

اهداگر سند

آقای دکتر مرتضی نورایی عضو هیئت علمی دانشگاه اصفهان، تعداد ۹۶ برگ تصویر اسناد مربوط به جنبش تنباکو را - که به زبان انگلیسی است - به گنجینه اسناد ملی ایران اهدا نمود. اصل این اسناد، در آرشیو ملی انگلیس نگهداری می شود.

ضمن سپاسگزاری و تشکر فراوان از این اقدام والای فرهنگی، امید است سایر خاندانهای فرهیخته کشور، اندیشمندان، پژوهشگران و تمامی مردم فرهنگ دوست میهن اسلامی نیز با اهدای اسناد خود، بر غنای گنجینه اسناد ملی ایران بیفزایند و مورخان و پژوهشگران را در انجام تحقیقات علمی، فرهنگی و تاریخی، یاری نمایند.

گزیده ای از تصاویر اسناد اهدایی، از نظر گرامیتان می گذرد.





Correspondence respecting the Persian Tobacco Concession.

No. 1.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 10.)

My Lord, Tehran, March 20, 1890.
I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Shah has given a Concession of the Tobacco Régie to a group of English capitalists represented by Major Talbot. The Company working the Concession will, I believe, be made international, and the co-operation of capitalists will be invited in France, Germany, Russia, and other European countries.

The Shah is also about to grant to Messrs. Raffalovitch and Poliakoff some Concessions, such as tramways and saw-mills.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. DRUMMOND WOLFF.

No. 2.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 7.)

(Extract.) Tehran, April 3, 1890.
IN my despatch of the 20th March I informed your Lordship that the Shah had granted to a group, represented by Major Talbot, the Concession of the Tobacco Régie. I inclose a copy of the document.

The negotiations were begun at Paris and Vienna, at which capital, I believe, Major Talbot was encouraged to proceed to Tehran, where the discussion could be carried on more conveniently.

The Concession, or rather the option of the Concession, has been given to Major Talbot for five weeks, as that gentleman was unable to accept it at once owing to some modifications introduced into the draft by the Persian Government.

It will be perceived that this Concession is very much in favour of the cultivator. He is to be paid in cash for his tobacco, and is entitled to advances on his crops.

At present he is obliged to accept all kinds of payments for the produce he sells, and his borrowings can be negotiated only on a very high scale.

The Concession also gives to the Régie the right of making advances on growing crops besides tobacco, which will be a great advantage to cultivators, who are now ground down by the exactions of native usurers.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Concession of the Tobacco Régie.

(Translation.)

THE monopoly of buying, selling, and manufacturing all the tootoon and tobacco in the interior or exterior of the Kingdom of Persia is granted to Major Talbot by us for fifty years from the date of the signing of this Concession, in accordance with the following stipulations:—

1. The concessionnaires will have to pay 15,000*l.* per annum to the exalted

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Imperial Treasury, whether they benefit or lose by this business, and this money shall be paid every year five months after the beginning of the year.

2. In order merely to ascertain the quantities of tootoon and tobacco produced in the protected provinces (of Persia) the concessionnaires will keep a register of the cultivators who wish to work under the conditions of this Concession, and the Persian Government will issue strict orders to the local Governors to compel the cultivators of tobacco and tootoon to furnish such a registration.

3. Permission for sale, &c., of tootoon, tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, snuff, &c., is the absolute right of the concessionnaires, and no one but the proprietors of this Concession shall have the right to issue the above-mentioned permits.

The Guilds of the sellers of tobacco and tootoon who are engaged in this trade will remain permanent in their local trade and transactions, on condition of possessing permits which will be given to them by the concessionnaires.

3. After deducting all the expenses appertaining to this business and paying a dividend of 5 per cent. on their own capital to the proprietors of this Concession, one quarter of the remaining profit will yearly be paid to the exalted Imperial Treasury, and the Persian Government will have the right to inspect their (the concessionnaires) yearly books.

4. All the materials necessary for this work which the proprietors of this Concession import into the protected provinces (Persia) will be free of all customs duties, taxes, &c.

