

I am not yet supplied with Besmine's Hydrometer, but as that is merely necessary to ascertain the specific gravity, you are at liberty to accept entry of any oil which will stand the required fire-test.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. JOHNSON.

CUSTOM HOUSE, WINDSOR, N.S.,

13th September, 1879.

The Commissioner of Customs, Ottawa, Ontario.

SIR,—There was imported here by ship from New York, on the 9th instant, eight barrels of kerosine oil, the owner not being aware that the article was prohibited unless it would stand the fire-test of 130°. It was landed, and is held until the instructions of the Department are obtained with respect to the disposal of it. The oil is of the usual good quality imported here, and on trial by the pyrometer, it was found to stand the test up to 124°. The owner is anxious to pay the duties and have delivery, but he has been informed that the goods must remain in charge until I have the decision of the Department.

This will probably stop the importation of such oil in future.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) EDWARD O'BRIEN, *Collector P.S.O.*

30th September, 1879.

The Commissioner of Customs, Windsor, N.S.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, respecting the disposal of kerosine oil not standing the required test, I beg leave to state that this Department has no power to make any disposal of oil that will not stand the fire-test, other than destroying it or allowing it to be exported.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. JOHNSON,

*Commissioner of Customs.*

PORT OF LONDONDERRY, 30th Oct., 1879.

The Commissioner of Customs, Ottawa.

DEAR SIR,—It is reported in this district that you have permitted kerosine oil to be imported and entered for consumption, when it stands the fire-test of 130 degrees, without exacting the survey of gage and weight.

Will you let me know by return of mail if this is correct; and oblige

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) ROBERT DILL, *Collector.*

24th November, 1879.

The Collector of Customs, Londonderry, N.S.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, respecting the admission of kerosene oil, I beg to state that the fire-test is the principal matter in the inspection of imported petroleum, and any oils that will stand that required by law may be admitted for entry after being branded.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. JOHNSON.