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## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Circular Despatch from The Right Honorable Earl GRANVILLE, K.G., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 19th May, 1869.

*Circular.*

DOWNING STREET, 1st April, 1869.

SIR,—With reference to the Circular Despatch from this Department of the 6th of February, 1868, enclosing a Copy of a Circular, issued by the United States Government, relative to the necessity of Vessels bound for those States being furnished with full Manifests of Cargo, I now transmit to you a Copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Savannah, addressed to the Board of Trade, calling attention to the frequent arrival at that Port of British Vessels with unlawful Manifests.

I have to request that you will take such steps as may be necessary for calling the attention of Persons interested in Shipping in the Colony under your Government to the Penalties referred to in the enclosed Despatch for non-compliance with the Law of the United States in this respect. I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

GRANVILLE.

*The Officer Administering the Government of*  
HONGKONG,  
*&c., &c., &c.*

BRITISH CONSULATE, SAVANNAH, 22nd December, 1868.

SIR,—I have the honour to address you with regard to a subject which, from despatches now at this Consulate, I find that Mr. Consul William Tasker Smith has already brought before the notice of the Board of Trade.

It is of frequent occurrence that British vessels enter at this port with unlawful Manifests, and the Masters generally plead ignorance of the laws in excuse for so doing.

As it is of course necessary to conform to the laws of the United States of America in this matter, and impossible to assist Masters transgressing them, I would most respectfully call the attention of the Board of Trade to the expediency of making public, as far as possible, that without a lawful Manifest (such as I find are printed by James Brown, Tower Street, Liverpool, which is the same for all legal purposes as the printed copy of Inward Foreign Manifest which I have the honour to enclose for the inspection of the Board), all vessels entering at this port are subjected to a fine of twenty-five dollars American currency and upwards.

There can be no doubt but that the Masters of vessels are in many instances much to blame for not making themselves acquainted with the United States laws, but regarding it as my duty to make known to the Board of Trade such facts as they occur in this consular district, I have respectfully reported the same.

(Signed) WM. HOTHAM BENNETT,  
*Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.*

*The Secretary, Board of Trade.*

No. 58.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

With reference to the Government Notification No. 53 of the 8th Instant, it is hereby notified that the Lubeck, Hamburg, and Oldenburg Consulates at Hongkong have been suppressed by their respective Governments.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 21st May, 1869.