5. Removal and transfer of tootoon and tobacco in the protected provinces (of Persia) without the permission of the proprietors of this Concession is prohibited, except as such quantities as travellers may have with them for their own daily use.

6. The proprietors of this Concession must purchase all the tootoon and tobacco that are produced in the protected provinces and pay cash for it. They must purchase all the tobacco, &c., fit for use that is now in hand, and the price that is to be given to the owner or the producer will be settled in a friendly manner between the producer or the owner and the proprietors of this Concession, but in case of disagreement between the parties the case will be referred to an Arbitrator accepted by both sides, and the decision of the Arbitrator will be final and will be carried out.

7. The Persian Government engages not to increase the revenues, taxes, and customs that are now levied on tootoon, tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, and snuff for fifty years from the date of the signing of the Concession, and the proprietors also undertake that all the customs that the Persian Government now obtains from tobacco shall be continued as they are.

8. Any person or persons who shall attempt to evade (the rules) of these Articles will be severely punished by the Government, and any person or persons found to be secretly in possession of tobacco, tootoon, &c., for sale or trade, will also be fined and severely punished by the Government. The Government will give its utmost help and support in all the business of the proprietors of this Concession, and the proprietors of this Concession undertake in no way to go beyond their own rights consistent with these Articles.

9. The proprietors of this Concession are permitted, should they wish, to transfer all their rights, Concessions, undertakings, &c., to any person or persons, but, prior to this, they must inform the Persian Government.

10. The producer or owner of tootoon and tobacco, whenever his crop of tobacco and tootoon is gathered, shall at once inform the nearest agent of the proprietors of this Concession of the quantity, in order that the proprietors of this Concession may be able to carry out the engagements in above-mentioned Article 6, and to purchase it quickly.

11. The proprietors of this Concession have no right to purchase lands, except to the necessary extent, for store-houses and abodes, and what may be necessary to carry out this Concession.

12. The cultivators, in accordance with certain conditions which will be made in conjunction with the Government, are entitled to be given an advance to a limit for their crop.

13. If, from the date of the signing of this Concession until one year, a Company to carry it out is not formed, and the work does not begin, this Concession will be null and void, except that war or such like may prevent the formation of a Company.

14. In case of misunderstanding arising between the Persian Government and the proprietors of this Concession, that misunderstanding shall be referred to an Arbitrator accepted by both sides, and in case of the impossibility of consent to the appointment of an Arbitrator, the matter will be referred to the arbitration of one of the Répre-



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 The concession is exchanged in duplicate with the signature of His Imperial Majesty, registered in the Foreign Ministry, between Major Talbot and the Persian Government, and the Persian text of it is to be recognized.
 March 8, 1890 (28 Rajab, 1307).

No. 3.

Sir H. Drummond Wolf to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 16.)

(Telegraphic.)

Gulahak, September 16, 1890.

A WRITTEN protest has been formally made by M. de Bützow to the Kavand-Dowleh against the Tobacco Régie Concession. The Russian Minister has requested that it be annulled on the grounds that it is opposed to the commerce of the country and is contrary to Treaties.

I should be obliged if your Lordship would kindly cause Major Talbot to be informed of this, and I shall be glad of instructions, although I do not think that the Persians will give way.

No. 4.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received February 23.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tehran, February 23, 1891.

A PETITION from the tobacco merchants protesting against the Tobacco Concession has been presented to His Majesty the Shah by the Amin-ed-Dowleh.

Yesterday a meeting of tobacco merchants, at which Major Talbot was present, took place at the Mushir-ed-Dowleh's house, and assurances of a friendly nature were exchanged between Major Talbot and the merchants.

His Majesty has sent Major Talbot a message expressing a hope that the new Company will deal in a conciliatory manner with the many difficulties which are sure to arise at the commencement of the undertaking, and that it will work harmoniously with the Persian merchants. The Shah also added that Major Talbot might count upon the effective support of the Persian Government, and declared that the Concession was perfectly valid.

