APPENDIX C

COMMERCE TREATY OF 1862


Article 1

The Burmese and British rulers have for a long time remained at peace and in friendship; peace shall now be extended to future generations, both parties being careful to observe the conditions of a firm and lasting friendship.

Article 2

In accordance with the great friendship existing between the two countries, traders and other subjects

of the Burmese Government, who may travel and trade in the British territory, shall, in conformity with the custom of great countries, be treated and protected in the same manner as if they were subjects of the British Government.

Article 3

Traders and other subjects of the British Government, who may travel and trade in the Burmese territory, shall, in accordance with the custom of great countries, be treated and protected in the same manner as if they were subjects of the Burmese Government.

Article 4

When goods are imported into Rangoon from any British or foreign territory, and declared to be for export by the Irrawaddy river to the Burmese territory, the English ruler shall, provided bulk is not broken, and he believes the manifest to be true, charge one per cent, on their value, and if he so desires, shall allow them to be conveyed under the charge of an officer until arrived at Balloon and Kehla. The tariff value of goods shall be forwarded yearly to the Burmese ruler. If such goods are declared for export to other territories, and not for sale in the Burmese territories, the Burmese ruler shall, if he believes the manifest to be true, not cause bulk to be broken, and such goods shall be free of duty.
Article 5

When goods are imported into Burmah by persons residing in the Burmese or any foreign territory, and declared to be for export by the Irrawaddy river to Rangoon, the Burmese ruler shall, provided bulk is not broker, and he believes the manifest to be true, charge one per cent. on their value, and if he so desires, shall allow them to be conveyed under the charge of an officer to Thayet Myo, and the tariff value of such goods shall be forwarded yearly to the British ruler. If such goods are declared for export to other territories, and not for sale in British territory, such goods shall be free according to the Customs Schedule, but goods liable to sea-board duty will pay the usual rate.

Article 6

Traders from the Burmese territory who may desire to travel in the British territory, either by land or by water, through the whole course of Irrawaddy river, shall conform to the customs of the British territory, and be allowed to travel in such manner as they please, without hinderance from the British ruler, and to purchase whatever they may require. Burmese merchants will be allowed to settle and to have land for the erection of houses of business in any part of the British territory.
Article 7

Traders from the British territory who may desire to travel in the Burmese territory, either by land or by water, through the whole extent of the Irrawaddy river, shall conform to the customs of the Burmese territory, and shall be allowed to travel in such manner as they please, without hinderance by the Burmese ruler, and to purchase whatever they may require. British merchants will be allowed to settle and to have lands for the erection of houses of business in any part of the Burmese territory.

Article 8

Should the British ruler, within one year after the conclusion of this Treaty, abolish the duties now taken at Thayet Myo and Toungoo, the Burmese ruler, with a regard to the benefit of the people of his country, will, if so inclined, after one, two, three, or four years, abolish the duties now taken at Malaun and Toungoo (in the Burmese territory).

Article 9

People from whatever country or nation who may wish to proceed to the British territory, the Burmese ruler shall allow to pass without hinderance.

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to proceed to the Burmese territory, the British ruler shall allow to pass without hinderance.

(Signed) Arthur Purves Phayre,
Lieut. Colonel.

Appointed by the Viceroy and Govt. General.

(Signed) Woongyee Thado Mengyee Maha Menghla-Thee-Ha-Thoo,
Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of Burmah.

Ratified by the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council this day the 13th of December, 1862.

Fort William
The 13th December 1862

(Signed) H.M. Durand, 
Secretary to the Government of India.