

COMMERCIAL AGENTS IN CANADA.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

TRANSMITTING,

In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of January 24, 1859, a list of the commercial agents appointed in the British provinces by the consul general, and the amount of fees received during the year 1858.

JANUARY 29, 1859.—Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 28, 1859.

The Secretary of State, in compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives adopted on the 24th instant, in which he is "requested to furnish, at his earliest convenience, the number of commercial agents appointed by the United States consul general of the Canadas on the northern frontier, and the amount of fees received by them during the year eighteen hundred and fifty-eight," has the honor to state that no "commercial agents" have been appointed by the consul general for the British North American provinces. This class of consular officers, as defined by the act of August 18, 1856, regulating the diplomatic and consular systems of the United States, is "deemed and taken to denote full, principal, and permanent 'consular officers,' as distinguished from subordinates and substitutes," and is appointed only by the Department of State, under the direction of the President.

Consular agents, the class to which it is presumed the resolution has reference, are consular officers, "exercising the powers and performing the duties" of consuls within certain defined limits of the consular jurisdiction of the consul or consul general by whom they are respectively appointed. Of these, thirty have been duly appointed owner to the invoice, stating the place of the growth or production

by Mr. W. B. S. Moor, the consul general for the British North American provinces, who "found it necessary," as he stated, to make such appointments in order to carry out the instructions of the Treasury Department." The agencies are established at Clifton, Prescott, Toronto, Hamilton, Cobourg, Kingston, Port Sarnia, Belleville, Port Stanley, Dundee, St. Catharine, Port Burwell, Port Rowan, Windsor, Fort Erie, Port Hope, Port Colbourn, Goderich, Port Bruce, Dunville, Port Dover, all in Canada West; at Hemmingford, Coaticook, Lacolle, St. John, Huntington, Stanstead, Longneuil and St. Lambert, Quebec and Chicoutimi, all in Canada East. The aggregate amount of fees received by them in the first three quarters of 1858, the returns for the fourth quarter not yet having been made to the department, was \$10,655 64, averaging \$355 55 for each agency.

In connexion with this subject, and for the information of the House of Representatives, the instructions issued by the consul general to his agents respecting the verification of invoices are hereto appended.

An extract from the quarterly return of fees received by the consular agents to the 30th of September, 1858, is herewith transmitted. It is proper to state that nineteen of these agents were appointed subsequently to the expiration of the first quarter of the year.

LEWIS CASS.

To the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

CONSULATE GENERAL OF U. S. FOR B. N. A. PROVINCES,
Montreal, February 25, 1858.

SIR: In order to prevent detention at the frontier ports, you are directed to notify shippers of the following regulations of the Treasury Department of the United States:

Invoices are required to be certified by consular officers in the following cases:

1. On dutiable goods, where the owner does not reside in the United States.—(*Treasury Regulations of 1857, articles 203, 204, 206, 207, 209, 281, 287, 706, and 707.*)

2. Where the manufacturer is part owner, notwithstanding another part owner resides in the United States, the invoice of the goods must be accompanied by a consular certificate.—(*Treasury Regulations of 1857, article 710.*)

3. Articles of the produce of the United States exported to the British North American provinces, and brought back in the same condition as when exported, claiming to be entered free of duty, must be accompanied by a certificate of the collector of the former port from which the reimportation is made of the identity of the goods, and of their unchanged condition, which certificate must be authenticated by a consular officer.—(*Treasury Regulations of 1857, articles 242, 246, 286, 293, 930, and 936.*)

4. Merchandise above the value of one hundred dollars, claiming exemption from duty under the reciprocity act, the affidavit of the

of the goods, and their value, verified by a certificate of a consular officer, is required.

