20	le kilog.
" secs .. .. .	3 00	"
Ecrues, gréges, des Indes, de la Chine et du Japon .. .. .	11 00	"
" d'ailleurs .. .. .	14 00	"
" Doupions.. .. .	3 60	"
Moulinées, des Indes, de la Chine et du Japon.. .. .	13 00	"
" d'ailleurs .. .. .	15 00	"
Bourre de soie en masse .. .. .	2 50	"
(La bourrette ou déchet de bourre de soie n'acquittera que le quart du droit de la bourre de soie.)		
Fromages—		
Blancs de pâte molle .. .. .	15 00	les 100 kilog.
Autres .. .. .	18 00	"
Beurre—		
Frais ou fondu .. .. .	30 00	"
Salé .. .. .	25 00	"
Miel .. .. .	2 00	"
Produits et dépouilles d'animaux dénommés au Tarif* et non repris dans la présente Loi .. .. .	0 50	"
Poissons d'eau douce frais, de pêche étrangère .. .. .	10 00	"
Poissons de mer frais, de pêche étrangère .. .. .	10 00	"
Homards, de pêche étrangère.. .. .	7 50	"
Moules et autres coquillages pleins, de pêche étrangère .. .. .	0 20	"
Graisses de poisson, de pêche étrangère.. .. .	20 00	"
Blanc de baleine et de cachalot, brut, de pêche étrangère .. .. .	35 00	"
Fanons de baleine bruts, de pêche étrangère .. .. .	240 00	"
Corail brut, de pêche étrangère .. .. .	1 00	le kilog.
Produits de pêche étrangère actuellement exempts de droits et non repris dans la présente Loi .. .. .	3 00	les 100 kilog.
Eponges .. .. .	250 00	"
Produits bruts propres à la médecine ou à la parfumerie dénommés au Tarif et non repris dans la présente Loi .. .. .	2 00	"
Dents d'éléphants .. .. .	3 60	le kilog.
Ecailles de tortue—		
Carapaces, onglons et caouanes .. .. .	8 00	"
Rognures .. .. .	0 40	"
Nacre de perle—		
En coquilles brutes .. .. .	30 00	les 100 kilog.
Sciée ou dépouillée de sa croûte .. .. .	150 00	"
Halotides et autres coquillages destinés à l'industrie .. .. .	30 00	"
Os et sabots de bétail bruts .. .. .	0 30	"
Cornes de bétail brutes .. .. .	15 00	"
Seigle, maïs, orge, sarrasin, avoine—		
Grains .. .. .	0 25	"
Farines .. .. .	0 50	"
Pommes de terre .. .. .	0 10	"
Légumes secs et leurs farines.. .. .	0 50	"
Marrons, châtaignes et leurs farines .. .. .	0 50	"
Alpiste et millet (grains et farines) .. .. .	0 50	"
Sagou, salep et féculs exotiques .. .. .	15 00	"
Fruits de table frais.. .. .	10 00	"
Fruits secs ou tapés—		
Raisins .. .. .	20 00	"
Pistaches .. .. .	160 00	"
Figues .. .. .	10 00	"
Autres .. .. .	30 00	"
Fruits confits ou conservés sans sucre, miel, ni eau-de-vie .. .. .	30 00	"
Fruits à distiller—		
Anis vert .. .. .	20 00	"
Autres .. .. .	5 00	"
Graines oléagineuses—		
De sésame .. .. .	9 00	"
De lin .. .. .	5 00	"
De coton et de ravison .. .. .	4 00	"
Autres .. .. .	6 50	"
Fruits oléagineux—		
Olives fraîches .. .. .	12 00	"
Autres .. .. .	6 50	"

\* La franchise reste applicable aux engrais, aux œufs de vers à soie, et à la viande fraîche.



	Fr. c.	
Graines à ensementer .. .. .	0 25 les 100 kilog.	
Mélasse pour la distillation .. .. .	0 25 "	
Gommes pures—		
Exotiques .. .. .	10 00 "	
D'Europe .. .. .	6 00 "	
Résines d'Europe—		
Brutes : poix ou galipot .. .. .	1 50 "	
" brai gras et goudron .. .. .	2 00 "	
Epurées : térébenthine .. .. .	5 00 "	
Distillées : essence de térébenthine .. .. .	7 00 "	
Résidu de distillation : brai sec, colophane, résine d'huile.. .. .	1 50 "	
Résineux exotiques—		
Scammonée .. .. .	8 00 le kilog.	
Laque naturelle .. .. .	40 00 les 100 kilog.	
Copal et dammar .. .. .	60 00 "	
Autres .. .. .	50 00 "	
Baumes—		
Benjoin.. .. .	80 00 "	
Storax et styrax .. .. .	40 00 "	
De copahu .. .. .	100 00 "	
Autres .. .. .	200 00 "	
Huiles, fixes, pures .. .. .	20 00 "	
Camphre—		
Brut .. .. .	50 00 "	
Raffiné .. .. .	70 00 "	
Caoutchouc et gutta-percha bruts ou refondus en masse .. .. .	160 00 "	
Aloès .. .. .	14 00 "	
Opium .. .. .	15 00 le kilog.	
Jus de réglisse .. .. .	18 00 les 100 kilog.	
Sucs végétaux (autres que les huiles) dénommés au Tarif et non repris dans la présente Loi .. .. .	60 00 "	
Racines médicinales exotiques—		
Jalap .. .. .	100 00 "	
Ipécacuanha .. .. .	300 00 "	
Rhubarbe .. .. .	120 00 "	
Salsepareille .. .. .	30 00 "	
Gingembre .. .. .	15 00 "	
Ecorces de quinquina .. .. .	75 00 "	
Feuilles de séné .. .. .	50 00 "	
Fruits médicinaux exotiques—		
Casse sans apprêt .. .. .	8 00 "	
Tamarins (gousses et pulpes) .. .. .	15 00 "	
Badiane .. .. .	60 00 "	
Follicules de séné .. .. .	50 00 "	
Lichens médicinaux .. .. .	1 00 "	
Autres racines, herbes, feuilles, fleurs, graines, et fruits médicinaux exotiques .. .. .	50 00 "	
Espèces médicinales d'Europe—		
Racines de réglisse .. .. .	0 80 "	
Autres .. .. .	3 00 "	
Bois à construire—		
De chêne, d'orme, et de noyer—		
Bruts ou équarris .. .. .	19 50 le stère.	
Sciés, ayant d'épaisseur 80 millim. ou plus .. .. .	19 50 "	
" " moins de 80 millim.. .. .	18 00 les 100 mètres.	
Autres—		
Bruts ou équarris .. .. .	9 00 le stère.	
Sciés, ayant d'épaisseur 90 millim. ou plus .. .. .	9 00 "	
" " de 70 millim. inclusivement à 90 millim. exclusivement, et mesurant en largeur—		
20 centim. ou plus .. .. .	16 00 les 100 mètres.	
Moins de 20 centim. .. .. .	10 50 "	
" " de 36 millim. inclusivement à 70 millim. exclusivement, et mesurant en largeur—		
20 centim. ou plus .. .. .	8 00 "	
Moins de 20 centim. .. .. .	6 00 "	
" " moins de 36 millim., et mesurant en largeur—		
20 centim. de plus .. .. .	4 75 "	
Moins de 20 centim. .. .. .	2 75 "	
Bois rabotés, rainés, et moulurés—		
D'orme, de chêne, et de noyer .. .. .	Droit des bois sciés, selon l'espèce, augmenté de 4 fr.	
Autres .. .. .	Droit des bois sciés, selon l'espèces, augmenté de 2 fr.	
Mâts .. .. .	60 00 la pièce.	
Mâtereaux .. .. .	24 00 "	
Espars .. .. .	7 00 "	
Pigouilles .. .. .	0 40 "	
Manches de gaffe .. .. .	0 20 "	
Manches de fouine et de pinceau à goudron .. .. .	0 2 "	



	Fr. c.	
Bois en éclisse et bois feuillard .. .. .	1 80 le cent.	
Perches .. .. .	10 00 "	
Echalas .. .. .	0 80 "	
Merrains—		
De chêne .. .. .	15 00 "	
Autres .. .. .	12 00 "	
Liège brut, râpé, ou en planches .. .. .	10 00 les 100 kilog.	
Osier en bottes, tiges de millet, racines, et bruyères à vergettes .. .. .	2 00 "	
Bois à brûler—		
En bûches et rondins .. .. .	0 15 le stère.	
En fagots .. .. .	0 50 le cent.	
Charbons de bois et de chènevottes .. .. .	0 25 le mètre cube.	
Bois d'ébénisterie—		
En billes ou sciés à plus de 2 décim. d'épaisseur .. .. .	6 00 les 100 kilog.	
Sciés à 2 décim. d'épaisseur ou moins .. .. .	7 00 "	
Bois odorants .. .. .	30 00 "	
Bois de teinture—		
En bûches .. .. .	2 00 "	
Moulus .. .. .	3 00 "	
Coton en laine—		
Egrené, des Indes Orientales et de la Chine .. .. .	35 00 "	
" d'ailleurs .. .. .	40 00 "	
Non égrené .. .. .	12 00 "	
Lin et chanvre—		
En tiges brutes .. .. .	1 60 "	
Teillés et étoupes .. .. .	15 00 "	
Peignés .. .. .	18 00 "	
Jute—		
En brins ou teillé .. .. .	6 00 "	
Peigné .. .. .	6 70 "	
(L'abaca, le phormium tenax, et les autres végétaux filamenteux non dénommés suivront le régime du lin et du chanvre.)		
Jones et roseaux exotiques .. .. .	7 00 "	
Jones et roseaux d'Europe .. .. .	0 50 "	
Fruits, tigés et filaments à ouvrer dénommés au Tarif et non repris dans la présente Loi .. .. .	0 50 "	
Curcuma en racine ou en poudre .. .. .	5 00 "	
Orcanète .. .. .	10 00 "	
Quercitron .. .. .	3 00 "	
Ecorces à tan .. .. .	1 00 "	
Lichens tinctoriaux .. .. .	10 00 "	
Safran .. .. .	10 00 le kilog.	
Fleurs de carthame .. .. .	60 00 les 100 kilog.	
Noix de galle et avelanèdes .. .. .	20 00 "	
Sumac et fustet (écorces, feuilles, et brindilles entières ou moulues) .. .. .	4 00 "	
Gousses tinctoriales .. .. .	3 00 "	
Autres feuilles, racines, tiges, graines, et fruits tinctoriaux (autres que la garance) .. .. .	3 00 "	
Betteraves .. .. .	0 5 "	
Légumes verts .. .. .	0 25 "	
Fourrages, son et jarosse .. .. .	0 25 "	
Houblon .. .. .	60 00 "	
Amurca et grignon .. .. .	1 50 "	
Tortaux—		
De graines de lin .. .. .	0 50 "	
Autres .. .. .	0 25 "	
Mottes à brûler et tourbe, crue ou carbonisée .. .. .	0 2 "	
Produits et déchets végétaux (autres que les légumes confits, les racines de chicorée et les drilles) dénommés au Tarif Officiel, pages 150 et 151, et non repris dans la présente Loi .. .. .	1 00 "	
Marbres—		
Blancs statuaires, bruts, équarris, ou sciés .. .. .	0 50 "	
Autres—		
Bruts ou équarris .. .. .	2 50 "	
Sciés, ayant d'épaisseur 16 centim. ou plus .. .. .	2 50 "	
" " moins de 16 centim. .. .. .	3 00 "	
Sculptés, moulés, ou polis .. .. .	15 00 "	
Albâtre—		
Brut .. .. .	5 00 "	
Scié .. .. .	9 00 "	
Sculpté, moulé, ou poli .. .. .	20 00 "	
Ecossines—		
Brutes, taillées, ou sciées .. .. .	0 10 "	
Sculptées ou polies .. .. .	0 50 "	
Agates brutes .. .. .	1 20 "	
Agates ouvrées .. .. .	20 pour cent de la valeur.	
Cristal de roche—		
Brut .. .. .	0 50 le kilog.	
Ouvré, non monté .. .. .	0 50 "	
Monté .. .. .	Régime de la bijouterie.	



	Fr. c.
Pierres ouvrées—	
Taillées ou sciées..	2 50 les 100 kilog.
Sculptées ou polies	15 00 „
Meules—	
A moudre	3 50 la pièce.
A aiguiser	0 10 „
Chques—	
En marbre	50 00 „
En pierre	12 00 „
Ecume de mer, brute.	20 pour cent de la valeur.
Pierres à aiguiser—	
Brutes ..	1 00 les 100 kilog.
Taillées ..	5 00 „
Pierres ferrugineuses autres que l'émeri ..	0 60 „
Pierres et terres servant aux arts et métiers actuellement exemptes de droit et non reprises dans la présente Loi ..	0 05 „
Ardoises—	
Pour construction, brutes ..	0 10 „
En carreaux ou en tables ..	6 00 le cent.
Matériaux actuellement exempts de droit et non repris dans la présente Loi ..	0 05 les 100 kilog.
Soufre—	
Non épuré, minéral compris ..	0 30 „
Epuré ..	0 50 „
Sublimé ..	1 00 „
Graphite ou plombagine ..	0 75 „
Jais ..	0 50 le kilog.
Succin ..	0 50 „
Goudron minéral provenant de la distillation de la houille ..	1 20 les 100 kilog.
Bitumes—	
Solides, mêlés de terre ..	0 40 „
„ autres ..	1 20 „
Fluides ..	Droit du pétrole brut.
Minéral d'or et de platine ..	Droit du métal brut.
Minéral d'argent ..	Droit du métal brut.
Cendres d'orfèvre ..	Droit de l'argent brut.
Cuivre pur ou allié de première fusion en masses brutes, saumons, barres, plaques, limailles ou objets détruits ..	15 00 les 100 kilog.
Plomb—	
En masses brutes, saumons, barres, plaques, limailles ou objets détruits ..	4 00 „
Allié d'antimoine, en masse ..	7 50 „
Etain—	
En masses brutes, saumons, barres, plaques, limailles ou objets détruits ..	30 00 „
Allié d'antimoine, en masse ..	25 00 „
Bismuth ..	60 00 „
Zinc en masses brutes, saumons, barres, plaques, limailles ou objets détruits ..	5 00 „
Cadmium brut ..	30 00 „
Nickel —	
Minéral grillé (speiss) ..	10 00 „
Pur ou allié, en masses brutes ..	100 00 „
Antimoine—	
Sulfuré fondu ..	1 00 „
Métallique ..	15 00 „
Cobalt vérifié—	
En masse (smalt) ..	20 00 „
En poudre (azur) ..	10 00 „
Arsenic métallique ..	8 00 „
Mercure natif ..	50 00 „
Manganèse ..	0 25 „
Potasse ..	1 50 „
Brome ..	25 00 „
Iode ..	60 00 „
Jus de citron ..	1 00 „
Citrate de chaux ..	1 00 „
Acides—	
Citrique cristallisé ..	12 00 „
Sulfurique ..	0 30 „
Gallique ..	0 50 „
Nitrique ..	1 00 „
Hydrochlorique ..	0 10 „
Arsénieux ..	3 60 „
Tartrique ..	6 00 „
Benzoïque ..	Droit du benjoin.
Borique ..	3 00 les 100 kilog.
Salin de betterave ..	0 40 „
Soude de varech ..	0 40 „
Cendres végétales vives ou lessivées ..	0 05 „



	Fr. c.					
Oxydes—						
De fer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0 50	les 100 kilog.
De plomb .. .. .	..	..	..	..	6 00	
De zinc .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7 00	
D'étain .. .. .	..	..	..	..	30 00	
D'urane .. .. .	..	..	..	..	80 00	
De cuivre .. .. .	..	..	..	..	25 00	
Safre et autres composés du cobalt	..	..	..	..	7 00	
Nitrates—						
De potasse .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1 50	
De soude .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1 00	
Chlorure de potassium	..	..	..	..	0 50	
Sulfates—						
De potasse .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1 20	
De baryte .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0 20	
De magnésie .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0 50	
Borax brut .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2 50	
Tartrates—						
De potasse, très-impur (lie de vin)	..	..	..	..	0 50	
„ impur, tartre brut	..	..	..	..	1 50	
„ „ cristaux de tartre	..	..	..	..	3 00	
„ pur (crème de tartre)	..	..	..	..	4 00	
„ autre (sel végétal)	..	..	..	..	8 00	
De soude et de potasse (sel de seignette)	..	..	..	..	5 00	
Carbonates—						
De magnésie .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2 00	
De baryte .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0 20	
De potasse .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1 50	
(Le régime de l'importation temporaire, tel qu'il est réglé par la Loi du 5 Juillet, 1836, sera appliqué aux plombs destinés à la fabrication des oxydes et des carbonates.)						
Carbonates de plomb .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5 50	
Acétate de fer liquide .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0 20	
Sucre de lait .. .. .	..	..	..	..	15 00	
Sulfure d'arsenic .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1 25	
Iodure de potassium .. .. .	..	..	..	..	50 00	
Produits chimiques et couleurs dérivés de l'essence de houille	..	..	..	..	10 pour cent de la valeur.	
Cochenille .. .. .	..	..	..	..	80 00	les 100 kilog.
Laque en teinture ou en trochisques	..	..	..	..	35 00	
Verres animal .. .. .	..	..	..	..	70 00	
Indigo .. .. .	..	..	..	..	200 00	
Indigue, inde-plate et boules de bleu	..	..	..	..	Régime de l'indigo.	
Pâte de pastel—						
Grossière .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5 00	les 100 kilog.
Autre, dite “ indigo-pastel ”	..	..	..	..	Régime de l'indigo.	
Cachou en masse .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7 00	les 100 kilog.
Rocou préparé .. .. .	..	..	..	..	35 00	
Orseille .. .. .	..	..	..	..	20 00	
Maurelle .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10 00	
Extraits de bois de teinture—						
Noirs et violets .. .. .	..	..	..	..	20 00	
Rouges et jaunes .. .. .	..	..	..	..	30 00	
Sucs tanins extraits des végétaux	..	..	..	..	3 50	
Bleu de Prusse .. .. .	..	..	..	..	25 00	
Prussiate de potasse cristallisé—						
Jaune .. .. .	..	..	..	..	20 00	
Rouge .. .. .	..	..	..	..	30 00	
Outremer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	15 00	
Carmin—						
Fin .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4 00	le kilog.
Commun .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0 50	
Encre—						
A dessiner, en tablettes .. .. .	..	..	..	..	100 00	les 100 kilog.
Liquide à écrire ou à imprimer	..	..	..	..	20 00	
Vernis—						
A l'esprit-de-vin .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10 pour cent. de la valeur, plus la taxe de consommation afférente à l'alcool.	
Autres .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10 pour cent de la valeur.	
Cirage .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4 00	les 100 kilog.
Noir animal d'os .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0 50	
Noir—						
D'imprimeur en taille-douce	..	..	..	..	7 00	
D'Espagne et de fumée .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1 00	
Minéral naturel .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0 50	
Crayons—						
Simple en pierre .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10 00	
Composés à gaine de bois blanc	..	..	..	..	20 00	
„ à gaine de cèdre .. .. .	..	..	..	..	50 00	
Couleurs non dénommées dans la présente Loi	..	..	..	..	10 pour cent de la valeur.	



						Fr. c.
Parfumeries, non compris les savons—						
Eaux de senteur, alcooliques	..	..	..	..	..	80 00 les 100 kilog., indépendamment de la taxe de consommation afférente à l'alcool.
„ sans alcool	..	..	..	..	..	40 00 les 100 kilog.
Pommades	..	..	..	..	..	120 00 „
Autres	..	..	..	..	..	60 00 „
Epices préparées—						
Moutard	..	..	..	..	..	20 00 „
Autres	..	..	..	..	..	80 00 „
Amidon	..	..	..	..	..	4 00 „
Albumine	..	..	..	..	..	12 00 „
Colle forte	..	..	..	..	..	12 00 „
Colle de poisson	..	..	..	..	..	250 00 „
Cire à cacheter	..	..	..	..	..	60 00 „
Extraits de viande	..	..	..	..	..	30 00 „
Gélatine	..	..	..	..	..	6 00 „
Pain d'épice	..	..	..	..	..	20 00 „
Essence de houille	..	..	..	..	..	10 pour cent de la valeur.
Capsules de poudre fulminante de chasse						„ „
Cartouches de chasse vides, ou enveloppés de cartouches amorcées ou non						„ „
Mèches de mineurs						„ „
Artifices pour divertissements						„ „
Carrosserie	..	..	..	..	..	20 pour cent de la valeur.
Bimbeloterie	..	..	..	..	..	„ „
Tabletterie	..	..	..	..	..	„ „
Mercerie	..	..	..	..	..	„ „
Boutons autres que de passementerie						„ „
Cheveux ouvrés	..	..	..	..	..	15 00 le kilog.
Modes (ouvrages de)	..	..	..	..	..	20 pour cent de la valeur.
Fleurs artificielles	..	..	..	..	..	„ „
Parapluies ou parasols	..	..	..	..	..	„ „
Articles d'emballage	..	..	..	..	..	Droit de la matière dont ils sont formés.
Instruments de musique et pièces détachées						20 pour cent de la valeur.
Tuyaux et conduits en papier et bitume						3 00 les 100 kilog.
Pelleteries ouvrées						20 pour cent de la valeur.
Ouvrages en écume de mer						„ „
Corail taillé, non monté						2 00 le kilog.
Chapeaux de paille						2 pour cent de la valeur.
Chapeaux d'écorce, de sparte, et de fibres de palmier						„ „
Tresses de bois blanc						„ „
Tresses de paille, d'écorce, ou de sparte						„ „
Jus d'orange						Régime des vins de liqueur.
Eaux minérales						1 00 les 100 kilog.
Grosil ou verre cassé						0 40 „

Art 2. Les droits perçus sur les matières brutes seront remboursés à l'exportation des produits fabriqués suivant les bases indiquées ci-après, soit au moyen du drawback, soit par application du régime de l'admission temporaire tel qu'il est établi par l'Article 5 de la Loi du 5 Juillet, 1836.

#### Dérivés des Matières Textiles.

						Fr. c.
Fils de coton simples—						
No. 50 et au-dessous—						
Ecrus	..	..	..	..	..	47 00 les 100 kilog.
Blanchis	..	..	..	..	..	56 50 „
Teints	..	..	..	..	..	55 00 „
Du No. 50 exclusivement au No. 80 inclusivement—						
Ecrus	..	..	..	..	..	50 00 „
Blanchis	..	..	..	..	..	60 00 „
Teints	..	..	..	..	..	58 50 „
Au-dessus du No. 80—						
Ecrus	..	..	..	..	..	52 00 „
Blanchis	..	..	..	..	..	62 50 „
Teints	..	..	..	..	..	60 50 „
Fils de coton retors—						
No. 50 et au-dessous—						
Ecrus	..	..	..	..	..	52 00 „
Blanchis	..	..	..	..	..	62 50 „
Teints	..	..	..	..	..	60 50 „
Du No. 50 exclusivement au No. 80 inclusivement—						
Ecrus	..	..	..	..	..	55 00 „
Blanchis	..	..	..	..	..	66 00 „
Teints	..	..	..	..	..	64 00 „



Au-dessus du No. 80—						Fr. c.
Ecrus	..	..	..	..	..	57 00 les 100 kilog.
Blanchis	..	..	..	..	..	68 50 "
Teints	..	..	..	..	..	66 20 "
Tissus de coton—						
En fils simples—						
Ecrus—						
Velours, piqués, basins, façonnés, damassés, et brillantés	..	..	..	..	..	51 50 "
Tous autres pesant par 100 mètres carrés—						
7 kilog. et plus	..	..	..	..	..	51 50 "
3 kilog. à 7 kilog.	..	..	..	..	..	54 00 "
Au-dessous de 3 kilog.	..	..	..	..	..	56 00 "
Blanchis—						
Sans apprêt	..	..	..	..	..	20 pour cent en sus du droit du tissu é cru, selon l'espèce.
Apprêtés à un degré quelconque.	..	..	..	..	..	Droit du tissu é cru, selon l'espèce, plus 2 fr. par cent kilog. pour l'amidon.
Imprimés ou teints—						
En rouge d'Andrinople						Droit de l'é cru augmenté de 24 pour cent, plus 3 fr. 50 c. par 100 kilog., afférents à la teinture.
En toute autre couleur—						
Moleskine pesant 25 kilog. ou moins aux 100 mètres carrés..						Droit de l'é cru augmenté de 4 pour cent, plus 3 fr. 50 c. par 100 kilog., afférents à la teinture.
Tous autres tissus	..	..	..	..	..	Droit de l'é cru augmenté de 14 pour cent, plus 3 fr. 50 c. par 100 kilog., afférents à la teinture.
En fils retors—						
En chaîne ou en trame seulement						Droit du tissu selon l'espèce, augmenté de 2 fr. par 100 kilog., plus 3 fr. 50 c., afférents à la teinture.
A la fois en chaîne et en trame	..	..	..	..	..	Droit du tissu selon l'espèce, augmenté de 4 fr. par 100 kilog., plus 3 fr. 50 c., afférents à la teinture.
Coton cardé dit "ouate"						45 00 les 100 kilog.
Débourrages valant au moins les deux-tiers du prix du coton brut						30 00 "
Seront exclus du drawback:—						
1. Les déchets de coton valant moins des deux-tiers du prix du coton brut.						
2. Les fils de coton valant moins de 1 fr. 50 c. le kilog.						
3. Les tissus de coton valant moins de 2 fr. 50 c. le kilog.						
Tous les produits manufacturés avec la soie, la laine, le lin, le chanvre, le jute, et le phormium tenax, jouiront des bénéfices de l'admission temporaire.						
Les droits compensateurs pour les produits manufacturés avec les matières textiles ci-dessus énoncées seront appliqués aux produits étrangers conformément aux chiffres suivants:—						
Laine dégraissée et blousses (déchets du peignage)						80 00 par 100 kilog. de laine entièrement épurée.
Laine peignée et cardée (entièrement épurée et dégraissée)—						
Ecrue	..	..	..	..	..	83 00 les 100 kilog.
Teinte	..	..	..	..	..	88 00 "
Fils de laine—						
Peignée—						
Ecrus, simples	..	..	..	..	..	92 00 "
" retors, non grillés	..	..	..	..	..	96 00 "
" " grillés	..	..	..	..	..	101 00 "
Teints, simples	..	..	..	..	..	109 00 "
" retors	..	..	..	..	..	114 00 "
Cardée—						
Ecrus, dégraissés	..	..	..	..	..	95 00 "
" non dégraissés	..	..	..	..	..	76 00 "
Teints, dégraissés	..	..	..	..	..	100 00 "
" non-dégraissés	..	..	..	..	..	80 00 "
Tissus de laine—						
Draps et autres tissus similaires foulés—						
Ecrus	..	..	..	..	..	108 00 "
Teints	..	..	..	..	..	124 00 "
Tous autres—						
En fils simples—						
Ecrus	..	..	..	..	..	100 00 "
Teints	..	..	..	..	..	115 00 "
En fils retors	..	..	..	..	..	Mêmes quotités augmentées de 5 fr. par 100 kilog.
(Seront exclus du drawback les fils de laine valant moins de 3 fr. et les tissus de laine moins de 5 fr. au kilogramme.)						
Fils de lin et de chanvre—						
Simple—						
Ecrus ou teints	..	..	..	..	..	19 70 les 100 kilog.
Crémés ou blanchis	..	..	..	..	..	22 35 "
Retors—						
Ecrus ou teints	..	..	..	..	..	20 50 "
Crémés ou blanchis	..	..	..	..	..	23 10 "
Entièrement blanchis	..	..	..	..	..	27 30 "



	Fr. c.
Tissus de lin et de chanvre—	
Ecrus ou teints .. .. .	20 75 les 100 kilog.
Crémés ou à fils de couleurs .. .. .	25 05 „
Entièrement blanchis, ou imprimés .. .. .	28 65 „
Bourre de soie—	
Cardée ou peignée .. .. .	3 00 par kilog.
Filée de toute sorte, et en tissus—	
Sans surcharge de teinture ou avec surcharge ne dépassant pas 25 pour cent .. .. .	3 60 „
Avec surcharge de plus de 25 pour cent et de moins de 100 pour cent .. .. .	1 80 „
Avec surcharge de plus de 100 pour cent .. .. .	Pas de drawback.
Tissus de soie et soies teintes—	
Sans surcharge de teinture ou avec surcharge de moins de 25 pour cent .. .. .	14 00 le kilog.
Avec surcharge—	
De 25 à 100 pour cent .. .. .	7 00 „
De 100 à 200 „ .. .. .	4 70 „
De plus de 200 „ .. .. .	Pas de drawback.
(Les soies grêges ou autres jouiront du bénéfice de l'importation temporaire.)	
Fils de jute de tout sorte (simples, retors, écrus, blanchis ou teints) .. .. .	8 40 les 100 kilog.
Tissus de jute de toute sorte .. .. .	9 00 „
Fils et tissus de phormium tenax, d'abaca et autres végétaux non dénommés .. .. .	Même régime que les fils et tissus de lin et de chanvre.
Fils de poil de chèvre, de chevron et de chameau .. .. .	Même régime que les fils de laine.
Tissus de poil de chèvre, de chevron et de chameau—	
Châles ou écharpes de cachemire des Indes .. .. .	Régime actuel.
Autres .. .. .	Régime des tissus de laine.
Fils mélangés de toute sorte .. .. .	Les fils mélangés suivront le régime de la partie dominant en poids.
Tissus mélangés de toute sorte, la matière dominant en poids entrant dans le mélange—	
Pour 75 pour cent. ou plus .. .. .	Régime du tissu entièrement formé de la matière dominant en poids.
Pour moins de 75 pour cent et plus de 50 pour cent .. .. .	Les $\frac{3}{4}$ du drawback applicable au tissu formé de la matière dominant en poids.
	Les $\frac{2}{4}$ du drawback applicable au tissu formé de l'autre matière.
Cordages .. .. .	12 00 les 100 kilog.
Filets de pêche .. .. .	18 00 „

#### Autres Produits.

Fils et ouvrages en poil de vache et autres poils grossiers .. .. .	5 00 les 100 kilog.
Bois communs ouvrés—	
Chêne, orme et noyer .. .. .	25 fr. le stère, ou, au choix du déclarant, 3 fr. les 100 kilog.
Autres .. .. .	12 fr. 50 c. le stère, ou 2 fr. les 100 kilog., au choix du déclarant.
Liège ouvré et bouchons .. .. .	12 00 les 100 kilog.
Savons contenant 50 pour cent au moins d'huiles végétales ou de graisses, .. .. .	10 00 „
(L'admission temporaire continuera d'avoir lieu aux conditions déterminées par la Loi du 5 Juillet, 1836, pour les graines et fruits oléagineux.)	
Acide stéarique brut, en bougies ou autrement ouvré .. .. .	35 00 „
Acide oléique .. .. .	10 00 „
Cire ouvrée .. .. .	100 00 „
Métaux battus, laminés ou ouvrés—	
Cuivre pur ou allié .. .. .	15 50 „
Plomb .. .. .	4 40 „
Etain .. .. .	33 00 „
Zinc .. .. .	5 50 „
Nickel .. .. .	110 00 „
Peaux tannées, corroyées et hongroyées .. .. .	26 00 „
Peaux de veau cirées .. .. .	38 00 „
Peaux vernies, teintes, mégissées ou maroquinées .. .. .	76 00 „
Ouvrages en peau, la peau entrant pour les $\frac{3}{4}$ au moins dans le poids .. .. .	Régime de la peau dont ils sont formés.
Plumes à écrire, apprêtées .. .. .	20 00 les 100 kilog.
Plumes à lit, apprêtées ou employées pour objets de literie .. .. .	200 00 „
Cornes de bétail préparées .. .. .	18 00 „
Ouvrages en caoutchouc et en gutta-percha .. .. .	160 00 „
Rotins filés .. .. .	4 fois le droit du rotin brut.
Ouvrages en crin .. .. .	75 00 „
Vannerie en végétal—	
Brut .. .. .	1 fois le droit du végétal brut.



Pelé .. .. .	1½ fois le droit du végétal brut.
Coupé .. .. .	2 " " "
	Fr. c.
Fanons de baleine apprêtés .. .. .	260 00 les 100 kilog.

Art. 3. Il sera perçu à l'importation des produits fabriqués, à titre de compensation des taxes établies sur les matières brutes, des droits supplémentaires égaux aux drawbacks ou droits compensateurs fixés par l'Article 2 ci-dessus.

Les sels et oxydes métalliques non dénommés dans la présente Loi acquitteront, en compensation des droits applicables aux métaux, les taxes supplémentaires ci-après :—

	Fr. c.
Cendres bleues ou vertes .. .. .	9 00 par 100 kilog.
Acétate de cuivre .. .. .	6 00 "
Sulfate de cuivre .. .. .	4 50 "
Sels d'étain .. .. .	21 00 "
Sulfate de zinc .. .. .	1 50 "
Chromates et sous-chromates de plomb .. .. .	3 00 "

Art. 4. Ne seront admis au drawback ou à la décharge des soumissions d'admission temporaire que les quantités de marchandises donnant ouverture à une allocation ou à une décharge de 50 fr. au moins par expéditeur, et pour des produits fabriqués avec des matières premières ayant acquitté les droits du présent Tarif.

Toute déclaration inexacte, quant à la nature, au poids, à l'espèce ou à la catégorie des marchandises présentées pour l'allocation du drawback ou à la décharge des comptes d'admission temporaire, rendra le contrevenant passible d'une amende égale au quadruple de la somme dont le Trésor pouvait être frustré. Le drawback ou la décharge sera, en outre, refusé pour toute la partie. En cas de récidive, l'amende sera doublée.

Art. 5. Des décrets pourront autoriser l'admission en entrepôt fictif des marchandises actuellement exemptes de taxes, qui se trouveront tarifées en vertu de la présente Loi.

Art. 6. Les chocolats et cacao broyés importés en Algérie ou d'Algérie en France payeront les droits du tarif métropolitain.

Fait à Versailles, le 23 Janvier, 1872.

Le Président de la République,  
(Signé) A. THIERS.

Le Ministre de l'Agriculture et du Commerce,  
(Signé) VICTOR LEFRANC.

Le Ministre des Finances,  
POUYER-QUERTIER.

#### TABLEAU A.

##### Annexe au Tarif des Douanes.

#### TABLEAU du Rendement des Laines en Suint ou Lavées (autres que dégraissées à fond).

##### LAINES EN Suint.

Provenances.	Rendements.
Russie, Allemagne, et Autriche .. .. .	35 pour cent.
Pays-Bas et Belgique .. .. .	50 "
Angleterre .. .. .	45 "
Espagne et Portugal .. .. .	33 "
Italie .. .. .	40 "
Grèce, Turquie, et Etats Barbaresques .. .. .	40 "
Cap de Bonne Espérance .. .. .	30 "
Etats Unis .. .. .	40 "
Chili et Pérou .. .. .	40 "
Buenos Ayres .. .. .	32 "
Monte Video et Corrientes .. .. .	40 "
Australie .. .. .	35 "
Autres provenances .. .. .	40 "

##### LAINES LAVÉES.

Russie et Allemagne .. .. .	70 "
Belgique, Pays Bas, et Angleterre .. .. .	70 "
Espagne et Portugal .. .. .	70 "
Italie .. .. .	60 "
Indes .. .. .	65 "
Australie .. .. .	68 "
Autres provenances .. .. .	65 "



(Translation.)

*Projet de Loi to fix Specific Tariffs on Raw Materials, Textiles, and others.*

January 23, 1872.

*Exposé des Motifs.*

Gentlemen,

IN the scheme of the Budget for 1872 are pointed out the reasons which have determined the Government to propose a tax on raw materials, complete freedom from duties being accorded to goods destined for exportation.

We have the honour to submit to the National Assembly, in conformance with the provisions contained in Articles 14 and 15 of the Bill:

- 1 The specific Tariffs of duties on raw materials, textiles and others;
2. The scales on which the duties levied will be repaid on exportation.

In the opinion of the Government, the plan of temporary admission will be substituted for a drawback whenever this substitution is possible, and especially when it is a question of an article manufactured from a raw material which is also produced in France.

According to Article 14 of the scheme for the Budget of 1872, duties *ad valorem* were to graduate from 2 to 20 per cent. But you will be good enough to remark that, in the establishment of the specific duties which we submit to you, the rate of 15 to 16 per cent. has not been exceeded, on an average, for the great textile manufactures.

*Projet de Loi.*

Raw hides—	Fr. c.
Large fresh .. .. .	15 00 per 100 kilog.
„ dried, with alum (dried cured leather) .. .. .	22 50 „
„ „ others .. .. .	30 00 „
Small fresh .. .. .	22 50 „
„ dried .. .. .	30 00 „
Raw furs, dressed or in pieces sewn together .. .. .	20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Raw wool, per 100 kilog., quite clean and perfectly dried, with a deduction of 17 per cent. for normal humidity .. .. .	80 00 per 100 kilog.
The amount to be taxed will be calculated according to the condition of the wools and their origin, in accordance with the annexed Table A (page ..). If the Customs or the trade consider that there is a difference of 3 per cent., either in excess or in defect, between the actual amount and the legal average, they may have it tested by a Committee of Inquiry; but no account will be taken of the part of the actual amount which is above or below the allowance of 3 per cent.	
Wool waste—	
Other than flocks of wool and wool shearings .. .. .	80 00 per 100 kilog., quite cleansed.
Wool-flocks and shearings .. .. .	30 00 per 100 kilog.
Scraps of wool and cloth list .. .. .	80 00 „
Horse-hair, prepared or curled .. .. .	75 00 „
Human hair, unworked .. .. .	12 00 the kilog.
Hair for spinning—	
Of goats or camels .. .. .	Same duty as wool.
Of cows, of horses, and other coarse hairs .. .. .	4 00 per 100 kilog.
Hair—	
For hat-making (of hares, rabbits, &c.) .. .. .	125 00 „
For brushes (of pigs and wild boars), in quantities .. .. .	50 00 „
Bristles of pigs and boars, in bundles of assorted lengths .. .. .	180 00 „
Feathers, ornamental—	
Of cocks and vultures .. .. .	3 00 the kilog.
Others—	
White .. .. .	20 00 „
Black .. .. .	8 00 „
Any other colour .. .. .	3 00 „
Quills for writing, uncut .. .. .	20 00 per 100 kilog.
Feathers for bedding, unprepared .. .. .	200 00



Fr. c.

