

THE  
**CUSTOMS JOURNAL**

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ONE PENNY.



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No. 66.

OCT. 6th, 1906.

Fortnightly

ONE PENNY.

## A Justification of the Reformer.

By "PONSON."



ONE of the most salient features of the present day is the vast amount of toleration which is being shown towards reformers in all walks of life. The persecutor has not yet retired to oblivion, but his field of operation is becoming daily more limited, and the fool with his weapon fashioned in ridicule is fast disappearing before the enlightenment of man's broader vision. The reformer no longer walks alone on the mountain tops a prominent mark for the tyrants aim, or the butt for his weak-kneed brethren's feeble wit; but, instead, he is generally the centre of a considerable group who proudly own him leader, and willingly aid him in his efforts to ameliorate their common lot. Consequently we are all spectators to-day of a great movement of the several units of society, which, whether they intend it to be so or not, are nevertheless converging towards a point where the benefits resulting from their labours will advantageously affect society as a whole.

As a writer has aptly said, all grades have their own special drummer, and it therefore follows that we cannot maintain an uniform speed in the march of life; but it is generally conceded that we get there all the same, and this, we take it, is the main thing. At one time in the march the drumming may be slow, at another the response may be feeble, but great indeed would be the disaster if we ever came to a dead stop.

That the drums have been sounding in the Customs department for many years may be surprising information to many of the younger generation, but it is nevertheless a fact. The parting presentations which periodically occur in our service are often the occasion for the re-fighting of old battles and many and interesting are the reminiscences of bygone days. And if we believe the chroniclers the facilities for a fair stand-up fight were not nearly so favourable then as now, for which we younger bloods are maybe doubtfully thankful. At all events the fair and earnest fighter to-day can take considerable heart of grace from the fact that many men who have attained to high and honourable distinction in the service were men who also saw then, as they do now, that much characterised the conditions that required

altering, and, what is better, had the courage to help bring the necessary changes about.

A speaker at a recent gathering, met to bid farewell to a Customs official, made the remark that agitation was bad—very bad, but it was sometimes necessary. We agree that agitation is bad, but the necessity for it is worse—much worse. And it says something for our service that it has always included men in its ranks who have manfully borne the disabilities which often attended agitation rather than submit to conditions which they conscientiously believed to be unjust. It is one of the redeeming features of those who are most uncompromisingly opposed to the reformer and all his works that they often entertain feelings of admiration for the qualities which inspire the agitator, while at the same time making no secret of their contempt for those who submissively bear the pressure of the heel.

Perhaps the best justification of the reformer lies in the fact that he or his successors invariably get there in the long run. Votes for Revenue officials, improved classification, enhanced increments and Sunday Pay are a few of the many results of the reformer's work, and if much yet remains to be done, our experience clearly indicates the methods we should employ. Individual liberty is not the least of the reformer's victories, and terrorism is now only the weapon of a few whose ignorance of men and manners renders recourse to other means impossible for them. These cases are happily rare, however, and all Customs officials can to-day have their appeal to Cæsar.

All then that remains as the necessary quantity to complete the sum of success is a loyal and earnest body of followers to aid our reformers in their work, and with the splendid example of the fighters of the past before us, with local tyrannies practically unknown, and only possible where cowardice succumbs to the weapon of fear, with the legitimacy of agitation firmly established (and, as concessions we enjoy to-day can amply testify, highly justifiable) to encourage, help and guide us, we should strive with renewed energy to sweep away what injustice yet remain as a reproach to our manhood, and in short take to our hearts the advice of the poet when he tells us—

"If you want to win your battle,  
Take and work your bloomin' guns."

## Saccharine Smuggling at Queenborough.

At Sittingbourne police court, Hyman Fineberg, a Russian Jew, described as a Mineral Water Manufacturer, Oxford Street, London, was brought up on remand, charged with smuggling 210 ounces of Saccharine at Queenborough, with intent to defraud H.M. Customs on the 9th ult.

Mr. T. Ward, Solicitors' department, H.M. Customs, appeared to prosecute.

