

Commercial Treaty with Spain.

(Circular.)

DOWNING STREET, 9th December, 1892.

MY LORD,—With reference to my predecessor's circular despatch of the 4th of February last, respecting the termination of the commercial treaty between this country and Spain, I have the honour to transmit, for the information of the colony under your government, a translation of a notice from the *Customs Gazette*, Madrid, announcing that products of British possessions shall enjoy the benefit of the second column of the Spanish tariff.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your most obedient, humble servant,
RIPON.The Officer Administering
The Government of Canada.

From the "Boletin Oficial de la Direccion General de Aduanas" (Customs Gazette) of Madrid, 10th November, 1892.

ROYAL ORDER directing that products of British Possessions shall enjoy the benefit of the Second Column of the present Tariff. 4th October, 1892.

"Expediente" No. 1,044.92.

The following Royal Order has been communicated by the Ministry of State to that of Finance:—

SIR,—In reply to the Royal Order which Your Excellency was good enough to address to me asking my opinion on the question whether, in virtue of international arrangements, the island of Newfoundland and the coast of Labrador have a right to the enjoyment of the benefits of the second column of the present tariff, as being British possessions,

His Majesty the King (whom God preserve!), and in his name the Queen Regent has been pleased to direct that your Office be informed that it would not be reasonable to refuse to the British colonies the same commercial treatment that is conceded to the mother country, seeing that England concedes the same commercial treatment to Spanish colonies as to Spain, and that it must be in consequence of an unintentional omission that this is not stated in the Royal Order of the 29th June.

By Royal Order, communicated to me by the Minister of State, I acquaint Your Excellency with this for your information, and to enable you to give any necessary orders in the direction indicated to the custom-houses of the peninsula and the adjacent islands.

THIS This is published in the "Boletin" for the information of the custom-houses, in order that the treatment of the second column of the present tariff may be conceded to products of British possessions, as provided in the preceding Royal Order.

God preserve you many years!

MADRID, 4th October, 1892.

(Signed) E. DE ALVEAR.

Vide Canada Gazette, vol. xxvi., p. 1257.