Wax—					
Raw (brown, yellow, or white)	..	..	..	100 00	per 100 kilog.
Refuse of wax	..	..	..	20 00	"
Animal fats, except those of fishes—					
Tallow, lard, and scourings	..	..	..	20 00	"
Others	..	..	..	50 00	"
Eggs of fowls and game	..	..	..	4 00	"
Salted meat	..	..	..	4 00	"
Silk—					
In cocoons, fresh	..	..	..	1 20	per kilog.
" dry	..	..	..	3 00	"
Unbleached, raw, from India, China, and Japan	..	..	..	11 00	"
" " from elsewhere	..	..	..	14 00	"
" Douppions	..	..	..	3 60	"
Thrown, from India, China, and Japan	..	..	..	13 00	"
" from elsewhere	..	..	..	15 00	"
Waste silk, in quantities	..	..	..	2 50	"
Coarse silk will pay only the quarter of the duty on silk waste.					
Cheeses—					
Soft white	..	..	..	15 00	per 100 kilog.
Others	..	..	..	18 00	"
Butter—					
Fresh or melted	..	..	..	30 00	"
Salted	..	..	..	25 00	"
Honey	..	..	..	2 00	"
Animal products and skins specified in the Tariff,* and not re-included					
in the present Law	..	..	..	0 50	"
Fish, freshwater, fresh, from foreign fisheries	..	..	..	10 00	"
" sea, fresh, from foreign fisheries	..	..	..	10 00	"
Lobsters from foreign fisheries	..	..	..	7 50	"
Mussels and other shell-fish from foreign fisheries	..	..	..	0 20	"
Fat of fish from foreign fisheries	..	..	..	20 00	"
Spermaceti from foreign fisheries	..	..	..	35 00	"
Whalebone from foreign fisheries	..	..	..	240 00	"
Coral, in branches	..	..	..	1 00	the kilog.
Produce of foreign fisheries, now free from duty, and not included in					
the present Law	..	..	..	3 00	per 100 kilog.
Sponges	..	..	..	250 00	"
Raw materials for drugs or perfumery, specified in the Tariff, and not					
included in the present Law	..	..	..	2 00	"
Elephants' tusks	..	..	..	3 60	per kilog.
Tortoise-shell—					
Carapaces, ongions, and caouanes	..	..	..	8 00	"
Parings	..	..	..	0 40	"
Mother-of-pearl—					
In shells	..	..	..	30 00	per 100 kilog.
Cut or prepared	..	..	..	150 00	"
Halotides and other shells used for manufactures	..	..	..	30 00	"
Bones and hoofs of cattle, unprepared	..	..	..	0 30	"
Horns	..	..	..	15 00	"
Rye, maize, barley, buckwheat, oats—					
In grain	..	..	..	0 25	"
In flour	..	..	..	0 50	"
Potatoes	..	..	..	0 10	"
Dry vegetables and their meals	..	..	..	0 50	"
Chestnuts, horse chestnuts, and their meals	..	..	..	0 50	"
Canary seed and millet (grain and flour)	..	..	..	0 50	"
Sago, salap, and exotic feculæ	..	..	..	15 00	"
Fresh fruits	..	..	..	10 00	"
Dried or pressed fruits—					
Raisins	..	..	..	20 00	"
Pistachio nuts	..	..	..	160 00	"
Figs	..	..	..	10 00	"
Others	..	..	..	30 00	"
Fruits preserved without sugar, honey, or brandy	..	..	..	30 00	"
Fruits for distillation—					
Aniseed	..	..	..	20 00	"
Others	..	..	..	5 00	"
Oleaginous grains—					
Sesamum	..	..	..	9 00	"
Flax	..	..	..	5 00	"
Cotton	..	..	..	4 00	"
Others	..	..	..	6 50	"
Oleaginous fruits—					
Fresh olives	..	..	..	12 00	"
Others	..	..	..	6 50	"
Seed for sowing	..	..	..	0 25	"
Molasses for distilling	..	..	..	0 25	"

\* Manures, silkworms' eggs, and fresh meat will still be admitted free of duty.



						Fr. c.
Pure gums—						
Exotic ..	..	..	..	..	..	10 00 per 100 kilog.
European ..	..	..	..	..	..	6 00 "
European resins—						
Raw : pitch or galipot ..	..	..	..	..	..	1 50 "
„ rosin and tar ..	..	..	..	..	..	2 00 "
Refined : turpentine ..	..	..	..	..	..	5 00 "
Distilled : spirits of turpentine ..	..	..	..	..	..	7 00 "
Refuse from distillation, dry resin, colophany, oil resin ..	..	..	..	..	..	1 50 "
Exotic resinous substances—						
Scammony ..	..	..	..	..	..	8 00 per kilog.
Native lac ..	..	..	..	..	..	40 00 per 100 kilog.
Copal and dammar ..	..	..	..	..	..	60 00 "
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	50 00 "
Balsams—						
Benjamin ..	..	..	..	..	..	80 00 "
Storax and styrax ..	..	..	..	..	..	40 00 "
Copaiva ..	..	..	..	..	..	100 00 "
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	200 00 "
Oils, pure ..	..	..	..	..	..	20 00 "
Camphor—						
Raw ..	..	..	..	..	..	50 00 "
Refined ..	..	..	..	..	..	70 00 "
India-rubber and gutta-percha, raw or melted, in lumps ..	..	..	..	..	..	160 00 "
Aloes ..	..	..	..	..	..	14 00 "
Opium ..	..	..	..	..	..	15 00 the kilo.
Liquorice ..	..	..	..	..	..	18 00 per 100 kilog.
Vegetable juices (except oils) specified in the Tariff and not re-included in the present law ..						60 00 "
Exotic medicinal roots—						
Jalap ..	..	..	..	..	..	100 00 "
Ipecacuanha ..	..	..	..	..	..	300 00 "
Rhubarb ..	..	..	..	..	..	120 00 "
Sarsaparilla ..	..	..	..	..	..	30 00 "
Ginger ..	..	..	..	..	..	15 00 "
Quinine bark ..	..	..	..	..	..	75 00 "
Senna leaves ..	..	..	..	..	..	50 00 "
Exotic medicinal fruits—						
Cassia, unprepared ..	..	..	..	..	..	8 00 "
Tamarinds (pods and pulp) ..	..	..	..	..	..	15 00 "
Badiana ..	..	..	..	..	..	16 00 "
Follicles of senna ..	..	..	..	..	..	50 00 "
Medicinal lichens ..	..	..	..	..	..	1 00 "
Other exotic medicinal roots, herbs, leaves, flowers, grains, and fruits ..	..	..	..	..	..	50 00 "
European medicinal substances—						
Liquorice roots ..	..	..	..	..	..	0 80 "
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	3 00 "
Woods for building—						
Oak, elm, and walnut—						
Rough or squared ..	..	..	..	..	..	19 50 the stère.
In planks, 80 millim. thick ..	..	..	..	..	..	19 50 "
„ less than 80 millim. ..	..	..	..	..	..	18 00 the 100 mètres.
Others—						
Rough or squared ..	..	..	..	..	..	9 00 the stère.
In planks, 90 millim. or more thick ..	..	..	..	..	..	9 00 "
„ of 70 millim. inclusive, to 90 millim. exclusive, and measuring in width—	..	..	..	..	..	
20 centim. or more ..	..	..	..	..	..	16 00 per 100 mètres.
Less than 20 centim. ..	..	..	..	..	..	10 50 "
„ of a thickness of 36 millim. inclusively to 70 millim. exclusively, and measuring in width—	..	..	..	..	..	
20 centim. or more ..	..	..	..	..	..	8 00 "
Less than 20 centim. ..	..	..	..	..	..	6 00 "
„ of a thickness less than 36 millim. and measuring in width—	..	..	..	..	..	
20 centim. or more ..	..	..	..	..	..	4 75 "
Less than 20 centim. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2 75 "
Planed, grooved, or moulded woods—						
Of elm, oak, and walnut ..	..	..	..	..	..	Same duty as on woods in plank, plus 4 fr.
Other ..	..	..	..	..	..	Same duty as on woods in planks, plus 2 fr.
Masts ..	..	..	..	..	..	60 00 each.
Small masts ..	..	..	..	..	..	24 00 each.
Spars ..	..	..	..	..	..	7 00 "
„ ..	..	..	..	..	..	0 40 "
Boat-hook handles ..	..	..	..	..	..	0 20 "
Handles of pitchforks and tar-brushes ..	..	..	..	..	..	0 02 "
Split-wood and hoop-wood ..	..	..	..	..	..	1 80 the cent.
Poles ..	..	..	..	..	..	10 00 "



	Fr. c.	
Laths .. .. .	0 80	the cent.
Staves—		
Of oak .. .. .	15 00	„
Others .. .. .	12 00	„
Raw cork, rasped or in planks..	10 00	per 100 kilog.
Osier in bundles, millet-straw, roots and heather for brooms	2 00	„
Firewood—		
In logs and billets .. .. .	0 15	the stère.
In faggots .. .. .	0 50	the cent.
Charcoal of wood and hemp-stalks .. .. .	0 25	the cubic metre.
Wood for cabinet-making—		
In pieces or planks more than 2 decimetres thick .. .. .	6 00	per 100 kilog.
In planks 2 decimetres thick or less .. .. .	7 00	„
Scented woods .. .. .	30 00	„
Dye-woods—		
In logs .. .. .	2 00	„
Bruised .. .. .	3 00	„
Cotton-wool—		
Cleaned, from the East Indies and China .. .. .	35 00	„
„ from elsewhere .. .. .	40 00	„
Not cleaned .. .. .	12 00	„
Flax and hemp—		
In the stalk .. .. .	1 60	„
Hackled and tow .. .. .	15 00	„
Combed .. .. .	18 00	„
Jute—		
In the fibre, or hackled .. .. .	6 00	„
Combed .. .. .	6 70	„
Abaca, phormium tenax, and other vegetable fibres not enumerated, will pay the same duties as flax and hemp.)		
Rushes and reeds, foreign .. .. .	7 00	„
„ European .. .. .	0 50	„
Fruits, stalks, and threads for manufacture specified in the Tariff, not re-included in the present law .. .. .	0 50	„
Turmeric, in root or powder .. .. .	5 00	„
Orchanet .. .. .	10 00	„
Quercitron .. .. .	3 00	„
Tanning-bark .. .. .	1 00	„
Lichens for dyeing .. .. .	10 00	„
Saffron .. .. .	10 00	the kilog.
Carthamus flowers .. .. .	20 00	per 100 kilog.
Gall-nuts and acorn-cups .. .. .	20 00	„
Sumach and fustic (bark, leaves and twigs, whole or bruised) .. .. .	4 00	„
Pods for dyeing .. .. .	3 00	„
Other leaves, roots, stalks, grains, and fruits for dyeing (except madder)	3 00	„
Beetroot .. .. .	0 05	„
Green vegetables .. .. .	0 25	„
Forage, bran and vetches .. .. .	0 25	„
Hops .. .. .	60 00	„
Amurea and olive husks .. .. .	1 50	„
Oil-cakes—		
Of flax seed .. .. .	6 50	„
Others .. .. .	0 25	„
Turf for burning, and raw or carbonized peat .. .. .	0 02	„
Vegetable products and refuse (except preserved vegetables, chicory roots, and sago), specified in the Official Tariff, pages 150 and 151, and not recomprised in the present Law .. .. .	1 00	„
Marbles—		
White statuary, rough, cut, or sawn .. .. .	8 50	„
Others—		
Rough or cut .. .. .	2 50	„
Sawn, 16 centim. thick or more .. .. .	2 50	„
„ less than 16 centim. .. .. .	3 00	„
Carved, moulded or polished .. .. .	15 00	„
Alabaster—		
Rough .. .. .	5 00	„
Sawn .. .. .	9 00	„
Carved, moulded, or polished .. .. .	20 00	„
Scotch crystals—		
Rough, cut, or sawn .. .. .	0 10	„
Carved or polished .. .. .	0 50	„
Rough agates .. .. .	1 20	„
Cut agates .. .. .	20	per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Rock crystal—		
Rough .. .. .	} 0 50	the kilog.
Cut, not mounted .. .. .		Same duty as on jewellery.
Mounted .. .. .		
Worked stones—		
Cut or sawn .. .. .	2 50	per 100 kilog.
Carved or polished .. .. .	15 00	„



	Fr. c.
Mill stones.. .. .	3 50 each
Grindstones .. .. .	0 10 „
Marbles—	
Of marble .. .. .	50 00 „
Of stone.. .. .	12 00 „
Raw meerschaum .. .. .	20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Whetstones—	
Rough .. .. .	1 00 per 100 kilog.
Cut .. .. .	5 00 „
Ferruginous stones, except emery .. .. .	0 60 „
Stones and earths for scientific and trade purposes now free from duty and not recomprised in the present law .. .. .	0 05 „
Slates—	
For building, rough .. .. .	0 10 „
In squares or blocks .. .. .	6 00 the 100.
Materials now exempt from duty and not recomprised in the present law .. .. .	0 05 per 100 kilog.
Sulphur—	
Not refined, ore included .. .. .	0 30 „
Refined .. .. .	0 50 „
Sublimated .. .. .	1 00 „
Graphites or plumbago .. .. .	0 75 „
Jet .. .. .	0 50 per kilog.
Amber .. .. .	0 50 „
Mineral tar from distilled coal .. .. .	1 20 per 100 kilog.
Bitumen—	
Solid, mixed with earth .. .. .	0 40 „
Others .. .. .	1 20 „
Fluid .. .. .	Same duty as on raw petroleum.
Gold and platinum ore .. .. .	Same duty as on raw metals.
Silver ore .. .. .	„ „ „
Dross .. .. .	Same duty as on silver.
Copper, pure or alloyed at first melting, in pigs, bars, plates, filings, and broken bits .. .. .	15 00 per 100 kilog.
Lead—	
In pigs, bars, plates, filings, or bits .. .. .	4 00 „
Alloyed with antimony, in pigs .. .. .	7 50 „
Tin—	
In pigs, bars, plates, filings, or bits .. .. .	30 00 „
Alloyed with antimony, in pigs .. .. .	25 00 „
Bismuth .. .. .	60 00 „
Zinc in pigs, bars, plates, filings, or bits .. .. .	5 00 „
Raw cadmium .. .. .	30 00 „
Nickel—	
Ore, roasted (speiss) .. .. .	10 00 „
Pure or alloyed, in pigs .. .. .	100 00 „
Antimony—	
Sulphurated .. .. .	1 00 „
Metal .. .. .	15 00 „
True cobalt—	
In pigs (smalt) .. .. .	20 00 „
In powder (azure).. .. .	10 00 „
Metallic arsenic .. .. .	8 00 „
Mercury, native .. .. .	50 00 „
Manganese.. .. .	0 25 „
Potash .. .. .	1 50 „
Bromine .. .. .	25 00 „
Iodine .. .. .	60 00 „
Lemon-juice .. .. .	} 1 00 „
Citrate of lime .. .. .	
Acids—	
Crystallized citric.. .. .	12 00 „
Sulphuric .. .. .	0 30 „
Gallic .. .. .	0 50 „
Nitric .. .. .	1 00 „
Hydrochloric .. .. .	0 10 „
Arsenic .. .. .	3 60 „
Tartaric .. .. .	6 00 „
Benzoic .. .. .	Same duty as on benzoin.
Boric .. .. .	3 00 per 100 kilog.
Salts of beetroot .. .. .	0 40 „
Kelp .. .. .	0 40 „
Vegetable ashes, quick and lixiviated .. .. .	0 05 „
Oxides—	
Of iron .. .. .	0 50 „
Of lead .. .. .	6 00 „
Of zinc .. .. .	7 00 „
Of uranium .. .. .	30 00 „
Of tin .. .. .	80 00 „
Of copper .. .. .	25 00 „



Zaffer and other combinations of cobalt..	..	..	..	7 00 per 100 kilog.
Nitrates—				
Of potassium ..	..	..	..	1 50 "
Of soda ..	..	..	..	1 00 "
Chloride of potassium.	..	..	..	0 50 "
Sulphates—				
Of potash ..	..	..	..	1 20 "
Of baryta ..	..	..	..	0 20 "
Of magnesium ..	..	..	..	0 50 "
Raw borax ..	..	..	..	2 50 "
Tartrates—				
Of potash, very impure (wine lees) ..	..	..	..	0 50 "
„ impure, raw tartar ..	..	..	..	1 50 "
„ „ crystal of tartar ..	..	..	..	3 00 "
„ pure (cream of tartar) ..	..	..	..	4 00 "
„ other (vegetable salts) ..	..	..	..	8 00 "
Of soda and of potash (Rochelle salts) ..	..	..	..	5 00 "
Carbonates—				
Of magnesium ..	..	..	..	2 00 "
Of baryta ..	..	..	..	0 20 "
Of potash ..	..	..	..	1 50 "
(The scale of duties for temporary admission, as fixed by the law of July 5, 1836, will be applicable to leads intended for the manufacture of oxides and carbonates.)				
Carbonates of lead ..	..	..	..	5 50 "
Acetate of iron, liquid ..	..	..	..	0 20 "
Sugar of lead ..	..	..	..	15 00 "
Sulphuret of arsenic ..	..	..	..	1 25 "
Iodide of potassium ..	..	..	..	50 00 "
Chemical products and colours extracted from essence of coal ..	..	..	..	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Cochineal ..	..	..	..	80 00 per 100 kilog.
Lake ..	..	..	..	35 00 "
Animal kermes ..	..	..	..	70 00 "
Indigo ..	..	..	..	200 00 "
Indigo, indigo-blue, and blue-balls ..	..	..	..	Same duty as indigo.
Pastel-paste—				
Coarse ..	..	..	..	5 00 per 100 kilog.
Other, called "indigo-pastel" ..	..	..	..	Same duty as on indigo.
Catechu ..	..	..	..	7 00 per 100 kilog.
Annotto, prepared ..	..	..	..	35 00 "
Alga tinctoria (archil) ..	..	..	..	20 00 "
Ricinus (turnsol) ..	..	..	..	10 00 "
Extract of dye-woods—				
Black and violet ..	..	..	..	20 00 "
Red and yellow ..	..	..	..	30 00 "
Tan substances extracted from vegetable ..	..	..	..	3 50 "
Prussian blue ..	..	..	..	25 00 "
Crystalized prussiate of potassium—				
Yellow ..	..	..	..	20 00 "
Red ..	..	..	..	30 00 "
Ultramarine ..	..	..	..	15 00 "
Carmine—				
Fine ..	..	..	..	4 00 per kilog.
Common ..	..	..	..	0 50 "
Indian ink, in sticks ..	..	..	..	100 00 per 100 kilog.
Writing or printing ink ..	..	..	..	20 00 "
Varnishes—				
With spirits of wine ..	..	..	..	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> in addition to the excise duty on alcohol.
Other ..	..	..	..	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Blackening ..	..	..	..	4 00 per 100 kilog.
Bone-black ..	..	..	..	0 50 "
Printing black ..	..	..	..	7 00 "
Spanish lamp-black ..	..	..	..	1 00 "
Natural mineral black ..	..	..	..	0 50 "
Plain pencils ..	..	..	..	10 00 "
Pencils with white wood handle ..	..	..	..	20 00 "
„ with cedar wood handle ..	..	..	..	50 00 "
Colours not specified in the present Law ..	..	..	..	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Perfumery, not including soap—				
Scents, alcoholic ..	..	..	..	80 00 per 100 kilog
				Independently of the Excise duty on alcohol.
„ without alcohol ..	..	..	..	40 00 per 100 kilog.
Pomatus ..	..	..	..	120 00 "
Other ..	..	..	..	60 00 "
Prepared spices—				
Mustard ..	..	..	..	20 00 "
Others ..	..	..	..	80 00 "
Starch ..	..	..	..	4 00 "
Albumen ..	..	..	..	12 00 "
Glue ..	..	..	..	12 00 "



	Fr. c. per 100 kilog.
Isinglass .. .. .	250 00
Sealing wax .. .. .	60 00
Extracts of meat .. .. .	30 00
Gelatine .. .. .	6 00
Gingerbread .. .. .	20 00
Essence of coal .. .. .	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Caps for fowling-pieces .. .. .	" "
Empty cartridges or capped cartridges .. .. .	" "
Miners' fuzes .. .. .	" "
Fireworks .. .. .	" "
Carriages .. .. .	20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Toys .. .. .	" "
Hardwares .. .. .	" "
Mercery .. .. .	" "
Buttons, not haberdashery .. .. .	" "
Human hair, made up .. .. .	15 00 per kilog.
Fashionable articles .. .. .	20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Artificial flowers .. .. .	" "
Umbrellas or parasols .. .. .	" "
Packing materials .. .. .	Same duty as on the raw materials.
Musical instruments and separate pieces .. .. .	20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Pipes in paper and vitumen .. .. .	3 00 per 100 kilog.
Furs, dressed .. .. .	20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Articles in meerschäum .. .. .	" "
Coral, cut, not mounted .. .. .	2 00 per kilog.
Straw hats .. .. .	2 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Hats of bark, of sparta grass, and palmetto .. .. .	" "
Straw, bark, or sparta grass plaits .. .. .	" "
Orange juice .. .. .	Same duty as on wine.
Mineral waters .. .. .	1 00 per 100 kilog.
Broken glass .. .. .	0 40

Art. 2. The duties levied on the raw materials will be returned on the exportation of the manufactured articles on the scale hereafter mentioned, either in the form of a drawback, or by the application of the plan of temporary admission, as established by Article 5 of the Law of July 5, 1836.

*Products of Textile Materials.*

	Fr. c.
Cotton yarns, single—	
No. 50 and below—	
Unbleached .. .. .	47 00 per 100 kilog.
Bleached .. .. .	56 50
Dyed .. .. .	55 00
From No. 50 exclusive to No. 80 inclusive—	
Unbleached .. .. .	50 00
Bleached .. .. .	60 00
Dyed .. .. .	58 50
Above No. 80—	
Unbleached .. .. .	52 00
Bleached .. .. .	62 50
Dyed .. .. .	60 50
Cottons yarns, twisted—	
No. 50 and below—	
Unbleached .. .. .	52 00
Bleached .. .. .	62 50
Dyed .. .. .	60 50
From No. 50 exclusive to No. 80 inclusive—	
Unbleached .. .. .	55 00
Bleached .. .. .	66 00
Dyed .. .. .	64 00
Above No. 80—	
Unbleached .. .. .	57 00
Bleached .. .. .	68 50
Dyed .. .. .	66 20
Cotton tissues—	
In single yarns—	
Unbleached—	
Velvets, quiltings, dimities, stripes and checks, damasks, and brilliantes .. .. .	51 50
All others weighing per 100 square metres—	
7 kilog. and more .. .. .	51 50
3 to 7 kilog. .. .. .	54 00
Below 3 kilog. .. .. .	56 00



						Fr. c.
Bleached—						
Undressed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	20 per cent. above the duty on unbleached tissue, according to their kind.
Dressed to a certain degree .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	Duty on the unbleached tissue, according to the kind, in addition to 2 fr. per 100 kilog. for the starch.
Printed or dyed—						
In Adrianople red .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	Duty on the unbleached material, increased by 24 per cent., in addition to 3 fr. 50 c. per 100 kilog. for the dye.
In any other colour—						
Moleskins weighing 25 kilog. or less to the 100 square metres						Duty on the unbleached material, increased by 4 per cent., in addition to 3 fr. 50 c. per 100 kilog. for the dye.
All other tissues .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	Duty on the unbleached material, increased by 14 per cent., in addition to 3 fr. 50 c. per 100 kilog. for the dye.
In twisted yarns—						
In warp or in weft singly .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	Duty on the tissue according to the kind, increased by 2 fr. per 100 kilog., in addition to 3 fr. 50 c. for the dye.
Both in warp and in weft. . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	Duty on the tissue according to the kind, increased by 4 fr. per 100 kilog., in addition to 3 fr. 50 c. for the dye.
Carded cotton, called "ouate" (wadding) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	45 00 per 100 kilog.
Machine waste worth at least about two-thirds of the price of raw cotton .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	30 00 "
The following are excluded from the drawback:—						
1. Cotton waste worth less than two-thirds of the price of raw cotton.						
2. Cotton yarns worth less than 1 fr. 50 c. the kilog.						
3. Cotton tissues worth less than 2 fr. 50 c. the kilog.						
All articles manufactured with silk, wool, flax, hemp, jute, and phormium tenax, will enjoy the advantages of temporary admission.						
Compensatory duties for articles manufactured with the textile materials enumerated below will be imposed on foreign products on the following scale:—						
Wool scoured and refuse from combing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	80 00 per 100 kilog. of wool thoroughly cleansed.
Wool combed and carded (thoroughly cleansed and scoured)—						
Unbleached .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	83 00 per 100 kilog.
Dyed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	88 00 "
Woollen yarns—						
Combed—						
Unbleached, single .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	92 00 "
" twisted .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	96 00 "
" single .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	101 00 "
Dyed, single .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	109 00 "
" twisted .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	114 00 "
Carded—						
Unbleached, scoured .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	95 00 "
" unscoured .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	76 00 "
Dyed, scoured .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	100 00 "
" unscoured .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	80 00 "
Woollen tissues—						
Cloths and other like tissues fulled—						
Unbleached .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	108 00 "
Dyed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	124 00 "
All others—						
In single yarns—						
Unbleached .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	100 00 "
Dyed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	115 00 "
In twisted yarns .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	Same amounts increased by 5 fr. per 100 kilog.
(Woollen yarns worth less than 3 fr., and woollen tissues worth less than 5 fr. the kilog., will be excluded from the drawback.)						
Yarns of flax and hemp—						
Single—						
Unbleached or dyed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	19 70 per 100 kilog.
Cream coloured or bleached .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	22 35 "
Twisted—						
Unbleached or dyed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	20 50 "
Cream coloured or bleached .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	23 10 "
Thoroughly bleached .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	27 30 "
Tissues of flax and hemp—						
Unbleached or dyed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	20 75 "
" or with coloured threads .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	25 05 "
Thoroughly bleached or printed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	28 65 "



	Fr. c.
Silk waste—	
Carded or combed .. .. .	3 00 per kilog.
Spun in any way and in tissues—	
Without a layer of dye or with a layer not exceeding 25 per cent.	3 60 „
With a layer of more than 25 per cent. and of less than 100 per cent.	1 80 „
With a layer of more than 100 per cent. .. .. .	No drawback.
ilk tissues and dyed silks—	
Without a layer of dye or with a layer of less than 25 per cent. ..	14 00 per kilog.
With layer—	
Of 25 to 100 per cent. .. .. .	7 00 „
Of 100 to 200 per cent. .. .. .	4 70 „
Above 200 per cent. .. .. .	No drawback.
Silks, raw or otherwise, will be admitted to the privilege of temporary importation.	
Jute yarns of all kinds (single, twisted, unbleached, bleached, or dyed)	8 40 per 100 kilog.
Jute tissues of all kinds .. .. .	9 00 „
Yarns and tissues of phormium tenax, abaca, and other vegetables not specified .. .. .	Same duty as on yarns and tissues of flax and hemp.
Yarns of goats', kids', or camels' hair .. .. .	Same duty as on woollen yarns.
Tissues of goats', kids', or camels' hair—	
Shawls or scarves of Indian Cashmere .. .. .	Present rate.
Others .. .. .	Same duty as on woollen tissues.
Mixed yarns of all kinds .. .. .	Mixed yarns will follow the scale of the chief component part.
Mixed tissues of all kinds, the heavier material prevailing—	
To the extent of 75 per cent. or more.. .. .	Same duty as though entirely made up of the heavier part.
To the extent of less than 75 per cent. and more than 50 per cent. .	Three-fifths of the drawback allowed to the tissue of the chief component part.
	Two-fifths of the drawback allowed to the tissue of the chief component part.
Rope .. .. .	12 00 per 100 kilog.
Fishing-nets .. .. .	18 00 „

#### Other Manufactures.

Yarns and articles in cowhair and other coarse hairs .. .. .	5 00 per 100 kilog.
Articles of ordinary woods—	
Of oak, elm, and walnut .. .. .	25 fr. the stère, or, at the option of the exporter, 3 fr. per 100 kilog.
Of other woods .. .. .	12 fr. 50 c. the stère, or 2 fr. the 100 kilog., at the option of the exporter.
Manufactured cork and corks .. .. .	12 00 per 100 kilog.
Soaps containing 50 per cent. at least of vegetable oils or fats ..	10 00 „
The temporary admission will continue on the conditions fixed by the Law of July 5, 1886, for grains and oleaginous fruits.	
Stearic acid, raw, in candles or otherwise manufactured .. .. .	35 00 „
Oleic acid .. .. .	10 00 „
Wax, manufactured .. .. .	100 00 „
Metals forged, rolled, or wrought—	
Copper, pure or unalloyed .. .. .	15 50 „
Lead .. .. .	4 40 „
Tin .. .. .	33 00 „
Zinc .. .. .	5 50 „
Nickel .. .. .	110 00 „
Hides, tanned and curried .. .. .	26 00 „
Calf skins, waxed .. .. .	38 00 „
Skins varnished, dyed, tanned, or dressed with gall .. .. .	76 00 „
Articles of hide, the hide weighing $\frac{3}{4}$ of the whole .. .. .	Same duty as for the hide itself.
Writing quills, cut .. .. .	20 00 per 100 kilog.
Feathers for beds, dressed or used for bedding .. .. .	200 00 „
Cattle-horns, dressed .. .. .	18 00 „
Articles of india-rubber and gutta-percha .. .. .	160 00 „
Rattans, ground .. .. .	4 times the duty on the raw materials.
Horse-hair manufactures .. .. .	75 00 per 100 kilog.
Osiers—	
Rough .. .. .	The duty on raw material.
Peeled .. $1\frac{1}{2}$ times .. .. .	„ „
Cut .. twice .. .. .	„ „
Whalebone, prepared .. .. .	260 00 per 100 kilog.

Art. 3. Supplementary duties equivalent to the drawbacks or compensatory duties fixed by Article 2, mentioned above, will be imposed on the importation of manufactured goods, as compensation for the taxes laid on raw materials.



Salts and metallic oxides not named in the present Law will pay the supplementary taxes mentioned below, as compensation for the duties applicable to metals :—

	Fr.	c.	
Blue or green ashes .. .. .	9	00	per 100 kilog.
Acetate of copper .. .. .	6	00	"
Sulphate of copper .. .. .	4	50	"
Protochlorure of tin .. .. .	21	00	"
Sulphate of zinc .. .. .	1	50	"
Chromate and sub-chromate of lead .. .. .	3	00	"

Art. 4. Quantities of goods only will be allowed to a drawback or the benefit of temporary admission, which receive an allowance or exemption of 50 fr. at least on exportation, and for articles manufactured with raw materials which paid the duties of the present Tariff,

Every incorrect declaration as to the nature, weight, kind, or class of goods submitted for the allowance of drawbacks or to the benefit of the duties for temporary admission, will render the offender liable to a fine equivalent to four times the amount of which the Treasury might have been defrauded.

The drawback or the allowance will be, moreover, refused to the whole party. In the event of a repetition of the offence, the fine will be doubled.

Art. 5. Decrees will authorize the admission in "entrepôt fictif" of goods now free from taxes, which will be found to be taxed in virtue of the present law.

Art. 6. Chocolate and ground cocoa imported into Algeria or from Algeria into France will pay the duties of the home tariff.

Done at Versailles, January 23, 1872.

The President of the Republic,  
(Signed) A. THIERS.

The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce,  
(Signed) VICTOR LEFRANC.  
The Finance Minister,  
POUYER-QUERTIER.

TABLE A.

*Annex to the Customs Tariff.*

TABLE of the allowance for Wools uncleaned or washed (except those thoroughly scoured).

UNCLEANED WOOL.

Country.	Allowances.
Russia, Germany, and Austria .. .. .	35 per cent.
Netherlands and Belgium .. .. .	50 "
England .. .. .	45 "
Spain and Portugal .. .. .	33 "
Italy .. .. .	40 "
Greece, Turkey, and Barbary States .. .. .	40 "
Cape of Good Hope .. .. .	30 "
United States .. .. .	40 "
Chili and Peru .. .. .	40 "
Buenos Ayres .. .. .	32 "
Monte Video and Corrientes .. .. .	40 "
Australia .. .. .	35 "
Other countries .. .. .	40 "

CLEANED WOOL.

Russia and Germany .. .. .	70 "
Belgium, Netherlands, and England .. .. .	70 "
Spain and Portugal .. .. .	70 "
Italy .. .. .	60 "
India .. .. .	65 "
Australia .. .. .	68 "
Other countries .. .. .	65 "



Inclosure 2 in No. 55.  
COMPARISON OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BEFORE AND AFTER THE TREATIES OF 1860.  
AGRICULTURAL AND MANUFACTURED GOODS.

PRODUITS AGRICOLES.

	EXPORTATIONS.						IMPORTATIONS.					
	1869.			1868.			1869.			1868.		
	1859.	1868.	1869.	Quantités de pro- duits agricoles ex- portés en plus en 1868 qu'en 1859.	Quantités de pro- duits agricoles ex- portées en moins en 1868 qu'en 1859.	Quantités de pro- duits agricoles ex- portées en plus en 1869 qu'en 1859.	1859.	1868.	1869.	Quantités de pro- duits agricoles im- portées en plus en 1868 qu'en 1859.	Quantités de pro- duits agricoles im- portées en moins en 1868 qu'en 1859.	1869.
Céréales ..	132.0	67.3	69.2	24.5	84.7	82.8	37.7	337.8	56.3	300.1	..	18.6
Vins ..	232.0	234.4	261.0	2.4	..	..	7.8	14.4	14.1	6.6	..	6.3
Eaux-de-vie ..	92.6	63.3	56.2	5.1	29.3	36.4	4.9	9.7	12.5	4.8	..	7.6
Graines et fruits oléagineux ..	7.1	12.2	15.6	..	..	..	43.2	91.2	103.0	48.0	..	61.8
Chevaux, bestiaux	17.3	34.6	53.5	17.3	..	..	63.1	171.7	157.6	108.6	..	94.5
Bois ..	17.3	34.8	38.0	17.5	..	..	106.2	179.4	189.2	73.2	..	83.0
Fromage ..	2.4	6.5	6.6	4.1	..	..	9.0	15.1	19.6	6.1	..	10.6
Beurre ..	21.9	63.8	71.3	41.9	..	..	2.7	10.4	12.1	7.7	..	9.4
Graines à semencer	12.9	23.4	20.6	10.5	..	..	9.4	27.0	31.9	17.6	..	22.5
Œufs ..	13.0	34.5	36.4	21.5	..	..	2.4	5.2	5.9	2.8	..	3.5
Fruits ..	8.9	30.5	27.2	21.6	..	..	15.7	19.3	22.3	3.6	..	6.6
Huile d'olive ..	4.1	3.6	3.4	..	0.5	0.7	22.4	17.8	32.2	7.2	..	6.2
Viande salée ..	5.9	5.5	6.1	..	0.4	..	4.1	11.3	10.3	..	..	..
Chardons cardères ..	1.5	2.3	2.1	0.8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tourteaux ..	4.0	17.8	14.1	13.8	..	..	0.7	1.2	1.3	0.5	..	0.6
Peaux brutes ..	2.0	17.9	24.3	15.9	..	..	69.7	108.5	129.8	38.8	..	60.1
Poils ..	3.0	10.3	10.5	5.3	..	..	8.6	6.6	7.4	..	..	..
Graisses ..	2.4	13.2	17.2	10.8	..	..	2.2	37.5	46.3	35.3	..	44.1
Légumes verts ..	0.9	2.2	2.9	1.3	..	..	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.2	..	0.4
Truffes ..	0.6	1.1	1.4	0.5	..	..	..	0.1	0.2	0.1	..	0.2
Résines ..	2.3	7.0	5.7	4.7	..	..	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.5	..	0.5
Houblon ..	1.2	5.9	11.9	4.7	..	..	3.9	3.9	5.1	..	..	1.2
Fourrages ..	1.7	2.2	2.7	0.5	..	..	2.7	9.9	10.9	7.2	..	8.2
Laines ..	8.9	36.5	44.7	27.6	..	..	125.7	237.9	206.3	112.2	..	80.6
Chanvre ..	0.6	2.3	2.0	1.7	..	..	5.7	12.0	11.5	6.3	..	5.8
Lin ..	1.9	16.9	10.7	15.0	..	..	28.1	85.2	75.8	57.1	..	47.7
Total ..	620.4	750.0	815.3	244.5	114.9	119.9	576.8	1,414.7	1,165.4	844.5	6.6	589.8
Céréales à deduire..	152.0	67.3	69.2	..	84.7	82.8	37.7	337.8	56.3	300.1	..	18.6
Total ..	468.4	682.7	746.1	244.5	30.2	37.1	539.1	1,076.9	1,109.1	544.4	6.6	571.2
				214.3		277.7				537.8		570.0

(Valeurs estimées en Millions de Francs.)

On a souvent parlé des brillants résultats des Traités de Commerce au point de vue agricole, en annonçant que les exportations de la France pour l'étranger avaient pris d'immenses développements depuis les Traités de 1860. La vérité est que, sauf pour les vins, rien n'avait été stipulé dans les Conventions avec l'Angleterre en faveur des produits de notre agriculture.

On a cherché à mettre au compte des Traités de Commerce les exportations que l'extension des chemins de fer et des transports maritimes à vapeur avait augmentées dans une certaine proportion.

Mais on a omis de faire ressortir, dans les rapports officiels, le développement énorme que les importations des produits agricoles, provenant des pays étrangers, ont prises en France à la suite de la suppression des droits sur les matières brutes : laines, cuirs, graines et fruits oléagineux, huiles, peaux, &c. Ces résultats sont établis ci-contre dans les tableaux relevés sur les documents officiels des Douanes.

En voici le résumé :

Pour les produits agricoles, l'augmentation des importations en France sur l'année 1859, qui a précédé le Traité du 21 Janvier, 1860, est de :  
537,800,000 fr. en 1868 } Céréales déduites.  
570,000,000 fr. en 1869 }

Les exportations pour les deux mêmes années n'ont augmenté que de :  
214,300,000 fr. en 1868 } Céréales déduites.  
277,700,000 fr. en 1869 }

Donc, nos exportations, au lieu de dépasser les importations, comme on nous l'avait promis et affirmé, ont donné pour l'agriculture un résultat diamétralement opposé, puisqu'il a été introduit en France en produits agricoles pour une valeur de :  
323,500,000 fr. en 1868, et  
292,300,000 fr. en 1869,  
de plus qu'il n'a été exporté.

Avant les Traités, au contraire, nos exportations dominaient les importations.

Si nous avions compris les céréales dans ces tableaux, les résultats seraient encore plus défavorables pour notre agriculture.



PRODUITS MANUFACTURÉS.

EXPORTATIONS.			IMPORTATIONS.			DIFFERENCE DES EXPORTATIONS ET DES IMPORTATIONS.				Observations.	
1859.	1869.	Différence		1859.	1869.	Différences.		1859.			1869.
		En plus sur 1859.	En moins sur 1859.			En plus sur 1859.	En moins sur 1859.	En faveur des Exportations.	En faveur des Importations.		
..	499.9	447.4	52.5	6.7	28.1	21.4	..	493.2	..	419.3	Fr.
..	180.6	268.3	87.7	2.5	64.3	61.8	..	178.1	..	204.0	Augmentation des importations
..	67.2	70.1	2.9	0.7	23.8	23.1	..	66.5	..	46.3	12 à 13 pour cent pour les droits.
..	15.4	17.8	2.4	9.8	15.1	5.3	..	5.6	..	2.7	7 à 8 „ pour fausses déclarations et atténuation légale.
..	6.9	31.2	24.3	1.3	24.5	23.2	..	5.6	..	6.7	
..	1.0	5.8	4.8	2.2	10.2	8.0	..	..	1.2	..	
..	..	2.7	2.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.7	
..	108.9	83.7	25.2	2.3	2.9	0.6	0.1	106.6	..	80.8	20 pour cent à ajouter aux importations
..	32.7	46.0	13.3	9.0	23.1	14.1	..	23.7	..	22.9	..
..	42.1	37.8	..	1.5	8.6	7.1	..	40.6	..	29.2	..
..	15.1	20.5	5.4	0.3	6.1	5.8	..	14.8	..	14.4	..
..	6.4	5.3	..	..	..	..	..	6.4	..	5.3	..
..	31.4	40.2	8.8	1.2	5.7	4.5	..	30.2	..	34.5	..
..	4.5	7.6	3.1	..	..	..	..	4.5	..	7.6	Perte pour la France en 1869.
..	74.3	99.2	24.9	..	3.8	3.8	..	74.3	..	95.4	Augmentation des importations
..	56.1	81.0	24.9	1.1	13.4	12.3	..	55.0	..	67.6	..
..	14.4	19.5	5.1	0.4	2.8	2.4	..	14.0	..	16.7	Moins l'augmentation des exportations.
..	10.5	31.0	20.5	..	0.2	0.2	..	10.5	..	30.8	..
..	14.7	13.9	..	..	0.9	0.9	..	14.7	..	13.0	Perte
..	6.8	14.9	8.1	4.1	14.2	10.1	..	2.7	..	0.7	..
..	6.4	10.1	3.7	..	0.3	0.3	..	6.4	..	9.8	..
..	4.4	11.3	6.9	5.1	2.8	..	2.3	..	0.7	8.5	Résumé des Importations (exportations déduites).
..	6.8	10.5	3.7	..	2.0	2.0	..	6.8	..	8.5	Produits agricoles..
..	6.6	1.7	..	6.0	4.1	..	1.9	0.6	..	..	..
..	2.2	1.5	..	..	0.4	0.4	..	2.2	..	1.1	Produits manufacturés
..	8.1	4.1	..	1.0	2.9	1.9	..	7.1	..	1.2	..
..	1,223.4	1,383.1	253.2	55.2	260.2	209.2	4.2	1,170.1	1.9	1,229.7	6.8
..	..	159.7	93.5	..	..	205.0	..	..	..	..	