It appears from the statement for the prosecution that the duty on Saccharine as imposed by law is 1s. 3d. per ounce. Saccharine is known to be 550 times sweeter than sugar, and the figures are arrived at on that basis. The smuggling of Saccharine has always been regarded as deserving a severe penalty as it occupies very small bulk. The accused, Fineberg, was a passenger by the Flushing boat *Wilhelmina*, and when detected packages of Saccharine, nine of which were discovered first, he having previously had in his possession twelve separate denied the possession of any dutiable articles. The means of concealment was by placing the saccharine inside hard starched shirt fronts. The magistrates were invited to impose the full penalty.

Robert Geo. Offen, the Customs Officer, who detected the illicit trading, and to whom much credit is due, produced the packages of saccharine for the inspection of the Bench.

In defence it was argued that Fineberg was tempted by a friend in Holland to bring the saccharine over. He had been nine years in business in London as a mineral water manufacturer, and was in a small way of business.

As this was Fineberg's first offence, the Bench refrained from imposing the full penalty but fined him £78 15s., the treble duty on the saccharine, or, in default of payment, three months' hard labour.

The money was at once forthcoming.

Mr. J. Maguire, Surveyor, represented the Customs, and Messrs. R. G. Offen, Preventive Man in charge, and S. C. Pearson, Preventive Man, were the seizing officers.

## Clever Evasions of Customs Laws

(Continued.)  
(From Chester's Chronicles.)

The Customs refused to deliver the goods free, and Barry paid the duties under protest, and commenced an action against the Government.

It was speedily discovered that Barry had an unanswerable case, and the Treasury wisely submitted to his terms of Compound by a payment of £4,700. This claim was paid by the Government in the year 1848.

The largest and heaviest fight with the Government, conducted by Mr. Barry, was on the following case.

By Article II. of a treaty of commerce, dated July 20th, 1815, between this country and the United States, it was provided that no higher duties should be imposed upon the importation into the United Kingdom of articles, the produce of America, than were levied on articles the produce of any foreign country, thereby placing the United States on the same footing as the most favoured nation.

By a Tariff Act (6 of Wm. 4) which took effect from August, 1836, a duty of one penny per quarter was imposed on rice in the bushel from the west coast of Africa, the duty on the like article from America under a previous Act being 2 6 per bushel; so that when African rice only paid a penny, the United States had to pay 20/- per quarter, and under the advice of Mr. Barry, importers of American rice tendered duty at the lower rate to the Customs' officials in London and Liverpool, which were refused. Payment of the higher sums claimed was made under protest, the Government at first insisting on the larger due as their undoubted right.

Mr. Barry, on behalf of his clients, the importers, commenced an action at law to try the question. The validity of his claim was, however, so evident that Sir Robert Peel, then in power, was forced to admit the justice of the demand, and consent to refund the payments made between the years 1836 and 1841, when the law was altered to remove all doubts on the subject. The settlement was not carried out until the year 1846, when the Government refunded the sum of £94,653.

Mr. Barry deserved considerable credit for the way in which he overcame the Government. What share he received for his pains is not known, but his tact and shrewd knowledge of the weak points of Customs Laws enabled him to make the Exchequer in these three instances disgorge not less than £181,653.

**SMUGGLING.**

From the Annual Report of the Hon. Commissioners of H.M. Customs.

In the subjoined statement of seizures in cases of attempts to smuggle dutiable goods, a comparison of the figures for 1905-6, with the preceding year, discloses an increase in the quantities of Tobacco, Cigars, and Spirits seized, and in the amount of the penalties recovered, while the number of seizures, persons fined, and penalties recovered has declined. Of the increase in the quantity of seized Tobacco and Cigars, more than 5,000 lbs is accounted for by the arrest and confiscation, with their cargoes of contraband, of two Dutch coopers, "Nordster" and "Active," which were captured by H.M.S. "Argus," inside the three miles limit off the Humber.

