

A SHORT EXPLANATION

OF

COMMERCIAL TERMS OR EXPRESSIONS.

(Extracted from Morrison's Book-keeping.)

Accommodation, when applied to Bills or Notes, are those for which no value has been given; that is, when the Drawee only lends his name; and that the Drawer engages to provide him with the means of payment when the bill falls due.

Adventure, when a merchant exports goods to or from a foreign market on his own account and risk, it is called an individual speculation, or adventure to or from that place.

Advice, mercantile intelligence; to advise a bill is to describe the amount, date, term, to whom payable, etc., and to request the person on whom drawn to accept it.

Affidavit, signifies an oath in writing, sworn before some person who is authorized to take the same.

Agent, a person duly empowered to do business for another.

Arbitration, the determination of a cause by persons mutually chosen by the parties.

Assignee, a person deputed by another to manage the subject of a bankrupt.

Average, a contribution made for losses at sea, which falls upon the proprietors or insurers in a just proportion.

Balance of Trade, the difference between the commercial exports and imports of one country with respect to another.

Bank Bill, a bill drawn on and accepted by a banking-house or banker.

Bankrupt, a trader whom misfortune or extravagance has rendered unable to pay his debts.

Barter, the trucking or exchanging of one commodity for another.

Bills on the circle, those under acceptance, and which we are bound to pay.

Bills in hand, those which we have in hand, and for which we receive payment.

Bill of Entry, a list of the particulars of goods entered at the Custom-house.

Bill of Lading, a printed agreement between the shipper of goods and the captain of a ship, binding the latter to deliver them "in good order and well-conditioned," on payment of a certain freight. It is usual to make out three bills, one to the shipper, the second to be held by the captain, and the third to be sent to the person to whom the goods are consigned, by which he can claim them on their arrival.

Bill of Sale is a solemn contract, under seal, whereby a person conveys the right and interest which he has in goods and chattels.

Bill of Store is a license granted by the Custom-house to merchants, to carry such stores and provisions as are necessary for a voyage, free of duty.

Blank Credit, the permission which one house gives to another to draw on it to a certain extent, at any time, for their own accommodation.

Broker, an agent employed by merchants in buying and selling, who, for a trifling charge, finds the merchant buyers in one case, and sellers in the other. There are several kinds of Brokers, such as Ship-Brokers, Insurance-Brokers, Exchange-Brokers, Stock-Brokers, etc.

Bonded Goods are certain articles which, on being landed, are warehoused upon bond being given by the owner for the payment of duties, etc.

Bottomry is a contract in the nature of a mortgage of a ship, when the owner of it borrows money to enable