(Translation.)

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

VALUES IN MILLIONS OF FRANCS.

Exports.				Imports.				Observations.	
1868.		1869.		1868.		1869.			
1859.	1868.	1869.	Excess of exports in 1868 over 1859.	Decrease of exports in 1868 compared with 1859.	1859.	1868.	1869.		
			Excess of exports in 1869 over 1859.	Decrease of exports in 1869 compared with 1859.			Excess of imports in 1869 over 1859.		Decrease of imports in 1869 as compared with 1859.
Cereals ..	152.0	67.3	69.2	84.7	37.7	337.8	300.1	18.6	Mention has often been made of the brilliant results of the Treaties of Commerce as regards agriculture, by stating that the exports from France for foreign countries had increased immensely since the Treaties of 1860. The truth is, that, except for wines, no stipulation was made in the Conventions with England in favour of our agricultural products.  To the Treaties of Commerce have been ascribed the exports which the extension of railways and of steam communication had increased in a certain measure. But it has been forgotten to point out, in the official Reports, the enormous development which has taken place in the imports of agricultural products from foreign countries since the suppression of the duties on raw materials, wools, leather, grains, and oleaginous fruits, oils, hides, &c.  These results are confirmed by the accompanying statement based on the official Customs Returns.  Here is a summary : As regards agricultural products, the increase of imports into France over the year 1859, which preceded the Treaty of Jan. 21, 1860, is :— 537,800,000 fr. in 1868 } Cereals not included. 570,000,000 fr. in 1869 } The exports for the same two years have only increased— By 214,300,000 fr. in 1868 } Cereals not included. 277,700,000 fr. in 1869 } Our exports, therefore, instead of having exceeded the imports, as was promised and asserted, have given, as regards agriculture, a result diametrically opposed to this, as more agricultural products have been imported into France than exported from it— By 323,500,000 fr. in 1868, and 292,300,000 fr. in 1869.  Before the Treaties, on the other hand, our exports exceeded the imports. If we included cereals in this Table the results would be still more unfavourable to our agriculture.
Wines ..	232.0	234.4	261.0	29.3	7.8	14.4	6.6	6.3	
Brands ..	92.6	63.3	56.2	..	4.9	9.7	4.8	7.6	
Grains and oleaginous fruits..	7.1	12.2	15.6	5.1	43.2	91.2	48.0	61.8	
Horses, Cattle ..	17.3	34.6	53.5	17.3	63.1	171.7	108.6	94.5	
Wood ..	17.3	34.8	38.0	17.5	106.2	179.4	73.2	83.0	
Cheese ..	2.4	6.5	6.6	4.1	9.0	15.1	6.1	10.6	
Butter ..	21.9	63.8	71.3	41.9	2.7	10.4	7.7	9.4	
Grain for sowing ..	12.9	23.4	20.6	10.5	9.4	27.0	17.6	22.5	
Eggs ..	13.0	34.5	36.4	21.5	2.4	5.2	2.8	3.5	
Fruits ..	8.9	30.5	27.2	21.6	15.7	19.3	3.6	6.6	
Olive oil ..	4.1	3.6	3.4	..	22.4	17.8	..	9.8	
Salted meat ..	3.9	5.5	6.1	0.5	4.1	11.3	7.2	6.2	
Teasels ..	1.5	2.3	2.1	0.8	..	..	..	..	
Oil-cakes ..	4.0	17.8	14.1	13.8	..	..	..	..	
Raw hides ..	2.0	17.9	24.3	15.9	69.7	108.5	38.8	..	
Hair ..	5.0	10.3	10.5	5.3	8.6	6.6	..	..	
Fatty substances ..	2.4	13.2	17.2	10.8	2.2	37.5	35.3	44.1	
Green vegetables ..	0.9	2.2	2.9	1.3	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.4	
Truffles ..	0.6	1.1	1.4	0.5	..	0.1	0.1	..	
Resins ..	2.3	7.0	5.7	4.7	..	0.2	0.5	..	
Hops ..	1.2	5.9	11.9	4.7	0.4	0.9	0.5	..	
Forage ..	1.7	2.2	2.7	0.5	3.9	3.9	..	..	
Wools ..	8.9	36.5	44.7	27.6	2.7	9.9	7.2	8.2	
Hemp ..	0.6	2.3	2.0	1.7	125.7	237.9	112.2	80.6	
Flax ..	1.9	16.9	10.7	15.0	5.7	12.0	6.3	5.8	
					28.1	85.2	57.1	47.7	
Total ..	620.4	750.0	815.3	244.5	576.8	1,414.7	844.5	589.8	
Cereals to be deducted ..	152.0	67.3	69.2	..	37.7	337.8	300.1	18.6	
Total ..	468.4	682.7	746.1	244.5	539.1	1,076.9	544.4	571.2	
				214.3			537.8	570.0	



MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS.

	EXPORTS.				IMPORTS.				DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.				Observations.	
	1859.	1869.	Difference.		1859.	1869.	Difference.		1859.		1869.			
			More than in 1859.	Less than in 1859.			More than in 1859.	Less than in 1859.	In favour of Exports.	In favour of Imports.	In favour of Exports.	In favour of Imports.		
Tissues of silk ..	499.9	447.4	..	52.5	6.7	28.1	21.4	..	493.2	..	419.3	..	Augmentation of imports ..	205,000,000
" of wool ..	180.6	268.3	87.7	..	2.5	64.3	61.8	..	178.1	..	204.0	..	12 to 13 per cent. for duties.	
" of cotton ..	67.2	70.1	2.9	..	0.7	23.8	23.1	..	66.5	..	46.3	..	7 to 8 "	
" of flax..	15.4	17.8	2.4	..	9.8	15.1	3.3	..	5.6	..	2.7	..	and legal diminish-	
Yarns (cotton-wool) ..	6.9	31.2	24.3	..	1.3	24.5	23.2	..	5.6	..	6.7	..	ment.	
" of hemp and flax ..	1.0	5.8	4.8	..	2.2	10.2	8.0	..	..	1.2	..	4.4		
" of phormium ..	..	2.7	2.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.7	..		
Made-up articles ..	108.9	83.7	..	25.2	2.3	2.9	0.6	0.1	106.6	..	80.8	..	20 per cent. to be added to the	41,000,000
Chemical productions ..	32.7	46.0	13.3	..	9.0	23.1	14.1	..	23.7	..	22.9	..	Real value ..	246,000,000
Tools and metal goods ..	42.1	37.8	..	4.3	1.5	8.6	7.1	..	40.6	..	29.2	..		
Plated and silver work ..	15.1	20.5	5.4	..	0.3	6.1	5.8	..	14.8	..	14.4	..		
Articles de Paris ..	6.4	5.3	..	1.1	..	..	..	..	6.4	..	5.3	..		
Pottery, &c. ..	31.4	40.2	8.8	..	1.2	5.7	4.5	..	30.2	..	34.5	..		
Stearic acid, manufactured ..	4.5	7.6	3.1	..	..	..	..	..	4.5	..	7.6	..	Loss for France in 1869.	
Manufactured hides ..	74.3	99.2	24.9	..	..	3.8	3.8	..	74.3	..	95.4	..	Augmentation of imports ..	246,000,000
Prepared hides ..	56.1	81.0	24.9	..	1.1	13.4	12.3	..	55.0	..	67.6	..	Less the augmentation on exports ..	159,700,000
Paper and cardboard ..	14.4	19.5	5.1	..	0.4	2.8	2.4	..	14.0	..	16.7	..		
Fashions and flowers ..	10.5	31.0	20.5	..	..	0.2	0.2	..	10.5	..	30.8	..		
Madder ..	14.7	13.9	..	0.8	..	0.9	0.9	..	14.7	..	13.0	..	Loss ..	86,300,000
Machines and machinery ..	6.8	14.9	8.1	..	4.1	14.2	10.1	..	2.7	..	0.7	..		
Felt hats ..	6.4	10.1	3.7	..	..	0.3	0.3	..	6.4	..	9.8	..		
Watchmaking ..	4.4	11.3	6.9	..	5.1	2.8	2.0	2.3	..	0.7	8.5	..	Summary of Imports (Exports being deducted).	
Soaps ..	6.8	10.5	3.7	..	..	2.0	2.0	..	6.8	..	8.5	..	Agricultural products ..	292,300,000
Oils and fat seeds ..	6.6	1.7	..	4.9	6.0	4.1	0.4	1.9	0.6	..	..	2.4	Manufactured products ..	86,000,000
Cutlery ..	2.2	1.5	..	0.7	..	0.4	0.4	..	2.2	..	1.1	..		
Arms ..	8.1	4.1	..	4.0	1.0	2.9	1.9	..	7.1	..	1.2	..	Loss ..	378,300,000
Total ..	1,223.4	1,383.1	253.2	93.5	55.2	260.2	209.2	4.2	1,170.1	1.9	1,229.7	6.8		
				159.7				205.0						



*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 19, 1872.*

I APPROVE the language held by your Excellency to M. de Rémusat on the subject of modifications in the Commercial Treaty with France, as reported by your Excellency in your despatch of the 12th instant.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 19, 1872.*

I HAVE already stated to you by telegraph in general terms that you should at once explain to the French Government that Her Majesty's Government have not acquiesced, directly or indirectly, in any proposal to impose a duty on raw materials imported into France; neither have they, directly or indirectly, acquiesced in any definite proposal concerning the imposition of a differential duty on British manufactured goods as compensation to the French manufacturer for the tax to be imposed on his raw material, or concerning the drawback to be granted to the French manufacturer on exportation.

So far as these points are concerned, the Treaty and Conventions of 1860 remain unaltered and form the rule of the commercial relations between the two countries.

These points might, indeed, have come under review if the French Government had not advisedly withdrawn from discussion the 11th Article of the Draft Treaty submitted to me by the Duc de Broglie in his note of the 13th of September; but, notwithstanding this withdrawal, I felt it necessary to observe, in general terms, in my despatch to Mr. West of the 1st of November, on the general vagueness of the French proposals as necessarily creating an additional difficulty in determining how far Her Majesty's Government might, in their anxiety to meet the wishes of France, acquiesce in an increase of duties on British commodities.

I may also point out that, in my letter to the Duc de Broglie of the 5th of August, I asked the question—"What is the intention of the French Government as regards the taxation of raw materials which are both produced in France and are also imported from abroad?" and to that question no answer has ever been given.

It is clear, therefore, that M. Thiers laboured under a misapprehension in assuming, as he seems to have done in his late speech on the Customs Bill, that Her Majesty's Government had held out expectations of a willingness on their part to make concessions beyond the strict letter of the Treaty and Convention of 1860, and Her Majesty's Government are far from accepting M. Thiers' statement that the duties on raw materials proposed by the Government Bill might be established immediately under the clauses of the Commercial Treaty sanctioning the imposition of Customs duties to counterbalance internal taxes on like articles.

Her Majesty's Government perfectly admit the operation of Article IX of the Treaty of Commerce of the 23rd of January, 1860, and of Article III of the Second Supplementary Convention of the 16th of November, 1860, as far as those Articles apply, but they have not admitted that they would offer no objection to what might be decided in France respecting Tariff duties. They expressly required a clear statement of what was contemplated, for it was only when such statement was before them that they could judge of the merits of the French proposal, and shape their course according to the judgment they might form.

I will take this opportunity to advert to two other misapprehensions under which M. Thiers appears to labour. The first (which we learn from a telegram received to-day, possibly not accurate) is that Her Majesty's Government have absolutely renounced any intention of interfering with the wine duties as now established in this country. What Her Majesty's Government have said is, that whatever course the French Government might adopt in regard to the Treaty, Her Majesty's Government would certainly never dream of resorting, by way of retaliation, to a Protectionist policy; but in my despatch of November 1 to Mr. West I distinctly adverted to the unreasonableness of the French Government in expecting that Great Britain, notwithstanding the disadvantages which she was asked to submit to, would continue to observe the other provisions of the Treaty and



Convention of 1860 which interfere with her own fiscal liberty with regard to the duties on coal, wine, and spirits.

The other point has reference to the statement of M. Thiers that Her Majesty's Government had repeatedly declared that the Commercial Treaty had been forced upon them by France.

The motives which induced them to propose the negotiation of the Treaty; in the first instance, were, as stated in my despatch to Mr. West, that they hoped by the concessions made to France they were furthering an approach to that freedom of trade which they considered to be essential to the well-being of all nations, and by so laying the foundations of concord, diminish the chances of war.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE

No. 58.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 20.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, January 19, 1872.*

I SPOKE to M. Thiers last night at Versailles about the statements respecting the views of Her Majesty's Government, made in the speech which he delivered in the Assembly on the 15th instant, in the debate on the duties on raw materials.

M. Thiers gave me a brief summary of what he had said. He had, he observed, stated to the Assembly that Her Majesty's Government had made no objection to the "droits compensateurs," and that they had merely asked that the amount of the proposed duties should be communicated to them, in order that they might see what would be the effect of these compensatory duties, taken in combination with the proposed modifications of the tariff. M. Thiers went on to say that he had received the most friendly and satisfactory assurances of the desire of Her Majesty's Government to assist France in her present financial difficulties. He added that he could assure me that the duties on raw materials were imposed solely for the sake of raising an amount of revenue, which was absolutely necessary.

I answered that I had sent the report of his speech as soon as possible to your Lordship, and that I had particularly called your attention to the passages in which he had spoken of the views of Her Majesty's Government. Time, I said, had not admitted of my receiving instructions from your Lordship in reply; and, as the negotiations respecting the Treaty had taken place in London, I could not, of course, although I had been, from time to time made acquainted with what had passed, undertake to speak positively respecting all the details. I could undoubtedly confirm M. Thiers' belief that Her Majesty's Government were very anxious to be of use to France in the present state of her finances, but I was not aware that any definite proposals had been made to Her Majesty's Government respecting these taxes on raw materials; and of course Her Majesty's Government could not object to what had never been suggested. But, however this might be, I was, I confessed, at a loss to understand the interpretation given by M. Thiers in his speech, to the Articles in the Treaties sanctioning compensatory duties; but, so far as I could gather its meaning, I was certainly not prepared to admit that construction. I reminded M. Thiers that Her Majesty's Government had a duty to perform to British traders and manufacturers, who had naturally counted upon the execution of the Treaty; and I begged him not to proceed hastily in a matter of so much importance, and above all not actually to impose any doubtful duties without communicating with Her Majesty's Government and ascertaining positively what their sentiments were.

M. Thiers did not enter into any explanation respecting his interpretation of the Treaties, but he expressed his desire and his intention to communicate freely with Her Majesty's Government respecting the proposed taxes; and he observed that what he was now pressing on the Assembly was simply the adoption of the principle that duties should be levied on raw materials. The details would, he said, be discussed when the tariffs embodied in the Bill were under consideration.

In speaking of the negotiation with Her Majesty's Government respecting the modifications of the Treaty of Commerce, M. Thiers said that it had come to nothing ("tombée"). I reminded him that your Lordship's note to the Duc de Broglie of the 8th instant invited, rather than declined, a further communication from the French Government.



*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 20.)*

My Lord,

Paris, January 19, 1872.

I HAD this afternoon the honour to receive your Lordship's telegram of this morning, conveying to me instructions respecting the statements made in the Assembly by M. Thiers concerning the sentiments of Her Majesty's Government on the subject of the proposed taxes on raw materials.

I forthwith embodied the substance of your Lordship's telegram in a note to the French Government, which I sent immediately to Versailles by Mr. West, with instructions to put it into the hand of the Minister for Foreign Affairs with the least possible delay.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of the note.

It is not probable that Mr. West will be able to get back to Paris before the departure of the messenger.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure in No. 59.

*Lord Lyons to M. de Rémusat.*

M. le Ministre,

Paris, January 19, 1872.

IN order to guard at once against any possible mistake or misunderstanding, I am directed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State to state to the French Government that Her Majesty's Government have not acquiesced, directly or indirectly, in any proposal to tax the raw materials which, by the Second Supplementary Convention of the 16th November, 1860, are freed from taxation.

I am further directed to point out to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have not, directly or indirectly, acquiesced in any definite proposal, either concerning differential duties to be imposed on British manufactured goods, by way of compensation for the tax to be imposed on raw materials, or concerning drawback to be granted to French manufactures on export.

I am desired to remind your Excellency that no definite proposal on any of these points has as yet been submitted to Her Majesty's Government; and I am particularly instructed to request that the misapprehension which appears to have existed on the subjects may be immediately corrected.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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No. 60.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 22.)*

My Lord,

Paris, January 20, 1872.

WITH reference to my despatch of yesterday, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a letter from Mr. West, reporting the delivery to M. de Rémusat of my note concerning the statements made in the Assembly respecting the views of Her Majesty's Government on the subject of the proposed taxes on raw materials.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure in No. 60.

*Mr. West to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

Paris, January 20, 1872.

IN obedience to your Excellency's instructions I proceeded yesterday to Versailles, in order to deliver to M. de Rémusat the note which your Excellency had addressed to the French Government.



I found M. de Rémusat in the Assembly, which he immediately left upon hearing that I was desirous of speaking to him.

He at once read the note, thanked me for bringing it to him, made no observations whatever, and immediately re-entered the Assembly, which M. Thiers was at the time addressing. The result of the debate your Excellency is already acquainted with.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

L. SACKVILLE WEST.

No. 61.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 22.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, January 20, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a *note verbale*, embodying the substance of your Lordship's despatch of yesterday, respecting the statements made in the National Assembly, concerning the views of Her Majesty's Government respecting the proposed taxes on raw materials.

I have sent a member of the Embassy to Versailles to deliver the *note verbale* to M. de Rémusat.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 61.

*Note Verbale*

IN the note which Lord Lyons had the honour to address to M. de Rémusat on the 19th instant, by order of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, he explained that Her Majesty's Government had not acquiesced directly or indirectly in any proposal to impose a duty on raw materials imported into France; and that they had not directly or indirectly acquiesced in any definite proposal, either concerning the imposition of a differential duty on British manufactured goods as compensation to the French manufacturer for the tax to be imposed on his raw material, or concerning the drawback to be granted to the French manufacturer on exportation.

So far as these points are concerned the Treaty and Conventions of 1860 remain unaltered, and form the rule of the commercial relations between the two countries.

These points might indeed have come under review if the French Government had not advisedly withdrawn from discussion the IIIrd Article of the Draft Treaty submitted to Earl Granville by the Duc de Broglie in his Excellency's note of the 13th September last; but, notwithstanding this withdrawal, Lord Granville felt it necessary to observe in general terms, in a despatch addressed to Mr. West for communication to the French Government on the 1st November last, on the general vagueness of the French proposals as creating an additional difficulty in determining how far Her Majesty's Government might, in their anxiety to meet the wishes of France, acquiesce in an increase of duties on British commodities.

Moreover, in his letter to the Duc de Broglie of the 5th of August last, Lord Granville asked the question; "What is the intention of the French Government as regards the taxation of raw materials which are both produced in France, and are also imported from abroad?" To that question no answer has been given.

It is clear, therefore, that there are no grounds for assuming that Her Majesty's Government had held out expectations of a willingness on their part to make concessions beyond the strict letter of the Treaty and Conventions of 1860; and Her Majesty's Government are very far from accepting the statement that the duties on raw materials proposed in the *Projet de Loi*, brought into the Assembly by the Government, might be imposed immediately under the clauses of the Commercial Treaties sanctioning the imposition of Customs duties to counterbalance internal duties on like articles.

Her Majesty's Government perfectly admit the operation of Article IX of the Treaty of Commerce of the 23rd of January, 1860, and of Article III of the Second Supplementary Convention of the 16th November, 1860, so far as those Articles apply; but they have not admitted that they would make no objection to what might be decided in France respecting Tariff duties. On the contrary, they expressly required a clear statement of what was contemplated, because it was only when such a statement was before them

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that they could judge of the merits of the French proposal, and shape their course according to the judgment they might form.

There are two other misapprehensions which appear to have existed, and which it may be well to correct. The first is that Her Majesty's Government have absolutely renounced any intention of interfering with the wine duties as now established in Great Britain. What Her Majesty's Government have said is, that whatever course the French Government might adopt in regard to the Treaty, Her Majesty's Government would certainly never dream of resorting by way of retaliation to the suicidal course of a Protectionist policy; but, in the despatch of the 1st November before mentioned, Lord Granville directly adverted to the unreasonableness of the French Government in expecting that Great Britain, notwithstanding the disadvantages she was asked to submit to, would continue to observe the other provisions of the Treaty and Conventions of 1860, which interfere with her own fiscal liberty with regard to the duties on coals, wine, and spirits.

The other point has reference to the statement that England had repeatedly declared that the Commercial Treaties had been forced upon her by France. The motives which induced Her Majesty's Government to propose the negotiation of the Treaty, in the first instance, were, as stated in the despatch of the 1st November, the hopes that by the concessions made to France, they were furthering an approach to that freedom of trade which they considered to be essential to the well-being of all nations, and that by thus laying the foundations of concord, they were diminishing the chances of war.

The despatch of the 1st November was communicated by Mr. West to M. de Rémusat on the 3rd of the same month.

## No. 62.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 22.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, January 20, 1872.*

I HAVE already had the honour to inform your Lordship by telegraph that the Assembly adopted yesterday, in opposition to the Government, the following resolution:—

“L'Assemblée Nationale, réservant le principe d'un impôt sur les matières premières, décide qu'une Commission de quinze membres examinera les Tarifs proposés et les questions soulevées par cet impôt, auquel elle n'aura recours qu'en cas d'impossibilité d'aligner autrement le Budget.”

## No. 63.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 22, 1872.*

I APPROVE the language held by your Excellency to M. Thiers, as reported in your despatch of the 19th instant, giving an account of what passed at a conversation which your Excellency had with the French President at Versailles on the previous evening, on the subject of the proposed tax on raw materials.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 64.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 24.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, January 22, 1872.*

M. THIERS spoke to me yesterday at Versailles on the subject of the Commercial Treaty.

He said that he hoped that he should bring the negotiation with Her Majesty's Government to a satisfactory conclusion. The question of the duties on raw materials was, he affirmed, entirely distinct from that of the modification of the Treaty tariffs.

He could assure me that in proposing the duty on raw materials he had been actuated entirely by fiscal considerations. Nor did he believe that the interests of England would really suffer from such a duty. On several articles—such, for instance, as wood—it was entirely immaterial to England whether there were duties or not; with regard to other



articles—for example, cotton and wool—it could not be supposed that a duty of 20 per cent. would cause any diminution in the quantity consumed in France.

All proper communications would be made to Her Majesty's Government, and he trusted that there would be no difficulty about this matter.

He had, indeed, some idea of despatching M. Pouyer-Quertier, the Minister of Finance, to London, to give explanations to Her Majesty's Government respecting this point and the other questions connected with the Treaty. M. Pouyer-Quertier's reputation as a strong Protectionist might, perhaps, be a disadvantage to him in England; but, on the other hand, he understood all the details, and not only spoke English well, but was also a master of the technical terms necessary for the discussion of these commercial and manufacturing questions in that language. M. Thiers said, in conclusion, that, with regard to the idea of sending M. Pouyer-Quertier to England, nothing was yet decided, but that the negotiation would, at all events, he trusted, soon make satisfactory progress.

I answered that the principal objection of Her Majesty's Government to the proposals which had been made to them arose from the conviction that those proposals were founded on principles of commercial restriction; and Her Majesty's Government had, I said, more than once declared their willingness to come, if possible, to an understanding if this objection could be removed by the Government of France. It was, in fact, I observed, repugnant to Her Majesty's Government to be parties to a measure for increasing protection—to a measure which would be at variance with the doctrines of Free Trade, which the Treaty had been made to promote. It was in "protection," I added, that the main difficulty lay.

M. Thiers had not made any allusion to the recent Debates in the Assembly, nor to the notes of the 19th and 20th instant, in which, in obedience to your Lordship's orders, I had communicated to the French Government the dissent of Her Majesty's Government from the statements made in that debate respecting their sentiments. I thought it, however, right to say to him that Her Majesty's Government had certainly been not a little startled at finding that they were represented as having acquiesced in duties not warranted by the Treaty, and in a construction of some of the Articles which was, to say the least, very much strained. My notes had, however, I presumed, sufficed to do away with all misapprehension on the subject, and it was, therefore, unnecessary for me to enter into further details.

M. Thiers did not enter into any explanation respecting his own speeches, or that of the Minister of Commerce, in the debate. He merely observed that he had been correct in stating that Her Majesty's Government had begged to be furnished with the details of the compensatory duties which the French Government proposed to establish; and he wound up the conversation by again saying that he hoped to come to a satisfactory understanding with England on the whole subject of the Commercial Treaty.

This afternoon I saw M. de Rémusat at the Foreign Office, in Paris. He said that the two notes I had addressed to him had given him some pain.

I observed that the impression produced by the speeches of the President of the Republic and of the Minister of Commerce as to the views and intentions of Her Majesty's Government was so entirely at variance with the real state of the case that it was manifestly impossible that Her Majesty's Government should acquiesce in it in silence. To have done so, would have been to mislead the French Government and the public.

M. de Rémusat said that, if he had been aware that the taxes on raw materials were to give rise to a diplomatic discussion, he should have felt it his duty to be present, and that the line he should have been disposed to take would have been to decline to give any information whatever respecting the negotiation with England on the ground that it was still pending. He added, however, that he certainly considered that, when details respecting the proposed duties were asked for by Her Majesty's Government, a certain degree of assent to the principle of the duties was involved. He did not, however, wish to enter into an argument on the subject. The views of Her Majesty's Government were undoubtedly stated with sufficient distinctness in my notes. He was, he added, sorry to see the determination which seemed to be announced by them to abide rigidly by the strict letter of the Treaty. I answered that on numerous occasions Her Majesty's Government had declared their willingness to come to an understanding with the French Government if only the objection they entertained in principle to take part in an act designed to increase commercial restrictions were done away with. They had not broken off the negotiation, nor was their desire to be of use to the French Government in fiscal matters at all diminished. In the face of what had been said in the Assembly, it was undoubtedly their duty to establish the fact that they had not hitherto consented to any modification of the Treaty. The Treaty, as it stood, must, of course, be the basis of negotiation, unless it was modified by mutual consent.



M. de Rémusat observed that the 4th February was drawing so near that it would be necessary for the French Government to take, very soon, measures for giving effect to the notice which they had given to Her Majesty's Government of their intention to denounce the Treaty.

I said that, for my own part, I had always deeply regretted that the French Government had thought it necessary to raise any question at all about the Treaty. I was hardly competent to pronounce upon its merits or demerits as a commercial arrangement, but it was, at all events, a sign of good understanding and cordial intercourse, and as such I wished it to stand.

The two Governments had, I said, conducted the discussion without any asperity, and with a strong desire on both sides that whatever might be the result their political friendship should not suffer from it. But it was not easy to make this manifest to the world at large. If the French Government proceeded to denounce the Treaty, the public in all countries would be apt to imagine that this step indicated some coolness between the two nations. Some interests must I feared suffer, and some diminution of commercial intercourse take place. In fact, the impression on the public could not be good. I trusted that the French Government would consider this, and that whatever might be the course they might adopt they would heartily unite with Her Majesty's Government in endeavouring to maintain friendly feeling and friendly intercourse between the two Governments and the people of the two countries.

M. de Rémusat said that I might fully rely upon the desire of France to be on the best terms with England.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

## No. 65.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 24, 1872.*

I HAVE to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the note addressed by you to M. de Rémusat, a copy of which is inclosed in your Excellency's despatch dated the 20th instant, respecting the statements made in the National Assembly concerning the views of Her Majesty's Government on the proposed taxes on raw materials.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 66.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 24, 1872.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 19th instant, I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government will abstain at present from examining in detail the *Projet*, of which a copy was inclosed in your Excellency's despatch of the 14th instant, and from pointing out the precise particulars in which it differs from the Conventional Tariff annexed to the Second Supplementary Convention of the 16th of November, 1860.

This is now of the less importance since the *Projet* has been rejected or delayed by the action of the French Assembly; but, as questions of principle and questions involving the action of Her Majesty's Government in the recent negotiations necessarily arise in connection with it, Her Majesty's Government think it right to offer the following observations.

It is obvious that the *Projet* is directly at variance with the Second Supplementary Convention to which I have already referred.

Up to the present time Her Majesty's Government have not been officially informed whether the proposed tax on raw material is to be accompanied by a corresponding excise duty on similar raw material produced in France, but they gather from the debates in the French Chamber that this is not intended. If it is not intended, then the *Projet* is distinctly at variance with the spirit as well as with the letter of the Commercial Treaty and Supplementary Conventions, since it imposes a heavy differential duty on British raw material, the principal effect of which, so far as it affects raw material which is produced in France as well as abroad, must be, not so much to raise additional revenue as to protect the producers



of that material at the expense of British competitors and of French manufacturers and consumers. Indeed, it is probable that it may cause a heavy loss to the revenue, for it is proposed to impose a differential duty on foreign manufactured goods equivalent to the duty on the raw material; and, again, to grant to the French manufacturer an equivalent drawback on exportation.

Now, in the case of goods manufactured from raw material produced both in France and abroad, it will probably be impracticable to distinguish an exportation between goods made wholly of foreign raw material and goods made of French raw material; and, if a drawback is granted on the latter, it will be, not a repayment of money which has been paid into the exchequer, but a bounty paid out of the exchequer to the manufacturer, and this payment will be a bounty, not to the manufacturer but to the producer of the raw material, for he will be able to raise his price against the manufacturer to the extent to which the price of the foreign raw material is raised by the duty on it.

The financial effect of this scheme it is of course for the French Government to consider; but when Her Majesty's Government are asked to modify the Treaty, or are told that they have assented to its modification on the ground that the modification is necessary, not for the purpose of protection but of revenue, the above observations on the financial effect of the *Projet* become important to them, as well as to the French Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

## No. 67.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 25.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, January 24, 1872.*

I HAVE already had the honour to inform your Lordship by telegraph, that of fourteen members who were elected yesterday to serve on the Committee of the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty, nine were understood to be in favour of denouncing the Treaty, and five against denouncing it; the fifteenth member was not elected.

## No. 68.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 26, 1872.*

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration, in communication with the Law Advisers of the Crown, the interpretation put by M. Thiers on the IXth Article of the Treaty of Commerce of 1860, and the IIIrd Article of the Second Supplementary Convention of 1860, under which Articles the French President, as would appear from the debates in the Chamber, claims a right on the part of the French Government to impose a tax on raw materials, as well as to impose additional duties, as "*droits compensateurs*," on manufactured goods, in the manufacture of which such raw materials enter.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that Article IX of the Treaty of Commerce applies only to the articles enumerated in Article I of the same Treaty, with the additional proviso that they should be of French production or manufacture, and that consequently no increase of Customs duties can be imposed on such articles of British origin or manufacture, unless a corresponding excise tax on inland duty is previously imposed on similar articles of French production or manufacture.

Her Majesty's Government are further of opinion that, as to Article III of the Second Supplementary Convention, no increase of Customs duties beyond those specified in the Article itself can be imposed upon articles of British origin and manufacture, except in the event of such modification of the excise duties actually levied at the date of the Convention upon French manufactures as would cause a corresponding increase in the cost of similar articles of French manufacture.

Your Excellency will see therefore that, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, the view of M. Thiers is incompatible with the terms of the existing Treaties.

Your Excellency will make known the views of Her Majesty's Government as above expressed to the French Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.



*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 26, 1872.*

I HAVE to convey to your Excellency the approval of Her Majesty's Government of the language held by you to M. de Thiers and M. de Rémusat, as reported in your despatch of the 22nd instant.

Any member of the French Government would be received with cordiality in England; but Her Majesty's Government would regret that the Minister of Finance should take an important step like a visit to England at a moment when his presence in Paris was probably required, unless there was a reasonable chance of his mission being successful.

The announcement that his visit had been without fruit might create that belief of the relations between the two countries not being good, which it is the desire of Her Majesty's Government to avoid.

I have, therefore, to request your Excellency, should the project be further entertained, to inform Her Majesty's Government what is the basis on which M. Pouyer-Quertier would be prepared to treat—whether his visit would be in the hope of changing the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon the scheme which had been proposed to them, which is not likely to lead to a result; or whether he would be prepared to make such proposals as would obviate the principal objections entertained by Her Majesty's Government to the French scheme.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

Extract.)

*Foreign Office, January 27, 1872.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatches of the 5th and 9th instant, on the subject of the proposals of the French Government to reimpose differential duties on merchandize imported in foreign ships, I have to observe to your Excellency that by the Supplementary Convention of the 16th November, 1860, jute in the fibre and hackled, and raw cotton, when imported into France, direct from British India, or from British entrepôts in British or French vessels, and raw wool when imported direct from Australia, or from British entrepôts in British vessels, must be admitted into France free of duty.

Upon these articles, therefore, thus imported, the French Government are not at liberty to place any surtax or differential duty, and as any such duty must be imposed for the purpose of protection and not of revenue, Her Majesty's Government would not feel justified in acceding to it. Further, all the articles of British origin or manufacture mentioned in the Tariff annexed to the Supplementary Convention in question, when imported direct from the United Kingdom, under the British or French flag, are to be admitted into France at the duties specified in the said Tariff. Consequently the whole duties to be levied on these articles, when so imported, including the proposed surtax or differential duty on goods imported from an entrepôt, must not exceed the duties specified in the said Tariff. But whether they do exceed them or not can only be known when both the surtax and the other proposed duties are known.

I take this opportunity of inclosing for your Excellency's information, a copy of a Memorandum drawn up in this Department, containing a list of the most recent and important Treaties which France has concluded with foreign countries, and showing the bearing of those Treaties on the question of differential duties.

Inclosure in No. 70.

*Memorandum on the Proposal of the French Government to re-impose Differential Duties on Merchandize imported into France in Foreign Ships.*

IT is difficult to see how it is possible for France, consistently with her Treaty stipulations with foreign Powers, to levy such duties as "surtaxes de pavillon" and



"surtaxes d'entrepôt" unless she, at the same time, makes the Decree levying such duties applicable to similar goods imported into France in national vessels.

The following is a list of the most recent and most important Treaties which France has concluded with European Powers.

Austria	..	..	..	..	December 11, 1866 <sup>1</sup>
Belgium	..	..	..	..	May 1, 1861 <sup>2</sup>
Ditto	..	..	..	..	May 12, 1863 <sup>3</sup>
Italy	..	..	..	..	January 17, 1863 <sup>4</sup>
Netherlands	..	..	..	..	July 7, 1865 <sup>5</sup>
Prussia, &c...	..	..	..	..	August 2, 1862 <sup>6</sup>
Spain	..	..	..	..	June 18, 1865 <sup>7</sup>
Sweden	..	..	..	..	February 14, 1865 <sup>8</sup>
Switzerland	..	..	..	..	June 30, 1864 <sup>9</sup>

In the Treaty of Commerce with Austria of 11th December, 1866, the following Article appears:—

"Article X. Les produits non originaires de l'Empire d'Autriche importés d'Autriche en France, par mer, sous pavillon de l'une des Puissances Contractantes, ne seront pas soumis à des surtaxes plus élevées que celles dont sont ou pourront être frappés les produits importés en France sous pavillon Français, d'ailleurs que du pays d'origine."

And in the Treaty of Navigation of the same date there is the following Article:—

"Article VI. Les marchandises de toute nature importées directement d'Autriche en France, sous pavillon Autrichien, et, à partir du 12 Juin, 1869, d'un pays quelconque; et réciproquement, les marchandises de toute nature importées sous pavillon Français en Autriche ne payeront respectivement de plus forts droits de douane, ni d'autres de toute nature perçus au profit de l'Etat, des communes, des corporations locales, de particuliers ou d'établissements quelconques, que si elles étaient importées sous pavillon national."

These Treaties were concluded for ten years, counting from the 1st January, 1867, and would therefore not expire till the 1st January, 1877.

The Treaty of Commerce with Belgium of May 1, 1861, contains the following clauses:—

"Article XIII. Indépendamment du régime d'entrée établi par le présent Traité à l'égard des produits non originaires de Belgique, ces mêmes produits seront soumis aux surtaxes de navigation dont sont ou pourront être frappés les produits importés en France, sous pavillon Français, d'ailleurs que des pays d'origine."

"Article XIV. Les marchandises de toute origine, importées de France par la frontière de terre, seront admises à l'entrée en Belgique aux mêmes droits que si elles y étaient importées directement de France par mer et sous pavillon Français."

"Les marchandises spécifiés ou non en l'Article XX de la Loi du 28 Avril, 1816, importées de Belgique par la frontière de terre, seront admises, pour la consommation intérieure de l'Empire, moyennant l'acquittement des droits établis pour les provenances autres que celles des pays de production, sous pavillon Français. Toutefois pour les cafés, la surtaxe ne dépassera pas 5 fr. par 100 kilos., décimes compris."

This Treaty was concluded for ten years, counting from the date of exchange of ratifications (27th May, 1861), to be continued from year to year until one of the Contracting Parties announced to the other its wish to terminate it.

By a French Decree of 29th May, 1861, the dispositions of this Treaty were expressly declared to be applicable to England.

The Treaty with Italy of 17th January, 1863, which was concluded for twelve years, counting from the date of exchange of ratifications (19th January, 1864), and would therefore not expire till 19th January, 1876, contains similar Articles, which it may be convenient to repeat here in full:—

"Article X. Indépendamment du régime d'entrée établi par le présent Traité à l'égard des produits non originaires d'Italie, ces mêmes produits seront soumis aux surtaxes de navigation dont sont ou pourront être frappés les produits importés en France, sous pavillon Français, d'ailleurs que des pays d'origine."

"Article XI. Les marchandises de toute origine importées de France par la frontière de terre seront admises, à l'entrée en Italie, aux mêmes droits que si elles y étaient importées directement de France par mer sous pavillon Français."

"Les marchandises non originaires d'Italie, spécifiées ou non dans l'Article XXII de

<sup>1</sup> State Papers, vol. lvi, pages 244, 257.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., vol. li, page 698.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., vol. liii, page 187.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., vol. liv, page 858.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., vol. lv, page 383.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., vol. lv, page 298.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., vol. lv, page 379.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., vol. lv, page 233.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid., vol. liv, page 1053.



la Loi du 28 Avril, 1816, importées de l'Italie en France par la frontière de terre, seront admises, pour la consommation intérieure de l'Empire, moyennant l'acquittement des droits établis pour les provenances autres que celles des pays de production sous pavillon Français."

The Treaty with the Netherlands of 7th July, 1865, which was concluded for twelve years from the date of exchange of ratifications, 10th August, 1865, and would therefore not expire till 10th August, 1877, contains the following clause:—

"Article XIV. Les produits non originaires des Pays Bas importés de la Néerlande en France, soit par mer, soit par terre, aux conditions déterminées par l'Article X du présent Traité, soit par les voies fluviales, ne seront pas soumis à des surtaxes plus élevées que celles dont sont ou pourront être frappés les produits importés en France sous pavillon Français, d'ailleurs que des pays d'origine. Toutefois pour les cafés la surtaxe ne dépassera pas 5 fr. par 100 kilos., décimes compris.

"Article XV. Les marchandises de toute origine importées de France, soit par terre, aux conditions déterminées par l'Article X du présent Traité, soit par les voies fluviales, seront mises, à l'entrée dans les Pays Bas, aux mêmes droits que si elles y étaient importées directement de France par mer et sous pavillon Français."

The Treaty with Prussia and the Zollverein of 2nd August, 1862, contains the following clause:—

"Article X. Indépendamment du régime d'entrée établi par le présent Traité à l'égard des produits non originaires du Zollverein, ces mêmes produits seront soumis aux surtaxes de navigation dont sont ou pourront être frappés les produits importés en France, sous pavillon Français, d'ailleurs que des pays d'origine."

This Treaty was concluded for twelve years, but was abrogated by the War of 1870-71.

By Article XI of the Treaty of Peace of 10th May, 1871, the commercial relations between France and Germany were placed upon the footing of the "most favoured nation." By the Additional Convention of 11th December, 1871, the Treaties between those two countries which were in existence before the war, were renewed; but it has been recently explained by the Prussian Ambassador at Paris that the Commercial Treaties between France and the Zollverein were not thereby put into force again, but, on the contrary, that they would be regulated by Article XI of the Treaty of 10th May, 1871.