These vessels are said to have formed part of a fleet of seven coopers (i.e. floating spirit and tobacco shops), all of Dutch nationality. The Cargoes of these coopers are usually shipped in Holland, and are sold chiefly to the crews of the Fishing Fleets which collect at various places round the coast during the herring fishing season. Endeavours are made to prevent the landing of goods obtained in this way by supplementing the preventive force at the chief fishing ports, and by stationing officers at certain outlying fishing stations at which the trade is insufficient to require the services of an officer throughout the year. The land force stationed in the Orkney and Shetland Isles and the N.E. Coast of Scotland, is assisted by the Admiralty cruiser, specially employed in keeping order among the fishing vessels, which patrols the coast and endeavours to intercept contraband goods being conveyed

from the coopers to the shore. "Cooperage" is a constant source of anxiety, and its control is dependent upon the co-operation of the Admiralty cruisers.

Apart from the important seizure referred to, the quantity of Tobacco and Cigars seized is above the average for the preceding nine years. But, in addition, two large seizures of Saccharin of 150 lbs. respectively were made. In the former case the goods were seized in London by our detective staff; and in the latter case the Saccharin was concealed in casks of earthenware, imported at Folkestone from Boulogne. In both instances the offenders were committed to prison in default of payment of the penalties imposed.

An increase is noticeable in the number of persons convicted in non-summary cases.

The whole of the sound tobacco seized is sent to Criminal Lunatic Asylums for consumption by the inmates, thus relieving the votes of those departments from the cost of purchasing an equivalent amount, and the tobacco not fit for consumption in this way, but useful for fumigating purposes, is sent to the Botanical Gardens at Kew and Edinburgh.

During the year ended the 31st March last, the quantities of tobacco disposed of in this manner were as follows:—

Criminal Lunatic Asylums ...	2562 lbs.
Botanical Gardens ... ..	4256 "
	6818 "

The remainder was destroyed as worthless. Cigars and other goods (except Saccharin) are sold, and the proceeds carried to the Crown's accounts.

Statement concerning Smuggling during each of the past ten Financial years:—

Year ended 31st March.	Total number of seizures of smuggled goods of all kinds.	Number of seizures of Tobacco, Cigars, and Foreign Spirits	Quantities Seized.		No. of persons fined.		Penalties recovered			
			Tobacco and Cigars.	Foreign Spirits.	In summary cases.	In non- summary cases	Total.	Number.	Amount.	
			lbs.	galls.						£
1897...	4705	4476	6994	101	2707	12	2719	2676	4703	
1898...	4255	4064	6244	59	2412	12	2424	2380	4174	
1899...	3925	3758	6115	443	2251	10	2261	2242	2631	
1900...	3778	3671	6784	101	2138	25	2163	2139	3679	
1901...	4158	4041	9199	163	2545	18	2563	2531	4460	
1902...	4701	4491	8350	103	2799	13	2812	2787	4743	
1903...	4242	4075	8883	96	2529	20	2549	2519	4306	
1904...	3490	3359	8327	143	1944	26	1970	1944	3100	
1905...	4103	3940	8723	93	2571	19	2590	2574	3570	
1906...	3797	3624	12372	186	2327	35	2362	2323	3790	

# CUSTOMS JOURNAL.

*Saturday, Sept. 6th, 1906.*

That part of the report of the Liverpool Conference, reported in our last issue, relating to the present condition of Association affairs of the London Preventive Officers, is very unsatisfactory indeed. We are confident that there is not a single Preventive Officer at that port who has a word to say in favor of the present aspect of affairs. Nor must it be inferred that the average London Preventive Officer is not in sympathy with, or does not loyally support, the Association. It is safe to assume that every member of the grade feels the absolute necessity of supporting the movement; in point of fact we have several private communications in favour of such a view. Therefore, we may safely state that the absence of a London representative from the Liverpool gathering is not a safe criterion of the attitude of the London Officers at the present juncture of Association warfare.

There are, undoubtedly, many great obstacles in the way of keeping the London officers thoroughly organised, especially with reference to meetings, &c., but we see no reason why the London staff should not elect its representative on the Executive Council of the Association, and thus voice its views on the movement generally.

The Saccharine smuggling prosecution, reported in another column, is further proof of the illicit trade which is being carried on, and the strict necessity for a strong Waterguard service to check such large frauds on the Customs revenue.

