

Art. VII. Materials of all kinds imported for the construction, careening or repair of iron or wooden ships, of whatever tonnage finished material necessary for their armament, and material introduced for the construction and repair of marine steam boilers, whatever be the system or forces of the said apparatus, will pay the dues fixed in the Customs' Tariff; but the dues will be returned to the constructors and manufacturers, upon their petition, when the introduction and employment of the said material and effects, in the aforementioned constructions or repairs of ships, machines, or boilers, has been proved.

Art. VIII. For the reimbursement of the dues the weight or volume of the materials or effects as noted in the Tariff, will be compared with the weight or volume shewn by the made or completed work; so that the proportion of dues corresponding to the waste or dismantled parts which result from the construction or transformation thereof on their application to the works aforesaid, goes to the benefit of the Revenue.

Art. IX. Articles 387, 390, and 391 of the instructions of the Philippine Customs are abrogated.

MADRID, 29th December, 1868.

The Colonial Minister,  
(Signed,) AYALA.

No. 56.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Account, duly certified, of the Average Amount of BANK NOTES in Circulation in Hongkong, during the Month ending 30th April, 1869, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 14th May, 1869.

BANKS.	AVERAGE AMOUNT.	SPECIE IN RESERVE.
Oriental Bank Corporation,.....	\$ 336,826	\$ 112,276
Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China,.....	526,430	200,000
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China,.....	287,380	100,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,.....	1,163,480	500,000
TOTAL,.....\$	2,314,116	912,276

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATION.

1. It is hereby notified that under arrangements made by the Director General of the Post Office of India which have been confirmed by His Excellency SIR RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL, the fast Opium Steamers plying between Hongkong, the Straits and Calcutta will henceforward be classed as "Indian Mail Packets," and that prepayment of the Postage on ordinary Letters forwarded by them will be optional. Letters however which may be posted insufficiently paid will be charged as wholly unpaid.
2. The rate of Postage on Letters is 8 cents for each half-ounce, or fraction of half an ounce.
3. Letters for registration must be prepaid with the full amount of Postage at 8 cents for each half ounce, and 12 cents in addition for the registration fee on each Letter, irrespective of its weight.
4. Newspapers and Prices Current must be prepaid at the rate of 2 cents each.
5. Book Packets and Packets of Patterns must be prepaid, at the rate of 6 cents for each four ounces.

F. W. MITCHELL,  
*Postmaster General.*

General Post Office, Hongkong, 11th May, 1869.

No. 51.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Return of Revenue and Expenditure for 1868, including Receipts and Disbursements on account of the Colony by the Crown Agents in England, is published for general information—with the Comparative Statement for the Years 1867 and 1868.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 4th May, 1869.