

XL. — Additional article to the agreement between Great Britain and China of September 13, 1876. Signed at Peking, March. 31, 1890.

(Ratifications exchanged at Peking, January 18, 1891).

The Governments of Great Britain and China, being desirous of settling in an amicable spirit the divergence of opinion which has arisen with respect to the first clause of the third section of the agreement concluded at Chefoo in 1876, which stipulates that « The British government will be free to send officers to reside at Chungking to watch the conditions of British trade in Szechuen, that British merchants will not be allowed to reside at Chungking, or to open establishments or warehouses there, so long as no steamers have access to the port, and that when steamers have succeeded in ascending the river so far, further arrangements can be taken into consideration », have agreed upon the following additional article :

1° Chungking shall forthwith be declared open to trade on the same footing as any other treaty port. British subjects shall be at liberty either to charter Chinese vessels or to provide vessels of the chinese type for the traffic between Ichang and Chung-king;

2° Merchandize conveyed between Ichang and Chung-king by the above class of vessels shall be placed on the same footing as merchandize carried by steamers between Shanghai and Ichang, and shall be dealt with in accordance with treaty, tariff rules, and the Yangtze regulations;

3° All regulations as to the papers and flags to be carried by vessels of the above description, as to the cargo certificates with which they shall be provided, as to the repackage of goods for the voyage beyond Ichang, and as to the general procedure to be observed by those engaged in the traffic between Ichang and Chung-king with a view to insuring convenience and security, shall be drawn up by the superintendent of Customs at Ichang, the Taotai of the Ch'uan Tung circuit, who is now stationed at Chung-king, and the commissioner of Customs in consultation with the British consul, and shall be liable to any modifications