We hear that five tins, containing about 12 lbs. of Saccharine were recently found floating in the river Thames below Gravesend. It is supposed that the tins had been thrown overboard by a passenger on a Rotterdam steamer bound up to London. The special form of packing the article, and the exceedingly high rate of duty forms a very lucrative inducement for smuggling, which the Customs ought to seriously consider.

A correspondent writes: "The report of the proceedings at the Liverpool Conference appears to have given almost universal satisfaction. I know it is impossible to please

everyone, but we think that the Preventive Officers, as a body, are prepared to support their Executive, whose services in the past are the surest guarantee of their determination to bring the cause which has been entrusted to their care to a successful issue."

It appears that some Examining Officers are indignant because it is proposed that one of their number should be placed in charge of the Uniform Clothing supply. We hope that if there is a dearth of candidates, consideration will be given to the claims of some of the older Preventive Officers, many of whom are quite capable of discharging the duties of such a position.

We trust that the gold lace on the new uniform of the Preventive Officers will be of different material to that at present issued, which is of the cheapest and flimsiest possible make. However good the cloth, any uniform would soon look shabby with such poor adornments.

Touching on our previous remarks in reference to the rejection of a candidate for the position of Preventive Man on account of colour blindness, a correspondent writes to say that it is time that the regulations as to defective eyesight in candidates for appointment in the Customs department were revised. It is well known that some of our best and smartest officers are slightly short-sighted, and such a defect has in no way interfered with the proper discharge of their duties. It is most absurd to disqualify young men who have passed for Assistants on account of eyesight. The parents of intending candidate should get some Member of Parliament to bring this question before the proper authorities.

The Waterguard staff has so often been compared with the police force, that the following remarks of the Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, relating to the average service on promotion, before the Commission sitting in London, must be of especial interest to our readers:—

Sir Edward stated that the average service of constables promoted to be sergeants was 8 years 3 months; sergeants to station sergeants, 14 years; station sergeants to inspectors, 15 years 11 months; inspectors to sub-divisional inspectors, 18 years 5 months; sub-divisional inspectors to chief inspectors, 20 years 5 months. We only wish the Waterguard staff could have such a record of promotion.

## Preventive Officers' Association Notes.

## Preventive Men's Association Notes.

### A Valuable Appointment.

I have often said, and I repeat, that in my opinion an Assistantship of Customs is a valuable post, and well worth "going in" for. The duties are no doubt of a responsible nature, but to the average man that makes them all the more attractive. The disagreeable thing about ordinary desk work is its monotony and its lack of independence and liberty. I have to hand a note from an old pupil in London, who says:—"As regards Service matters, there are the usual rumours of re-organisation and so on, but such rumours are rarely worth much. The latest scheme is one for the abolition of the Board of Customs and Excise Departments under a Minister, but as it emanated from those dauntless agitators, the Waterguard Staff, I do not suppose it will come to much."

The above is taken from *The People's Friend*, a journal of popular and instructive literature. A column is devoted for Civil Service and other students, and is conducted by Mr. W. S. Thomson, M.A., Aberdeen. The General Secretary of our Association having his attention drawn to the paragraph, wrote Mr. Thomson, pointing out that his old pupil was in error in stating that the latest scheme emanated from the Waterguard Staff. Mr. Thomson so far has not published the correction. We do not thank the unknown gentleman for his unsolicited certificate of merit, but we are at one with him in his opinion "that an Assistantship of Customs is a valuable post, and well worth going in for." Their prospects are exceptionally good, they have no grievances, and agitation is a thing unknown.

The Executive Councillors for 1907 fall to be elected this month, and nomination papers are now in circulation. It is pleasing to note that a desire exists that the Upper Section should have its due proportionate representation on the Executive Council. Hitherto there has been a difficulty in getting Upper Section Officers to accept office; why, we do not know, for many of them are active members of their local branches, and have done, and are now doing splendid service. The present is a good opportunity to remedy this defect

Touching on the general approval by the Preventive Men of the business transacted at the recent Preventive Officers' Association Conference, we heartily agree with the various resolutions passed. It is needless to enumerate the different items, but they are of a wide and comprehensive nature.