No. 5.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to Foreign Office.—(Received March 2.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tehran, March 2, 1891.

AT Major Talbot's request I send following:—

Tobacco Concession has been registered at Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Legation. Transfer to Company has been officially effected. Shah, at private audience, has given Major Talbot clear and friendly assurances of support. Proclamation announcing establishment has appeared in official Gazette.

No. 6.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 17.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tehran, March 17, 1891.

FIRMANS have been issued by the Shah to all the provincial Governors, in which they are commanded by His Majesty to aid in enforcing the Tobacco Régie and to recognize it.

No. 7.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 27.)

My Lord,

Tehran, March 4, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of a Proclamation which has appeared in the official Gazette of the 28th February, announcing the establishment in Persia of the Tobacco Régie.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Extract from the "Iran" of 18 Rejeb, 1308 (February 28, 1891).

(Translation.)

BY the almighty command of his Imperial Majesty, it is officially notified:—
The Concession for the monopoly of the tumbaku and tobacco of the protected provinces of Persia which had been made over last year to Major Talbot on the part of the exalted Government; in these days the aforesaid formed and established the Association of this undertaking, and introduced it officially to the exalted Government, under the title of the Imperial Tobacco Corporation of Persia; the aforesaid himself, in order to lay the foundation of the business, has come to the gate of the Khikfat of Tehran, and has opened the establishment and occupied himself in the administration thereof.

No. 8.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 9.)

My Lord,

Tehran, March 17, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of a Firman addressed by the Shah to the Zil-es-Sultan, directing His Royal Highness to recognize and assist in enforcing the provisions of the Tobacco Concession in Persia.

Similar Firmans have been addressed to the other Governors of provinces.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure in No. 8.

His Majesty the Shah to the Zil-es-Sultan.

Rajab 1308.

(Translation.)

LIGHT of the spiritual edifice, key of the gates of victory, brightness of the sight of sovereignty, the first forehead of kingdom and crownship, the blessed, dear, fortunate, and happy child, Sultan Masood Mirza, Zil-es-Sultan, Governor of Ispahan, Yezd, and Irak, may consider himself honoured and respected with the full and gracious kindness of the Shah-in-Shah, and that he should know that it was necessary that an arrangement should be made to control the tobacco trade and to promote the prosperity of cultivation of this production, according to the customs of other Governments on the earth, in order that this production should make progress, and that the growers of this article should be able to obtain the price of their production, and in a good way to increase their cultivation, and also to secure tobacco from the adulteration of retailers, and also that in order to put this affair under a proper administration the undertaking of this business is left in charge of Major Talbot, and we send a copy of the Concession for our eldest child, in order that he should know the contents of the Concession, and should carry them out fully.

You should put in practice whatsoever is in the undertaking of the Government, and whatsoever is in the undertaking of the Company. You should see that nothing should be done to the contrary. The limits and rights of both sides should be acted





and that nothing should be done to the detriment of the Company. Of course you will act in accordance with this order, and will consider it your duty.

No. 9.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 22.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tehran, April 22, 1891.

THE strongest verbal assurances of official support have been received by M. Ornstein, Director of the Tobacco Régie, who arrived here two days ago, from the Amin-es-Sultan. His Highness has announced his intention of presenting him to His Majesty the Shah.

Amin-es-Sultan sincerely hopes that the agents of the Company will conduct their operations with great circumspection and care at first, as the Persian cultivators of tobacco and merchants show a certain amount of alarm with regard to the actions of the Company.

No. 10.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 27.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tehran, April 27, 1891.

IN reply to strong protests against the Tobacco Régie which are being constantly received from Shiraz by the Shah and the Amin-es-Sultan, his Highness has instructed the Governor to explain to the complainants that as this Concession is irrevocable it must be accepted, and to reassure them by pointing out that they will suffer no loss, but rather derive profit from it.

A public meeting has been held at Shiraz, at which, with some reluctance, the tobacco merchants acquiesced, and have undertaken that His Majesty's orders shall be obeyed.