The Treaty with Spain of 18th June, 1865, expressly declared the abolition of "les surtaxes de douane," on "objets d'origine ou de manufactures" imported into either country.

The Treaty of Commerce with Sweden of 14th February, 1865, which was concluded for twelve years, from the 22nd March, 1865, and will therefore not expire until 22nd March, 1877, contains the following Article:—

"Article XI. Les produits non-originaux de Suède ou de Norvège, importés des Royaumes Unis en France, par mer, sous pavillon de l'une des Puissances Contractantes, ne seront pas soumis à des surtaxes plus élevées que celles dont sont ou pourront être frappés les produits importés en France, sous pavillon Français, d'ailleurs que du pays d'origine. Toutefois, pour les cafés la surtaxe ne dépassera pas 5 fr. par 100 kilos., décimes compris."

This Treaty was made applicable to Great Britain, Belgium and Italy, by French Decree of April, 1865.

The Treaty with Switzerland of 30th June, 1864 (concluded for twelve years from the 24th November, 1864, and which would, therefore, remain in force till 24th November, 1876), contains the following Article:—

"Article XII. Indépendamment du régime d'entrée établi par le présent Traité à l'égard des produits non originaires de la Suisse, ces mêmes produits seront soumis aux surtaxes dont sont ou peuvent être frappés les produits importés en France sous pavillon Français d'ailleurs que des pays d'origine."

In each of these Treaties, however, power is given to either party to terminate them by giving twelve months' notice.

In addition to the foregoing, France has concluded the following Treaties with others Powers, many of which contain "most favoured nation" clauses, as do also many of those from which the above extracts have been given:—

Argentine Confederation .	..	..	July	10, 1853 <sup>1</sup>
Bolivia .. ..	..	..	December	9, 1834 <sup>2</sup>
Brazil .. ..	..	..	January	8, 1826 <sup>3</sup>
Ditto .. ..	..	..	June	7, 1826 <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> State Papers, vol. xlv, page 1071.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., vol. vol. xxiii, page 165.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., vol. xiii, page 805.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., vol. xiii, page 818.



Brazil	..	..	..	..	August	21, 1828 <sup>5</sup>
Chile	..	..	..	..	September	15, 1846 <sup>6</sup>
China	..	..	..	..	June	27, 1858 <sup>7</sup>
Colombia	..	..	..	..	May	15, 1856 <sup>8</sup>
Costa Rica	..	..	..	..	March	12, 1848 <sup>9</sup>
Denmark	..	..	..	..	August	23, 1742 <sup>10</sup>
Ditto	..	..	..	..	September	30, 1749 <sup>11</sup>
Ditto	..	..	..	..	February	8, 1842 <sup>12</sup>
Dominica	..	..	..	..	May	8, 1852 <sup>13</sup>
Equator	..	..	..	..	June	6, 1843 <sup>14</sup>
Greece	..	..	..	..	Query any Treaty.	
Guatemala	..	..	..	..	March	8, 1848 <sup>15</sup>
Haiti	..	..	..	..	February	12, 1838 <sup>16</sup>
Hans Towns	..	..	..	..	March	4, 1865 <sup>17</sup>
Honduras	..	..	..	..	February	22, 1856 <sup>18</sup>
Italy	..	..	..	..	June	13, 1862 <sup>19</sup>
Japan	..	..	..	..	October	9, 1858 <sup>20</sup>
Liberia	..	..	..	..	April	15, 1852
Madagascar	..	..	..	..	September	12, 1862 <sup>21</sup>
Mecklenburg	..	..	..	..	June	9, 1865 <sup>22</sup>
Mexico	..	..	..	..	March	9, 1839 <sup>23</sup>
Morocco	..	..	..	..	May	28, 1767 <sup>24</sup>
Muscat	..	..	..	..	November	17, 1844 <sup>25</sup>
Nicaragua	..	..	..	..	April	11, 1859 <sup>26</sup>
Paraguay	..	..	..	..	March	4, 1853
Paraguay, renewed	..	..	..	..	August	9, 18 (?)
Persia	..	..	..	..	July	12, 1855 <sup>27</sup>
Peru	..	..	..	..	March	9, 1861 <sup>28</sup>
Portugal	..	..	..	..	March	9, 1853 <sup>29</sup>
Ditto	..	..	..	..	July	11, 1866 <sup>30</sup>
Prussia	..	..	..	..	August	2, 1862 <sup>31</sup>
Rome	..	..	..	..	July	29, 1867 <sup>32</sup>
Russia	..	..	..	..	June	14, 1857 <sup>33</sup>
Salvador	..	..	..	..	January	2, 1858 <sup>34</sup>
Sandwich Islands	..	..	..	..	October	29, 1857 <sup>35</sup>
Siam	..	..	..	..	August	15, 1856 <sup>36</sup>
Sweden	..	..	..	..	February	14, 1865 <sup>37</sup>
Switzerland	..	..	..	..	June	29, 1865 <sup>38</sup>
Tunis	..	..	..	..	November	15, 1824 <sup>39</sup>
Ditto	..	..	..	..	August	8, 1830 <sup>40</sup>
Turkey	..	..	..	..	April	29, 1861 <sup>41</sup>
Tripoli	..	..	..	..	June	19, 1801
Ditto	..	..	..	..	August	11, 1830 <sup>42</sup>
United States	..	..	..	..	June	24, 1822 <sup>43</sup>
Ditto renewed	..	..	..	..	July	7, 1863 or 1865
Uruguay	..	..	..	..	April	8, 1836 <sup>44</sup>

<sup>5</sup> State Papers, vol. xv, page 1259.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., vol. xlv, 1060.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., vol. li, page 637.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., vol. xlvii, page 774.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid., vol. xxxvii, page 1375.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid., vol. xxxv, page 1263.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., vol. xxxv, page 1276.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., vol. xxxv, page 1259.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., vol. xli, page 908.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., vol. xxxiii, page 683.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., vol. xxxvii, page 1363.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid., vol. xxvi, page 1092.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid., vol. lv, page 352.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., vol. xlvii, page 805.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., vol. liv, page 938.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., vol. l, page 400.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., vol. liii, page 154.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., vol. liv, page 367.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., vol. xxix, page 222.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid., vol. xx, page 1345.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid., vol. xxxv, page 1011.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid., vol. l, page 363.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid., vol. xlv, page 869.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid., vol. lii, page 122.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid., vol. xlv, page 1078.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid., vol. lvii, page 95.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid., vol. lv, pages 293, 344.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid., vol. lvii, page 135.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid., vol. xlvi, page 651.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid., vol. l, page 386.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid., vol. l, pages 378, 846.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid., vol. xlvii, page 993.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid., vol. lv, page 233.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid., vol. lv, page 378.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid., vol. xiv, page 712.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid., vol. xix, page 1050.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid., vol. li, page 742.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid., vol. xix, page 1052.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid., vol. xvii, page 1222.

<sup>44</sup> Ibid., vol. xxvi, page 1097.



Uruguay	..	..	..	..	September 26, 1867 <sup>45</sup>
Venezuela	..	..	..	..	March 25, 1843 <sup>46</sup>
Besides other small States.*					

*Foreign Office, January 20, 1872.*

(Signed) E. HERTSLET.

No. 71.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 27, 1872.*

IT appears, from the debates which have recently taken place in the National Assembly, and from the articles which have been published by the French press, that considerable doubt prevails in France as to the course which Her Majesty's Government have pursued in the negotiations with the French Government on the Commercial Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government therefore think it right to recapitulate the principles on which they have acted.

Her Majesty's Government have acknowledged the full title of France to judge what her fiscal necessities require, and whether and how far any increase of protective restrictions on trade will aid her in meeting them.

Her Majesty's Government accordingly, beyond a frank statement of facts and reasons, make no complaint of the measures taken by the French Government in this sense, and would endeavour to prevent any diminution in the cordial feeling between the two countries, should the French Government denounce the Treaty.

If the Treaty restrains France in matters purely fiscal, Her Majesty's Government are ready to modify the Treaty as far as those points are concerned.

With regard to protective proposals, Her Majesty's Government have felt great objection to accepting any such, but they did not absolutely and finally close the door against them.

First, because it appeared possible that they might be minimized and rendered insignificant; and,

Secondly, because the general spirit actuating the policy of the French Government as to trade was sure to become much more evident when they should have promulgated their entire plans beyond as well as within the Treaty.

I have more than once stated that Her Majesty's Government intended no war of tariffs or return to protective duties, but they value the recovery of their fiscal freedom, in case they should have occasion to use it upon any of the points in which the Treaty to a certain extent restrains them.

They have never approved in detail or in principle any plan for levying a duty on raw materials, or a compensating duty on goods.

They think the denunciation of the Treaty, though it will not induce them to refuse a renewal of the negotiation, if France should desire it, is a very great step towards its extinction.

They consider that the Treaty will determine twelve months after any day on which it may be denounced.

Your Excellency will communicate the substance of this despatch to the French Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 72.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 28, 1872.*

M. GAVARD informed me to-day that he was instructed by M. de Rémusat to speak to me on the subject of the French Treaty, which might be denounced to-day or to-morrow.

<sup>45</sup> State Papers, vol. lvii, page 144.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid., vol. xxxiii, page 694.

\* See Boiteau. *Traité de Commerce de France avec l'Etranger*, 1863.



He wished me clearly to understand that this step would be taken in no hostile sense to England. It was only a necessity created by the financial requirements of France, and it was not intended to use the powers given by this denunciation of the Treaty in any Protectionist sense.

Nothing, he said, would be done beyond what had already been announced to the English Government, and possibly the imposition of a Customs duty upon a few articles merely for fiscal purposes.

I asked M. Gavard whether he could tell me what these articles were. He said that he could not; but that the duties imposed would be of a purely fiscal, and not of a Protectionist, character.

I told M. Gavard that Her Majesty's Government regretted the course adopted by the French Government, which had raised the question of the denunciation of the Treaty; but that, as I had often said, we desired that the denunciation should not affect the cordiality of our political relations.

I added that, from the communication M. de Rémusat had received, he would not be surprised that a matter outside the Treaty, viz., the Law which had been passed on the mercantile marine, and the warehousing system, had caused Her Majesty's Government great regret; and that, anxious as they were to agree with M. de Rémusat in his friendly assurances that protection was not the object of the French Government, I could not forget that which M. Thiers had said in his Presidential Speech to the Assembly, where he grounded the necessity of the change conclusively on the want of further protection to some interests.

I then told M. Gavard what I had stated to your Excellency in my despatch of the 27th instant, and of my great pleasure at learning from your Excellency to-day that M. de Rémusat had entirely approved of and agreed to what was therein said.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 73.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 29.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, January 28, 1872.*

I HAD, this morning, the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the day before yesterday and of yesterday, the first expressing the opinion of Her Majesty's Government respecting the bearing of the Treaty stipulations on the proposed tax upon raw materials; the second, recapitulating the principles on which Her Majesty's Government have acted in the negotiations with regard to the French proposals for modifying the Treaty of 1860.

I immediately embodied the substance of these despatches in the two notes of which I have the honour to transmit copies to your Lordship herewith.

I took the notes to Versailles and put them, myself, into M. de Rémusat's hand.

I said to him that I had come with them myself, in the first place, because I wished to insure his attention being called to them before the debate of to-morrow; and, in the second place, because I was very anxious to guard against the possibility of anything being said in the debate which would convey an incorrect impression of the views of Her Majesty's Government, and give rise to a necessity for further explanations. The discussion had, I said, been carried on hitherto between the two Governments in a spirit of friendship and cordiality, and we were certainly most anxious that it should be continued in the same spirit. It must not, however, be forgotten that all that was said in the Assembly was repeated in the press of foreign countries as well as of France, and that if an erroneous impression were given of the views of Her Majesty's Government, their duty to their own countrymen, whose commercial interests were deeply concerned, made it essential for them to take steps to remove it. It was, I conceived, much better to prevent any occasion for explanations which could not always be kept distinct from controversy; and with this object in view, M. de Rémusat would, I was sure, thank me for bringing him, before he was called upon to speak to-morrow, a clear and precise statement of the sentiments of Her Majesty's Government.

M. de Rémusat thanked me and said that the French Chargé d'Affaires reported that your Lordship had used to him friendly and considerate language in the same sense. He then proceeded to read the note respecting the negotiations.

When he had finished the perusal he expressed great satisfaction with the contents. He observed that he had in perfect good faith believed that the discussions which had taken



place, and the questions which had been asked by Her Majesty's Government respecting the duties on raw materials and the compensatory duties on goods, implied a recognition, on their part, of the principle involved. He had not at all understood that Her Majesty's Government had contracted any engagement on the subject, but he had thought, and he could not help still thinking, that the natural inference from all that occurred was that at any rate Her Majesty's Government did not reject the principle.

M. de Rémusat went on to say that in all other respects the note represented so accurately his own notions of the sentiments of Her Majesty's Government that it might have been written by him to me; he should have said just the same thing.

He expressed also his satisfaction at finding that Her Majesty's Government did not consider that the terms of the Treaty required notice of denunciation to be given on or before the 4th of February. It appeared, he said, to be held in the French Foreign Office that, the 4th of February was the fatal term; but for his own part he had always been of opinion that the Treaty would expire one year after any day (whatever day it might be) on which notice was given; and he was very glad to be in possession of a distinct declaration that Her Majesty's Government concurred in this interpretation.

I remarked to M. de Rémusat that Her Majesty's Government had shown, and still desired to show, all friendly consideration for the French Government in the present strain on its financial resources. As for protective duties, we were, I said, firmly convinced that they were far more injurious to those who imposed them than to those against whom they were levelled; but Her Majesty's Government had always been willing to do all in their power to facilitate measures which the French Government might wish to adopt for the purpose of increasing its revenue. I proceeded to remind M. de Rémusat that the denunciation, if it took place, would be the act of the French, not of the British Government. Her Majesty's Government could not but think, I added, that denunciation would tend towards abrogation, while for their own part they were perfectly willing to preserve the Treaty as it stood, or to agree to any modifications which were not in opposition to its spirit and principles.

Thus, then, I observed, there were two inferences to be drawn from my note, which would no doubt arrest his attention; the first was, that Her Majesty's Government looked with apprehension to denunciation, in the belief that it would be a great step towards the final extinction of the Treaty; the second was, that as they agreed that the Treaty could be efficaciously denounced at any time, there was no cause whatever for precipitation on the part of the French Government.

M. de Rémusat looked through the other note, but did not make any comment upon the arguments it contained respecting the tax on raw materials.

He told me that I should probably receive, in the course of the day, a letter from him containing some observations which he had written to me on the subject of my communications of the 19th and 20th instant, respecting the views of Her Majesty's Government on this matter. The letter has not, however, yet reached me.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 73.

*Lord Lyons to M. de Rémusat.*

M. le Ministre,

*Paris, January 28, 1872.*

I AM instructed by Her Majesty's Government to state to your Excellency that they are of opinion that the IXth Article of the Treaty of Commerce of the 23rd January, 1860, applies only to the articles enumerated in the 1st Article of the same Treaty, with the additional proviso that they shall be of French production or manufacture; and to say that, consequently, Her Majesty's Government hold that no increase of Customs duties can be imposed on such articles of British origin or manufacture, unless a corresponding Excise tax or inland duty is previously imposed on similar articles of French production or manufacture.

Her Majesty's Government are further of opinion that, as to the IIIrd Article of the Second Supplementary Convention, no increase of Customs duties beyond those specified in the Article itself can be imposed upon articles of British origin and manufacture, except in the event of such a modification of the Excise duties actually levied at the date of the Convention upon French manufactures, as would cause a corresponding increase in the cost of similar articles of French manufacture.

Your Excellency will see therefore that, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government,



the terms of the Treaty do not admit of the imposition either of a tax upon raw materials, or of additional duties as "droits compensateurs" on manufactured goods in the manufacture of which such raw materials enter.

I need not add that this statement of the views of Her Majesty's Government is made in the same frank and friendly spirit, which has animated them in all their communications with the French Government on the subject of the Commercial Treaties.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 73.

*Lord Lyons to M. de Rémusat.*

M. le Ministre,

*Paris, January 28, 1872.*

FROM the debates which have recently taken place in the National Assembly, and from articles which have been published by the French press, it has appeared to Her Majesty's Government that considerable doubt prevails in France, as to the course which Her Majesty's Government have pursued in the negotiations with the Government of France on the Commercial Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government have, therefore, thought it right to direct me to recapitulate to your Excellency the principles on which they have acted.

Her Majesty's Government have acknowledged the full title of France to judge what her fiscal necessities require, and whether, and how far, any increase of protective restrictions on trade will aid her in meeting them.

Beyond, therefore, a frank statement of facts and reasons, Her Majesty's Government make no complaint of the measures taken by the French Government in this sense, and they would endeavour to prevent any diminution in the cordial feeling between the two countries should the French Government denounce the Treaty.

If the Treaty restrains France in matters purely fiscal, Her Majesty's Government are ready to modify the Treaty, as far as those points are concerned.

With regard to protective proposals, Her Majesty's Government felt great objection to accepting any such, but they did not finally close the door against them—

1st. Because it appeared possible that they might be minimized, and rendered insignificant; and,

2ndly. Because the general spirit, actuating the policy of the French Government as to trade, was sure to become much more evident when it should have promulgated its entire plans beyond, as well as within, the Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government have more than once stated that they intend no war of Tariffs nor return to protective duties; but they value the recovery of their fiscal freedom, in case they should have occasion to use it upon any of the points in which the Treaty to a certain extent restrains them.

They have never approved, in detail or in principle, any plan for levying a duty on raw material, or a compensating duty on goods.

They think that the denunciation of the Treaty, though it would not induce them to refuse a renewal of the negotiation if France should desire it, would be a very great step towards its extinction.

Finally, I am instructed by Her Majesty's Government to state to your Excellency that they consider that the Treaty will determine twelve months after any day on which it may be denounced.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 74.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 27.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, January 29, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a note which I have received this morning from M. de Rémusat. It contains observations upon the notes which I presented to him by your Lordship's orders on the 19th and 20th instant to explain the position of Her Majesty's Government in the negotiation respecting the Commercial



Treaty, and it is no doubt the communication which M. de Rémusat told me that he had already addressed to me on the subject when I waited upon him yesterday with my notes of that day, embodying the substance of your Lordship's despatches of the 26th and 27th instant.

M. de Rémusat observes that no assertions, such as those which the notes of the 19th and 20th instant appear to be intended to rectify, are to be found in the official communications, or in the correspondence of the French Government.

He makes no allusion to the statements addressed to the National Assembly by the President of the Republic and the Minister of Commerce on the 15th instant. This omission reminds me that he mentioned cursorily in conversation with me yesterday that he believed that it was received as a rule in England that the Government were not to be called to account by foreign Powers for any language they might use in Parliament. He would not, however, it is to be presumed, consider that foreign statesmen would err in looking for information respecting the views and intentions of a Government to speeches made in open debate by its principal members, and authentically published. Nor can it be supposed that if the information thus obtained should show a foreign Government that erroneous notions of their sentiments and conduct in an important matter had been formed, they would be wrong in offering explanations to remove the error. The rule, such as it is, would appear to be sufficiently observed, if, as in the notes from me to which M. de Rémusat is replying, all direct reference to the statements in Parliament be avoided in the official communications.

With regard, however, to the tax on raw materials, and to what have been termed in France compensatory duties, there is not perhaps at bottom much difference between the view taken in M. de Rémusat's note of the position of Her Majesty's Government, and that which Her Majesty's Government themselves take.

M. de Rémusat says, that although some observations might be made on the consequences which might result from the unqualified terms of the statements made by your Lordship's order in my two notes, he will not dispute the literal accuracy of those statements.

He proceeds, indeed, to give an account of the communications between the two Governments, and endeavours to draw from it the conclusion that the French Government had reason to believe that the English Government admitted the principle of the French proposals. But this account, after all, shows no more than that Her Majesty's Government were willing to examine the details of any modifications of the Treaty desired for fiscal purposes by the French Government. Her Majesty's Government have always been willing to listen to such proposals, and are still willing to listen to them; but this is a very different thing from pledging themselves to agree to the proposals either in principle or in detail, or from sanctioning, before the Treaty is modified by mutual consent, any departure from its stipulations.

M. de Rémusat's note concludes with renewing the announcement of the intention of the French Government to denounce the Treaty, and with alleging reasons for supposing that this decision will not be unacceptable to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure in No. 74.

*M. de Rémusat to Lord Lyons.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Versailles, le Janvier, 1872.*

J'AI reçu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 19 du courant pour m'informer qu'afin d'éviter tout malentendu possible, vous êtes chargé par le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique de constater par une communication au Gouvernement Français:—

1. Que le Gouvernement Anglais n'a acquiescé ni directement ni indirectement à aucune proposition de taxer les matières premières affranchies de tous droits par la seconde Convention Supplémentaire du 16 Novembre, 1860.

2. Qu'il n'a nullement acquiescé non plus à aucune proposition définie d'imposer à des objets manufacturés en Angleterre des droits différentiels comme compensation de taxes frappées sur les matières premières et d'accorder un drawback à l'exportation à certaines produits de l'industrie Française.

3. Qu'aucune proposition définie sur aucun de ces points n'a été encore soumise au



Gouvernement de la Reine, et votre Excellence a pour instructions de demander le redressement des malentendus qui, à ces divers égards, paraissent avoir eu lieu.

Une note verbale, communiquée le lendemain, ajoute à ces premières observations que Lord Granville a vainement demandé un tableau des changements des tarifs projetés par la France. De plus il nous est déclaré que jamais le Gouvernement Britannique n'a donné lieu de présumer qu'il fût disposé à faire des concessions au-delà de la stricte exécution du Traité et des Conventions de 1860, ni qu'il admît que les clauses des dits actes autorisassent la France à l'établissement immédiat de tout espèce de droits dits compensateurs avant qu'il eût pu prendre connaissance des tarifs et régler sa conduite sur le jugement qu'il en porterait.

Nous sommes, en outre, avertis par la même note :—

1. Que si le Gouvernement de la Reine désavouait, quelques mesures qu'adoptât la France, toute idée de recouvrir par voie de représailles aux procédés d'une politique toute Protectionniste, il ne se regarderait pas comme obligé de maintenir les stipulations du Traité et des Conventions qui engageraient sa liberté fiscale par rapport aux droits sur les charbons, les vins, et les esprits.

2. Qu'il n'est pas exact que les Traités de Commerce lui aient été imposés par la France, mais qu'il s'est décidé à les conclure comme un acheminement sur la liberté du commerce qu'il regarde comme essentielle au bien-être de toutes les nations.

J'ignore, M. l'Ambassadeur, les motifs qui ont déterminé le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique à nous adresser des déclarations qui semblent destinées à rectifier des assertions qu'on ne rencontre ni dans nos communications officielles ni dans notre correspondance, et nous ne contesterons point l'exactitude littérale des affirmations contenues dans les documents précités, quoiqu'il y eût plus d'une observation à faire sur les conséquences qui paraîtraient résulter des termes d'une rédaction trop absolue.

Mais je me bornerai à un petit nombre de remarques que je prie votre Excellence de mettre sous les yeux du Gouvernement de la Reine.

C'est en Juillet dernier, il y a plus de six mois, que nous avons fait connaître à l'Angleterre notre intention de maintenir le Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, et de le renouveler pour une certaine durée, moyennant quelques modifications de détail qui, aux termes de l'Article XXI, n'en altéreraient point l'esprit.

En même temps nous vous avons informé qu'en nous prévalant de l'Article XI du Traité et l'Article III de la Convention du 16 Novembre, nous avions le projet, à l'effet de nous créer des ressources pour satisfaire à d'onéreux engagements, d'imposer à l'importation les matières premières et notamment les textiles, ce qui entraînait l'établissement de droits compensateurs sur certains produits étrangers.

Le Gouvernement Anglais nous a répondu par des témoignages de bon vouloir plusieurs fois répétés, et dont nous n'avons pas perdu le souvenir. Il nous a déclaré à plusieurs reprises qu'il était sincèrement disposé à assister la France dans ses nécessités financières. Or, par quel autre moyen pouvait-il réaliser ces assurances que par son acquiescement à des créations ou à des augmentations de taxes sur des objets de commerce? Nous avons dû penser en conséquence que le Gouvernement Anglais ne faisait nulle objection directe au principe de nos propositions. Et en effet, jamais la faculté de modifier les tarifs en relevant modérément la taxe de certains articles, jamais l'application que nous entendions faire du principe des droits compensateurs, ne nous ont été contestées. Si je me reporte soit aux entretiens que j'ai eu l'honneur d'avoir avec votre Excellence, ou aux explications qu'elle a échangées avec M. le Président de la République, soit aux pièces officielles émanés du Foreign Office, soit aux pourparlers dont les négociateurs Français m'ont transmis la relation, aucune fin de non-recevoir n'a été opposée au fond de nos propositions, et nous avons été fondés à croire que toute la difficulté portait sur les moyens d'exécution, sur le choix des marchandises imposables, sur la quotité des tarifs, en un mot sur des questions particulières; et tels sont en effet les seuls points abordés dans une négociation qui a duré plus de sept mois. Jamais nous n'avons été autorisés à supposer que le Gouvernement Anglais fût décidé à résister à toute modification à la lettre des Traités, ou qu'il repoussât l'application de l'Article IX au cas où des nécessités fiscales obligeraient l'une des Parties Contractantes à imposer chez elle les matières premières. Toujours nous avons eu lieu d'espérer qu'une entente parfaite pourrait s'établir entre nous sur les points en discussion. Cependant, et surtout dans ces derniers temps, le Gouvernement Britannique ne nous a pas laissé ignorer sa répugnance à souscrire à des stipulations qui pourraient paraître à un certain degré, non des progrès mais des pas retrogrades dans la carrière de la liberté des échanges; et il est vrai enfin que par une note du 1 Novembre dernier, et pour la première fois, le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères ne nous a laissé qu'un faible espoir de mener à bien les négociations si vainement prolongées. Non qu'il ait retiré l'assentiment implicite accordé à l'admissibilité de nos bases de négociation, mais il nous a mieux fait connaître les considérations générales qui rendraient, difficile au Gouvernement Anglais de les accepter aujourd'hui.



Sans renoncer à l'espoir de voir par des explications ultérieures s'aplanir des difficultés que nous regrettons, et s'attester par des effets les dispositions bienveillantes dont nous avons reçu l'assurance répétée, la nécessité de recouvrer notre liberté fiscale et la faculté de recourir à toutes les ressources qui peuvent subvenir aux nécessités de nos finances, nous détermineront à ne pas prolonger la durée des Conventions Commerciales qui nous lient avec l'Angleterre et dont le terme est arrivé. Nous avons longtemps désiré éviter la dénonciation du Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860 ; mais il nous a paru que le Gouvernement Britannique lui-même la préférerait à des modifications qui pourraient, du moins en apparence, coûter quelque chose à la rigueur de ses principes économiques.

En dénonçant le Traité, nous n'entendrions nullement fermer la négociation, qui peut le renouveler en le modifiant. Jusqu'au jour où ses effets doivent expirer, elle resterait ouverte. D'ailleurs, en reprenant notre liberté nous n'aurions nulle intention de rouvrir une guerre de douanes. Les bases générales de notre régime commercial seraient respectées. La Grande Bretagne nous a souvent rappelé que le Traité de 1860, ou les Traités de Commerce en général, étaient contraires aux vrais principes de la liberté des échanges. Nous pensons donc qu'elle le verra expirer sans regret, si, comme nous en avons la ferme assurance, les bonnes et utiles relations qui unissent nos deux pays sont soigneusement maintenues. Nous acceptons avec une entière confiance la déclaration portant que l'Angleterre, fidèle à ses principes, ne reviendra jamais aux représailles douanières d'une autre époque, et quant à sa liberté fiscale elle n'avait pas besoin de nous rappeler qu'elle la recouvrerait par les mesures mêmes qui nous rendraient la nôtre.

L'Angleterre et la France sont l'une et l'autre trop éclairées pour en abuser.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) REMUSAT.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Versailles, January , 1872.

I HAVE received the letter which you did me the honour of writing to me on the 19th instant to inform me that, in order to avoid any misunderstanding, you were instructed by Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State to point out by means of a communication to the French Government :—

1. That the British Government has agreed neither directly or indirectly to any proposal to tax raw materials exempted from all duties by the second Supplementary Convention of the 16th November, 1860.

2. That it has neither in any way agreed to any definite proposition to impose differential duties on goods manufactured in England as compensation for taxes laid on raw materials, and to grant a drawback on exportation to certain products of French industry.

3. That no definite proposal regarding any of these points has as yet been presented to Her Majesty's Government, and that your Excellency's instructions are to ask for the correction of the misunderstandings which seem to have existed in these various respects.

A *note verbale*, forwarded the following day, adds to these first observations, that Lord Granville has in vain demanded a Table of the change of Tariffs proposed by France. We have, moreover, been informed that the British Government have never given any reason to suppose that they were disposed to make concessions beyond the strict execution of the Treaty and the Conventions of 1860, nor that they admitted that the clauses of the said Acts authorized France to establish immediately any kind of duties called compensatory before they had been able to become acquainted with the Tariffs, and to regulate their conduct by the judgment which they might form of them.

We are also informed by the same note :—

1. That although Her Majesty's Government disavowed, whatever measures might be adopted by France, all idea of resorting by means of reprisals to measures of an entirely Protectionist policy, they would not consider themselves compelled to maintain the stipulations of the Treaty and of the Conventions which would fetter their fiscal liberty with respect to the duties on coals, wines, and spirits.

2. That it is not correct that the Treaties of Commerce had been imposed on them by France, but that they had decided to conclude them, regarding them as an advance towards commercial liberty, which they held to be essential to the well-being of all nations.

I am unaware M. l'Ambassadeur of the motives which decided Her Britannic Majesty's Government to forward to us declarations destined to all appearances to rectify assertions which are met with neither in our official communications nor yet in our correspondence, and we in no way contest the literal exactness of the assertions made in the forementioned documents, although there is more than one observation to be made on



the consequences which would seem to result from too absolute an interpretation of them.

But I will limit myself to a few remarks which I beg your Excellency to bring to the notice of Her Majesty's Government. In July last, more than six months ago, we intimated to England our intention of upholding the Treaty of the 23rd January, 1860, and to renew it for a certain time, on condition of certain modifications of detail, which, according to the provisions of Article XXI, would not in any way change its sense.

At the same time we informed you that in taking advantage of Article XI of the Treaty and Article III of the Convention of the 16th November, we had the intention, in order to procure for ourselves the resources for meeting burdensome engagements, to tax raw materials, and notably textiles on importation, which would entail the establishment of compensatory duties on certain foreign products.

The British Government have repeatedly answered us by expressions of good-will, the remembrance of which we have not lost. They have declared to us several times that they were sincerely disposed to assist France in her financial necessities. But by what other means would they be able to realize these assurances than by their consent to the creation or augmentation of taxes on articles of commerce?

We thought, therefore, that the English Government would make no direct opposition to the principle of our proposals. And, in fact, never has the power of modifying the Tariffs, by a moderate increase of the tax on certain articles, never has the application which we understood to be made of compensatory duties, been called in question. If I recur to the interviews which I had the honour to have with your Excellency, or to the explanations which you have exchanged with the President of the Republic, or to the official notices from the Foreign Office, or to the conversations, of which the French negotiators have transmitted an account, no objection has been raised to the groundwork of our proposals, and we were led to think that all the difficulty consisted in the means of execution, in the choice of goods liable to taxation, in the amount of the Tariffs, in short, in special questions; and those are, in fact, the only points which have been broached in a negotiation which has lasted over seven months. Never have we been justified in supposing that the British Government would decide upon opposing all modifications in the letter of the Treaty, or that they would reject the application of Article IX in the case where the fiscal requirements would compel one of the Contracting Parties to tax raw materials at home. We have always had occasion to hope that a perfect understanding could be established between us on the points under discussion. Still, and especially at the present time, the British Government has not permitted us to remain ignorant of their unwillingness to subscribe to stipulations which might appear to be, in a certain degree, not progressive, but retrograde steps in the course of free trade; and it is true, in conclusion, that by a note of the 1st November last, and for the first time, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has only given us a feeble hope that the negotiations, which have been so vainly prolonged, may be brought to a satisfactory conclusion. Not that he has withdrawn the implied assent accorded to the admissibility of the groundwork of our negotiation, but he has caused us to become better acquainted with the general considerations which would render it difficult for the British Government now to accept them.

Without renouncing the hope of seeing, by means of further explanations, the difficulties, whose existence we regret, smoothed over, and the friendly assurances which have been so often repeated to us borne out by their results, the necessity of recovering our fiscal liberty, and the power to have recourse to all the resources which might tend to help our financial difficulties, will determine us not to prolong the duration of the Commercial Conventions which ally us to England, and whose term has now arrived. We have, for a long time, been anxious to avoid the denunciation of the Treaty of the 23rd January, 1860; but it has appeared to us that the British Government, themselves, preferred it to modifications which could, to all appearance at least, detract from the rigours of its economical principles.

In denouncing the Treaty, we have no intention of putting an end to negotiations, which could renew it by means of modifications. Until the day when its operation terminates, this course will remain open. Moreover, in recovering our liberty, we shall not have the slightest intention of re-opening a war of Customs. The general basis of our commercial system shall be respected. Great Britain has often reminded us that the Treaty of 1860, or Commercial Treaties in general, were in opposition to the true principles of free trade. We think then that she will see it expire without regret, if, as we are fully convinced, the good and useful relations which ally the two countries are carefully maintained. We accept, with perfect confidence, the declaration maintaining that England, faithful to her principles, will never return to the retaliatory duties of a different age, and

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with regard to her fiscal liberty, she had no need to remind us that she would recover it by the same measures as would surrender ours for us.

England and France are both too enlightened to take advantage of this.

Receive, &c.,  
(Signed) REMUSAT.

No. 75.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 31.)*

(Extract.)

*Versailles, January 29, 1872.*

I HAD yesterday, at Paris, the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the day before, giving me information as to the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the bearing of the Anglo-French Treaties upon the provisions of the Bill now before the Assembly for imposing taxes affecting French and foreign merchant-vessels. In this despatch your Lordship points out certain cases in which, according to those Treaties, some of the provisions of the Bill could not be applied.

Your Lordship does not instruct me to communicate the views expressed in this despatch to the French Government; and it is plain that it would be difficult to make a complete or perhaps even a perfectly accurate communication until the question of the extent to which we are entitled to claim the privileges granted by Treaty to other nations is determined.

Nevertheless, as it seems probable that the Bill will be passed to-morrow or the next day, and that it will be brought into operation as soon as possible afterwards, I have thought it right to inquire of your Lordship to-day, by a telegram from this place, whether you would wish me to communicate the substance of your despatch, so far as it goes, to the French Government at once, or to wait for further instructions.

On the one hand, it might, perhaps, be more easy to prevent the improper enforcement of the law by representations beforehand than to obtain the correction of an erroneous application once actually made. On the other hand, an imperfect communication might lead to inconveniences and embarrassment in treating the matter afterwards.

Your Lordship will not have failed to observe that, in the course of the debates, the Government fully admitted that the law could not be applied in cases in which it was opposed to Treaty stipulations. The following language was indeed used by the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 24th instant:—

“Le Gouvernement adopte le Projet de Loi de la Commission; mais en même temps il rappelle à l'Assemblée, ce qu'elle sait probablement, c'est que le Projet de Loi en ce qui touche le droit de francisation et en ce qui touche la surtaxe de pavillon, n'est pas immédiatement universellement applicable. Il sera appliqué par le Gouvernement à mesure que nous recouvrerons notre liberté, soit par la dénonciation des Traités soit par des négociations.”

In a speech made in the same day's debate the Minister of Finance enlarged on the necessity of voting the law as an essential preliminary to successful negotiation with foreign Powers.

With reference to the Memorandum inclosed in your Lordship's despatch, I may observe that, as I understand the Bill, the “surtaxe de pavillon” is (as indeed its name imports) essentially a differential tax upon merchandize imported in vessels under foreign flags, while the “surtaxes d'entrepôt” is to be levied upon merchandize in whatever vessels, French or foreign, it may be imported.

No. 76.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 31.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, January 30, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of the Report of the Committee on the denunciation of the Treaties of Commerce, which has been published in the “Journal Officiel” this morning.

It recites an explanation given by M. de Rémusat on the subject of the negotiation with England, in the course of which he appears to have said that the French Government is persuaded that England would prefer the denunciation, which, by setting aside the Treaty, would make it more easy for her to consent to modifications of the Tariff. He seems to have affirmed that it resulted from the reiterated assurances of England that it would be easier for her to make concessions after the denunciation of the Treaty than before; and to have expressed the opinion that when, thanks to the denunciation, France should have obtained from England the changes in the Tariff which she requires, the other Powers would be more ready to agree to similar changes.



Your Lordship will observe that both M. de Rémusat and the Committee were very positive in disclaiming all intention to return to a protective system; and that the Committee have introduced into the Bill a preamble to the effect that it is expedient, without returning to the commercial system which was in force previous to 1860, to revise the Tariffs.

The "Projet de Loi" recommended by the Committee authorizes the Government to denounce the Treaties with England and Belgium in due time ("en temps utile"), and provides that the Treaty Tariffs shall continue to be in force until new Tariffs are voted by the Assembly.

This "Projet de Loi" came before the House as the first order of the day yesterday.

In answer to a motion for adjournment, M. de Rémusat declared that, in the interest of the negotiation, the Government was desirous that the question should be decided as soon as possible. He added, however, that the French Government had always been of opinion that the Treaty could be efficaciously denounced on any day, and that he had now received the assurance that Her Majesty's Government took the same view. He proceeded to read a translation of the statement to this effect contained in the note I presented to him the day before yesterday.

Inclosure in No. 76.

*Extract from the "Journal Officiel" of January 30, 1872.*

RAPPORT fait au nom de la Commission chargée d'examiner les propositions de lois de MM. Johnston et Raoul Duval, relatives aux Traités de Commerce (urgence déclarée), par M. Delsol, Membre de l'Assemblée Nationale.

Messieurs,—La question soulevée par les deux propositions émanées de l'initiative de nos honorables collègues avait déjà été indiquée par M. le Président de la République dans son Message du 7 Décembre dernier.

Voici dans quels termes il s'exprimait: "Vous savez tous que le Gouvernement de l'Empire avait conclu avec presque toutes les Puissances dont le territoire est contigu au nôtre des Traités de Commerce qui devaient le lier pendant dix années entières. Il avait été convenu qu'après dix ans ces Traités seraient révisés ou dénoncés, c'est-à-dire, abolis.

"Le principal d'entre eux, celui qui a été signé avec l'Angleterre, est expiré depuis, environ une année. Celui qui a été conclu avec la Belgique est arrivé à son terme depuis six mois; le troisième, conclu avec la Prusse, a été emporté par la guerre; les autres moins importants, avec l'Autriche, la Suisse, l'Italie, doivent durer encore trois ou quatre ans. Mais les trois plus importants, parce qu'ils intéressent notre frontière de plus près, ceux qui ont été conclus avec l'Angleterre, avec la Belgique, avec la Prusse, ne dépendent que de votre volonté. Ils dureront ou s'évanouiront selon que vous le voudrez."\*

Le désir du Gouvernement, plusieurs fois manifesté, notamment au sein de votre Commission, est d'obtenir l'autorisation de dénoncer les Traités, particulièrement celui fait avec l'Angleterre.

Les Commissaires nommés dans les bureaux de l'Assemblée se sont prononcées dans le même sens à une majorité de 10 voix contre 5.

Vous savez, Messieurs, que pour la dénonciation du Traité fait avec l'Angleterre, le 4 Février prochain est dans une opinion fort accréditée un terme de rigueur.

Cette opinion, il est vrai, n'est point partagée par le Gouvernement, mais il suffit qu'un doute puisse s'élever pour que la dénonciation doive être faite avant cette date. La dénonciation d'un Traité a, comme le Traité lui-même, un caractère libéral, et dans le cas où le Gouvernement Anglais n'admettrait pas que la dénonciation puisse avoir lieu à toute époque, nous serions exposés à voir le Traité se prolonger, non plus jusqu'au 4 Février, 1873, mais jusqu'au 4 Février, 1874.

