

4. Upon the publication in the *Gazette* of any such agreement, the products and manufactures which under such agreement are exempted from Customs duties, wharfage, and charges, or subjected to reduced Customs duties, wharfage, and charges, as the case may be, may be imported free of Customs duties, wharfage, or other charges, or subject to such reduced Customs duties, wharfage, or charges as is set forth in such agreement, so long as such agreement continues in force.
5. The Governor in Council may from time to time make, alter, or rescind orders for carrying this Act into effect, and for determining what articles come within its provisions; and all such orders shall be published in the *Gazette*.
6. This Act may be cited as "The Intercolonial Customs Duties Act."

No. 5.

Mr. SEED to the COMMISSIONER of CUSTOMS.

Interchange of Colonial Products between Tasmania and New Zealand.

23rd June, 1874.

THE accompanying return, compiled from the Trade Statistics for 1873, shows that New Zealand would lose nearly £6,000 per annum of Customs revenue by acceding to the proposals contained in the letter on this subject from the Government of Tasmania.

The value of the articles proposed in that letter to be exempted from duty which were imported from Tasmania into New Zealand in 1873 amounted to £56,738.

The value of similar articles exported from New Zealand to Tasmania in 1873 amounted to £1,333.

With regard to the Tasmanian Intercolonial Customs Duties Act, I observe that by the 2nd section any agreement can only be altered or rescinded by consent of all the parties thereto, so that under this arrangement it would be hopeless to expect Tasmania or any other colony to agree readily to rescind an agreement which was proving highly advantageous to it when urged to do so by a colony that found it was suffering serious loss by the agreement. It is true that the 3rd section of the Act provides for agreements being annulled by Parliament, but the Executive should have similar power, otherwise much delay might occur in getting an unprofitable agreement put an end to, and the revenue of the colony might thereby be exposed to unnecessary loss. The fairest plan would be to provide that any agreement might be rescinded by either party giving, say, three months' notice of their desire for it to be terminated.

W. SEED.

RETURN showing the QUANTITY and VALUE of the undermentioned ARTICLES IMPORTED from Tasmania to New Zealand, and the AMOUNT of DUTY collected thereon, during the Year 1873; also QUANTITY and VALUE of all ARTICLES EXPORTED from New Zealand to Tasmania, and IMPORTED from Tasmania into New Zealand during the same period.

Articles proposed to be admitted Duty Free in Tasmania and in New Zealand.	Imports from Tasmania into New Zealand.			Exports from New Zealand to Tasmania.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
		£	£ s. d.		£	£ s. d.
Butter	28 lbs.	1	0 2 4			
Fish—Potted and Preserved	33 pkgs.	61	6 2 0			
Flax . . . . .	...	...	...	1½ tons	33	
Flour	108 tons 13 cwt.	1,849	108 13 0			
Fruit—Bottled and Preserved	2,394 pkgs.	4,354	435 8 0			
„ Dried	56 lbs.	1	0 4 8			
„ Green	15,840 pkgs.	7,507	...			
Grain—Barley	634 bush.	209	11 17 9			
„ Beans and Peas	101½ bush.	45	2 5 9			
„ Malt	120 bush.	60	9 0 0			
„ Wheat	7 bush.	3	0 3 2			
Hops	270 pockets, 76 bales	4,509	655 10 0			
Jams	5,369 pkgs.	9,951	995 2 0			
Timber—Sawn	1,307,958 ft.	9,685	1,307 19 0	51,800 ft.	160	34 10 0
„ Logs	66	119	...	102	800	
„ Palings	1,374,285	10,327	1,374 5 6			
„ Posts and Rails	56,074	1,016	132 7 2			
„ Shingles	8,398,500	7,041	839 17 0			
„ Spars . . . . .	... . . . .	...	...	21	120	
Totals . . . . .	...	£56,738	5,878 17 4	...	£1,113	34 10 0