We feel sure that if the resolutions were favourably considered by the Treasury, the present condition of the grade would be materially improved.

The friendly proposal to amalgamate with our grade on questions where our interests are identical is a splendid augury for the future.

The questions which the conference decided to lay before the Treasury are to form the strongest planks in our platform, with which will be included such questions as the assessment of character and the present system of issuing "stars."

We are very pleased to see that the vexed question of Sunday Pay, or the system of Sunday duty, was fully decided upon. We have just received another complaint in which a Preventive Man, removed to another port, has been instructed, by Board's Order, that Crown's overtime is not allowed for Sunday duty.

The supervision system is another grievance seriously affecting the Preventive Men. We are informed that Assistants are being called upon to perform the duties of Preventive Officer in small ports, this duty having previously been allotted to the Preventive men. It is very satisfactory to note that strong representations will be made by both Waterguard Associations in favour of a more complete administration of our branch of the service.

Our readers will have now received the circular asking for resolutions to be submitted at the forthcoming Conference of the Association.

We ask an early response to the request in order that our Executive Council may have an opportunity of thoroughly mastering the subjects are the Conference assemblies.



## N. Q. A.

## NOTES, QUESTIONS and ANSWERS.

All contributions of "Notes, Questions and Answers" for insertion in this column should be addressed—Editor, "The Customs Journal," care of the Publisher, 10, Portland Place, Prospect Street, Hull, and marked N.Q.A. in the corner of the envelope.

By PUNCHEON CAVENDISH.

## QUESTIONS.

221. A vessel arrives from Sydney having on board six pigs as *stores*, which the Master desires to land dead or alive. Is he allowed to land them? If so, under what conditions? "B."

222. Is a Certificate of Registry a document of title? "Creek."

223. Define the term "Spirits of Wine."

224. Explain how three packages of deceased seaman's effects would be dealt with if sent home to next-of-kin by the British Consul at Port Said. "Ajax."

225. What is meant by "Joggery?" "Sapper."

226. Describe the official sense of "Gravity?" "Hamlet."

## ANSWERS.

220. Seizure: (a) Brandy. Bottles.

	s.	d.
$\frac{2}{100}$ proof gall. : single duty at 12/4	2	10
$\frac{3}{100}$ liquid gall. : single value at 10/-	3	7

Single value and duty 5 11

Note.—The duty is calculated on the *proof* and the value on the *liquid*.

(b). Perfumed Spirits in bottle.

	s.	d.
$\frac{1}{100}$ gall. at 19/1 duty ... ..	2	10
Do. at 17/3 value... ..	2	7

Single value and duty 5 5

"PERSEVERANCE."

"E.J.R. asks: "The Master of a vessel wishes to pay duty on the following private stores. Assess the duty and fine

$\frac{1}{4}$  lb. Tobacco Cav.

$\frac{1}{4}$  lb. Tobacco, O.S.

$\frac{1}{4}$  lb. Cigars."

The point of Mr. R.'s question *re* private effects is presumably the *fine*. A method of dealing with this matter was established at a large port by the Accountant and Controller General Sixpence per lb. was to be received on each lb. of *all* sorts of tobaccos, and 6d. per lb. additional for each lb., and part of a pound of Cavendish. It was a simple solution, which got rid of the old calculations of proportion. These reckonings being only necessary now for passengers' fractions under I Code, p. 462. The assessment would be:—

	s.	d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Cav. Tobacco ... ..	1	1
$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. O.S. do. ... ..	1	11
$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Cigars ... ..	4	6
Total duty	7	6
Fine on $1\frac{1}{4}$ <i>i.e.</i> 2 lb. of all sorts at 6d. ... ..	1	0
Do. additional on $\frac{1}{4}$ <i>i.e.</i> 1 lb. Cav.	0	6
	9	0
	"P.C."	