Maintenant la dénonciation doit-elle être autorisée par l'Assemblée Nationale? Quels peuvent être ses avantages? Quels peuvent être ses inconvénients? Tels sont les points sur lesquels a porté l'examen de votre Commission.

Les partisans de la dénonciation ont commencé par écarter toute pensée d'un retour plus ou moins déguisé au régime qui existait avant les Traités. Ils ont reconnu que ces

\* Les Traités faits avec les diverses Puissances sont les suivants:

Autriche-Hongrie, Traité conclu le 1 Janvier, 1867, pour 10 ans, prend fin le 1er Janvier, 1877;

Suisse, 12 ans de durée à partir de Janvier 1865, prend fin en Janvier 1877.

Pays-Bas, Traité conclu le 7 Juillet, 1865, pour 12 ans, prend fin le 7 Juillet, 1877;

Suède et Norvège, Traité du 14 Février, 1865, pour 12 ans, prend fin le 14 Février, 1877;

Italie, Traité du 17 Janvier, 1863, durée 12 ans, prend fin le 17 Janvier, 1875;

Espagne, une Convention de Juin 1865, durée 12 ans, prend fin en Juin 1877.



Traités ont opéré en France une révolution économique ; il y aurait le plus grand péril pour l'industrie nationale à subir une contre-révolution, surtout dans les temps agités que nous traversons. Ils ont donc mis hors du débat la thèse du système protecteur et celle du libre échange. Ces hautes questions économiques leur ont même paru étrangères au mandat qui a été confié à la Commission, car le point à décider n'est pas de savoir si la France adoptera tel ou tel régime, mais si le Gouvernement sera ou non autorisé à dénoncer les Traités de Commerce arrivés à expiration.

Cela posé, la dénonciation des Traités leur a paru commandée par les nécessités financières, nées des derniers événements. Tant que les Traités sont en vigueur, la France ne peut pas toucher à ses Tarifs de douane sans obtenir l'assentiment des autres Puissances, et cette source importante de revenus, qui a permis aux Etats Unis de réparer si rapidement les désastres de la guerre de sécession, ne peut fournir chez nous au Trésor que des sommes insuffisantes.

En un mot la majorité de votre Commission a été d'avis qu'il y a lieu d'autoriser la dénonciation pour recouvrer la faculté de modifier nos droits de douane selon les exigences de notre situation financière. Les besoins pressants du Trésor l'ont seuls préoccupée. Point de réaction économique, liberté de nos tarifs, telle est sa pensée ; il n'y a rien de plus dans la solution qu'elle a cru devoir adopter.

Il va, toutefois, sans dire que le but fiscal qu'elle poursuit ne doit pas faire obstacle à la rectification de certaines erreurs commises dans les tarifs de 1860 et reconnues depuis cette époque. Le Traité lui-même prévoit et autorise les modifications dont la nécessité ou l'utilité aurait été démontré par l'expérience.

La minorité de la Commission a combattu la dénonciation avec la plus grande énergie. Elle a invoqué tour à tour des considérations économiques et des considérations politiques.

Au point de vue économique, elle a soutenu que, malgré toutes les protestations contraires, la dénonciation serait envisagée comme un pas fait en arrière et comme un retour au régime protecteur.

Tout en reconnaissant que la liberté des Tarifs constitue le droit commun entre les nations, elle affirme qu'en fait la France a retiré les plus grands avantages de son Traité avec l'Angleterre. Depuis 1860, le chiffre des échanges entre les deux pays a considérablement progressé. Le Gouvernement Anglais avait abandonné ses taxes fiscales sur 151 articles de douane, et notamment sur les soieries, qui produisaient à son Trésor un revenu important. Il avait réduit dans de très-notables proportions les droits sur les vins et les eaux-de-vie.

N'est-il pas à craindre, si le Traité est dénoncé, que toutes ces concessions ne soient retirées, et qu'à l'élévation, si modérée qu'elle soit, de nos Tarifs, l'Angleterre ne réponde par la surélévation des siens ? Après la guerre des peuples, faut-il s'exposer à la guerre des Tarifs ?

Examinant ensuite les négociations qui ont eu lieu entre les deux Gouvernements, les adversaires de la dénonciation prétendent que la crainte d'un retour au régime protecteur est la véritable cause qui a jusqu'ici empêché l'Angleterre de consentir aux modifications qui lui étaient demandées. S'il ne s'était pas trouvé en face de tendances protectionnistes, le Gouvernement Anglais eût facilement accepté ces modifications. L'Article XXI du Traité ne stipule-t-il pas formellement que les Parties Contractantes pourront y introduire, d'un commun accord, tout changement qui ne serait pas en opposition avec son esprit ou ses principes ? L'Article IX ne permet-il pas à chaque Puissance qui jugerait nécessaire d'établir un impôt sur un article de production ou de fabrication nationale, de grever immédiatement d'un droit égal à l'importation l'article similaire étranger ? La résistance de l'Angleterre aux modifications qui lui ont été proposées ne peut donc s'expliquer que par leur caractère plus ou moins protecteur, et par l'opposition qui existait entre elles et l'esprit ou les principes du Traité.

La dénonciation, a-t-on ajouté, produira sans aucun doute, dans ce pays, si attaché aux doctrines du libre échange, un vif mécontentement. Les négociations, pour obtenir les modifications de Tarifs nécessaires à nos finances, deviendront plus difficiles et leur succès sera gravement compromis. Enfin, on ne peut espérer retirer aucun avantage de la dénonciation isolée des Traités faits avec l'Angleterre ou avec la Belgique ; car, les marchandises de ces deux pays pourront toujours pénétrer en France, sous le couvert des Puissances voisines envers lesquelles nous resterons liés par des Traités qui ne peuvent pas encore être dénoncés.

Pour être réellement efficace, la dénonciation devrait être applicable à tous les Traités, et ce n'est qu'en 1877 que les derniers d'entre eux doivent expirer.

Au point de vue politique, la minorité de la Commission a exprimé la crainte que la dénonciation des Traités ne nous aliène les sympathies des autres Puissances.

L'Angleterre sera froissée dans ses idées économiques. Les Etats secondaires, voisins de la France, se jetteront volontiers dans les bras de l'Allemagne, qui ne manquera



pas de leur faciliter l'accès de son vaste marché. L'isolement politique dans lequel nos malheurs nous ont jetés sera ainsi doublé de notre isolement commercial.

La minorité a demandé avec insistance la communication des pièces diplomatiques qui ont été échangées à l'occasion des négociations poursuivies avec l'Angleterre. Ces pièces peuvent seules établir la nature de ces négociations et montrer qu'elles n'ont pas eu lieu dans un but protectionniste. La Commission tout entière s'est associée à ce vœu.

Le Gouvernement a ensuite été invité par la Commission à fournir des explications sur les questions diplomatiques ou commerciales qui viennent d'être soulevées.

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, répondant aux diverses questions qui lui ont été adressées, a déclaré que la minorité de la Commission se méprenait sur la nature des négociations qui ont eu lieu et sur les effets commerciaux ou politiques que produirait la dénonciation du Traité fait avec l'Angleterre. Il a affirmé que le Gouvernement ne poursuivait le rétablissement ni direct ni indirect du régime protecteur, et qu'il voulait simplement recouvrer la liberté de nos tarifs, liberté qui nous est d'autant plus nécessaire que nous avons de plus lourdes charges à supporter. Une note sommaire qu'il a placée sous les yeux de la Commission comme exprimant le caractère vrai des négociations, porte, en termes formels, que le but du Gouvernement, en faisant les ouvertures à l'Angleterre, "était avant tout de maintenir les bases essentielles du régime qui préside, depuis plus de dix ans, aux relations des deux pays."

Il a dit que les Puissances étrangères étaient sympathiques aux malheurs de la France, et que l'Angleterre, notamment, se déclarait disposée à nous rendre plus faciles les moyens de parer à nos nécessités financières.

Seulement, lorsque les modifications aux tarifs lui ont été proposées en vertu des Articles IX et XXI du Traité, elle n'a pas voulu y consentir par le motif que, d'une part, ces modifications ne lui semblaient pas suffisamment rentrer dans la lettre ou dans l'esprit du Traité, et que, d'autre part, elle ne voulait pas paraître renoncer en quelque sorte spontanément et d'elle-même aux doctrines qui ont prévalu en 1860.

Dans la conviction de M. le Ministre, le Gouvernement Anglais préférerait la dénonciation, qui, en le plaçant sur un terrain autre que celui du Traité, doit lui rendre plus faciles les concessions relatives aux modifications de tarifs.

Aucune irritation, aucun mécontentement ne sont à craindre de sa part, du moment que la dénonciation, au lieu d'être le triomphe des doctrines Protectionnistes et le signal d'une contre-révolution économique, n'a pour but que des mesures fiscales trop justifiées par nos derniers désastres et par l'état de nos finances.

Lorsque, grâce à la dénonciation, la France aura obtenu de l'Angleterre les changements de Tarifs qui nous sont nécessaires, M. le Ministre n'hésite pas à penser que les autres Puissances nous accorderont plus facilement des modifications analogues.

Dans tous les cas il ne croit pas que la dénonciation reste sans efficacité parce qu'elle ne s'appliquerait qu'à un ou deux Traités seulement. Il est clair que les frais de transport que les marchandises Anglaises, par exemple, devraient supporter pour aller rejoindre la frontière de l'une des Puissances avec lesquelles nous resterons liés, rendraient cette introduction détournée plus onéreuse que ne le serait l'élévation modérée des Tarifs actuels.

Jusqu'à présent le Gouvernement ne voulait point de la dénonciation. Il espérait atteindre son but en négociant. S'il la demande aujourd'hui, c'est qu'elle est devenue nécessaire au succès même des négociations à suivre pour les modifications de Tarifs. Mais les dispositions bien connues de l'Angleterre, son honneur commercial et sa fidélité aux principes de la liberté des échanges ne permettent pas un instant de supposer qu'elle nous fera une guerre de Tarifs, et au contraire il résulte de ses affirmations réitérées que les concessions lui seront plus faciles après la dénonciation qu'elles ne le sont en ce moment.

Quant à la communication des pièces diplomatiques, M. le Ministre dit que les négociations étant, non pas interrompues, mais simplement suspendues, elle ne pourrait être faite sans de graves inconvénients.

La Commission a regretté que cette communication soit impossible, mais la majorité de ses membres a pensé, qu'en présence des déclarations faites par M. le Ministre, il n'y avait pas lieu d'insister davantage.

Comment, d'ailleurs, pourrait-on sérieusement craindre que le Gouvernement revienne au régime antérieur aux Traités? N'est-ce pas l'Assemblée qui doit régler les conditions du travail national? N'est-ce pas elle qui doit réviser les Tarifs, en sauvegardant à la fois les intérêts de notre industrie et les besoins de nos finances?

Jusqu'à ce que cette révision soit faite, votre Commission pense que les Tarifs actuels, tels qu'ils ont été annexés aux Traités, doivent rester en vigueur.

Afin de mieux préciser le but fiscal poursuivi dans la dénonciation des Traités,



plusieurs membres de la minorité ont pensé qu'il convenait de le formuler dans le dispositif même de la loi projetée.

Ainsi M. Clapier propose de dire que "l'Assemblée autorise le Gouvernement à dénoncer les Traités de Commerce susceptibles de l'être, et à négocier de nouveaux Tarifs, en respectant les principes de ceux précédemment établis, et de manière à procurer au pays les ressources dont il a besoin."

M. Pascal Duprat présente cette autre formule :—

"Le Gouvernement est autorisé à dénoncer le Traité avec l'Angleterre pour négocier avec plus de liberté la transformation des Tarifs, mais il reste bien entendu qu'aucune modification ne pourra avoir une portée protectionniste."

La majorité de la Commission a été d'avis qu'il y avait lieu d'indiquer, dans un considérant, le but de la dénonciation, mais qu'il pourrait y avoir des inconvénients à décréter, dans le dispositif, un principe économique. La loi a pour objet la dénonciation du Traité. Cette dénonciation faite, l'Assemblée doit conserver une pleine et entière liberté pour la transformation des Tarifs existants.

En conséquence, voici, Messieurs, les termes du Projet de Loi que la Commission propose à votre haute sanction :—

*"Projet de Loi.*

"L'Assemblée Nationale,—

"Considérant que, sans revenir au régime économique antérieur à 1860, il y a lieu, dans la situation actuelle du pays, de réviser les Tarifs de douane—

"Décrète :

"Article 1. Le Gouvernement est autorisé à dénoncer, en temps utile, les Traités de Commerce faits avec l'Angleterre et la Belgique.

"Article 2. Les Tarifs conventionnels resteront en vigueur jusqu'au vote des Tarifs nouveaux par l'Assemblée Nationale."

Annexe.

*Note Sommaire mentionnée au Rapport.*

Des propositions ont été soumises, il y a quatre mois, au Gouvernement Anglais pour le renouvellement du Traité de Commerce conclu, en 1860, entre la France et la Grande Bretagne.

Le but du Gouvernement Français, en faisant ces ouvertures, était avant tout de maintenir les bases essentielles du régime qui préside, depuis plus de dix ans, aux relations des deux pays, et de rendre aux stipulations de nos Conventions, révocables d'année en année depuis 1870, la fixité nécessaire pour assurer les opérations du commerce. Parmi les modifications que la France demandait, les unes, prévues par le Traité, sont les conséquences nécessaires des changements qui pourraient être introduits dans notre législation intérieure, mais l'examen de cette partie de nos propositions a dû, naturellement, être ajourné jusqu'au moment où nous aurons nous-mêmes arrêté le régime réservé en France aux matières premières. La négociation de l'arrangement projeté ne pouvait donc, quant à présent, porter que sur quelques rectifications dont la nécessité a été démontrée dans l'enquête ouverte devant le Corps Législatif en 1869.

Comme l'indique leur dénomination même, ces modifications rectifient certains points spéciaux, sans altérer en rien l'esprit des stipulations de 1860, et tendent, au contraire, à rentrer dans l'application de ses prévisions générales quant aux taux des droits à établir.

Il ne s'agit, au surplus, que de l'addition de quelques tant pour cent sur les droits afférents aux fils fins de coton et de lin, aux mousselines et aux tissus mélangés de laine.

Il n'y a rien de plus dans les propositions de la France. Bien que les deux Gouvernements n'aient pas encore réussi à se mettre d'accord pour leur adoption, il est permis d'espérer qu'ils arriveront à une entente pour conserver aux deux pays les avantages du régime en vigueur et empêcher leurs relations commerciales de retomber sous l'empire du Tarif général, c'est-à-dire, des droits prohibitifs, le seul régime applicable aux importations Anglaises, à défaut d'une Convention qui en modifie les rigueurs.



(Translation.)

REPORT made in the name of the Committee entrusted with the examination of the Projects of Law of Messrs. Johnston and Raoul Duval, relating to Treaties of Commerce (urgency having been declared), by M. Delsol, Member of the National Assembly.

Gentlemen,—The question raised by the two proposals emanating from the initiative of our honourable colleagues had been already adverted to by the President of the Republic in his Message of December 7 last.

These are the terms in which he expressed himself:—"You all know that the Government of the Empire had concluded with almost all the Powers whose territory is contiguous to our own Treaties of Commerce, which were to be binding for ten complete years. It had been agreed that at the end of ten years these Treaties should be revised or denounced, that is, abrogated.

"The principal among them, that which was signed with England, has expired about a year. The one concluded with Belgium reached its limit about six months ago; the third, concluded with Prussia, was swept aside by the war; the others, of less importance, with Austria, Switzerland, Italy, have still three or four years to run. But the three most important ones, because our frontier is most interested in them, those which have been concluded with England, Belgium, and Prussia, are dependent on our pleasure only. They will continue or vanish according as you may wish"\*

"The wish of the Government, frequently manifested, notably among the members of your Committee, is to obtain the authority to denounce the Treaties, particularly that concluded with England.

"The Commissioners appointed on the Committees of the Assembly have pronounced themselves of the same opinion in a majority of 10 to 5.

"You are, aware, Gentlemen, that for the denunciation of the Treaty concluded with England the 4th of February instant, is, in accordance with a generally accepted opinion, a period not to be varied.

"This opinion, it is true, is not shared by the Government, but the possibility of a doubt arising makes it necessary that the denunciation should take place before that date. The denunciation of a Treaty has, like the Treaty itself, a liberal character; and in case the English Government did not admit that the denunciation could be made at any moment, we should run the risk of seeing the Treaty prolonged, not until the 4th of February, 1873, but until the 4th of February, 1874.

"Now, ought the denunciation to be authorized by the National Assembly? What would be its advantages? What its disadvantages? These are the points to which the attention of your Committee has been directed.

"The partisans of denunciation began by dismissing all idea of returning in a more or less disguised manner to the *régime* which was in existence before the Treaties. They acknowledged that these Treaties had effected an economic revolution in France; it would be most dangerous to the national industry to be subjected to a counter-revolution, especially in the troublous times that we are passing through. They have therefore left out of the discussion the question of the protective system and of free trade. These high economic questions appeared to them even alien to the task which was entrusted to the Committee; for the point for decision is not to know whether France shall adopt such and such a *régime*, but whether the Government shall or shall not be authorized to denounce the Treaties of Commerce which have expired.

"That settled, the denunciation of the Treaties seemed to them imperative, owing to the financial necessities created by recent events. So long as the Treaties are in force, France cannot touch its Customs Tariffs without obtaining the consent of the other Powers, and this important source of revenue, which enabled the United States so rapidly to repair the disasters of the War of Secession, with us only furnishes insufficient sums to the Treasury. In short, the majority of your Committee were of opinion that there was ground for authorizing the denunciation, in order to recover the power of modifying our Customs

\* The Treaties concluded with the various Powers are the following:—

Austro-Hungary, Treaty concluded the 1st of January, 1867, for 10 years, terminates the 1st of January, 1877;

Switzerland, to last 12 years, from January 1865, terminates January 1877;

Netherlands, Treaty concluded July 7, 1865, for 12 years, terminates July 7, 1877;

Sweden and Norway, Treaty of the 14th of February, 1865, for 12 years, terminates the 14th of February, 1877;

Italy, Treaty of 17th January, 1863, lasting 12 years, terminates the 17th January, 1875;

Spain, Convention of June 1865, lasting 12 years, terminates in June 1877.



duties in accordance with the exigencies of our financial situation. The pressing wants of the Treasury have alone had their attention. No economic reaction, but freedom for our Tariffs, such is their object; such is the sole aim of the solution which they have thought fit to adopt.

It is of course needless to say that the fiscal object which they pursue must not stand in the way of the rectification of certain mistakes made in the Tariffs of 1860, and acknowledged subsequently. The Treaty itself provides for and authorizes the modifications the necessity or advantage of which may have been proved by experience.

The minority of the Committee resisted the denunciation with the greatest energy. They invoked, by turns, economic and political considerations.

From the economic point of view they maintained that, notwithstanding all protestations to the contrary, the denunciation would be considered as a backward step, and a return to a protective *régime*.

Whilst fully admitting that freedom in the matter of Tariffs is an international right, they maintain that, in point of fact, France has secured the greatest advantages from its Treaty with England. Since 1860 the amount of trade between the two countries has increased considerably. The English Government had abandoned its fiscal taxes on 151 articles liable to duty, and notably those on silks, which yielded an important revenue to its Treasury. It had reduced to a very important extent the duties on wines and brandies.

Is it not to be feared, if the Treaty should be denounced, that all these concessions may be withdrawn, and that England may respond to the raising of our tariffs, however moderate it may be, by an increase of her own? After a war of nations must one expose oneself to a war of Tariffs?

Proceeding then to the examination of the negotiations which have taken place between the two Governments, the opposers of the denunciation affirm that the dread of a return to a Protective *régime* is the true cause which has, until now, prevented England from consenting to the modifications which were demanded of her. If they had not found themselves confronted by protectionist tendencies the English Government might without difficulty, have accepted these modifications. Does not Article XXI of the Treaty provide formally for the introduction by the Contracting Parties by common agreement of such changes as may not be in opposition to its spirit or principles? Does not Article XI permit each Power, which might think it necessary, to establish an impost on an article of native production or manufacture, to saddle at once with an equal duty the importation of the same foreign article. The resistance of England to the modifications which were proposed to her can then truly be explained by their more or less protective character, and by the opposition which existed between them, and the spirit or the principles of the Treaty.

The denunciation, it has been added, will doubtless awaken, in that country, so attached to doctrines of Free Trade, serious dissatisfaction. The negotiations for obtaining the modifications of the Tariffs which are necessary for our finances, will become more difficult, and the success of them will be seriously compromised. In short, there is no hope of gaining any advantage from the isolated denunciation of the Treaties made with England or Belgium; for the goods of these two countries can always find their way into France, through the medium of the neighbouring Powers in regard to whom we shall remain bound by the Treaties which cannot yet be denounced.

To be really efficacious, the denunciation should be applicable to all the Treaties, and it is only in 1877 that the last of them is to expire.

From the political point of view the minority of the Commission expressed their fear that the denunciation of the Treaties might alienate from us the sympathies of other Powers.

The economic ideas of England will be slighted. The secondary States, neighbours of France, will gladly throw themselves into the arms of Germany, who will not fail to facilitate their access to her vast markets. The political isolation in which our misfortunes have plunged us, will thus be doubled by our commercial isolation.

The minority pressed with eagerness for the production of the diplomatic documents which had been exchanged during the negotiations, carried on with England. These documents can alone establish the nature of those negotiations, and show that they were not carried on with protectionist aims. The entire Commission joined in this wish.

The Government was then invited by the Commission to furnish explanations as to the diplomatic or commercial questions which have recently arisen.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answering the various questions addressed to him, declared that the minority in the Commission misunderstood the nature of the negotiations which had taken place, and on the commercial or political effects which the denunciation of the Treaty with England would produce. He affirmed that the Government sought neither directly nor indirectly the re-establishment of the protective *régime*, and simply



desired the recovery of the freedom of our Tariffs—a freedom which is the more necessary for us as we have heavier burdens to support. A summary, which he placed before the Commission as an expression of the true character of the negotiations, states in formal terms that the aim of the Government in making the overtures to England “was above all things to maintain the essential bases of the *régime* which has prevailed, for more than ten years, in the relations of the two countries.”

He said that foreign Powers sympathised with the misfortunes of France, and that England, notably, declared itself disposed to facilitate for us the means of meeting our financial necessities.

Only, when modifications in the Tariffs were proposed to her, in virtue of Articles IX and XXI of the Treaty, she withheld her consent on the ground that, on the one hand, these modifications did not appear to her sufficiently to come within the letter or the spirit of the Treaty; and that, on the other hand, she did not wish to appear as renouncing in some sort spontaneously and for herself the doctrines which prevailed in 1860.

In the Minister's opinion the English Government would prefer the denunciation which, by giving her a standpoint other than that of the Treaty, would make concessions relative to the modifications in the Tariffs more easy for her.

No irritation, no displeasure, is to be apprehended on her part if the denunciation, instead of being a triumph of protectionist doctrines, and the signal of an economic counter revolution, has but for its aim fiscal measures only too justified by our late disasters and by the condition of our finances.

Whenever, thanks to the denunciation, France shall have obtained from England the changes of Tariff which are necessary to us, the Minister does not hesitate to believe that the other Powers will grant us, with less difficulty, analogous modifications.

In any case he does not suppose that the denunciation would prove inefficacious because it would be applicable to one or two Treaties only. It is clear that the charges for transport which English goods, for instance, would have to pay in order to arrive at the frontier of one of the Powers to which we shall remain bound, would render this circuitous introduction more costly than the moderate elevation of the present Tariffs would make it.

Until now the Government did not desire the denunciation. It hoped to attain its object by negotiation. If it demands it now, it is that it has become necessary to the success even of the negotiations to be set on foot for the modifications of the Tariffs. But the well-known disposition of England, her commercial honour and her fidelity to the principles of free trade, do not allow for one moment the supposition that she will wage upon us a war of Tariffs, and, on the contrary, it follows from her reiterated assertions that concessions will be easier for her after the denunciation than at present.

As regards the communication of diplomatic documents, the Minister states that the negotiations being not interrupted, but simply suspended, it could not be made without serious inconvenience.

The Commission regretted that such communication was impossible, but the majority of its members considered that, in the face of the declarations made by the Minister, there was no ground for pressing the point.

How, moreover, could it be seriously feared that the Government might return to the *régime* anterior to the Treaties? Is it not the Assembly which should regulate the conditions of national labour? Is it not its duty to revise the Tariffs, whilst defending at once the interests of our industry and the wants of our finances?

Until this revision be made, your Commission is of opinion that the actual Tariffs, such as they were annexed to the Treaties, should remain in force.

In order better to define the fiscal aim pursued in the denunciation of the Treaties several members of the minority considered it desirable to formulate it in the Draft even of the projected Law.

Therefore M. Clapier proposes to state that “the Assembly authorizes the Government to denounce the Treaties of Commerce which can be so treated, and to negotiate new Tariffs, whilst respecting the principles of those previously established, and so as to obtain for the country the resources of which it is in want.”

M. Pascal Duprat presents this other formula:—

“The Government is authorized to denounce the Treaty with England in order to negotiate in a freer manner the transformation of the Tariffs, but it remains understood that no modification shall possess a protective character.”

The majority of the Commission was of opinion that there was ground for indicating in a preamble the object of the denunciation, but that inconvenience might arise from laying down in the Draft an economic principle. The Law has, as its object, the denunciation of the Treaty. That denunciation made, the Assembly must reserve full and entire liberty in transforming the existing Tariffs



These, then, Gentlemen, are the terms of the Bill which the Commission proposes for your distinguished sanction.

*"Project of Law.*

"The National Assembly,—

"Being of opinion that, without returning to the economic *régime* anterior to 1860, there is ground in the present situation of the country for a revision of the Customs Tariffs:—

"Decrees.

"Article 1. The Government is authorized to denounce, at the proper time, the Treaties of Commerce concluded with England and Belgium.

"Article 2. The Conventional Tariffs shall remain in force until the new Tariffs are voted by the National Assembly."

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Annex.

*Summary alluded to in the Report.*

Proposals were submitted, four months ago, to the English Government for the renewal of the Treaty of Commerce concluded in 1860 between France and Great Britain.

The aim of the French Government, in making these overtures, was, above, all to maintain the essential bases of the *régime* which has for the past ten years, governed the relations of the two countries, and to give to the stipulations of our Conventions, revocable from year to year since 1870, the permanency necessary for the stability of commercial operations. Amongst the modifications which France demanded, some, foreseen by the Treaty, are the necessary consequence of changes which might be introduced in our internal legislation, but the examination of this portion of our propositions has had naturally to be deferred until the time when we ourselves have determined on the *régime* to be observed with regard to raw materials. The negotiation of the proposed arrangement could not, therefore, at present, bear on any but a few rectifications, the necessity for which was proved by the inquiry conducted before the Legislative Body in 1869.

As their denomination itself shows, these modifications rectify certain special points, without in any way altering the spirit of the stipulations of 1860, and tend on the contrary to comply with the application of their general provisions as regards the rates of the duties to be established.

Moreover, it is only a question of the addition of a certain per-centage on the duties attaching to fine threads of cotton and flax, to muslins and tissues mixed with wool.

There is nothing more in the proposals of France. Although the two Governments have not yet succeeded in agreeing on their adoption, it is permitted to hope that they will arrive at an understanding so as to preserve to the two countries the advantages of the *régime* in force, and to prevent their commercial relations from being again subjected to the General Tariff, that is to say, of prohibitory duties, the only *régime* applicable to English importations, failing a Convention modifying its rigours.

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No. 77.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 31.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, January 30, 1872.*

M. THIERS spoke to me yesterday at Versailles of the Commercial Treaty. He said that it was always impossible to predict, with absolute certainty, what a Legislative Body would do, but that he presumed that, on the next day or the next day but one (to-day or to-morrow), the National Assembly would confer upon him authority to denounce the Treaty at his own discretion. He did not say what use he should make of this authority.

He proceeded to observe that the late communications from Her Majesty's Government had not been agreeable, and that though he declined to enter into a controversy on the subject, he could not admit that they were perfectly accurate in the conclusions they drew as to the negotiations.

I said to M. Thiers that statements made in the Assembly had certainly conveyed the impression that Her Majesty's Government had already agreed to sanction measures



in opposition to the Treaty stipulations. It was, I added, a duty which they owed to the Queen's subjects, whose commercial interests were involved, no less than to the French Government and to themselves, to correct, with promptitude and in categorical language, so serious a mistake.

M. Thiers remarked that he must except from all animadversion the last communication from Her Majesty's Government which I had made to M. de Rémusat the day before. That, he said, was very good.

The communication M. Thiers meant was that contained in my note to M. de Rémusat of the day before yesterday, which embodied the substance of your Lordship's despatch of the 27th instant.

I went on to say that whatever steps he might determine to take, I felt sure he would never lose sight of the importance of using every endeavour to prevent a diminution of good-feeling between the two Governments and the two nations. In this spirit I was most anxious, I said, to impress upon him at once the importance of care in punctually executing the Treaty in detail, and in not allowing subordinate authorities to strain its stipulations, and levy exaggerated duties. The controversies which would arise from any such proceedings could hardly, I thought, fail to produce an unfortunate effect.

M. Thiers answered that I need be under no apprehension respecting this matter.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 78.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 31, 1872.*

I APPROVE the language held by your Excellency to M. Thiers upon the subject of the denunciation of the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty, as reported by your Excellency in your despatch of the 30th instant.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 79.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 31, 1872.*

I ENTIRELY approve the language held by your Excellency to M. de Rémusat, in the conversation upon the subject of the denunciation of the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty, reported by your Excellency in your despatch of the 28th instant.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 80.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 1.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, January 30, 1872.*

WITH reference to my despatch of yesterday, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that, having received this evening your Lordship's telegraphic instruction of to-day, I at once addressed to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs a note, founded upon your Lordship's despatch of the 27th instant, respecting the Bill on the merchant navy.

I sent the note immediately by special messenger to Versailles.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of it herewith. It will call the attention of the French Government to two particular cases in which the Anglo-French Treaties are opposed to the immediate application of the Bill, and will, I trust, lead them to insert these cases among the exceptions to its complete operation which the Austrian and other Treaties will oblige them to make when they proceed to put it into execution.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.



Inclosure in No. 80.

*Lord Lyons to M. de Rémusat.*

M. le Ministre,

*Paris, January 30, 1872.*

WITHOUT prejudice to a full and complete examination of the bearings on the Treaty engagements between France and England of the Bill on the Mercantile Navy, now before the National Assembly, it may be well that I should at once direct your Excellency's attention to two special points, and should beg you to recommend them without delay to the consideration of the French Government and to that of the financial authorities in particular.

Her Majesty's Government observe that, by the Supplementary Convention of the 16th of November, 1860, jute in the fibre or hackled, and raw cotton, when imported into France direct from British India or from British entrepôts in British or French vessels, and raw wool when imported direct from Australia, or from British entrepôts in British vessels, must be admitted into France free of duty. It is not, therefore, open to the French Government to levy any surtax or differential duty upon these articles thus imported.

Her Majesty's Government point out also that all the articles of British origin or manufacture mentioned in the Tariff annexed to the Supplementary Convention in question, when imported direct from the United Kingdom, under the British or French flag, are to be admitted into France at the duties specified in the said Tariff: consequently, the whole duties to be levied on these articles, when so imported, including the proposed surtax or differential duty on goods imported from an entrepôt, must not exceed the duties specified in the said Tariff.

Having, in obedience to the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, made known to your Excellency their views on these two special matters, it only remains for me to repeat that I do not, of course, by so doing, preclude myself from bringing to your notice any further considerations which a general examination of the duties may suggest.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) LYONS.

No. 81.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 3.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, February 1, 1872.*

IT is supposed that the National Assembly will in all probability either to-day or to-morrow pass the Bill conferring upon the President of the Republic power to denounce the Commercial Treaties with England and Belgium whenever he may think it advisable to do so.

It has been suggested that further negotiations with England should be attempted before the power thus given is actually used.

Whether the Treaty be now destined to endure or to come to an end, and whatever may be its merits or demerits as a commercial arrangement, it has certainly led to the attainment of one of the principal objects for which it was concluded by England. It has undoubtedly contributed in a very large degree to spread the principles of free trade in France, and has raised up important interests in support of those principles. The progress in this direction since 1860 is manifest to all observers, but a more remarkable fact is the very great advance of liberal opinion in commercial matters since the Parliamentary inquiry which was made by the Imperial Corps Législatif, only two years ago.

Your Lordship is well aware that I myself think that the political results of an abrogation of the Treaty would be very injurious to cordiality between the two countries; that it would produce an impression that the friendship between them was diminished; and that the mere existence of this impression would have the effect of soon making it only too correct. On political grounds, therefore, I am very desirous the Treaty should be preserved, and I also confess that I do sympathize strongly with the French in their financial straits, and perfectly understand the annoyance which they feel at the restrictions which the Treaties impose on their adopting such measures as they themselves consider to be best calculated to supply their urgent needs.

It is natural, therefore, that I should look with some discouragement at the present state of the negotiation.

The Bill authorizing the denunciation provides for the maintenance of the Treaty tariffs until new tariffs be established by the Assembly, and the natural course therefore



would be for the French Government to wait until these normal tariffs were voted, and then propose to Her Majesty's Government to bring the Treaty as nearly as possible into accordance with them. This was the course which would, it was supposed, have been pursued under the Empire if the Parliamentary inquiry had not been interrupted by the war. A Committee upon the subject of tariffs is now sitting, but it may be weeks or months before the tariffs are settled and presented to the Assembly, and it is impossible to say beforehand what may be the nature of them, though it may perhaps be fairly expected that they will be tolerably liberal. In the meantime, however, the Treaty, if it be now denounced, will be drawing to a close; while, even if pressed to do so by the French Government, it would be very difficult for Her Majesty's Government to agree beforehand to concessions which might be used as arguments with the Assembly to increase the burthensome character of the new tariffs.

Again, it is difficult to suppose that the Protectionist element will be altogether eliminated from the new tariff. It is true with regard to Customs duties that most fiscal measures involve incidentally some degree of protection, and also that duties imposed for revenue are often incidentally protective, and it may in some cases be difficult to decide which is the essence and which is the accident.

Nor is it easy to show that the French revenue would derive any material benefit from the modifications proposed, or from the abrogation of the Treaty, so long as other nations preserved their Treaty tariffs. The result might, indeed, be to diminish the supply of certain commodities, and so to give a sort of protection to French producers; but the imposing an exceptionally high rate of duty on English commodities would tend to drive the French consumer to seek those commodities from countries still holding Treaties, and thus, instead of deriving an increased Customs revenue, the French Government would simply exclude English articles.

I have not been able to ascertain whether the French Government contemplates any change in the proposals already made. It would, I think, be a very fortunate circumstance if the protectionist element in them could be eliminated, or so reduced in amount that Her Majesty's Government would be justified in agreeing to them.

There would then remain to be settled the position in which England would stand, in the period which would elapse between her consenting to the new duties, and the time at which they might be admitted by or enforced against other nations. In July M. Thiers authorized me to state to your Lordship from him, that he considered himself bound to secure to Her Majesty's Government all the advantages which should be retained by any other Power. But the strongest objections to most-favoured-nation clauses have since been expressed in the Assembly by M. Thiers himself, and other members of the French Government; and certainly the draft of a Convention submitted to your Lordship by the Duc de Broglie on the 13th September last does not appear to provide clearly for giving effect to M. Thiers' assurance to me. It simply states that all the stipulations of the Treaties of 1860 shall remain in force, except those which are contrary to the new Convention. This would, no doubt, revive the most-favoured-nation clause of 1860, so far as regarded other matters; but it is by no means clear that it would sufficiently guard against duties, increased by the Convention itself, being imposed on England until they could be equally imposed on all foreign nations.

But however this may be, the inducements on purely commercial grounds to preserve or modify the Treaty do not appear on the surface to be very great.

If the French Government adheres to its announcement that with or without a Treaty it will not impose higher duties than those it has already proposed to England, the only result of our agreeing to its proposals would seem to be to enable it to levy the higher duties on our productions without waiting for the Treaty to run out.

On the other hand, if a proper most-favoured-nation clause were inserted in a new Convention with us, France would be precluded from carrying the Convention into effect so long as Treaties with any other Powers subsisted.

Of the commercial disadvantage to England of being left without the shield of a Treaty while other countries were able to hold France to the observance of her engagements with them, I am not competent to judge. Possibly, the diversion of one tributary from the ocean of British commerce might not cause any very sensible diminution of it; but, as I have already said, the political and diplomatic disadvantages of abrogation appear to me to be well worthy of being taken into account.



*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 3.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 2, 1872.*

I HAVE received just in time, to send to your Lordship the inclosed copy of it by to-day's post, a note from M. de Rémusat in answer to that dated the 28th instant, in which I communicated to him the views of Her Majesty's Government respecting the negotiations on the subject of the Commercial Treaty.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 82.

*M. de Rémusat to Lord Lyons.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Versailles, le 1 Février, 1872.*

VOTRE Excellence a bien voulu me remettre, le 28 Janvier, une lettre dans laquelle elle résume l'opinion définitive du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique sur les divers points relatifs aux négociations dont le Traité de Commerce du 23 Janvier, 1860, a été l'objet.

Il en résulte que le Gouvernement Anglais, reconnaissant dans sa plénitude le droit de la France de prendre les mesures fiscales que la nécessité lui impose, s'attachera, si la dénonciation des Conventions Commerciales est au nombre de ces mesures, à empêcher qu'il s'en suive aucune atteinte portée à la cordialité des sentiments qui unissent les deux pays. Cette assurance loyalement donnée, nous sommes heureux de la recevoir. Votre Excellence ajoute que, toutes les fois que, dans un but purement fiscal, des mesures même de protection lui seraient proposées par nous, le Gouvernement de la Reine, bien qu'il y fût en général opposé, ne regarderait pas, pour cela, que la porte fût fermée à toute négociation; cependant il considérerait la dénonciation du Traité comme un grand pas vers son extinction. Celle-ci, d'ailleurs, serait de droit douze mois après le jour, quel qu'il soit, de la dénonciation.

Je suis heureux, M. l'Ambassadeur, de reconnaître, grâce à cette communication, que les vues du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique s'accordent en grande partie avec celles du Gouvernement Français. Nous tenons également au maintien de la cordialité des relations entre les deux pays. Nous espérons que les négociations pourront être continuées utilement, et la dénonciation du Traité, si nous sommes conduits à y recourir, ne les interromprait pas. Dans le cas où il serait définitivement abrogé, l'esprit qui présiderait à notre régime commercial serait l'esprit même dans lequel le Traité a été conçu. Les modifications que nous avons déjà proposées sont le type de celles que nous pourrions alors adopter, et nous nous conformerions, à cette égard, aux déclarations que M. le Président de la République a faite dans son Message à l'Assemblée Nationale du 6 Décembre, 1871.

Agréé, &c.  
(Signé) REMUSAT.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Versailles, February 1, 1872.*

YOUR Excellency was good enough to forward to me on the 28th January, a letter summing up the final opinion of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, on the various points relating to the negotiations of which the Commercial Treaty of the 23rd January 1860, has been the object.

The purport of it is, that the British Government, fully recognizing the right of France to adopt the fiscal measures which necessity imposes on her, will do her utmost if the denunciation of Commercial Conventions is among these measures, to prevent any harm from thereby resulting to the cordiality of the feelings which unite the two countries.

We are happy to receive this assurance candidly given.

Your Excellency adds that, whenever, with a purely fiscal object, measures even of protection might be proposed by us, Her Majesty's Government, although opposed in general to them, would not on that account consider the door closed to all negotiations; still it would regard the denunciation of the Treaty as a great step towards its extinction.



This, moreover, would by rights be twelve months after the day of the denunciation, whenever that might be.

