

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

No. 594.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET,

25th May, 1906.

SIR,—With reference to the Marquess of Ripon's Circular despatch of the 15th December, 1893, I have the honour to transmit to you, for information and publication in the Colony under your Government, a copy of an Order of His Majesty in Council revoking the Orders in Council of the 30th September, 1873, the 14th February, 1883, and the 23rd November, 1893, in regard to the mode of estimating the net registered tonnage of Italian ships, and recognising in His Majesty's Dominions the tonnage of such ships denoted on their Certificates of Registry or other national papers dated on and after the 10th February, 1906.

I have, etc.,

ELGIN.

The Officer Administering the Government of

HONGKONG.

AT THE COURT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE,

THE 11TH DAY OF MAY, 1906.

PRESENT,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

WHEREAS by Section 84, sub-section 1, of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, it is enacted that whenever it appears to His Majesty the King in Council that the tonnage regulations of the said Act have been adopted by any foreign country, and are in force there, His Majesty in Council may order that the ships of that country shall, without being re-measured in His Majesty's dominions, be deemed to be of the tonnage denoted in their certificates of registry or other national papers in the same manner, to the same extent, and for the same purposes as the tonnage denoted in the certificate of registry of a British ship is deemed to be the tonnage of that ship:

And whereas it appears to His Majesty that the tonnage regulations of the said Act have been adopted by the Government of His Majesty the King of Italy, and are now in force in that country, having come into operation on the 10th February, 1906:

HIS MAJESTY is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to order that the merchant ships of the said Kingdom of Italy, the measurement of which shall, after the 10th February, 1906, have been ascertained and denoted in the certificates of registry or other national papers of such ships, shall be deemed to be of the tonnage denoted in such certificates of registry or other national papers, in the same manner, to the same extent, and for the same purposes as the tonnage denoted in the certificate of registry of a British ship is deemed to be the tonnage of that ship:

And His Majesty is further pleased to direct that the Orders of Her late Majesty in Council, dated respectively the 30th day of September, 1873, the 14th day of February, 1883, and the 23rd day of November, 1893, be, and the same are hereby revoked.

A. W. FITZROY.