Answer to Mr. E. H.—The Shipwrecked Dog Mr. E. H. inquires about would probably be securely isolated in the Police Station, or in the Preventive Officer's garden, and a suggestion wired to the Board of Agriculture for its disposal. One of three courses might be adopted: (a) The delivery to be licensed; (b) its re-shipment; (c) an official and *dacent* burial. "P.C."

## Coast Watchers.

It has been suggested that the Board of Trade should organise some permanent system of coast watchers in place of the coastguardsmen removed by the Admiralty. The proposal comes from Sunderland, where it is held that the saving of life from wrecks this winter will be materially hampered by the lack of authentic news.

### Answer to "Oroo."

The item you inquire after appeared in *Truth* of October 19th, 1905, and the following is the exact terms of the paragraph:—

"As usual at this season of the year, when many people are coming home from the Continent, I am again being urged to notice the stupidity and oppressiveness of the Board of Agriculture regulations with regard to the importation of dogs. Under the regulations now in force, every dog brought into the country from abroad must be quarantined for six months at a veterinary surgeon's, or alternatively, for the same period (reducible by special favour to three months) at home. In the latter case, however, the following conditions have to be observed:—The owner must make a prepayment of £25 for alleged veterinary expenses, and the dog must (1) wear an immovable conspicuous harness marked in large letters "in quarantine for rabies"; (2) be not only muzzled but chained when taken out for exercise, and (3) receive a visit from a veterinary daily at first, and afterwards every other day for the whole period.

These requirements are preposterous even when dogs are imported for sale here, and they are doubly so for pets taken abroad and returning home in the care of private owners.

To the poorer class of travellers the payment is prohibitive, and the other rules are needlessly severe and harassing. Some quarantine might, perhaps, be reasonably imposed, but when the leading veterinary authorities give six weeks as the period of incubation for rabies, it is absurd that the dog should have to be rigorously quarantined for six months, and the absurdity is accentuated by the fact that no distinction whatever is made between dogs coming from countries where the disease is unknown, and those from countries where it is not. I am told that exalted personages openly bring their dogs back from the Continent without placing them in quarantine, and I know as a fact that many other persons have successfully evaded the law by smuggling their pets into the country.

It is inevitable that this will be done as long as the regulations are so unjustifiably stringent, and the fact that this smuggling goes on shows the emptiness of the Board's pretence that it is the quarantine law which has "wiped out rabies."

### Preventive Officers' Association, LIVERPOOL BRANCH.

The adjourned quarterly meeting of the Liverpool branch of the Preventive Officers' Association was held at 35, London Road, on the 27th September, there being a good attendance.

The minutes of the last quarterly meeting and of other meetings held during the quarter were read and confirmed.

The local secretary submitted his quarterly report, shewing that the recent additions to the class had become members, and that the branch was well supported throughout the district.

The meeting reviewed the work done by the Executive while in conference at Liverpool on the 6th and 7th inst., and it was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed "That this meeting regard with much satisfaction the decisions of the Executive on the several subjects dealt with, especially the decision with reference to the examination of Free Goods, the same being in accordance with previous resolutions of this branch.

Correspondence was read, and general business transacted.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the president in the chair.

### North Sea "Coopering."

#### Cargo of Tobacco and Cigars.

H.M. Revenue cutter, *Argus*, has seized and brought into Grimsby the Dutch vessel, *Maria*, on a charge of alleged "coopering."

The Master of the *Argus* "fell in with the *Maria*" within the three mile limit off the mouth of the Humber with every manifestation of doing illicit business amongst the fishing trawlers. After being placed in the Alexandra Dock, the Customs staff overhauled the vessel and found about £140 worth of tobacco and £120 worth of cigars. There was also a small quantity of spirits.

The whole cargo was seized, and the crew, five in number, taken in charge to the Town Hall, where they will be formally charged with the offence. Although "coopering" has very largely decreased in recent years, there is still a considerable trade being carried on.