I am pleased, M. l'Ambassadeur, to perceive, thanks to this communication, that the views of Her Britannic Majesty's Government coincide, to a great extent, with those of the French Government. We are equally anxious to keep up the cordial relations between the two countries. We hope that the negotiations can be continued with profit, and that the denunciation of the Treaty, if we are induced to resort to it, will not interrupt them. In the event of its being definitively abrogated, the spirit which will rule our commercial system would be the same as that in which the Treaty was conceived. The modifications that we have already proposed are the type of those which we could then adopt, and we would conform, in this respect, to the declarations that the President of the Republic has made in his Message to the National Assembly on the 6th December 1871.

Receive, &c.  
(Signed) REMUSAT.

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No. 83.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 3.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 2, 1872.*

I HAVE received, just in time to send to your Lordship, the inclosed copy, by to-day's post, of a note from M. de Rémusat, in answer to that dated the 28th ultimo, in which I made known to him the views of Her Majesty's Government respecting the bearing of the Anglo-French Treaties upon the duties on raw material and compensatory duties on manufactured goods.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure in No. 83.

*M. de Rémusat to Lord Lyons.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Versailles, le 1 Février, 1872.*

VOTRE Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de me remettre une lettre en date du 28 Janvier dernier, par laquelle elle me fait connaître la manière dont le Gouvernement de la Reine entend l'application de l'Article IX du Traité de Commerce et de l'Article III de la Convention Additionnellé du 16 Novembre.

Il résulterait de cette interpretation que les taxes que le Gouvernement Français se proposait d'établir sur les matières premières ne sauraient en effet être établies sans infraction aux Articles précités. Je n'ai pas le dessein de discuter en ce moment cette question. Je remarquerai seulement que l'esprit des stipulations sur lesquelles nous nous sommes appuyés est tellement favorable à nos propositions que pendant sept mois de négociations elle n'avait jamais été contestées en principe. L'objection formelle tirée du texte des Traités nous est notifiée pour la première fois. En se bornant dès le début à nous demander des éclaircissements et des Projets de Tarif, le Gouvernement Britannique semblait admettre implicitement le système proposé comme base de négociation. Il nous avait laissés jusqu'à ces derniers temps dans cette persuasion. Si l'opinion dont nous recevons aujourd'hui l'expression devait être considérée comme un rejet absolu des mesures qui sont peut-être les seules propres à compléter les ressources dont nous avons besoin pour faire face à nos nécessités financières, ce serait pour nous un motif nouveau de recourir à la dénonciation du Traité, unique moyen qui nous resterait de recouvrer notre liberté fiscale. En toute hypothèse, d'ailleurs, nous n'en userions qu'avec une grande modération, et dans un esprit propre à entretenir les bons rapports qui unissent nos deux nations.

Agréez, &c.  
(Signé) REMUSAT.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Versailles, February 1, 1872.*

YOUR Excellency did me the honour to transmit to me a letter, dated the 28th of January last, in which you informed me of the manner in which Her Majesty's Government understand the application of Article IX of the Commercial Treaty and Article III of the Supplementary Convention of the 16th November.



The result of this interpretation would be that the taxes which the French Government proposed to establish on raw materials would not really be established without a breach of the forementioned Articles.

It is not my intention at the present moment to discuss this question; I will only remark that the spirit of the stipulations upon which we relied is so favourable to our proposals that its principle was never contested during the seven months of the negotiations.

The formal objection drawn from the text of the Treaties is notified to us for the first time.

The British Government, whilst limiting themselves from the very commencement to demanding explanations and the schemes for Tariffs, seemed implicitly to accept the proposed system as the groundwork of negotiation. They let us remain under this impression until quite lately. If the opinion expressed to us this day should be regarded as an absolute rejection of the measures which are perhaps the only ones suitable to complete the resources which we require to meet our financial necessities, it would be an additional motive for us to resort to the denunciation of the Treaty, the only way which would remain to us for recovering our fiscal liberty. In any case, however, we would only make use of it with great moderation, and with a spirit which would tend to the maintenance of the good relations which ally the two countries.

Receive, &c.,  
(Signed) REMUSAT.

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No. 84.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 4.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 3, 1872.*

I SAW M. de Rémusat this afternoon at Versailles. He observed that I must no doubt have taken notice of the statements made two days before in the Assembly by the President of the Republic, respecting the use which would be made by the Government of the power of denouncing the Treaties, if it should be conferred upon them. He went on to say that the Government would follow the course indicated in those statements; and he desired me to inform your Lordship that the French Government would not denounce the Anglo-French Treaties immediately, but would first endeavour to arrive at an agreement with Her Majesty's Government by further negotiation, and thus to avoid the necessity of exercising the power which had been placed in their hands.

M. de Rémusat proceeded to tell me that the negotiation would, he conceived, be resumed without delay, although it would still be difficult for the French Government to make any specific proposals respecting the two most important points—the duties on raw materials and the compensatory duties on foreign manufactured articles, as it was still uncertain what the Assembly might decide upon these points; on other matters, however, communications might, he said, take place at once.

I observed to him that in the mode of conducting the negotiations the great object to be arrived at was, that, whatever might be the result, the good feeling between the two Governments and the two nations might not be impaired, or even seem to be impaired. With this view, I would suggest that a frank and full communication of the views and wishes of the French Government should be made to Her Majesty's Government in a quiet unostentatious manner through the usual diplomatic channels; and I remarked that the two Governments having in this way ascertained how far they could go to meet each others wishes, would then be in a position to take whatever further steps might seem best calculated, under the circumstances, to maintain the cordiality of their general relations.

There was, I said, another matter respecting which I had already spoken to the President of the Republic, and which I wished particularly to press upon the attention of the French Government. This was the extreme importance of executing the Treaty with good faith and in a fair and liberal spirit, so long as it continued to be in force. To do this would, I said, require not only good-will, but care and watchfulness; for there would be not improbably a tendency on the part of the subordinate authorities to show their zeal by collecting as much revenue as possible.

If this feeling should lead them to put a strained construction on the Treaty stipulations, and to levy unwarrantable or doubtful duties, the effect would be most deplorable. It would become next to impossible to avoid bitterness, if continual controversies were going on upon the details of the execution of the Treaty.



M. de Rémusat said that he appreciated the spirit in which I made these observations and quite understood their importance, and that he would press them upon the attention of the Minister of Finance.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

## No. 85.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 4.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 3, 1872.*

WITH reference to my immediately preceding despatch of to-day, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that I spoke to M. de Rémusat this afternoon in the sense of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, respecting the notion which had been mentioned to me by M. Thiers, of sending the Minister of Finance, M. Pouyer-Quertier, to England.

I said, in particular, that it would be a great pity that, at a moment during which such important financial measures were in discussion at Versailles, M. Pouyer-Quertier should absent himself, unless there were a probable chance that his mission would be successful; and suggested that an announcement that he had been to England and come back without effecting anything, might create the belief, which we so much desired to avert, that the relations between the two Governments were not good.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

## No. 86.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 4.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 3, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship, extracted from the "Journal Officiel" of this day, the Law on the Mercantile Navy as promulgated by the President of the Republic.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

## Inclosure in No. 86.

*Extract from the "Journal Officiel" of February 3, 1872.*

*Versailles, le 2 Février, 1872.*

L'ASSEMBLEE Nationale a adopté,

Le Président de la République Française promulgue la Loi dont la teneur suit :—

Article 1. Les marchandises importées par navires étrangers, autres que celles provenant des Colonies Françaises, seront passibles de surtaxes de pavillon fixées par 100 kilos comme ci-après :

Des pays d'Europe et du bassin de Méditerranée, 75 c. ;

Des pays hors d'Europe, en deçà des Caps Horn et de Bonne Espérance, 1 fr. 50 c. ;

Des pays au delà des Caps, 2 fr.

Art. 2. Toutefois, les surtaxes édictées par l'Article précédent ne seront pas applicables au guano.

Art. 3. Les marchandises des pays hors d'Europe seront passibles, à leur importation des entrepôts d'Europe, d'une surtaxe de 3 fr. par 100 kilos.

Cette disposition n'est pas applicable aux marchandises que les lois actuellement en vigueur assujettissent à des surcharges plus élevées.

Art. 4. Les dispositions des Articles 1 et 3 sont applicables aux relations de l'Algérie avec l'étranger.

Art. 5. Les droits à l'importation des bâtiments de mer sont fixés comme suit :

## Bâtiments grésés et armés.

A voiles, en bois	..	..	..	..	40 fr. par tonneau de jauge.
„ en bois et fer	..	..	..	..	50 „ „
„ en fer	..	..	..	..	60 „ „

A vapeur, droits ci-dessus augmentés du droit afférent à la machine.

U 2



## Coques de bâtiments de mer.

En bois ..	..	..	..	..	..	30 fr. par tonneau de jauge.
En bois et fer ..	..	..	..	..	..	40 „ „
En fer ..	..	..	..	..	..	50 „ „

Ces droits ne seront pas applicables aux navires étrangers dont l'achat antérieur à la promulgation de la présente Loi sera justifiée par des actes authentiques ou sous seing-privé ayant date certaine.

Art. 6. Les navires de tout pavillon, venant de l'étranger ou des colonies et possessions Françaises, chargés en totalité ou en partie, acquitteront, pour frais de quai, une taxe fixée par tonneau de jauge, savoir :—

Pour les provenances des pays d'Europe ou du bassin de la Méditerranée, 50 c.

Pour les arrivages de tous autres pays, 1 fr.

En cas d'escales successives dans plusieurs ports pour le même voyage, le droit ne sera payé qu'à la douane de prime abord.

Art. 7. Les Articles 1, 3, et 5 de la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866, sont et demeurent rapportés. Délibéré en séance publique, à Versailles, le 30 Janvier, 1872.

Le Président,  
(Signé) JULES GREVY.

Les Secrétaires,  
(Signé) BARON DE B...NTE.  
PAUL DE RÉMUSAT.  
VICOMTE DE MEAUX.  
PAUL BETHMONT.

Le Président de la République,  
(Signé) A. THIERS.

Le Ministre de l'Agriculture et du Commerce,  
(Signed) VICTOR LEFRANC.

(Translation.)

Versailles, February 2, 1872.

THE National Assembly having consented,—

The President of the French Republic has promulgated the law, the purport of which is as follows :—

Article 1. Goods imported in foreign vessels, other than those arriving from French Colonies, will be liable to a differential duty on shipping ("surtaxe de pavillon"), fixed per 100 kilos. as follows :—

From European countries and from the basin of the Mediterranean, 75 c. ;

From countries out of Europe, on this side of Cape Horn, and the Cape of Good Hope, 1 fr. 50 c. ;

From countries beyond the Cape, 2 fr.

Art. 2. In all cases, the differential duties decreed by the preceding Article will not have reference to guano.

Art. 3. Goods from countries beyond Europe will be liable, on importation into European bonded warehouses, to an additional duty of 3 fr. per 100 kilos.

This provision does not apply to goods which the law actually in force subjects to a higher additional tax.

Art. 4. The provisions of Articles 1 and 3 have reference to the relations between Algeria and foreign countries.

Art. 5. The duties of sea-going vessels on importation are fixed as follows :—

## Rigged and equipped vessels.

Sailing-vessels of wood ..	..	..	..	..	..	30 fr. per ton.
„ of wood and iron ..	..	..	..	..	..	40 „
„ of iron ..	..	..	..	..	..	50 „

With steam-vessels the above augmented duties will relate to the horse-power.

Hulls of sea-going ships of wood ..	..	..	..	..	..	30 fr. per gauged ton.
„ of wood and iron ..	..	..	..	..	..	40 „
„ of iron ..	..	..	..	..	..	50 „

These duties do not apply to foreign vessels whose purchase prior to the promulgation



of the present law will be justified by authentic acts or bearing a private signature of a certain date.

Art. 6. Vessels of every flag, arriving from abroad or from French Colonies or possessions, laden in whole or in part, will pay, as quay dues, a tax fixed according to the tonnage, namely:—

For productions of European countries or from the basin of the Mediterranean, 50 c.;

For the arrivals from all other countries, 1 fr.

In the case of successive touchings at different ports on the same journey, the duty will be paid at the first port.

Art. 7. The Articles 1, 3, and 5 of the Law of the 19th May, 1866, are and remain revoked.

Considered in the Public Meeting at Versailles, the 30th January, 1872.

The President,  
(Signed) JULES GREVY.

The Secretaries,  
(Signed) Baron DE BARANTE.  
PAUL DE RÉMUSAT.  
Vicomte DE MEAUX  
PAUL BETHMONT.

The President of the Republic,  
(Signed) A. THIERS.

The Minister for Agriculture and Commerce,  
(Signed) VICTOR LEFRANC.

No. 87.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 5, 1872.*

THE Duke de Broglie arrived in London this morning, and paid me a visit in the afternoon.

His Excellency spoke to me on the subject of the Commercial Treaty, and of the spirit in which the power of denunciation had been carried in the Assembly. He said that every one was anxious to avoid that extremity, but that there was a general feeling that a little more freedom was required in order to meet the fiscal necessities created by the enormous increase of their debt. He was, therefore, anxious to know whether there would be any objection on my part to recommence discussion on the subject. His Excellency went on to say that up to this time no discussion on the details of the French proposals had taken place; that the French Government had always been met by objections of principle founded on our repugnance to treat on a retrograde basis as to free trade.

In a recent despatch to Lord Lyons, however, I had said that, with regard to protective proposals Her Majesty's Government felt great objection to accepting any such, but that they did not absolutely and finally close the door against them. What was the meaning of this? Was he to understand that Her Majesty's Government absolutely refused to go into any more discussion, or would they do so? If the latter, he had always hoped that I should bring forward some counter-proposition.

In replying to his Excellency, I said that I could give no answer on this point until I had an opportunity of conferring with my colleagues on the tenour of his remarks.

I mentioned to the Duke that in answer to a message from M. de Rémusat some days ago, which assured me that the objects of the French Government were purely fiscal, I had told M. Gavard that with every desire to admit what was said by M. de Rémusat, I could not forget the contrary language used by the head of the State in his Presidential Message, and I reminded his Excellency that at the end of last week M. Thiers had again told the Chambers that the increase of duty was necessary for the relief of certain manufacturers to enable them to struggle against foreigners.

I further reminded the Duke of another observation I had made to M. Gavard, to the effect that M. de Rémusat could not be surprised that a matter outside the Treaty, viz., the law which had been passed on the mercantile marine and the warehousing system, had caused Her Majesty's Government great regret; and I added, that after what we had done in order to meet the more liberal legislation of France in recent years with regard to navigation laws, we could not but look upon the law in question as commercially hostile.



I stated, however, that I by no means wished to close the door to discussion, but what my colleagues would, I was sure, desire to know was, what would be the character of the proposals about to be made to us.

If M. de Broglie could tell me what was to be the starting-point of any renewed conversation, whether we were to discuss the merits of the old proposals, or whether his Excellency was prepared to suggest any important modifications, I would, as soon as possible, take the opinion of my colleagues.

M. de Broglie said, that one important matter would be, whether, if the denunciation did not take place at once, we would agree to any shortening of the period which must elapse before its extinction. He was aware, he said, that Her Majesty's Government did not like to proceed without a detailed scheme before them. This could not be communicated to them until legislation on the subject was accomplished; but this would take time, which France could ill spare at this moment.

I asked his Excellency whether what he proposed was a Treaty to this effect. He said what he would ask was that we should consider whether there would not be some means of avoiding the difficulty in the way of negotiating, which I had myself stated would be caused by the denunciation of the Treaty, and at the same time not prolong the restrictions upon France as to her fiscal liberty.

He repeated that the desire of all parties in France was not to denounce the Treaty.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 88.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 10.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 9, 1872.*

I HAD, the evening before last, a long conversation with M. Pouyer-Quertier, the Minister of Finance, of the substance of which it may be well that I should give your Lordship a summary.

After expressing in warm terms his friendly feelings towards the English nation, M. Pouyer-Quertier assured me that, Protectionist as he was supposed to be, he had no wish, and certainly no intention, to revert to the system which had been in force before the Treaty of 1860. On the contrary, he heartily desired to avoid the necessity of denouncing that Treaty, and he could not but think that if the proposals of the French Government were thoroughly understood in England, no difficulty would be felt there in agreeing to them.

The most important parts of these proposals related, he said, to the duties on the importation of raw materials into France, and the compensatory or equivalent duties on the importation of articles manufactured abroad from similar materials. Now these were entirely fiscal questions. The state of things in which the Treaty had been made, had been entirely changed by the disasters of France, and the enormous drain upon her finances which had followed. She was obliged to impose a tax upon every article which would bear one, and thus very materially to increase the cost of producing articles of every description. The duties on raw material would (he still thought) be found to be inevitable, and it was simply with a view to raising an amount of revenue, imperatively required, that he asked foreign Governments to agree to them. On such raw materials as were re-exported after undergoing manufacturing processes in France, no duty would, in fact, be levied. The materials would either be admitted quite freely under the system of "acquits à caution," or the duty deposited would be repaid on the exportation of the manufactured article. It was, therefore, in fact to articles for home consumption exclusively that the duty would apply. Now it was plain that the price of such articles must be enhanced in France by the levy of a duty on the materials of which they were made, and thus that if the same articles were admitted from abroad free of duty, the French manufacturer would be driven out of the home market. It was, therefore, absolutely necessary to impose equivalent duties on foreign articles, and he could not admit that, in reason and equity, it could be contended that, in the present circumstances of France, the Treaty stipulations should be enforced in a rigid and literal sense. The enormous taxes which had been already imposed had so increased the burthens of the producer, that it would be impossible to lay on specific excise duties exactly equal in nominal amount to the Customs duties to be levied on raw materials, and on articles manufactured from them. The only fair course would be to estimate the real increase from every cause in the cost of production which had taken place in France, and to adjust the Customs duties so as to place the French manufacturer on equal terms with his foreign competitors. The same reasoning would,



M. Pouyer-Quertier thought, apply to the case of those modifications of the Tariff which had been treated in England as simply protective. It must surely, he conceived, be admitted, that the enormous burthens which had been thrown upon France rendered some re-adjustment of the Tariffs necessary, in order to place the French manufacturer in the same relative position in which he had stood under the Treaty. The terrible change of circumstances which had occurred since the Treaty was concluded ought certainly to be taken into consideration. These minor modifications were, however, small in amount, and in M. Pouyer-Quertier's opinion of comparatively small importance. Some miscalculations which had been made in drawing up the proposals for Her Majesty's Government must be rectified; but these were trifling matters in comparison with the questions of the raw materials and the compensatory duties; these latter questions, which were of essential moment to the French finances, ought, in his opinion, to be settled first; the so-called Protective duties might be considered afterwards.

I observed, that many of the arguments which M. Pouyer-Quertier used, might no doubt be urged with much effect in support of a request to foreign Powers to consent to modifications of their Treaties. I could understand, I said, an appeal made on equitable grounds to the friendship of foreign Powers to abandon some of their Treaty rights; but I must confess I was at a loss to comprehend the language about the interpretation of the Treaties which had been used by some members of the French Government in the National Assembly. Indeed, before going any further, I felt bound to point out the difference between taking a request into consideration, and assenting to it in principle. Her Majesty's Government had listened, and would listen, to any proposals of the French Government, with an earnest desire to facilitate measures for increasing the revenue of France, so far as their duty to Her Majesty's subjects, and their own commercial principles would allow. But this was a totally different thing from acquiescing in the expediency of such proposals, or engaging beforehand to consent to their being carried into effect. I went on to say, that I could not help being a little alarmed at the allusion M. Pouyer-Quertier had made to modifications in the proposals already made respecting Protective duties; for I did not find that he gave me any reasons to hope that the object of them would be to diminish the Protective element, while Her Majesty's Government (as he well knew), scrupled to become parties to any return to Protection.

M. Pouyer-Quertier did not say much to reassure me on this point. He repeated that these matters were of comparatively little moment, and that the duties on raw materials, and the consequent equivalent duties, were the really important questions. He entered into some details respecting the raw materials, and remarked, among other things, that the proposed duties would affect India and Australia, rather than Great Britain. He did not appear disposed to contend that they could be imposed under the Treaties, without the consent of both Contracting Parties.

I did not consider it advisable to enter into any discussion upon details, and I contented myself with observing that England would feel more, not less, scruple in abandoning the advantages peculiarly affecting her dependencies than in giving up those which regarded herself alone.

M. Pouyer-Quertier repeated his assurances of friendship towards England, and said that he should be happy to go himself to London, in fact, to take any step which would facilitate an arrangement and avert the denunciation of the Treaty.

I observed that M. Pouyer-Quertier was too considerable a personage to go to England and abandon his pressing occupations here unless there was a very good prospect of his mission being entirely successful. I would therefore suggest that a full and frank statement of the views of the French Government should be communicated to Her Majesty's Government through the ordinary channels. If this statement showed such a departure from the original proposals as would enable it to be taken as the basis for further negotiation, we might then consider the best mode of conducting that negotiation. If, on the other hand, the objections of Her Majesty's Government could not be obviated, it would remain for us to endeavour to close the question in such a manner as would best conduce to the maintenance of cordial feelings between the two countries. An announcement that the Minister of Finance had been to London on a fruitless errand might interfere with this, and could hardly fail to have a bad effect upon public opinion.

M. Pouyer-Quertier concurred in this observation, and I concluded the conversation by thanking him for the friendly feeling he had expressed towards England, and assuring him that, on our part, we were most anxious to be of use to France and to manifest our friendship towards her.

Last night I saw M. Thiers at Versailles. He said to me, "You see that we have been in no hurry to denounce the Treaty, but we must not waste time, for if we do not come to an agreement each day's delay will be a loss to France."



I told M. Thiers very briefly the substance of what had passed between M. Pouyer-Quertier and me the evening before. He said that he agreed with me in thinking that the first step to be taken was to ascertain unostentatiously how far the views of the two Governments could be brought into accordance.

have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 89.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 10.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 9, 1872.*

I WAITED upon M. de Rémusat the day before yesterday at the Foreign Office, and spoke to him of the new law on the merchant navy which was passed on the 30th ultimo. I adverted to the note which I had addressed to him on that day, and after reminding him of the numerous representations I had made to him on the importance of providing for the due observance of the Treaties by the subordinate authorities, I asked him what steps had been taken by the Government to guard against infractions of the Treaty stipulations, on the part of the Customs officers by whom the new law was to be executed.

M. de Rémusat said that proper instructions had been issued by the Customs Department. With regard to my note he observed that as to one of the two points mentioned in it, he thought the view taken by Her Majesty's Government was correct—but that he was doubtful about the other point.

In the evening I saw M. Pouyer-Quertier, the Minister of Finance. In the course of a conversation which I had with him on the subject of the Treaties, I spoke at some length not only of the importance of a general determination to execute them punctually and fairly, but also of the necessity of being watchful to prevent any infractions of them in detail by subaltern agents; and I asked him what were the particulars of the instructions which he had given respecting the enforcement of the new law on the merchant navy.

M. Pouyer-Quertier said that he would send me copies of the Circular issued by the Director-General of Customs. He has fulfilled his promise to day, and I have the honour to transmit three copies herewith to your Lordship.

Your Lordship will observe that this Circular contains numerous references to the Treaties, and that the interpretation given in it to the Treaty stipulations will require very careful examination.

Among other particulars it may be noted that the ships of Austria, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Sweden and Norway, the Zollverein, and Portugal are entirely exempted from the "surtaxes de pavillons."

The exemption is, in the case of England, confined to direct communication between France and the United Kingdom; but, in conformity with the claim made in my note of the 30th January, Indian cotton, jute, and Australian wool are exempted when imported from the countries in which they are produced in British ships.

They are also exempted from the "surtaxes d'entrepôt."

Your Lordship will no doubt cause due examination to be made of the question whether the exemptions laid down with respect to these Articles constitute a thorough fulfilment of the Treaty stipulations.

The second claim insisted upon by your Lordship's order in my note, is, no doubt, that concerning which M. de Rémusat entertains a doubt. In obedience to your Lordship's orders, I represented that on certain Articles, imported direct from the United Kingdom under the British or French flag, the whole duties including the "surtaxe," or differential duty on goods imported from an "entrepôt," must not exceed the duties specified in the Conventional Tariff.

In order to ascertain whether this requirement is practically carried into effect it will be necessary to compute the combined amount of the duties and "surtaxe" in each case.

Whether the inclosed instructions are compatible with an admission of the claim in principle is one of the questions which your Lordship will no doubt cause to be examined.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.



Inclosure in No. 89.

*Circular issued by the Director-General of French Customs, dated February 4, 1872.**Paris, le 4 Février, 1872.*

UNE Loi du 30 de ce mois,\* dont je joins une ampliation à la présente, modifie dans plusieurs de ses dispositions la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866, sur la marine marchande.

J'appellerai tout d'abord l'attention du service sur l'application de l'Article 6.

*Droits de Quai.*

Aux termes de cet Article, il est établi en France et en Algérie, sur les navires de tout pavillon venant de l'étranger ou des Colonies et possessions Françaises, chargés en totalité ou en partie, un droit de quai, décimes compris, de 50 c. par tonneau de jauge pour les arrivages des pays d'Europe ou du bassin de la Méditerranée, et de 1 fr. pour les provenances de tous les autres pays. Ce droit frappe ainsi le pavillon Français comme le pavillon étranger, et s'applique, en même temps qu'aux importations des pays étrangers, aux arrivages de tous nos établissements d'outre-mer sans exception.

Des termes mêmes de l'Article 6 il ressort que les navires venant sur l'est sont exemptés du droit de quai. On en affranchira également les bâtiments de guerre, les yachts de plaisance, et les navires en relâche forcée qui ne feront aucune opération de débarquement.

*Surtaxes de Pavillon.*

Les marchandises importées par navires étrangers, autres que celles provenant des Colonies Françaises, sont passibles, en vertu de l'Article 1, d'une surtaxe de pavillon de 75 c. par 100 kilos. pour les arrivages des pays d'Europe et du bassin de la Méditerranée ; de 1 fr. 50 c. pour ceux des pays hors d'Europe en deçà des Caps Horn et de Bonne Espérance ; et de 2 fr. pour les pays au delà des Caps.

Ces droits sont établis, décimes compris, et s'appliquent à toutes les marchandises, sans distinction de celles qui sont admissibles en franchise ou qui sont taxées d'après une unité autre que le poids. La surtaxe de pavillon s'ajoute, lorsqu'il s'agit d'arrivages des entrepôts ou d'ailleurs, à la surtaxe spéciale afférente aux marchandises importées des entrepôts ou d'ailleurs que du pays de production.

Les navigations auxquelles répondent les différents taux de la surtaxe sont nettement définies par la loi. Je me bornerai à faire remarquer que le bassin de la Méditerranée s'étend depuis et y compris Gibraltar jusqu'à la Mer Noire inclusivement.

Les importations effectuées par navires étrangers des Colonies Françaises sont affranchies de la surtaxe. On doit entendre ici par Colonies Françaises tous nos établissements d'outre-mer, y compris l'Algérie.

La loi nouvelle ne porte pas atteinte aux immunités inscrites dans nos Traités de Commerce ou de Navigation avec les autres Puissances. Il y a lieu, en conséquence, d'affranchir de la surtaxe : 1, à l'importation directe, les navires de tous les pays contractants, l'Espagne exceptée ; 2, à l'importation de tous pays quelconques, les navires de l'Autriche, de la Belgique, de la Hollande, de l'Italie, de la Suède et de la Norvège, du Zollverein, et du Portugal.

En ce qui concerne l'Angleterre, le service ne perdra pas de vue que l'exemption n'est acquise, à titre général, qu'à l'intercourse directe entre la France et le Royaume Uni ; toutefois, conformément au Traité la surtaxe ne sera pas applicable au coton de l'Inde, au jute et à la laine d'Australie importés des pays de production par navires Anglais.

L'Article 2 de la Loi excepte de la surtaxe le guano importé par navires étrangers. Au guano il faut ajouter le borax brut ou mi-raffiné qui, en vertu de notre Traité avec le Pérou, est admissible en exemption de surtaxe par tous pavillons à l'importation directe de ce pays.

*Surtaxe d'Entrepôt.*

Il n'est pas apporté de modifications aux surtaxes afférentes, dans l'état actuel de la législation, à certains produits d'Europe arrivés d'ailleurs que du pays de production. La loi nouvelle ne dispose qu'à l'égard des marchandises des pays hors d'Europe. Une surtaxe de 3 fr. per 100 kilos., décimes compris, est établie sur les produits qui actuelle-

\* Voir la Loi à sa date (30 Janvier, 1872).



ment ne supportent pas de surtaxe d'entrepôt ou payent une surtaxe inférieure à 3 fr. Un tableau à la suite de la présente circulaire indique les marchandises pour lesquelles la quotité de la surtaxe n'est point changée.

Les franchises ou les maxima stipulés en matière de surtaxe d'entrepôt dans les Traités que la France a conclus depuis 1860 avec diverses Puissances, l'Espagne exceptée, ne sont pas atteints par la loi nouvelle.

En conséquence, le coton de l'Inde, le jute et les laines d'Australie importés des pays contractants continueront d'être affranchis de la surtaxe.

Pour les guanos, elle reste fixée à 1 fr. 80 c. par 100 kilos. conformément à l'arrangement international conclu le 16 Janvier, 1864, avec le Pérou.

Pour le riz, la potasse, le nitrate de potasse et les graisses, la surtaxe sera de 2 fr. 40 c. seulement à l'importation des pays contractants, l'Espagne exceptée, en conformité des stipulations de l'Article 14 du Traité Franco-Belge.

De même que la surtaxe de pavillon, la surtaxe de 3 fr. par 100 kilos. est applicable à toutes les marchandises indistinctement, qu'elles soient ou non taxées d'après le poids.

L'Article 4 étend les dispositions des Articles 1 et 3 aux relations de l'étranger avec l'Algérie. Les exceptions résultant des Traités y sont applicables comme dans la métropole.

#### *Francisation des Navires Etrangers.*

L'Article 5 détermine les droits auxquels seront soumis, en France et en Algérie, les navires étrangers importés pour la francisation.

Ces droits ne sont pas actuellement applicables aux bâtiments des divers pays, sauf l'Espagne, avec lesquels nous avons conclu des Traités depuis 1860. Les navires importés de ces Etats restent admissibles au droit de 2 fr. par tonneau de jauge. On continuera également à admettre à ce droit les bâtiments des autres provenances dont l'achat à l'étranger à une date antérieure à la promulgation de la loi sera justifié par des actes authentiques ou sous seing privé ayant date certaine.

L'Article 7 de la Loi déclare rapportés les Articles 1, 3 et 5 de la Loi du 19 Mai, 1866.

Les Articles 3 et 5, relatifs, l'un aux droits sur les navires étrangers importés pour la francisation, l'autre à la suppression de la surtaxe de pavillon, sont remplacés par les Articles 1 et 5 de la Loi nouvelle. Quant à l'Article 1 de la Loi de 1866, il portait admission en franchise des objets bruts ou confectionnés destinés aux constructions navales. Cet Article étant abrogé, les marchandises importées en vue de la destination dont il s'agit rentrent sous l'application des conditions générales du Tarif. Cette disposition reste toutefois provisoirement sans effet à l'égard des mêmes produits provenant des pays, l'Espagne exceptée, avec lesquels nous sommes liés par des Traités depuis 1860. Les importations effectuées des dits pays en vue des constructions navales continueront à jouir de la franchise, sous les conditions et formalités prescrites en pareil cas.

La Loi nouvelle a été insérée au "Journal Officiel" le 3 Février. Elle deviendra ainsi exécutoire dans le délai de promulgation fixé par le Décret du Gouvernement de la Défense Nationale en date du 5 Novembre, 1870.

Je prie les Directeurs des Douanes de porter les dispositions de la présente Circulaire à la connaissance du service et du commerce.

Le Directeur-Général des Douanes,  
(Signé) AME.

Pour ampliation :  
L'Administrateur,  
(Signé) RAMOND.

(Translation.)

Paris, February 4, 1872.

A LAW of the 30th of this month,\* of which I now annex an amplification, modifies, in several of its provisions, the Law of the 19th May, 1866, on the Merchant Navy.

I will proceed to call the attention of the service to the application of Article 6.

#### *Quay Dues.*

By the terms of this Article, are established in France and Algeria, upon vessels of every flag coming from abroad or from the French colonies and possessions, entirely

\* See Law of that date (January 30, 1872).



or partially freighted, a quay due, including "décimes" of 50 c. per ton for arrivals from European countries or the basin of the Mediterranean, and 1 fr. for arrivals from all other countries. This duty affects the French as well as the foreign flag, and applies both to importations from foreign countries and to arrivals from our possessions from beyond sea without exception.

By the terms of Article 6, it follows that vessels coming from the East are exempted from the quay due. Ships of war will also be exempted, as also pleasure yachts, and vessels labouring under stress of weather which do not in any way break cargo.

#### *Differential Duties on Foreign Shipping.*

Goods imported by foreign vessels, other than those coming from French colonies, are liable, by virtue of Article 1, to a differential duty of 75 c. per 100 kilos, for arrivals from European countries and the basin of the Mediterranean; of 1 fr. 50 c. for those from non-European countries on this side of Capes Horn and of Good Hope, and of 2 fr. for countries on the other side of the Capes.

These duties are established, including "décimes," and apply to all goods, without distinction of those which are admissible free of duty or those which are taxed upon a principle other than that of weight. The differential duty (surtaxe de pavillon) is superadded, whenever it is a question of arrivals from entrepôts or elsewhere, to the special duty affecting goods imported from entrepôts or elsewhere than the country of production.

The shipping to which the various rates of differential duty correspond are clearly set forth by the law. I will confine myself to remarking that the basin of the Mediterranean extends beyond and including Gibraltar up to the Black Sea, inclusively.

Imports carried by foreign vessels from French Colonies are exempted from the differential duty. By French Colonies are understood here, all our settlements beyond sea, including Algeria.

The new Law does not affect the immunities contained in our Treaties of Commerce or of Navigation with other Powers. It is necessary, consequently, to exempt from the differential duty, 1st, as regards direct importation, vessels from all the contracting countries except Spain; 2ndly, as regards importations from all countries whatsoever, the vessels of Austria, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Sweden and Norway, Zollverein, and Portugal.

As far as concerns England, the Service will not lose sight of the fact that exemption is only acquired, properly speaking, by direct intercourse between France and the United Kingdom; in any case, in conformity with the Treaty, the differential duty will not be applicable to Indian cotton, to jute, or to Australian wool imported from the countries of production by English vessels.

Article 2 of the Law excepts from the differential duty guano imported by foreign vessels. To guano must be added borax, raw or half refined, which, by virtue of our Treaty with Peru, is to be admitted free from differential duty under all flags when imported direct from that country.

#### *Differential Duty on the Entrepôt.*

No modifications are introduced with regard to the differential duty affecting, in the present state of legislation, certain European products arriving from elsewhere than from the country of production. The new Law has only to deal with goods from countries out of Europe. A differential duty of 3 fr. per 100 kilos, including décimes, is established upon products which at present are not subject to the differential duty on the entrepôt, or pay a lower differential duty of 3 fr. A Table at the end of the present Circular indicates the goods for which the amount of the differential duty is unchanged.

The exemptions or the maximum rates stipulated with regard to the differential duty on the entrepôt in the Treaties which France has concluded since 1860 with various Powers, Spain excepted, are not affected by the new law.

Consequently, Indian cotton, jute, and Australian wools imported from the contracting countries will remain exempt from the differential duty.

As to guano, it remains fixed at 1 fr. 80 c. per 100 kilos, conformably to the international arrangement concluded the 16th January, 1864, with Peru.

As regards rice, potash, nitrate of potash and fats, the differential duty will be only 2 fr. 40 c. upon importations from the contracting countries, Spain excepted, in conformity with the stipulations of Article XIV of the Franco-Belgian Treaty.

In the same manner as the differential duty on the flag the differential duty of 3 fr.



per 100 kilos. is applicable to all goods without distinction, whether or no they are taxed according to weight.

Article 4 Extends the provisions of Articles 1 and 3, to foreign relations with Algeria. The exceptions resulting from the Treaties are applicable there as in the mother-country.

*Registration of Foreign Vessels.*

Article V determines the duties to which foreign vessels in France and in Algeria, imported for the purpose of Registration, will be subjected.

These duties are not at the present moment applicable to the vessels of the various countries, with the exception of Spain, with which we have concluded Treaties since 1860. The vessels imported from those States remain subject to the duty of 2 fr. per ton. We shall also continue to subject to this duty vessels from other parts, whose purchase abroad at a date anterior to the promulgation of the Law, shall be verified by authentic documents, or under private signature bearing a fixed date.

Article 7 of the Law declares Articles 1, 3, and 5, of the Law of the 19th May, 1866, repealed.

Articles 3 and 5, relating, one to the duties upon foreign vessels imported for registration, the other to the suppression of the differential duty, are replaced by Articles 1 and 5 of the new Law.

As to Article 1 of the Law of 1866, it admitted, free of duty, raw or manufactured materials destined for naval construction. This Article being abolished, goods imported for the purpose in question come under the application of the general provisions of the Tariff.

This provision, in any case, remains provisionally without effect in regard to the same products arriving from countries (Spain excepted), to which we are bound by Treaties subsequent to 1860. The importations from the said countries for the purposes of naval construction, shall continue to enjoy exemption under the conditions and formalities prescribed in such cases.

The new Law has been inserted in the "Official Journal" of the 3rd of February. It will thus come into execution within the time after promulgation fixed by the Decree of the Government of the National Defence, dated the 5th of November, 1870.

I request the Director of Customs to bring the contents of the present Circular to the knowledge of the Service and of commerce.

The Director-General of Customs,  
(Signed) AME.

Certified copy :  
The Administrator,  
(Signed) RAYMOND.



TABLEAU des Produits Exotiques qui restent soumis à une Surtaxe d'Entrepôt Supérieur,  
à 3 fr. par 100 kilos.

Marchandises.	Surtaxes.
Laines en masse .. .. .	3 fr. décimes non compris.
Déchets de laine—Bourre entière .. .. .	3 idem.
Crins bruts, préparés ou frisés .. .. .	3 idem.
Eponges .. .. .	5 décimes compris.
Dents d'éléphants .. .. .	3 décimes non compris.
Ecailles de tortue—Carapaces, onglongs et caouanes .. .. .	5 idem.
Nacre de perle—	
En coquilles brutes .. .. .	4 idem.
Sciée ou dépouillée de sa croûte .. .. .	8 idem.
Cacao* .. .. .	20 décimes compris.
Café* .. .. .	20 idem.
Girofle .. .. .	40 idem.
Cannelle et cassia-lignea .. .. .	
Poivre et piment .. .. .	50 idem.
Muscades—	
En coques .. .. .	60 idem.
Sans coques .. .. .	
Macis .. .. .	5 décimes non compris.
Thé .. .. .	
Tabac en feuilles ou en côtes pour la régie .. .. .	8 idem.
Résineux exotiques .. .. .	5 idem.
Baume de copahu .. .. .	
Baumes non dénommés .. .. .	3 idem.
Caoutchouc et gutta-percha bruts ou refondus en masses .. .. .	5 idem.
Aloès .. .. .	5 décimes compris.
Racines médicinales non dénommées .. .. .	5 idem.
Herbes, feuilles, fleurs et écorces médicinales non dénommées .. .. .	12 idem.
Tamarins (gousses et pulpes) .. .. .	11 décimes compris.
Badiane (anis étoilé) .. .. .	10 décimes non compris.
Follicules de séné .. .. .	10 idem.
Fruits médicinaux non dénommés .. .. .	3 idem.
Bois d'ébénisterie, autres que le buis, en bûches ou sciés .. .. .	3 idem.
Bois odorants .. .. .	3 idem.
Coques de coco .. .. .	3 idem.
Grains durs à tailler .. .. .	3 décimes non compris.
Gousses tinctoriales entières ou simplement concassées .. .. .	3 idem.
Fleurs de carthame .. .. .	3 idem.
Noix de galle et avelanèdes .. .. .	3 idem.
Myrobolans secs, entiers ou simplement concassés .. .. .	5 décimes compris.
Huiles et essences de schiste et de pétrole .. .. .	5 idem.
Borax brut (natif ou artificiel) .. .. .	5 idem.
Borax mi-raffiné .. .. .	10 décimes non compris.
Cochenille .. .. .	5 idem.
Laque en teinture et en trochisques .. .. .	25 idem.
Indigo .. .. .	25 idem.
Pâte de pastel dite "indigo-pastel" .. .. .	25 idem.
Indigue, inde-plate et boules de bleu .. .. .	8 idem.
Pastilles odorantes à brûler .. .. .	5 décimes compris.
Colle de poisson .. .. .	7 décimes non compris.
Cigares et autres tabacs fabriqués pour la régie .. .. .	10 décimes compris.
Nankins de l'Inde .. .. .	
Tissus de soie—	
Crêpes—Unis .. .. .	5 idem.
„ Brodés ou façonnés .. .. .	6 idem.
„ Autres que les foulards et les crêpes, originaires des pays hors d'Europe .. .. .	25 idem.