If there be no consular officer at the place of export, the oath to the certificate may be taken before a local magistrate, and the consular officer most convenient to the shipper is authorized to authenticate the same.—(*Treasury Regulations of 1857, articles 922, 923, and 924, and Treasury Circular of February 12, 1858, published herewith.*)

Consular officers are also authorized to certify invoices without the oath of the owner, if they believe the place of production and value are correctly stated therein.—(*Treasury Circular of February 12, 1858.*)

Goods and merchandise passing from the United States into Canada free under the reciprocity act, and there undergoing any change by process of manufacture, cannot be reimported into the United States free, but are dutiable.

In all such cases consular agents will certify the fact for the decision of the collectors.—(*Treasury Regulations of 1857, article 930.*)

The forms prescribed by the department are published herewith for the information of consular officers; also a circular of the Secretary of the Treasury, modifying the provisions of article 922. Sec. 3, cap. 10. of the regulations under the revenue laws for 1857, and enforcing the same as modified.

WYMAN B. S. MOOR,
U. S. Consul General for B. N. A. Provinces.

Consular Agent.

CIRCULAR INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLECTORS AND OTHER OFFICERS OF THE
CUSTOMS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *February 12, 1858.*

Collectors and other officers of the customs of the frontier ports are instructed that on all importations from the North American British provinces claiming exemption from duty under the stipulations of the reciprocity treaty, the proof prescribed in section 3, article 922, of the growth or production of the merchandise, is required in all cases where the actual value of the merchandise shall exceed the value of one hundred dollars; and where there is no consular officer at or near the port of exportation, the oath prescribed in forms Nos. 278 and 279 may be taken before a local magistrate, duly authorized by the laws of the country to administer oaths, which oath, so taken, shall be accompanied by a consular certificate in the following form:

I certify that _____, the person signing the above certificate as a magistrate, is duly authorized to administer oaths by the laws of this province, and that I believe the statement contained in the above certificate to be true.

(Date.)

U. S. Consul.

The oaths prescribed in forms Nos. 280 and 281 are dispensed with.

In cases of parcels or packages of merchandise of a value not exceeding one hundred dollars the same may be admitted to entry without the aforesaid proof, provided the collector is satisfied that they are the growth and produce of the said provinces.

A consular certificate of the origin of the merchandise, in the form following, may also be received by collectors as sufficient evidence of origin to entitle merchandise to enter under the reciprocity act:

I certify that the goods or merchandise described in this invoice are of the growth and produce of the province of _____, and of the value within stated.

_____,
U. S. Consul.

HOWELL COBB,
Secretary of the Treasury.

No.

I, A B, do solemnly and truly swear that the goods, wares, or merchandise described in the invoice now produced and hereunto annexed were actually purchased for my account, or for account of myself and partners in the said purchase; and that said invoice contains a true and faithful account of the actual cost thereof, and of all charges thereon; and that no discounts, bounties, or drawbacks are contained in the said invoice but such as have been actually allowed on the same; and that said goods are the growth and product of the province of _____.

A. B.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, at _____, the _____ day of _____, A. D. 18—, and of the independence of the United States of America the _____; and I do further certify that I am satisfied that _____, who subscribes the foregoing oath, is the person he represents himself to be; that he is a credible person, and that the statements made by him under oath (or affirmation, as the case may be) are true.

[L. S.]

_____,
U. S. Consul.

No.

I, _____, do solemnly and truly swear, that the invoice now produced, and hereunto annexed, contains a true and faithful account of the goods therein described, at their market value at _____, at the time the same were procured or manufactured, and of all the charges thereon; and that said invoice contains no discounts, boun-

ties, or drawbacks, but such as have been actually allowed; and that said goods are the growth and product of the province of _____.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, at _____, the _____ day of _____, A. D. 18—, and of the independence of the United States of America the _____; and I do further certify that I am satisfied that _____, who subscribes the foregoing oath is the person he represents himself to be; that he is a credible person, and that the statements made by him under said oath are true.

No.