### "Goole Mems.," in the "Hull Daily Mail."

Cases of smuggling now-a-days are very little heard of at Goole, though now and again a seaman is caught with tobacco concealed, endeavouring thus to evade payment of duty. Such a case came before the local magistrates recently, the defendant being a Norwegian, and the second mate of a steamer trading between the Ouse port and continent. The fact that the tobacco weighed close upon a stone and a half gives one the impression that the offending one had a market for his importation, and the Customs authorities suspected that a trade was being done.

There are many cases of smuggling which are never made public, for the reason that as the concealed tobacco is usually not a large quantity, the smuggler is given the option of either paying treble value and duty or being taken before the magistrate, where he would probably only have to pay single value and duty. As a rule he pays up and hears no more about it, but in the case of a police-court prosecution he runs the risk of losing his situation.

There is a certain fascination about smuggling which in some cases a seaman cannot resist. It is not that he makes a great deal out of it; in fact, in some instances he gives away the tobacco or cigars, or whatever it may be; but he takes credit to himself for being cute enough to elude the vigilance of the Customs officials.

### "The King's Preventive Man."

We have been favoured with a copy of a musical composition entitled "The King's Preventive Man." The words are by Mr. W. Reid, and it is composed by Mr. T. A. Langham, both members, we believe, of the Customs Service. The words are very appropriate indeed, and the melody is decidedly tuneful.

We heartily commend it to our readers, and we hope it will have a place in the programme

at the social gatherings, &c., held throughout the service. We regret that extreme pressure on space forbids us inserting the verses in our columns, but copies may be obtained from Mr Langham, 55, Maud Road, Plaistow, E., at the modest price of 6d each copy.

### Smuggling at Goole.

At Goole Police-court, Christian Reitan, second mate on board the steamer "Urda," of Norway, was charged with smuggling 20 lbs. of cavendish tobacco.

Mr. Edrupt, collector of Customs, Goole, stated that the vessel arrived at Goole from Terneuzen, and the tobacco was found concealed in a spare ventilator at the top of the engine-room skylight.

Preventive Officer Burton gave evidence as to the finding of the tobacco, adding he acquainted the captain of the discovery, and he mustered all the crew on deck. In a few moments prisoner admitted that the tobacco was his.

Replying to the Chairman, prisoner said that was his 3rd voyage to Terneusen. He was very "despairing about money." His wife had been sick for about two years at home.

The Captain stated that prisoner had been about 4½ months on the ship, and he had had no complaints. He received £3 11s. per month wages, and £3 of it went to his wife.

Mr. Taylor: That leaves him with 11s. per month. However, it is a serious offence, and we cannot let him off with a single fine. He was in a position to know better, and he will have to pay 4s. 6d. costs, and £12 13s. 4d. double value and duty.

The Captain paid the fine.

### Smuggling at Harwich.

For smuggling 6½ lbs. of Cigars at Parkeston, Henrick Jansen, egg merchant, of Stoke Newington, was fined £10 & costs

The Admiralty have granted increased pay, varying from 6d. to 2s. per week, to the mechanics and skilled labourers employed in the constructive, engineering, and electrical departments of Portsmouth Dock-yard, to date from April 2nd last.

## Appointments, Promotions, Removals.

Mr. Howell, Assistant, London to Newhaven

Mr. McWilliam, Assistant London to Glasgow

Mr. Griffiths, Assistant, Greenock to Glasgow

Mr Hanlon. Preventive Officer, lower section, London, to Preventive Officer, lower section, and second officer, Tralee

Mr. Daniels, Preventive Officer, lower section, Newcastle to Liverpool district

Mr. Campbell, Preventive Man, Cardiff, to Preventive Man in charge, Goodwick

Mr. W. Massey, Collector, Hull, to Bristol.

Mr. J. Chaffey, 2nd class clerk, upper section, to 1st Clerk, London

Mr. J. Hall, 2nd class Clerk, upper section, Liverpool, to long-room, London

Mr. Ainsworth, 2nd class Clerk, upper section, London, to Liverpool

Mr. Graham, Assist., London to Greenock

Mr. S. Wood, Preventive Officer, lower section, London to Southampton.

Mr. G. Ismay, Preventive Man Barrow to Weymouth.

Mr. W. Dervey Preventive Man, Hull, appointment cancelled.

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