\* La surtaxe d'entrepôt est seulement de 12 fr. pour la cacao et de 5 fr. pour le café importés des entrepôts des Pays Contractants, l'Espagne exceptée.



(Translation.)

TABLE of Exotic Products which remain subject to an increased Surtax on the Entrepôt of  
of 3 fr. per 100 kilos.

Goods.	Surtaxes.
Wools in quantities .. .. .	3 fr., not including décimes.
Waste wool, entire fleece .. .. .	3 ditto.
Horschair, natural, prepared or curled .. .. .	3 ditto.
Sponges .. .. .	5 ditto, décimes included.
Elephant's teeth .. .. .	3 ditto, not including décimes.
Tortoiseshells, carapaces, flappers, and caouanes .. .. .	5 ditto.
Mother of pearl—	
In raw shells .. .. .	4 ditto.
Filed or stripped of its crust .. .. .	8 ditto.
Cocoa* .. .. .	20 ditto, décimes included.
Coffee* .. .. .	20 ditto.
Cloves .. .. .	40 ditto.
Cinnamon and cassia .. .. .	
Pepper and allspice .. .. .	
Nutmegs—	
With shells .. .. .	50 ditto.
Without shells .. .. .	
Mace .. .. .	60 ditto.
Tea .. .. .	5 ditto, not including décimes.
Tobacco in leaves or stalks for the excise .. .. .	8 ditto.
Exotic resins .. .. .	5 ditto.
Balsam capivi .. .. .	
Balsams not denominated .. .. .	3 ditto.
India rubber and gutta percha, raw or melted in lumps .. .. .	5 ditto.
Aloes .. .. .	5 ditto, décimes included.
Medicinal roots not denominated .. .. .	5 ditto.
Medicinal herbs, leaves, flowers, and barks not denominated .. .. .	12 ditto.
Tamarinds (husks and pulps) .. .. .	11 ditto.
Badiana (studded aniseed) .. .. .	10 ditto, not including décimes.
Follicles of senna .. .. .	10 ditto.
Medicinal fruits not denominated .. .. .	3 ditto.
Woods for cabinet work, other than box, in bundles or sawn .. .. .	3 ditto.
Scented woods .. .. .	3 ditto.
Cocoa-nut shells .. .. .	3 ditto, not including décimes.
Hard cutting grains .. .. .	3 ditto.
Husks for-dyeing, whole or simply pounded .. .. .	3 ditto.
Flowers of cardamums .. .. .	3 ditto.
Gall nuts and acorn nuts .. .. .	3 ditto.
Dry myrobolanes, whole or simply pounded .. .. .	5 ditto, including décimes.
Oils and essences of shale and petroleum .. .. .	5 ditto.
Borax, raw (natural or artificial) .. .. .	5 ditto.
Borax, half refined .. .. .	10 ditto, not including décimes.
Cochineal .. .. .	5 ditto.
Lake in dye and in cakes .. .. .	25 ditto.
Indigo .. .. .	25 ditto.
Pastel paste called indigo paste .. .. .	25 ditto.
Indigo, indigo blue, and blue balls .. .. .	8 ditto.
Odoriferous pastilles for burning .. .. .	5 ditto, décimes included.
Isinglass .. .. .	7 ditto, not including décimes.
Cigars and other tobaccos manufactured for the excise .. .. .	10 ditto, décimes included.
Indian nankins .. .. .	
Silk tissues—	
Crapes—plain .. .. .	5 ditto.
„ embroidered or worked .. .. .	6 ditto.
„ other than foulards and crapes coming originally from non-European countries .. .. .	25 ditto.

\* The entrepôt surtax is only 12 fr. for cocoa and 5 fr. for coffee imported from the entrepôts of the contracting countries, Spain excepted.

*Law of the Mercantile Navy of January 30, 1872.*

[See Inclosure in No. 86.]



*M. de Rémusat to the Duc de Broglie.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by the Duc de Broglie, February 10.)*

M. le Duc,

*Versailles, le 7 Février, 1872.*

L'ASSEMBLEE Nationale, par la Loi qu'elle a voté le 2 du courant, a décrété la révision des Tarifs de Douanes, et donné au Gouvernement la facilité de dénoncer le Traité de Commerce du 23 Janvier, 1860.

Notre intention est, pour la première de ces opérations, de ne pas abandonner la voie des négociations et de n'insister que sur les rectifications dont vous avez déjà entretenu le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique. Quant à la faculté de dénonciation qui nous est accordée, nous n'en userons que pour avoir la certitude de recouvrer notre liberté fiscale et commerciale le plus tôt possible après le moment où il sera constant que les négociations ne peuvent aboutir à aucun résultat.

Vous voudrez donc bien informer le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères que nous sommes prêts à rouvrir, ou plutôt à continuer, les négociations entamées depuis huit mois.

Les bases de négociation que nous avons proposés se divisent en deux catégories. Les unes ont pour objet de modifier quelques uns des droits portés en Tarif. Les autres ont un but purement fiscal.

Les premières, vous le savez, tendent à relever les droits sur certains fils et sur certains tissus de lin, de coton, de laine, sans toujours atteindre et sans jamais dépasser la limite conventionnelle de 15 pour cent.

Ces propositions peuvent avoir, sans doute, une certaine tendance protectrice, puisqu'elles auraient pour effet d'augmenter légèrement les droits sur quelques produits étrangers; mais ce changement, si peu considérable en lui-même, ne s'écarterait pas de l'esprit du Traité, c'est-à-dire, du système d'une protection très modérée qui tend à substituer l'égalité au privilège. Il ne faudrait attribuer aucun sens à l'Article XXI, si ses modifications, dont l'expérience et une enquête ont montré la nécessité, étaient repoussées sans examen. Par une dépêche du 29 Janvier à Lord Lyons, le Gouvernement Anglais, sans nous dissimuler sa répugnance à sanctionner des droits dont la tendance pouvait sembler protectrice, nous a déclaré cependant que, même à cette égard, il ne fermait pas la porte à toute négociation s'il s'agissait d'augmentations peu importantes. Or il nous semble que c'est l'hypothèse même dans laquelle nous traitons. Je vous prie de représenter à Lord Granville que les détails de nos propositions étant depuis longtemps connus de l'Administration Anglaise, nous nous croyons en droit d'attendre d'elle, enfin, l'expression précise de son opinion sur nos propositions en elles-mêmes.

La seconde série de nos propositions étant éminemment fiscale ne peut, en principe, rencontrer d'objection péremptoire. Le Gouvernement de la Reine nous a plusieurs fois assurés de ses bonnes dispositions, s'il fallait nous assister dans nos nécessités financières. C'était admettre la possibilité de consentir à des créations ou à des augmentations de taxes: car on ne voit pas de quelle autre manière l'assistance promise pourrait se réaliser. C'est donc avec confiance que nous avons présenté le système que je vais rappeler.

Nous prévalant de l'Article IX du Traité du 23 Janvier et de l'Article III de la Convention du 10 November, nous avons pensé et nous persistons à penser que, soit la lettre, soit l'esprit de ces Articles nous autorise à proposer l'établissement d'un droit d'entrée sur les matières premières, et notamment sur les textiles, impôt qui, devant porter sur nos nationaux et renchérir leurs produits, justifierait l'imposition d'un droit compensateur sur les produits étrangers correspondants. En lui-même et sauf certaines applications, ce système n'offre point les caractères du protectionisme. Les droits vraiment protecteurs sont essentiellement différentiels. Ici, au contraire, on s'attache à égaliser les charges sur tous les producteurs, tant Français qu'étrangers. L'égalité est le but du système. Sans aucun doute, il en résultera une charge nouvelle; mais il faut bien qu'il en soit ainsi, puisqu'il s'agit d'une proposition fiscale.

Quelques matières textiles de certaines provenances sont, il est vrai, exemptées de tous droits par la Convention du 16 Novembre. Mais faut-il répéter que les nécessités financières qui pèsent sur la France ne peuvent se conjurer que par des taxes nouvelles, et celle-ci ne constitue pas en principe une protection pour une industrie aux dépens d'une autre.

Je sais qu'il a été soutenu au nom du Gouvernement de la Reine que les Articles des Traités dont nous appuyons ne se prêtaient pas la conséquence que nous en voulions tirer. Cette objection nouvellement produite ne nous paraît pas avoir toute la solidité qu'on lui attribue.



Si nous prenons pour exemple le coton il est certain que le droit d'entrée sur les cotons crus est un impôt qui agit à l'intérieur. Avancé par l'industriel, il est, en dernière analyse, payé par le consommateur, qui le confond avec le prix des choses à la manière de toute autre contribution indirecte, et peut, par conséquent, être assimilé, soit en droit d'accise ou impôt dont parle l'Article IX du Traité, soit aux charges directes ou indirectes que mentionne la Convention du 16 Novembre, et qui doivent être compensés par une charge équivalente sur les produits étrangers.

Il y a certainement plus de difficultés pour les textiles dont les similaires sont produits à l'intérieur; et de tous la laine est celui qu'on a le plus souvent cité dans la discussion. La laine étant un produit Français qui ne saurait être taxé directement, les droits qui grèveraient celle qui vient du dehors constitueraient une protection pour l'industriel qui emploierait concurremment les laines des deux provenances. Mais d'abord cette protection ne s'élèverait pas à la totalité du droit. Il s'établirait un prix moyen en raison des deux origines de la matière employée, et en proportionnant à ce prix moyen le droit compensateur on serait bien près de rétablir l'égalité. Celle-ci serait même au fond tout-à-fait reconnue, si, comme il est juste de la faire, on tenait compte du surcroît de charges imprévu à l'époque de la conclusion des Traités, et que des circonstances impérieuses ont imposé au producteur Français. Là aussi se retrouve une de ces charges indirectes désignées dans la Convention de Novembre comme pouvant gréver les fabricants Français. Il nous paraît donc que, dans certains cas la lettre, dans tous l'esprit, des Traités serait loin d'exclure la taxation des matières premières. On a dit que la discussion de cette question devrait être ajournée, parce qu'elle serait hypothétique, l'impôt proposé pouvant n'être pas adopté par l'Assemblée Nationale. Mais le Gouvernement, qui n'a point changé d'opinion, persiste à croire qu'elle ne saurait trouver un système d'impôt préférable. Il y a donc besoin de savoir à quoi s'en tenir sur les intentions du Gouvernement de la Reine, et il est de son devoir de le prévenir que ses propositions à cet égard ne sont pas abandonnées et qu'il demande une réponse précise.

Il désirerait sans doute qu'elles puissent être acceptées immédiatement et par la voie des négociations, mais si, comme il y a lieu de le craindre, son espoir ne peut se réaliser s'il est prochainement conduit à une dénonciation formelle, ce ne sera que pour prendre date, pour ne pas s'exposer à trop retarder l'époque où il recouvrera, comme l'Angleterre elle-même, sa liberté fiscale. Dans l'intervalle il ne renoncera pas à négocier encore. Il ne cache pas cependant qu'il regarde comme plus conforme aux vrais principes économiques que les deux pays soient replacés sur un pied de liberté réciproque.

Quoiqu'il advienne, nous avons la ferme confiance que la cordialité et la bienveillance subsisteront tout entières dans les rapports entre les deux nations.

Vous voudrez bien, M. le Duc, donner lecture de cette dépêche au Principal Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères et lui en laisser copie.

Agréer, &c.  
(Signé) REMUSAT.

(Translation.)

M. le Duc,

*Versailles, February 7, 1872.*

THE National Assembly, by the Law which it voted on the 2nd instant, have decreed the revision of the Customs Tariffs and gave authority to the Government to denounce the Treaty of Commerce of the 23rd of January, 1860. Our intention with respect to the first of these proceedings is not to break off the negotiations and to insist only upon the rectifications with which you have already made Her Britannic Majesty's Government acquainted. As regards the power of denunciation which has been accorded to us, we shall only avail ourselves of it in order to have the certainty of recovering our fiscal and commercial liberty as soon as possible after the moment that it becomes obvious that the negotiations can effect nothing.

You will then be good enough to inform the Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that we are ready to re-open, or rather, to continue the negotiations entered upon eight months ago.

The bases of negotiation which we have proposed are divided into two categories. Some have for object the modification of some of the duties contained in the Tariff. Others have a purely fiscal object. The first, as you are aware, tend to raise the duties upon certain threads and upon certain tissues of linen, cotton, and wool without always reaching and never exceeding the conventional limit of 15 per cent.

These propositions may doubtless have a certain protective tendency, inasmuch as their effect would be to slightly augment the duties on certain foreign products; but this alteration, so inconsiderable in itself, would not depart from the spirit of the Treaty, that is



to say, from the system of a very moderate protection, which tends to substitute equality for privilege. It would be impossible to attach any meaning to Article XXI if its modifications of which both experience and investigation have demonstrated the necessity, were rejected without examination. In a despatch of the 29th of January to Lord Lyons, the English Government, without concealing from us its repugnance to sanctioning duties of which the tendency might appear to be protective, has nevertheless declared to us that even in this respect it would not shut the door to all negotiation as long as it was a question of unimportant augmentations. Now it seems to us that this is the very hypothesis with which we have to deal. I beg you to represent to Lord Granville that the details of our propositions having been long known to the English Administration, we consider that we have a right to expect from it at last the precise expression of its opinion upon our propositions in themselves.

The second series of our propositions being especially fiscal, ought not, in principle, to meet with peremptory objections. The Queen's Government have several times assured us of their good-will, should it prove necessary to assist us in our financial difficulties. This involved the possibility of consenting to the creation or the augmentation of duties, as one cannot see in what other way the promised assistance could be realized. It was, therefore, with confidence that we proposed the scheme to which I am about to refer.

Availing ourselves of Article IX of the Treaty of the 23rd January, and of Article III of the Convention of the 10th of November, we thought, and we continue to think, that both the letter and the spirit of those Articles authorize us to propose the establishment of an import duty upon raw materials, and especially upon textiles, a tax which, tending to weigh upon our countrymen and to raise the price of their products, would justify the imposition of a compensatory duty on the corresponding foreign products.

In itself, and excepting certain applications, this system does not offer any protective features.

Real protective duties are essentially differential. In this case, on the contrary, our aim is to equalize the taxes upon all producers, whether French or foreign. Equality is the aim of the system. No doubt a new tax will be the result; but it must needs be so, seeing that the question is one of a fiscal proposition.

Some textile materials of certain sources are, it is true, exempted from all duties, by the Convention of the 16th of November. But is it necessary to repeat that the financial necessities which weigh upon France can only be removed by means of new taxes, and this does not constitute, in principle, a protection for one industry at the expense of another.

I am aware that it has been maintained in the name of the Government of the Queen, that the Articles of the Treaty upon which we rely, do not bear the construction which we would put upon them. This newly raised objection does not seem to us to have all the force which is attributed to it.

If we take, for example, cotton, it is certain that the import duty on raw cottons is a tax which concerns us at home. Advanced by the manufacturer, it is in its last stage paid by the consumer, who treats it as part of the price of the goods, after the manner of every other indirect tax, and it can therefore be assimilated either to an excise duty or tax, of which mention is made in Article IX of the Treaty, or to the direct or indirect charges mentioned by the Convention of the 16th November, and which ought to be compensated by an equivalent charge on foreign products.

There is certainly more difficulty in regard to textiles, of which similar kinds are produced at home; and wool, above others, is that which has been most frequently cited in the course of the discussion. Wool being a French product, which cannot be taxed directly, the duties which would burden that which comes from abroad, would constitute a protection for the manufacturer who employs equally wools from both sources. But then this protection would not amount to the entire duty. An average price would be established on account of the two sources of the material employed, and by proportioning the compensatory duty to this average price, one would go far towards re-establishing equality. This would be thoroughly understood, if, as should justly be done, one took account of the increase of burdens, unforeseen at the time of concluding the Treaties, and which imperative circumstances have imposed on the French producer. Here, again, is to be found one of these indirect charges pointed out in the Convention of November, as capable of burthening the French manufacturers. It appears then to us that, in certain cases, the letter, and in all, the spirit of the Treaties would be far from excluding the taxation of raw materials.

It has been said that the discussion on this question ought to be adjourned, because it would be hypothetical, as the proposed tax might not be adopted by the National Assembly. But the Government, who have not changed their opinion, persist in believing that they could not discover a preferable system of taxation. It becomes,



therefore, necessary to know what they are to look for as regards the intentions of the Government of the Queen, and it is their duty to acquaint the latter that their propositions on this subject are not abandoned, and that they ask for a definite reply.

They would wish, without doubt, such propositions to be accepted immediately and by means of negotiations; but if, as there is ground for fearing their hope cannot be realized, if they are shortly driven to a formal denunciation, this will but be to give notice, in order not to expose themselves to retarding too much the period when they will recover, like England itself, their fiscal liberty. In the interval, they will not refuse to again negotiate. Nevertheless, they do not conceal their opinion that it would be more conformable to true economic principles, if the two countries were replaced on a footing of reciprocal liberty.

Whatever may happen, we entertain the firm assurance that cordiality and good-will will be thoroughly maintained in the relations between the two nations.

You will be good enough, M. le Duc, to read this despatch to the Principal Secretary of State, and to leave a copy of it with him.

Agree, &c.  
(Signed) REMUSAT.

### No. 91.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 10, 1872.*

THE Duc de Broglie met me this afternoon, after the sitting of the Cabinet. I told him that I had informed my colleagues of the substance of our last conversation. They were of opinion that discussions as to who were right or wrong in the views respectively taken of the proposals which had been made to us, would not lead to any practical result. They understood the difficulty on the part of the French Government of presenting Her Majesty's Government with a complete scheme, until the legislation on the subject was accomplished; but if it could be shown to us that in that scheme there would be such a departure from the Protectionist principles, which had been laid down by M. Thiers, as would tend to remove our objections, Her Majesty's Government would be ready to come to an agreement, such as that which had been proposed by the Duc de Broglie, for the purpose of giving time for negotiation, without a sacrifice of time on the part of the French Government beyond the twelve months from this date.

The Duc de Broglie, however, replied, that it was not likely that M. Thiers would recede from views to which he attached great importance, and that it would therefore be better to drop this plan, in which I concurred; and he placed in my hands the despatch, of which I inclose a copy,\* containing a formal demand for the resumption of negotiations.

If the denunciation took place, it would only be, he added, in order to recover their fiscal liberty, a measure of a purely commercial and financial character which would have no effect upon the political relations between the two countries.

The step would be taken to establish the date of the renunciation; and if at any time during the twelvemonth which will remain, Her Majesty's Government show a desire to renew negotiations, they will be cordially met by the French Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

### No. 92.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 13, 1872.*

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration, in communication with the Law Advisers of the Crown, the question as to the position in which this country stands towards France in regard to the new French Law imposing differential duties on merchandise imported into France in foreign ships; and I have now to acquaint your Excellency that as the duties proposed to be imposed are to be levied, not on the ships, but on the cargoes, according to weight, they are duties on the importation of goods within the meaning of the Vth Article of the Convention of the 16th of November, 1860, and that having regard to the Treaties which France has concluded with Austria and

\* No. 90.



Sweden, no such duties can, in the view of the British Government, be imposed on goods imported in British ships, while such Treaties remain in force.

Your Excellency will make a communication in the sense of this despatch to the French Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 93.

*Lord Lyons to Lord Granville.—(Received February 15.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 14, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a note in which, in obedience to the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of yesterday, I have stated to the Government of France that the new differential duties on merchandize imported into France in foreign ships cannot, in the view of Her Majesty's Government, be imposed on goods imported in British ships while the French Treaties with Austria and Sweden remain in force.

Your Lordship will perceive that, *mutatis mutandis*, my note is written in exactly the same terms as your Lordship's despatch.

With my despatch of the 9th instant, I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of the circular instructions which had been issued by the Customs Department with regard to the law imposing the new duties; and I directed your Lordship's attention to the fact that while the ships of Austria, Sweden and Norway, the Zollverein, and Portugal were by those instructions exempted altogether from the "surtaxes de pavillon" on merchandize imported by them, the exemption was, in the case of British ships, confined to merchandize imported direct from the United Kingdom, and to Indian cotton, jute, and Australian wool, imported from the countries in which they are produced.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 93.

*Lord Lyons to M. de Rémusat.*

M. le Ministre,

*Paris, February 14, 1872.*

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration the question as to the position in which Great Britain stands towards France in regard to the French law imposing differential duties on merchandize imported into France in foreign ships; and Her Majesty's Government have directed me to state to the Government of France, that as the duties proposed to be imposed are to be levied not on the ships but on the cargoes according to weight, they are duties on the importation of goods within the meaning of the Vth Article of the Convention of the 16th of November, 1860, and that having regard to the Treaties which France has concluded with Austria and Sweden, no such duties can, in the view of the British Government, be imposed on goods imported in British ships, while such Treaties remain in force.

In making by order of my Government the preceding communication, I am, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 94.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 16.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 15, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a note which I received last night from M. de Rémusat, in answer to that dated the 30th ultimo, in which, in obedience to your Lordship's orders, I called the attention of the French Government to two particular cases, in which the Anglo-French Treaties preclude the immediate enforcement of the new French Law on the merchant navy.

Your Lordship will, no doubt, give me instructions respecting this answer, and inform

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me how far it may be regarded by Her Majesty's Government as satisfactory, and how far the Circular of the Customs Department, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 9th instant, may be held to give effect to the declarations made in the answer, or to the Treaty stipulations.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 94.

*M. de Rémusat to Lord Lyons.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Versailles, le 13 Février, 1872.*

VOTRE Excellence a bien voulu, par la lettre qu'elle m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 30 du mois dernier, appeler mon attention sur quelques unes des conséquences que semblerait devoir entraîner l'application à l'Angleterre de la nouvelle loi sur la marine marchande.

Les observations du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique portent, en premier lieu, sur la tarification des jutes, des cotons, et des laines. Les dispositions de la Convention Supplémentaire du 16 Novembre, 1860, ne sauraient permettre d'élever un doute sur ce point; je n'hésite donc pas à déclarer à votre Excellence que la surtaxe d'entrepôt édictée par la nouvelle loi ne sera appliquée ni aux jutes de l'Inde en brins ou teillés, ni aux cotons de l'Inde en laine, ni aux laines en masse d'Australie, lorsque ces produits seront importés soit directement des lieux de production, soit des entrepôts du Royaume Uni, sous pavillon Français ou Britannique.

Votre Excellence fait remarquer, en second lieu, qu'aucune des marchandises d'origine ou de manufacture Britannique mentionnées au Tarif annexé à la Convention Supplémentaire du 16 Novembre ne pourra être frappée d'une surtaxe, lorsqu'elle sera importée d'un entrepôt dans les conditions déterminées par la Convention, c'est-à-dire, directement du Royaume Uni sous pavillon Français ou Anglais.

La question ainsi posée me semblerait nécessiter quelques éclaircissements. Les marchandises d'entrepôt sont, en effet, généralement des produits exotiques, et je m'explique difficilement que des marchandises d'origine ou de manufacture Britannique puissent être entreposées et tomber par suite sous l'application de la surtaxe d'entrepôt.

Tout ce que je puis affirmer à votre Excellence c'est que conformément à la Convention du 16 Novembre, les marchandises d'origine ou de manufacture Britannique, importées directement en France par navires Anglais ou Français, ne seront soumises sous quelque dénomination que ce soit, à aucun droit supérieur aux droits inscrits dans le Tarif annexé à la Convention.

Agréez, &c.  
(Signé) REMUSAT.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur,

YOUR Excellency was good enough, in the letter which you did me the honour to address to me on the 30th of last month, to call my attention to some of the consequences which the application to England of the new Law on marine merchandize would seem to entail.

The observations of Her Britannic Majesty's Government refer, in the first instance, to the tarification of jute, cotton, and wool. The provisions of the Supplementary Convention of the 16th November, 1860, do not allow of a doubt to be raised on this subject; I do not hesitate, therefore, to inform your Excellency that the surtax and entrepôt decreed by the new Law would be applied neither to Indian jute in the fibre or hackled, nor to Indian cotton wool, nor to Australian wool in bulk, when these products are imported, either directly from the places where they are manufactured, or from the bonded warehouses of the United Kingdom, under French or British flag.

The question placed thus seems to me to necessitate certain explanations:—

Bonded goods are generally exotic productions, and I can scarcely understand how goods of British origin or manufacture can be placed in bond, and consequently become liable to a "surtaxe d'entrepôt."

All that I can assure your Excellency of is that, in conformity with the Convention of the 16th November, goods of original or British manufacture, imported directly into France in English or French vessels, will not be liable, under whatever denomination they may come, to any duties inscribed in the Tariff annexed to the Convention.

Receive, &c.  
(Signed) REMUSAT.



*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 16, 1872.*

THE communication made to me by the Duc de Broglie in the conversation which I had with his Excellency, as reported in my despatch of the 5th instant, was to the effect that the French Government could denounce the Treaty at once, but that, for the better chance of a successful negotiation on the question of the Commercial Treaty, they would be willing to defer the denunciation of the Treaty of 1860 for a time, on condition that, if the negotiation were unsuccessful, the time spent in such negotiation should be deducted from the twelve months which must elapse under the terms of the present Treaty before the Treaty can be cancelled.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 17.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 16, 1872.*

WITH my despatch of yesterday I sent to your Lordship by post a copy of M. de Rémusat's answer to my note of the 30th ultimo, respecting the new Merchant Navy Law; and I had the honour to ask for instructions from your Lordship as to how far the answer was to be regarded as satisfactory, and how far the Circular of the Customs Department of the 4th instant gave due effect to the declaration in the answer, or to the Treaty stipulations.

Your Lordship will not fail to have observed that, in speaking of the importation of wool, jute, and cotton, M. de Rémusat declares it to be free in certain cases from the "surtaxe d'entrepôt," but makes no mention of the "surtaxe de pavillon." You will also have seen that he uses the term "entrepôts du Royaume Uni," instead of the term "British entrepôts," which was employed in my note, and in the despatch from your Lordship on which it was founded. I do not know whether in this matter the two terms are equivalent.

In the Customs Circular the following passage occurs under the heading of "surtaxes de pavillon :"—"Conformément au Traité, la surtaxe ne sera pas applicable au coton de l'Inde, au jute et à la laine d'Australie importés des pays de production par navires Anglais." No mention is made of entrepôts in this passage.

Under the heading "surtaxes d'entrepôt," the Circular contains the following passage:—"Le coton de l'Inde, le jute et les laines d'Australie importés des pays contractants continueront d'être affranchis de la surtaxe."

Your Lordship will recollect that the Circular distinctly states that in general, so far as England is concerned, the exemption from the "surtaxe de pavillon" applies only to direct intercourse between France and the United Kingdom.

This Circular was, however, issued some time before the claim to exemption from the differential duties, under the most-favoured-nation clause of the Convention of the 16th November, 1860, was presented to the French Government in the note which I addressed to M. Rémusat by your Lordship's order the day before yesterday.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 17, 1872.*

WITH the view to a more definite statement of the case, I think it well to furnish your Excellency with the following remarks, in addition to those contained in my despatch of the 13th instant, respecting the new French Law imposing differential duties on merchandize imported into France in foreign ships.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the proposed French duties are not properly to be considered duties imposed upon shipping, but duties imposed on mer-



chandize, being duties imposed on goods which are in each case the subject of freight, and not on the tonnage of each ship according to measurement. The motive for imposing the duties may be in fact to give a preference to French shipping; but if Her Majesty's Government understand the matter rightly, they are proposed to be levied on the merchandize and not on the ships, and as such are not navigation dues, but Customs duties.

Your Excellency will judge whether it is necessary at the present moment to address a further communication on this point to the French Government, but when there is occasion to do so you will be guided by the tenor of this despatch.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 98.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 17, 1872.*

I SAW the Duc de Broglie to-day after the Cabinet, and told his Excellency that I hoped soon to send him a formal answer to the communication which he made to me on the 10th instant, in the shape of a despatch which had been addressed to himself by M. de Rémusat; but that I was waiting for a letter from the Board of Trade on the subject.

I thought it, however, right to tell his Excellency that the general character of my answer would be that, although Her Majesty's Government were prepared to consider any new propositions which the French Government might think it right to make, they saw no chance of arriving at any satisfactory result by discussions on the same proposals which had already been made to them, and without the whole scheme of the French Government being before them.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 99.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 20, 1872.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatches of the 15th and 16th instant, I have to state that as the Customs Circular, the interpretation of which forms the subject of M. de Rémusat's note of the 13th instant, was issued before the claim on the part of Great Britain to exemption from differential duties under the most-favoured-nation clause of the Convention of the 16th November, 1860, was presented to the French Government, I do not think that it is necessary for your Excellency at the present time to discuss further the provisions of that Circular.

When the answer of the French Government to this claim is received, I shall be better able to judge as to the further instructions to be addressed to you on the question of the "surtaxe de pavillon."

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 100.

*Earl Granville to the Duc de Broglie.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Foreign Office, February 24, 1872.*

HER Majesty's Government have not failed to give their most careful consideration to the despatch from M. de Rémusat of the 7th of this month, which your Excellency was so good as to communicate to me on the 10th instant, relative to the revision of the Commercial Treaty between this country and France. I have now the honour to state to your Excellency the observations which Her Majesty's Government have to offer with respect to this communication: in the first place, however, I think it will be well to recapitulate once more the principles on which they have acted in regard to this question.



Her Majesty's Government have acknowledged the full right of France to judge what her fiscal necessities require, and whether and how far any increase of protective restrictions on trade will aid her in meeting them.

Her Majesty's Government accordingly, beyond a frank statement of facts and reasons, make no complaint of the measures taken by the French Government in this sense.

If the Treaty restrains France in matters purely fiscal, Her Majesty's Government are ready to modify the Treaty as far as those points are concerned.

With regard to protective proposals, Her Majesty's Government have felt great objections to accepting any such, but they did not absolutely and finally close the doors against them.

First, because it appeared possible that such protective proposals might be minimized and rendered insignificant; and, secondly, because the general spirit actuating the policy of the French Government as to trade was sure to become much more evident when they should have promulgated their entire plans beyond as well as within the Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government have been ever ready to consider whatever proposals the French Government might lay before them, and have been anxious to assist the French Government in these matters as far as lay in their power. Nevertheless, they have always stated that they could not depart from the general principles of the system of commercial policy which the Treaty embodies, nor could they neglect their duty towards British interests concerned, neither could they assent, either in principle or as to details, to proposals which have not been fully placed before them, and they thought the denunciation of the Treaty would be a very great step towards its extinction, though it would not preclude further negotiations should the French Government desire their renewal.

Whatever the result of the present discussion may be, Her Majesty's Government would endeavour to prevent any diminution in the cordial feeling between the two countries; and although they themselves intend no war of Tariffs nor any return to protective duties, they would value the recovery of fiscal freedom, in case they should have occasion to use it upon any of the points in which the Treaty now, to a certain extent, restrain them.

With regard to the statement of M. de Rémusat, in the communication which I have now the honour to acknowledge, "*Je vous prie de représenter à Lord Granville que les détails de nos propositions étant depuis longtemps connues de l'Administration Anglaise, nous nous croyons en droit d'attendre d'elle, enfin, l'expression précise de son opinion sur nos propositions en elles-mêmes.*" I am constrained to recall to your Excellency's recollection that Her Majesty's Government have not up to the present time received the Table C, referred to in your note of the 13th of September last. The proposals of the French Government respecting Tariff alterations have thus never been placed before Her Majesty's Government in a complete form; and until they have been so communicated Her Majesty's Government are unable to judge correctly of their full scope.

As regards the tax on raw materials and compensatory duties on manufactured articles, Her Majesty's Government admit that they are capable of being considered as imposed for fiscal purposes only, and that there would be no objection to them on the ground of protection, provided that any raw materials produced in France were equally taxed, and provided that the compensatory duties on manufactured articles are limited to the amount of tax imposed on the imported raw material employed in their manufacture.

But if, as is the case with wool and silk, the raw material is also produced in France, and when there produced is not taxed, the tax on the imported raw material becomes a protective tax in favour of the French wool and silk grower as against the foreign competitor.

With regard to duties on certain manufactures to be imposed so as not to exceed 15 per cent., I must point out that this measure would give the French manufacturers of these articles a larger amount of protection than they now enjoy; and further, that these duties are avowedly increased for protective and not for fiscal purposes.

And now, M. l'Ambassadeur, I have to recur to the observation I made, that Her Majesty's Government would be better able to judge of the actual nature of the proposals of the French Government when more accurate knowledge had been obtained of their plans beyond as well as within the Treaty. In addition to the levying of duties which in themselves were at least doubtful and were certainly in specific instances imposed with hardship, in the case of British mineral oils, the recent law relative to the mercantile marine is also avowedly of a Protectionist character. Although no formal Treaty of Navigation was at the time concluded between the two countries, a distinct understanding was come to in 1866, in consequence of which, on the one hand, certain local exemptions in ports of the United Kingdom dating from ancient times, of which the French Government



complained, have been extinguished by Act of Parliament, and pecuniary compensation granted to the parties affected; and, on the other hand, British vessels in French ports received most-favoured-nation treatment. As at present advised in the matter, Her Majesty's Government consider the duties imposed under the recent *Marine Marchande* Law to be in reality "Customs" duties; and Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris is in communication with the French Government on the subject. But it appears that the French Customs authorities understand the matter differently; and it is, therefore, incumbent upon me to point out to your Excellency the effect of their construction of the new Law. Not only will the understanding of 1866 be put an end to, on the faith of which the Government of this country applied to Parliament to vote money to extinguish the local rights to which I have referred; but large amounts of British capital invested in the formation of lines of British vessels to navigate to French ports will be imperilled; such vessels being practically excluded from the French trade in consequence of the disadvantageous position in which they are placed relatively to the vessels of those countries which continue to enjoy the most-favoured-nation treatment. The recent Law relative to the Mercantile Marine is, therefore, not only entirely Protectionist, but, in its effects, is calculated to act specifically against British shipping.

Taking then these proposals of the French Government as a whole, Her Majesty's Government regret to be compelled to state that they can only see in them measures which will restrict the commercial relations of the two countries.

In conclusion, I have the honour to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government regret that the question of alterations in the Commercial Treaty between France and Great Britain has not up to the present time been placed before them in a form in which it could be fully discussed. I must not conceal from your Excellency that the classes of persons in this country so deeply affected in connection with the matters of mineral oils and merchant shipping feel very strongly on these questions; and that the attitude the persons affected have hitherto maintained is to be attributed to the earnest and sincere desire of the people of this country to maintain and strengthen those ties of mutual interest and benefit which have increased so much in late years, and which are in no small degree owing to the operation of the Commercial Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government would most gladly assist France in the financial matters under discussion to the utmost extent in their power within the spirit of the Commercial Treaty of 1860. To obviate, however, any future misapprehension as to the date of the denunciation of the Treaty, should the French Government decide on such a course, and on negotiations concurrent with the denunciation, I should be glad if your Excellency would fix the date when the French Government have so decided, in order that the arrangement, if a special one, may be recorded in a public document, to prevent injury to mercantile interests. But I beg to repeat the assurance on the part of Her Majesty's Government that, whatever may be the result of the negotiations respecting the Commercial Treaty, it will be their earnest wish, and the object of their best endeavours that the general friendly relations of the two countries, and their united action on political questions, may continue unimpaired.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

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No. 101.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.--(Received February 26.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, February 24, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship, extracted from the "Journal Officiel" of this day, the Law promulgated by the President of the Republic, authorizing the Government, should they deem it advisable, to denounce the Treaties of Commerce with England and Belgium.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.



Inclosure in No. 101.

*Extract from the "Journal Officiel" of February 24, 1872.*

*Versailles, le 23 Février, 1872.*

L'ASSEMBLEE NATIONALE a adopté,  
Le Président de la République Française promulgue la Loi dont la teneur suit :  
L'Assemblée Nationale considérant que sans revenir au régime économique antérieur à 1860, il y a lieu, dans la situation actuelle du pays, de réviser les Tarifs de Douane,

Décète :

Article 1. Le Gouvernement est autorisé à dénoncer en temps utile les Traités de Commerce faits avec l'Angleterre et la Belgique.

Art. 2. Les Tarifs Conventionnels resteront en vigueur jusqu'au vote des Tarifs nouveaux par l'Assemblée Nationale.

Délibéré en séance publique, à Versailles, le 2 Février, 1872.

Le Président,  
(Signé) JULES GREVY.

Les Secrétaires,  
(Signé) Baron DE BARANTE.  
PAUL BETHMONT.  
Marquis DE CASTELLANE.  
PAUL DE REMUSAT.

Le Président de la République,  
(Signé) A. THIERS.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères,  
(Signé) REMUSAT.

(Translation.)

*Versailles, February 23, 1872.*

THE National Assembly has adopted, the President of the French Republic has promulgated the law, the purport of which is as follows :—

The National Assembly considering that, without returning to the economical system, prior to 1860, in the present situation of the country there is occasion to revise the Customs Tariff.

Decrees :—

Article 1. The Government is authorized to denounce, when necessary, the Treaties of Commerce with England and Belgium.

Art. 2. The Conventional Tariffs will remain in force until the vote of the new Tariffs by the National Assembly.

Considered in the public meeting at Versailles, the 2nd February, 1872.

The President,  
(Signed) JULES GREVY.

The Secretaries,  
(Signed) Baron DE BARANTE.  
PAUL BETHMONT.  
Marquis DE CASTELLANE.  
PAUL DE RÉMUSAT.

The President of the Republic,  
(Signed) A. THIERS.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs,  
(Signed) RÉMUSAT

No. 102.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received March 2.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, March 2, 1872.*

IN your despatch of the 17th ultimo, your Lordship did me the honour to furnish me with some information in addition to that contained in your previous despatch of the

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13th ultimo, respecting the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of the new French law imposing differential duties on merchandize imported into France in foreign ships.

Your Lordship left it to me to judge whether it would be necessary at the moment to address a further communication to the French Government, but you desired that when there might be occasion to do so, I should be guided by the tenor of your second despatch.

The case appeared to me to be stated with sufficient clearness in your Lordship's first despatch in the exact terms of which I had addressed a note to the French Government; and I thought that it would be better to abstain from any further communication on the subject, until Her Majesty's Government had made a general answer to the expression of the opinion of the French Government respecting the Commercial Treaties, which was contained in M. de Rémusat's despatch to the Duc de Broglie of the 7th instant.

Being now in possession of a copy of your Lordship's note to the Duc de Broglie of the 24th ultimo, by which this answer is given, and perceiving that your Lordship has particularly adverted in it to the question of the duties on merchandize imported in foreign ships, I have thought it right to make known to M. de Rémusat the additional information contained in your despatch of the 17th of last month. I have accordingly put into his hand this afternoon a Memorandum in the terms of that despatch, and I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of it to your Lordship.

M. de Rémusat took the opportunity of mentioning to me that he had received from the Duc de Broglie a copy of your Lordship's note. He observed that it was couched in very courteous language, but that it did not appear to make much change in the situation of the negotiation. He said, with reference to the last paragraph of the note, that M. de Broglie had, in conversation with your Lordship, suggested that the formal denunciation of the Treaty might be deferred, on condition that if the negotiation were unsuccessful the time spent in it should be deducted from the twelve months' notice. M. de Rémusat proceeded to tell me that it had at once struck him, that although such an arrangement might be possible between the two Governments, it would not be fair to the private persons interested, who were entitled to expect to have public notice of the exact time at which the abrogation of the Treaty might be looked for. He added that he gathered from your Lordship's note that Her Majesty's Government were of the same opinion.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure in No. 102.