_____,
U. S. Consul.

I, _____, do solemnly and truly swear that the invoice now produced, and hereunto annexed, contains a true and faithful account of the goods therein described, at their market value at _____, at the time the same were procured, and of all the charges thereon; and that said invoice contains no discounts, bounties, or drawbacks but such as have been actually allowed; and that said goods are the growth and product of the province of _____.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, at _____, the _____ day of _____, A. D. 18—.

_____,
Justice of the Peace.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE GENERAL,
British N. A. Provinces.

____—18

I certify that _____, the person signing the above certificate as a magistrate, is duly authorized to administer oaths by the laws of this province, and I believe the statement contained in the above certificate to be true.

U. S. Consular Agent.

No.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE GENERAL,
British N. A. Provinces.

____—18

I certify that the goods or merchandise described in this invoice are of the growth and production of the province of _____, and of the value within stated.

Date,

_____,
U. S. Consular Agent.

Return of fees received at the consular agencies of the United States.

Name of consular officer.	Where located.	Quarter ending March 31, 1858.	Quarter ending June 30, 1858.	Quarter ending September 30, 1858.
John Babson.....	Clifton, C. W.....	\$388 00	\$448 00	\$328 00
James S Hauley.....	Prescott, C. E.....	62 00	154 00	90 00
S. McL. Clark.....	Toronto, C. W.....	114 00	449 50	616 42
George L. Burdich.....	Hanningford, C. E.....	22 00	90 00	62 00
James B. Thompson.....	Coaticook, C. E.....	96 00	294 00	240 00
Moses F. Chase.....	La Colle, C. E.....	50 00	134 00	182 00
Charles Freeland.....	Hamilton, C. W.....	34 00	268 00	374 00
George Perry.....	Cobourg, C. W.....	-----	172 00	104 00
Thomas J. Angel.....	Kingston, C. W.....	-----	330 00	198 00
R. C. McMullen.....	Port Sarnia, C. W.....	2 00	2 00	8 00
J. Macneider.....	Belleville, C. W.....	-----	132 00	274 00
W. Bissett.....	St. John's, C. E.....	-----	416 00	516 00
J. R. Bostwick.....	Port Stanley, C. W.....	-----	38 00	74 00
S. V. R. Tuttle.....	Dundee, C. W.....	-----	40 00	10 00
D. C. Haynes.....	St. Catharine's, C. W.....	-----	24 00	34 00
R. O. W. B. Lake.....	Port Burwell, C. W.....	-----	168 00	186 00
W. H. Stevenson.....	Port Rowan, C. W.....	-----	74 00	88 00
J. A. Sabine.....	Huntingdon, C. E.....	-----	10 00	26 00
Daniel Munger.....	Windsor, C. W.....	-----	164 00	132 00
John Douglas.....	Port Erie, C. W.....	-----	192 00	626 00
John Albro.....	Port Hope, C. W.....	-----	104 00	278 00
James Fortier.....	Port Colbourn, C. W.....	-----	8 00	2 00
L. R. Robinson.....	Stanstead, C. E.....	-----	28 00	76 00
Charles Widder.....	Goderich, C. W.....	-----	4 00	-----
H. M. Yerrington.....	Port Bruce, C. W.....	-----	14 00	8 00
John E. Kirkpatrick.....	Dunville, C. W.....	-----	48 00	118 00
James F. Haycock.....	Port Dover, C. W.....	-----	40 00	140 00
W. S. Heath.....	Longneuil and Saint Lambert, C. E.*	382 00	434 00	296 00
Henry Pemberton.....	Quebec, C. E.....	No return..	33 59	109 13
David E. Price.....	Chicoutimi, C. E.....	No return..	No return..	No return..

NOTE.—The returns required to be transmitted hereafter on the last day of each quarter, will be placed in the proper column for the quarter in which the fees have been received.

* W. S. Barron was consular agent at Longneuil, by temporary appointment, the first quarter, 1858. Wm. Drumm was consular agent at St. Lambert, by temporary appointment, the first quarter, 1858.