No. 11.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 12.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tehran, May 12, 1891.

WITH reference to my telegram of the 22nd ultimo, I hear from Acting Consul-General at Tabreez that the recently-arrived agent of the Tobacco Company has done much to disarm the opposition hitherto evinced in that quarter to the Tobacco Régie.

M. Ornstein had an audience of the Shah yesterday. His Majesty expressed his approval of the measures adopted to win over the interested classes, and declared himself convinced that all difficulties would by degrees be surmounted by the employment of tact and patience. His Majesty promised his warm support.

No. 12.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 3.)

My Lord,

Tehran, April 23, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that yesterday, at the request of the Amin-es-Sultan, I presented to his Highness M. J. T. Ornstein, the newly-arrived Director of the Persian Tobacco Régie.

The Amin-es-Sultan gave M. Ornstein the most clear and emphatic assurances of official support. His Highness said that both the Shah and himself were personally interested in the success of the Régie, and His Majesty would shortly receive M. Ornstein at a private audience in order himself to give similar assurances.

Mr. Ornstein, in returning suitable replies, said he believed if the Régie proved successful, which was confidently anticipated, it would greatly encourage the flow into Persia of British capital.

The Amin-es-Sultan impressed upon M. Ornstein the necessity of proceeding at first with great prudence and circumspection, as much anxiety and alarm existed in different parts of the country with respect to the intentions of the Régie Company, and many of those interested in the tobacco trade were already protesting against the losses which they fear may be inflicted upon them.

M. Ornstein briefly explained his views, which met with the full approval of the Amin-es-Sultan.

M. Ornstein said he would endeavour to utilize the services of all foreign tobacco traders in this country, who are not a numerous body, or to compensate them for loss of business, and he assured me that he quite realized the great importance of avoiding any friction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. J. KENNEDY.

No. 13.

Mr. R. J. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury. (Received, June 3.)

My Lord,

Tehran, May 11, 1891.

A REPORT having reached Tehran to the effect that the Mollahs at Tabreez were preaching against the Tobacco Régie in the mosques, I requested Mr. Acting Consul-General Paton to inform me if this was the case.

I now have the honour of inclosing extract of an interesting despatch from Mr. Paton giving a denial to this report, and relating the views and opinions which are generally held at Tabreez with regard to this Concession.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Acting Consul-General Paton to Mr. R. J. Kennedy.

(Extract.)

Tabreez, May 6, 1891.

I AM informed from the most reliable sources that it is no truce that the Mollahs have been preaching in the mosques against the Régie. In the bazaars and in private houses it is the all-engrossing subject of conversation, but no amount of inquiry has elicited the information that the matter has been referred to in the mosques.

I understand that the reasoning promulgated by the most enlightened Persians here is somewhat after the following manner. They say that the Régie will certainly endeavour to make a profit of at least 1 toman a-year a-head. They then estimate the population of Persia at, say, 5,000,000, and (as tobacco is almost as much an article of daily consumption in Persia as bread) they consider it is putting the case very moderately if they calculate the smoking population at 2,500,000. This would bring the Régie 2,500,000 tomans, or about 750,000l. per year, while the Shah only receives 15,000l. a-year, and one-fifth or 20 per cent. of the profits (and they say the Régie will certainly not let the Shah know the real profits). They then compare this with the Ottoman Régie, which they say pays 800,000l. a-year to the Turkish Government, besides a certain percentage of the profits, and, finally, draw the conclusion that, as Persia produces more tobacco than Turkey, and of a much superior quality, it is impossible that such an apparent injustice can be permitted to exist.

They assert that the Concession was given without due consideration, and that when the Persian Government sees the result the Régie will never be permitted to continue their monopoly. This is the opinion adopted by many of the leading men of Tabreez, and the subject is freely discussed in private, but as yet no public discussion or denouncement has been reported. They say every question in Persia is decided by the opinion of the people of Azerbaijan, and if they are against the monopoly the Régie is doomed.

It is said that the Mujtahed of Ispahan has written to Tabreez disapproving of the Régie.