*Note Verbale.*

ON the 14th of last month Lord Lyons addressed a note to his Excellency M. de Rémusat, in which, by order of his Government, he stated that as the duties imposed by the new Merchant Navy Law were to be levied not on the ships but on the cargoes according to weight, they were duties on the importation of goods within the meaning of the 5th Article of the Convention of the 16th November, 1860.

With a view to a more definite statement of the case, it may be well to remark that, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, these duties are not properly to be considered duties imposed upon shipping, but duties imposed on merchandize, being duties imposed on goods which are in each case the subject of freight, and not on the tonnage of each ship according to measurement. The motive for imposing the duties may be, in fact, to give a preference to French shipping, but, if Her Majesty's Government understand the matter rightly, they are intended to be levied on the merchandize and not on the ships, and as such are not navigation dues but customs duties.

Paris, March 1, 1872.

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No. 103.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received March 2.)*

My Lord,

Paris, March 1, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Brest, reporting that the new quay duty has been levied at that port on two British ships.

Your Lordship will remember that by the 6th Article of the Law of the 30th January



the quay duty is imposed upon all merchant ships, French and foreign, coming to France with cargoes; but that merchant ships without cargoes are exempted by the Law, and that the Customs Circular of the 4th instant exempts also ships of war, pleasure yachts, and ships compelled to put in, which do not land anything.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 103.

*Consul Rainals to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Brest, February 27, 1872.*

I HAD the honour to report to your Excellency that the barque 'Caroline Sainty' of Guernsey, John Quesnel, master, burthen 205 tons, and the schooner 'King,' of Jersey, P. de la Mare, master, have this day been measured by the authorities of the Customs in conformity with a Law passed on the 30th of January last and in accordance with instructions from the Minister of Commerce, dated 4th instant, and that a quay duty has been charged on both vessels, at the rate of 50 c. per measurement ton, making 119 fr. for the barque 'Caroline Sainty' and 38 fr. for the schooner 'King.'

I have, &c.  
(Signed) H. RAINALS.

No. 104.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, March 2, 1872.*

I APPROVE the manner in which your Excellency has executed the instructions contained in my despatches of the 13th and 17th ultimo, relative to differential duties imposed under the new French law on merchandize imported into France in foreign ships, as reported in your despatch of yesterday's date.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 105.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, March 2, 1872.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of yesterday's date, respecting the differential duties imposed by the French Merchant Marine Law on British shipping, I have to request you to endeavour to obtain, without further delay, a statement of the views of the French Government on the representations which have been addressed to them by Her Majesty's Government on this question, and which are based not only on the verbal construction of the Treaty, and Second Supplementary Convention of 1860, but on general grounds. The matter is one of pressing moment to the mercantile interests of this country.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 106.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received March 4.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, March 3, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a note in which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of yesterday, I have asked for an early communication of the views of the French Government on the question of the liability of merchandize imported into France in British vessels, to the differential duties established by the new French Law on the Merchant Navy.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure in No. 106.

*Lord Lyons to M. de Rémusat.*

M. le Ministre,

*Paris, March 3, 1872.*

I AM desired by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to endeavour to obtain from the Government of France an early communication of their views on the representations which have been addressed to them by Her Majesty's Government on the question of the liability of merchandize imported in British ships to the differential duties imposed by the Law of the 30th January last.

These representations have been based not only on the construction of the Treaty and Second Supplementary Convention of 1860, but on general grounds; and the matter is one of pressing moment to the mercantile interests of Great Britain.

I have therefore the honour, in obedience to the instructions which I have received, to recommend it to the immediate attention of the French Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 107.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received March 9.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, March 8, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch which I have received this morning from Mr. Rainals, Her Majesty's Consul at Brest.

It gives quotations from the Law of the 30th January, 1872, imposing differential duties on goods imported by foreign ships, and from the Circular respecting the execution of that law which was issued by the Customs Department on the 4th of last month. These documents are perfectly well known to your Lordship. Copies of both were inclosed in my despatch of the 9th instant.

Mr. Rainals calls attention to the cases of two British vessels, the "Sharon's Rose" and "Fanny," on the cargoes of which the "surtaxes de pavillon" have been levied, and he points out that these vessels sailed from Riga before the Law of the 30th January was passed.

There does not appear to be, either in the Law or in the Circular, any clause exempting from the "surtaxes de pavillon et d'entrepôt," merchandise imported by vessels which had sailed from foreign ports before the Law was promulgated.

The French Government has not yet answered the note of the 14th ultimo, in which, by your Lordship's order, I informed the French Government that, having regard to the Vth Article of the Anglo-French Convention of the 16th November, 1860, and to the Treaties which France has concluded with Austria and Sweden, Her Majesty's Government hold that the differential duties ought not to be levied upon merchandise imported in British ships.

In the meantime, these duties, as Mr. Rainals' despatch shows, continue to be levied upon the cargoes of British ships.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 107.

*Consul Rainals to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Brest, March 6, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency that two British vessels, namely, the "Fanny," Captain Carter, and the "Sharon's Rose," Captain Godden, have recently arrived here from Riga, laden with hemp, consigned to Messrs. Michel Brothers, merchants of this town, and that these cargoes, in consequence of being on board British ships, have been charged with an additional duty—Surtaxe de Pavillon—of 75 c. per 100 kilos., or about 7 fr. 50 c. per ton.

This duty is charged in conformity with the Law of January 30, 1872.

But upon perusal of the Circular issued by the Director-General of Customs, and dated February 4, 1872, I find this passage on the subject:—



"La Loi nouvelle ne porte pas atteinte aux immunités inscrites dans nos Traités de Commerce ou de Navigation avec les autres Puissances. Il y a lieu, en conséquence, d'affranchir de la surtaxe (1) à l'importation directe, les navires de tous les pays contractants, l'Espagne exceptée; (2) à l'importation de tous pays quelconques, les navires de l'Autriche, de la Belgique, de la Hollande, de l'Italie, de la Suède et de la Norvège, du Zollverein, et du Portugal."

By this it is evident that British ships, as carriers, are placed at a considerable disadvantage, as compared with those of the countries named.

As regards the two vessels in question, it appears to me scarcely justifiable to exact the additional duty, because the one, "Sharon's Rose," left Riga on the 24th of November, and the other, "Fanny," on the 31st December last, consequently before the law had been enacted.

The Law of January 30, 1872, makes all foreign ships liable to this additional duty, but the Circular makes the exceptions quoted, and the authorities intend to carry out the Instructions it contains.

Cargoes by British and other vessels are now further charged 10 c. (as "droits de statistique") for each package landed; and, as regards cargoes in bulk, such as coal, hemp, grain, &c., this charge is made on each 1,000 kilos. discharged.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HARRY RAINALS.

P.S.—The passage quoted above from the Customs Circular is followed by one thus worded:—

"En ce qui concerne l'Angleterre, le service ne perdra pas de vue que l'exemption n'est acquise, à titre général, qu'à l'intercourse directe entre la France et le Royaume Uni; toutefois, conformément au Traité, la surtaxe ne sera pas applicable au coton de l'Inde, au jute, et à la laine d'Australie importés des pays de production par navires Anglais."

H. R.

No. 108.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received March 9.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, March 8, 1872.*

IN considering the Customs Circular of the 4th February, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 9th of that month, your Lordship will not fail to have observed that Spain is not included in the list given of the Powers exempted, in virtue of Treaty stipulations, from the "surtaxes de pavillon," or other differential duties. I understood, however, that Spanish ships and their cargoes have since been in fact exempted from differential duties; and that Spain has obtained this concession, not by putting forward any claim to it as of right under a Treaty, but simply by declaring that in retaliation for any duty affecting Spanish shipping in France, an equal duty would at once be imposed upon French shipping in Spain.

I spoke to M. de Rémusat this afternoon of the position in which England was placed by the law on the merchant navy. I remarked upon the delay of the French Government in answering our demand to be exempted from the differential duties in virtue of the most-favoured-nation clause of the Convention of November 1860; and I begged him to recollect that, whatever might have been the intention of the French Government, the practical effect of what they had done was that, at this moment, England was specially subjected to differential duties from which most other European nations were exempt. I then adverted to what had been done in the case of Spain, and I begged M. de Rémusat to consider what must be the feeling in England if the claim which Her Majesty's Government made under a Treaty stipulation were rejected, while concessions were made to another Power, simply because that Power had threatened to have recourse to retaliation.

M. de Rémusat did not seem willing to admit that exemption from differential duties had been accorded to Spain.

I answered that I had every reason to feel sure that my information was accurate, and I begged him to ascertain positively for himself how the matter stood with regard to Spain, and in determining upon the answer to be made to Her Majesty's Government not to forget what I had said about the impression which would be produced if it should appear that British ships were specially singled out for unfavourable treatment, because confidence was felt that England would refrain from retaliation.



*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, March 13, 1872.*

I APPROVE the language held by your Excellency to M. de Rémusat on the operation of the recent French laws on the merchant navy with regard to British shipping, as reported in your despatch of the 8th instant.

I have to request that you will avail yourself of any opportunity of pressing the French Government for an answer to the representations you have already made on the subject.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

*The Duc de Broglie to Earl Granville.—(Received March 15.)**Londres, le 15 Mars, 1872.*

LE Soussigné, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire de la République Française, a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de son Excellence M. le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique les instructions qu'il a reçues de son Gouvernement et qui sont contenues dans la dépêche ci-joint dont il a l'ordre de lui donner communication.

Comme son Excellence le verra par cette dépêche, le Gouvernement de la République a puisé avec regret, dans l'examen de la dernière note qui lui a été transmise au nom du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, la conviction qu'il devait renoncer à l'espoir de voir accepter en ce moment la révision du Traité de Commerce de 1860 sur les bases qu'il avait proposées.

En conséquence, et par les raisons dont le Soussigné a plusieurs fois eu l'honneur d'entretenir son Excellence, le Gouvernement de la République se voit obligé de faire usage de la faculté réservée par l'Article XXI de ce Traité, et de l'autorisation qui lui a été spécialement accordée à cet effet par l'Assemblée Nationale de France dans la Loi du 2 Février dernier.

Le dit Traité doit donc dès-à-présent, être considéré comme dénoncé par le Gouvernement de la République et ses effets devront cesser, si aucune disposition contraire n'intervient, d'ici là dans une année à partir du jour où la présente communication sera parvenue entre les mains de son Excellence le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat.

Le Soussigné croit pourtant devoir rappeler que si dans le cours de cette année le Gouvernement Britannique pensait pouvoir avec utilité prendre en considération les propositions qui lui ont été faites, le Gouvernement Français a toujours déclaré qu'il se monterait, à toute époque prêt, à rentrer en négociation pour le maintien avec modifications du Traité de 1860.

Il fera observer également qu'en vertu de l'Article 2 de la Loi déjà citée, les Tarifs Conventionnels établis doivent rester en vigueur, même après la cessation du Traité, jusqu'au vote des Tarifs nouveaux par l'Assemblée Nationale, et ne seront par conséquent modifiés que sur les points où cette Assemblée l'aurait jugé indispensable.

Le Gouvernement Britannique verra sans doute dans cette disposition la confirmation de l'assurance qui lui a été plusieurs fois donnée que le Gouvernement Français ne songe point à profiter de la liberté qu'il désire recouvrer, pour opérer une révolution économique de nature à troubler l'ensemble des relations commerciales des deux pays, mais qu'il veut seulement pourvoir dans la plus juste mesure aux besoins urgents des finances et de l'industrie Françaises.

Enfin le Soussigné s'associe pleinement à l'espérance exprimée par son Gouvernement, et confirmée par les assurances réitérées de son Excellence le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat, que la cessation du Traité de Commerce, si elle doit demeurer définitive, ne sera suivie d'aucun refroidissement dans les relations d'intimité qui existent depuis tant d'années entre la France et l'Angleterre et dont le maintien est d'un si grand prix pour les deux nations.

Le Soussigné prie son Excellence de vouloir bien lui accuser réception de la communication qu'il a l'honneur de lui faire, et saisit, &c.

(Signé) BROGLIE.



(Translation.)

*London, March 15, 1872.*

THE Undersigned, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the French Republic, has the honour to acquaint his Excellency the Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty with the instructions which he has received from his Government, and which are contained in the annexed despatch which he has been instructed to communicate to him.

As his Excellency will perceive from this despatch, the Government of the Republic, after examination of the last note transmitted to it in the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, has arrived with regret at the conviction that it must renounce the hope of seeing accepted at present the revision of the Treaty of Commerce of 1860 on the bases which it had proposed.

In consequence, and for the reasons which the Undersigned has several times had the honour to discuss with his Excellency, the Government of the Republic finds itself compelled to make use of the power reserved by Article XXI of this Treaty and of the authorization which has been specially conferred by the National Assembly of France by the Law of the 2nd of February last.

The said Treaty must therefore henceforth be considered as denounced ("dénoncée") by the Government of the Republic, and its provisions will cease, should no contrary arrangement be made in the meanwhile, in a year from the day on which the present communication reaches the hands of his Excellency the Principal Secretary of State.

The Undersigned, however, considers it right to state that, if, in the course of the year the British Government should think it advantageous to take into consideration the proposals which have been made to them, the French Government has always declared that it would show itself ready at any time to resume negotiations for the maintenance, with modifications, of the Treaty of 1860.

He would also direct attention to the fact that, in virtue of Article II of the Law, already mentioned, the Conventional Tariffs existing will remain in force, even after the lapse of the Treaty, until the enacting of new Tariffs by the National Assembly, and, consequently, will be modified only on the points which that Assembly may judge indispensable.

The British Government will doubtless perceive in this arrangement the confirmation of the assurance which has been several times given, that the French Government has no thought of profiting by the liberty which it desires to regain to effect an economic revolution of a nature to disturb the entire commercial relations of the two countries, but that it only wishes to provide in the strictest measure for the pressing wants of French finance and industry.

In conclusion, the Undersigned shares fully the hope expressed by his Government, and confirmed by the repeated assurances of his Excellency the Principal Secretary of State, that the cessation of the Treaty of Commerce, if it must be final, will not be followed by any lessening of the intimate relations which have existed for so many years between France and England, and the maintenance of which is of such value to both nations.

The Undersigned begs his Excellency to be so good as to acknowledge the receipt of the communication which he has the honour to make to him, and avails himself, &c.

(Signed) BROGLIE.

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Inclosure in No. 110.

*M. de Remusat to the Duc de Broglie.*

le Duc,

*Versailles, le 13 Mars, 1872.*

LA note que vous vez e u Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères a été pour le Gouvernement de la République l'objet d'un examen attentif. Il y a reconnu toute la courtoisie que Lord Granville porte dans ses communications avec la France; mais il a eu le regret de trouver dans ce document des objections qui ne lui laissent nul espoir de voir accepter la révision du Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, sur les bases de négociation qu'il avait proposées.

Un mot seulement sera dit ici de ces propositions; elles se divisent en deux classes: Les unes sans aucun doute ont une tendance protectrice; mais le Traité lui-même est conçu dans un esprit de protection modérée; et puisque le Gouvernement de la Reine a déclaré par deux fois que malgré sa répugnance pour toute protection systématique, il n'opposait pas une fin de non recevoir absolue à toute proposition de droits légèrement



protecteurs, nous aurions désiré qu'il voulût bien examiner si nos propositions n'étaient pas de celles qu'il ne peut tenir pour inacceptables, puisqu'elles sont au-dessous de la limite que s'étaient posée les négociateurs du Traité de 1860. Nous avons d'ailleurs la conviction que si elles étaient acceptées, elles ne porteraient pas une atteinte sensible aux importations de l'industrie Britannique en France. Quant à la seconde classe de nos propositions, elles ont un but éminemment fiscal. Si, comme on nous l'a plusieurs fois rappelé, le tableau détaillé des tarifs projetés n'a pas été fourni, c'est que ces tarifs restaient hypothétiques, tant qu'il n'était pas possible de préjuger à quels calculs s'arrêterait l'Assemblée Nationale. Il règne encore quelque incertitude à cet égard; mais des désignations de chiffres n'étaient pas nécessaires pour apprécier le système en général, et du moment que nous déclarions notre intention d'imposer certaines matières premières déterminées à un taux qui ne dépasserait jamais 20 pour cent et qui pourrait souvent être inférieur, il nous paraissait facile d'émettre en suffisante connaissance de cause une opinion motivée sur un semblable plan.

Au reste, nous voyons avec satisfaction que le Gouvernement de la Reine se montre plus disposée à entrer dans cet examen qu'il ne l'avait fait jusqu'ici, et des deux conditions qu'il met à la prise en considération de nos projets fiscaux, la seconde portant que les taxes compensatrices sur les produits manufacturés doivent être limitées au montant des droits établis sur les matières premières servant à leur fabrication, cette condition, dis-je, ne saurait donner lieu à aucune contestation. Quant à la première, c'est-à-dire, à l'établissement à l'intérieur d'un droit identique au droit d'entrée qui frapperait les matières premières, elle souffre beaucoup plus de difficulté. Mais sans rappeler toutes les considérations exposées dans notre dépêche du 7 Février, nous ne croyons pas impossible de combiner certains tempéraments qui atténueraient l'inégalité des charges entre le producteur indigène et le producteur étranger.

Mais nous pourrions revenir sur ces diverses questions, si nous rouvrons les négociations que le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique consentirait à reprendre, après que le Traité de 1860 aurait été dénoncé.

Longtemps nous avons espéré éviter cette dénonciation; nous craignons qu'elle ne fût prise pour le début d'une révolution commerciale, qu'elle ne portât une perturbation trop brusque dans les intérêts engagés sur la foi de Conventions antérieures; enfin, qu'elle ne devînt pour des esprits prévenus le signe d'un refroidissement entre deux pays qui n'ont que des motifs de constant accord et d'entente mutuelle. Mais les déclarations du Gouvernement de la Reine nous rassurent pleinement. Nous lisons dans la dépêche qui nous est communiquée que s'il regarde la dénonciation du Traité comme un pas vers son extinction définitive, elle ne lui paraît cependant pas un obstacle à des négociations ultérieures. Nous lisons encore que, quel que soit le résultat de la discussion, l'Angleterre s'efforcera d'éviter toute altération dans la cordialité des rapports entre les deux pays, et qu'enfin, bien qu'elle n'ait aucune intention d'engager une guerre de tarifs, elle attacherait comme nous un grand prix à recouvrer sa liberté fiscale.

Ces sentiments sont les nôtres. Pour nous, en effet, la liberté fiscale serait bien précieuse, nécessaire même, dans un moment où nous aurions besoin de toutes nos ressources pour faire face à des charges extraordinaires. C'est cette considération surtout qui nous ferait désirer d'être affranchis des restrictions qu'une série de Conventions Commerciales a imposées pour nous un droit de taxation que possède toute nation sur elle-même. C'est pour sortir de cette sorte d'impuissance que nous sommes conduits à mettre un terme, dès que nous en avons la faculté, aux engagements qui résultent pour nous de nombreux Traités de Commerce. Celui qui nous lie à la Grande Bretagne est le premier qui soit arrivé à l'époque d'une résiliation régulière. Nous ne pouvons plus même compter avec quelque assurance sur la possibilité de modifications qui nous seraient nécessaires. Nous sommes donc obligés de prendre date en le dénonçant aujourd'hui. Confiant dans nos intentions, résolu à n'user qu'avec une grande modération de la liberté qui nous serait rendue, soit en négociant des Conventions nouvelles, soit plutôt en statuant seuls par voie législative sur notre régime commercial, nous avons pris notre résolution sous l'empire d'un intérêt public qui ne peut être méconnu. Veuillez donc, M. l'Ambassadeur, faire connaître au Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique, que dans notre pensée les effets du Traité du 23 Janvier, 1860, doivent expirer un an après le jour où vous lui aurez fait connaître nos intentions. Vous voudrez bien nous en informer immédiatement, afin que le fait soit porté, comme il convient, à la connaissance du commerce et de l'industrie.

Je vous prie de lire cette dépêche au Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté, et, s'il le désire, de lui en laisser copie.

J'espère que la notification qu'elle contient et à laquelle vous donnerez, dans la forme, l'authenticité qui sera jugée convenable, sera reçu dans le même esprit que celui qui l'a



dictée, et qu'aucune atteinte ne sera portée aux sentiments réciproques d'estime et de bienveillance qui subsistent entre les deux nations.

Agréez, &c.  
(Signé) REMUSAT.

(Translation.)

M. le Duc,

*Versailles, March 13, 1872.*

THE note which you have received from Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has been the object of attentive examination by the Government of the Republic. It has recognized all the courtesy which Lord Granville uses in his communications with France; but it has regretted to find in this document objections which leave no hope of seeing accepted the revision of the Treaty of January 23, 1860, on the bases of negotiation which had been proposed.

One word only as regards these propositions; they are divided into two classes. One class, without doubt, has a protective tendency, but the Treaty itself is conceived in a spirit of moderate protection; and since the Government of the Queen has on two occasions declared that in spite of its repugnance to all systematic protection, it has no absolute objection to any proposal for slightly protective duties, we could have wished that it had investigated whether our proposals were not of that class which it cannot consider as unacceptable, since they are above the limit which the negotiators of the Treaty of 1860 had laid down. We, moreover, entertain the conviction that, if they were accepted, they would not sensibly affect the importations of British manufactures into France. As for the second class of our proposals, they have an eminently fiscal aim. If, as has several times been represented to us, the detailed Table of the proposed tariffs has not been furnished, it is because these tariffs were hypothetical in so far as it was not possible to predict the figures which the National Assembly might fix. There still exists some uncertainty in this respect; but the exact specification of the amounts was not necessary to the appreciation of the system in general, and from the moment that we declared our intention of subjecting certain raw materials decided upon to a tax which should never exceed 20 per cent., and which might often be less, it appeared to us easy to pronounce, with such knowledge of the facts, an opinion founded on a scheme of this nature.

Nevertheless, we observe with satisfaction that the Government of the Queen shows itself more disposed to make this examination than it had hitherto been, and of the two conditions which it lays down as essential to a consideration of our fiscal projects, the second, stipulating that the compensatory taxes on manufactured products must be limited to the amount of the duties imposed on the raw materials employed in their manufacture would give rise to no dispute. As to the first, that is to say, to the establishment of an internal duty, equivalent to the import duty, which would affect raw materials, there is much more difficulty. But, without recapitulating all the considerations set forth in our despatch of the 7th of February, we do not consider it impossible to combine certain modifications which would lessen the inequality of the burdens between the native and the foreign producer.

But we can revert to these different questions, if we re-open the negotiations which Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State would perhaps consent to resume, after the Treaty of 1860.

We long hoped to avoid this denunciation; we feared that it might be looked upon as the commencement of a commercial revolution, that it might cause too sudden a disturbance in interests, based on the faith of former Conventions: lastly, that it might become to prejudiced minds the token of a coolness between two countries moved only by a desire for constant agreement and mutual understanding. But the declarations of the Government of the Queen entirely re-assure us. We read in the despatch which is communicated to us, that if it regards the denunciation of the Treaty as a step towards its definitive extinction, it nevertheless does not look upon it as a bar to future negotiations. We read also that, whatever the result of the discussion may be, England will strive to prevent any alteration in the cordiality of the relations between the two countries, and, finally, although she has no intention of entering upon a war of Tariffs, she, like ourselves, would attach much value to the recovery of her fiscal freedom.

These are our sentiments. For us, in effect, fiscal freedom would be very precious, even necessary at a time when we should require all our resources to meet extraordinary burdens. It is this consideration, above all, that would make us desirous to be freed from the restrictions which a series of Commercial Conventions has imposed as regards us on the right of taxation which every nation possesses over itself. It is in order to extricate ourselves from



this kind of helplessness that we are led to place a limit, as soon as we have the power of doing so, to the engagements which are the result for us of numerous Treaties of Commerce. The one which binds us to Great Britain is the first which has arrived at a term when it can be regularly annulled. We can no longer even reckon with any certainty on the possibility of modifications which would be necessary to us. We are therefore obliged to prepare its cessation by denouncing it now. Confident in our intentions, resolved to use only with great moderation the freedom which would be restored to us, either by negotiation of new Conventions, or rather, by our own legislation on our commercial régime, we have taken this step under the pressure of a public interest which cannot be misunderstood. Will you, therefore, M. l'Ambassadeur, make known to the Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty, that in our opinion the operation of the Treaty of January 23, 1860, will expire in one year from the day on which you announced to him our intentions. You will inform us immediately of the fact, in order that it may be communicated in a proper manner to the trading and industrial community.

I request you to read this despatch to the Principal Secretary of State of Her Majesty, and, if he wishes it, to leave a copy with him.

I trust that the notification which it contains, and to which you will impart, in form, the official character which may be deemed proper, will be received in the spirit which has dictated it, and that no injury will be done to the mutual sentiments of regard and friendliness which exist between the two nations.

Accept, &c.  
(Signed) REMUSAT.

No. 111.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received March 16.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, March 15, 1872.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 8th instant, and to your Lordship's despatch of the 13th instant, I have the honour to report that M. de Rémusat told me this afternoon that he had found that I was right in stating that Spanish ships had been exempted from the "surtaxe de pavillon."

I reminded him that the demand of Her Majesty's Government for the exemption of the merchandise imported in British ships was still unanswered, while the differential duties still continued to be levied on such merchandise. In fact, I said, the appearance still was that England was especially singled out for unfavourable treatment; and I begged M. de Rémusat to do his utmost to put an end to so deplorable a state of things.

No. 112.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, March 16, 1872.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a note from the Duc de Broglie,\* containing the denunciation of the Treaty of Commerce of 1860, between this country and France.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 113.

*Earl Granville to the Duc de Broglie.*

*Foreign Office, March 18, 1872.*

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 15th instant, of the note addressed to him by his Excellency the Duc de Broglie, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the French Republic, on that day, conveying a notification that the Government of the Republic finds itself under the necessity of exercising the power

\* No. 106.



reserved by Article XXI of the Treaty of Commerce of 1860, and conferred by the National Assembly in the Law of the 2nd of February last, with respect to the termination of that Treaty.

His Excellency the Duc de Broglie accordingly informed the Undersigned that the Treaty is to be considered, from the present time, as denounced ("dénoncé") by the Government of the French Republic; and that its operation is to cease in one year, dating from the day (namely, the 15th of March) on which the note of the Duc de Broglie reached the Undersigned.

The Undersigned, in thus acknowledging the receipt of the note of the Duc de Broglie, avails himself, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 114.

*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received March 20.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, March 18, 1872.*

THE President of the Republic spoke to me yesterday at Versailles of the denunciation of the Commercial Treaty of 1860. He observed that your Lordship's last note (that to the Duc de Broglie of the 24th of last month) had left him little hope that the negotiation would be carried on by Her Majesty's Government on the basis of the proposals he had made. He had not, he went on to say, been able to obtain a specific answer from Her Majesty's Government, and he had felt bound to lose no more time. England need not in the least apprehend any return on his part to the system in force before 1860. Even if the Treaty should be allowed to expire without any new agreement between the two countries, he should not desire to make any greater changes in the French system than those which had been stated in the very moderate proposals which he had submitted to Her Majesty's Government.

I answered that the President was well aware that, for my own part, I deeply regretted that the French Government had raised any question concerning the Commercial Treaty; and I did not deny that the denunciation was, in fact, painful to me. The thing, however, was, I said, now done, and I was unwilling to enter with him upon any controversy as to the preceding negotiations. My earnest desire was that, taking matters as they stood, we should on both sides use our best endeavours to maintain friendly feeling. With this object in view, I would once more call his attention to the importance of executing the Treaty, while it lasted, in a fair and liberal spirit. I had often spoken to him on this subject before, and I was sorry to say that there appeared to be at the moment special cause for me to do so again. I had indeed great reason to fear that the Customs authorities were acting in an unprecedented, not to say vexatious, manner with regard to British imports.

The President said that he believed that, in fact, it had been found necessary to be more strict than formerly in the examination of travellers' luggage.

I replied that certainly I thought it would be a great pity if, in addition to the annoyances of the new passport system, English travellers should be exposed to delay and inconvenience with regard to passing their luggage through the Customs. It was not, however, to this matter that the complaints which had reached me related. Those complaints were of a much more serious character. It was represented to Her Majesty's Government that very numerous seizures had been recently made of British goods at French ports; that new and strained interpretations were put upon the Treaty Tariffs; and that, in fact, the Customs officers, with or without instructions from the Government, appeared to have adopted a system which was, to say the least, entirely novel; which had consequently been quite unexpected by importers, and which was embarrassing to them, and injurious to British commerce.

The President answered that nothing could be farther from his wishes than that anything of the kind should take place. Possibly a circular issued by the late Minister of Finance might have been misinterpreted by the Customs officers, but he could assure me that his own intention was that the Treaty should be executed now in the same way as it had always been executed.

I begged the President to use his personal authority to enforce a compliance with his intentions by the subordinate authorities, and he promised to do so.

The President proceeded to tell me that M. de Rémusat had reported to him the language I had held respecting the position in which England had been placed, since the enactment of the new law on the merchant navy; and had, in particular, mentioned the

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contrast I had pointed out between the treatment applied to Spanish and that applied to English vessels. It did he said, in fact appear that M. Pouyer-Quertier, the late Minister of Finance, had, without consulting his colleagues, exempted Spain from the "surtaxes de pavillon" by a simple circular to the Customs authorities, and had (which was almost equally strange) referred in that Circular to the ancient "pacte de famille" between the two branches of the House of Bourbon, when one of them reigned in France and the other in Spain.

The President went on to say that he made no doubt that he should be able to show the Spanish Government that it was impossible that the concession, so made, could be maintained.

I replied that I had mentioned the case of Spain to M. de Rémusat, simply with a view to point out the painful effect which the exceptionally unfavourable treatment of British shipping could not fail to have upon public feeling in England. Our position was, I said, quite different from that of Spain. Her Majesty's Government represented that, under the Treaty stipulations, merchandize imported into France by British vessels ought to be exempt from the "surtaxes de pavillon." Spain laid no claim to exemption in virtue of any international engagement; she merely threatened retaliation. My desire was, not that the concession made to Spain should be withdrawn, but that the claim of Great Britain should be admitted.

I went on to say, that as the President had introduced the subject, I could not help asking him to reflect upon the position in which he was, in practice, placing England. Could he believe that the utmost good-will on the part of Her Majesty's Government would avail to maintain a friendly feeling towards France among the mercantile classes in England, if they found that in matters most materially affecting their interests, their country was exceptionally placed in the position of the least-favoured nation? I was sure that this could not be the deliberate intention of the French Government; nor did I forget the peculiar circumstances to which such a result might in some degree be attributed. I remembered of course that the English Commercial Treaties expired before those with other Powers, and that we had a more ancient and less complete Navigation Treaty than several other nations. I would not at the moment discuss the question whether the letter of the Treaties justified the course pursued by the French Government. I would merely speak of the effect on public opinion. The public in general would not examine technical points respecting the wording of Treaty Articles—they would regard patent practical results. They would see that the English Treaty was denounced while others subsisted, and that the merchandize brought to France by British ships was, notwithstanding our Treaty claim, subjected to a differential duty, which was not levied on merchandize imported by ships under the flags of Austria, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Italy, Portugal, Sweden, or Spain. Could the public in England be expected to see in these facts proofs of the friendly feeling of France?

The President observed to me (as he had done on previous occasions) that it was not the competition of English shipping that the French merchant navy had most to fear, nor against English shipping that the "surtaxes de pavillon" were chiefly levelled. He repeated in strong terms that it was his earnest desire to be on the best terms with England, and that nothing could be farther from his wish than to treat her less favourably than other friendly nations.

I said that I trusted that he would consider the demand of Her Majesty's Government respecting the "surtaxes de pavillon" in this spirit, and return a favourable answer to it without further delay.

This morning I waited upon M. de Rémusat, before returning to Paris, and related to him what had passed between the President and me. I begged him to use his own endeavours also to put a stop to novel and vexatious proceedings on the part of the Customs officers, and I reminded him of the pressing nature of our claim to exemption from the "surtaxes de pavillon."

M. de Rémusat said that he had already written to the Finance Department respecting the mode of executing the Treaty of Commerce, and he added that he himself felt all the importance of the question of the "surtaxes de pavillon."

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.



*Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received March 20.)*

My Lord,

*Paris March, 19, 1872.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship, extracted from the "Journal Officiel" of this day, an announcement of the denunciation of the Treaty of Commerce with England.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure in No. 115.

*Extract from the "Journal Officiel" of March 19, 1872.*

LE Traité de Commerce avec l'Angleterre a été dénoncé au Gouvernement Britannique par une communication de l'Ambassadeur de France du 15 courant. Il cessera en conséquence d'être en vigueur à partir du 15 Mars 1873.

La voie des négociations reste ouverte pour toutes stipulations concernant le commerce de la France et de l'Angleterre, et l'Article 2 de la Loi du 2 Février dernier porte que les tarifs conventionnels continueront d'être observés jusqu'au vote de tarifs nouveaux par l'Assemblée Nationale.

(Translation.)

THE Treaty of Commerce with England has been denounced to the British Government by a communication from the French Ambassador of the 15th instant. It will consequently cease to be in force after the 15th of March, 1873.

The course of negotiations remains open for all arrangements respecting the commerce of France and England; and Article II of the Law of the 2nd of February last provides that the Conventional Tariffs shall continue to be observed until the National Assembly fixes new Tariffs.

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No. 116.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, March 22, 1872.*

I HAVE to convey to your Excellency my approval of the language held by you to M. Thiers and M. de Rémusat, on the subject of the "surtaxe de pavillon," as reported in your Excellency's despatch dated the 18th instant.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

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No. 117.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, March 23, 1872.*

I THINK it well to state, for your Excellency's information and guidance (with more especial reference to my despatch of the 26th of January), in the event of further discussion on the subject of duties on raw materials, that Her Majesty's Government adhere to the views they have already expressed on this question.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.



*Earl Granville to the Duc de Broglie.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

*Foreign Office, March 25, 1872.*

IN the note which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on the 18th instant, I acknowledged the receipt of your note of the 15th of this month, conveying the notice given by the Government of the French Republic for the termination of the Treaty of Commerce of 1860.

I now desire to request your Excellency to have the goodness to convey to your Government the following observations on the subject.

In the first place I beg your Excellency to state that Her Majesty's Government fully admit the right of the French Government to terminate the Treaty, while they claim no less fully that the stipulations of the Treaty shall be strictly observed as long as it continues in force.

I feel it the more incumbent upon me to make this statement on account of what appears to be a tendency on the part of the authorities at some of the French Customs stations to limit or strain the terms of the Treaty. In the note which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on the 24th of last month, I adverted to representations made to the French Government by Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris in regard to duties imposed on the introduction into France of mineral oils of British origin. These oils were classed in tariff statements published by the French Customs as chargeable with a duty of 5 per cent.; this regulation was suddenly altered, and the duty on these products has been raised to 37 fr. per 100 kilógrammes, equivalent, according to values given by British dealers, to about 80 per cent. *ad valorem*; whereas, by the terms of the Commercial Treaty, as interpreted by her Majesty's Government, no such duties can exceed 25 per cent.

Nor is this all: in disregard of the provisions of Article XIX of the Treaty of the 23rd of January, 1860, and V of the Second Supplementary Convention of the 16th of November of the same year, conferring most-favoured-nation treatment, American mineral oil has been admitted into France at a duty of 5 fr. per 100 kilogrammes lower than British; whereby, according to values stated by British dealers, an advantage of 9 per cent. *ad valorem* has been given to the former product.

Moreover, the British firms which, under these altered circumstances, were unable to complete contracts they had entered into without actual loss, have been subjected to considerable legal expenses, and in some instances to judicial decisions involving them in liability for damages. The representations which, under instructions from Her Majesty's Government, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris has repeatedly addressed to the French Government in this matter have remained for many weeks without any definite answer being returned to them, and without any action being taken to redress the grievances complained of.

Further, Memorials have been presented to Her Majesty's Government within the last few days respecting a system of interference which it would seem is now adopted by the French Customs administration in regard to the trade in yarns and tissues between this country and France. Seizures have been made and fines imposed under an interpretation of the Tariff annexed to the Treaty of Commerce which is alleged to be altogether new and opposed to its letter and spirit. Investigations into the specific allegations with respect to these commodities which have resulted in these seizures, are represented to have been of a very unsatisfactory character.

I have likewise the honour to state to your Excellency that no answer has yet been returned to the representations made by Her Majesty's Government, to which I also adverted in my note of the 24th ultimo, in regard to the recent French Law respecting the mercantile marine, though I understand that, in consequence of remonstrance from the Spanish Government, Spanish shipping has been relieved from the application of these differential dues. I am further informed that the tax of 10 c. on articles which pass the French frontier has been taken off in favour of Spain.

I beg that your Excellency will have the goodness further to acquaint your Government that Her Majesty's Government have always received with the utmost satisfaction, as I have frequently stated, the expressions of friendship towards this country of the President of the French Republic, and of his Ministers. Her Majesty's Government also attached much value to the assurances given at different times by the President and his Ministers, and also by yourself, that it was not the wish of the French Government to do away with the principle of the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty, to place this country in a less favourable position than any other Power, or to impose any special disadvantage on



British merchant-vessels; and that no apprehension need be entertained that, while the Treaty remained in force, subordinate authorities would be allowed to strain its stipulations. Her Majesty's Government were equally glad to hear that it was the policy of the President simply to impose moderate duties, such as those specified in the proposals he had made to Her Majesty's Government; and to receive the assurances of M. de Rémusat that the French Government would not wage a warfare of Customs duties.

On these grounds they have understood it to be the intention of the French Government that the fiscal changes in contemplation in France would not be so directed as to be prejudicial to British commerce; and they accept in this sense the announcement which your Excellency has now made, that the several Tariffs annexed to the Treaty will remain in force even after the expiration of the Treaty, except so far as their terms are specifically altered by the National Assembly.

But the course pursued with respect to the several matters to which I have now requested your Excellency to call the attention of your Government, shows that these intentions of the French Government, as far as the matters in question are concerned, have not been attended to by the subordinate Departments. Indeed, from the manner in which the important subjects to which I have adverted have been dealt with, there is even an appearance, in the present state of affairs, that questions which affect this country especially, receive unfavourable treatment. The duties complained of continue to be levied; the vexatious proceedings on the part of the Customs authorities, with all the injurious consequences which attend them, seem to increase rather than to diminish. The discussion on these points is indefinitely protracted, and controversies which Her Majesty's Government much regret, cannot fail to ensue.

On previous occasions I have explained the reasons on account of which Her Majesty's Government would regret the termination of Treaty of Commerce, which undoubtedly has much increased the commercial transactions of both countries; and I have expressed the readiness of Her Majesty's Government to assist the French Government as far as possible in new fiscal arrangements, where this could be done without giving a sanction to principles to which Her Majesty's Government are strongly opposed. I regret to have to call attention to complaints which so seriously affect British interests. I am prompted also by the strong desire, which Her Majesty's Government cordially share with that of France, and which has been expressed with so much force and courtesy by yourself and M. de Rémusat, to prevent any possible diminution of the friendly relations which now exist, to request that if the complaints which have been made on the part of British trade cannot be confuted, instructions, which may prove effectual for the purpose, may be given to the proper authorities in France to observe strictly the stipulations of the Treaty of 1860, and its various annexes as long as those engagements remain in force.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 119.

*Earl Granville to Lord Lyons.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, March 25, 1872.*

IN my despatch of the 16th instant I transmitted to your Excellency a copy of a note which I had received from the French Ambassador at this Court, conveying a notification on the part of the French Government for the termination of the Treaty of Commerce of 1860.

I now transmit to you copies of two notes which I have addressed to the Duc de Broglie in reply,\* in which I have acknowledged the receipt of this communication, and have pressed for the strict observance of the stipulations of the Treaty as long as it remains in force.

I am glad to avail myself of this opportunity to express to your Excellency the entire approval by Her Majesty's Government of your proceedings throughout the negotiations relative to the revision of the Commercial Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government fully appreciate your Excellency's unwearied efforts to support the interests of British commerce, and to procure the strict fulfilment of the stipulations of the Treaty as long as it remains in force.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) GRANVILLE

\* Nos. 113 and 118.











FRANCE. COMMERCIAL. No. 1 (1872).

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CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

TREATY OF COMMERCE

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE

OF

1860.

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*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*  
1872.

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