

Nr. 2.1.2.04

**John MacVicar, Konsul der Hansestadt Hamburg in Kanton, an
Karl Sieveking, Senatssyndikus der Hansestadt Hamburg, betr. die
Bedingungen für Hamburgische Schiffe in Kanton, 17. Januar 1831**

Brief

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Regest:

John MacVicar, als britischer Kaufmann in Kanton ansässig und 1829 zum Konsul der Hansestadt Hamburg in Kanton berufen, bedankt sich für die Übermittlung seines Konsularpatents durch den Senat der Hansestadt und berichtet, dass ihm die Mitglieder der Cohong-Gilde zugesichert hätten, künftig in Kanton eintreffende Hamburgische Schiffe zu den gleichen Bedingungen wie die Großbritanniens und anderer Nationen behandeln zu wollen. MacVicar legt ausführlich dar, mit welchen allgemeinen Kosten die Schiffe verschiedener Größenordnungen aktuell zu rechnen haben, wenn sie in den Hafen von Kanton einfahren wollen. Da er selbst plane, alsbald für einige Zeit nach Europa zurückzukehren, habe er Alexander Matheson von der Firma Magniac & Co. für die Zeit seiner Abwesenheit zum Hamburgischen Vizekonsul in Kanton ernannt. Den zu dieser Zeit in Kanton anwesenden deutschen Asienforscher Karl Friedrich Neumann erwähnt er nicht.

[1. Blatt, Vorderseite]

[Nachträglich ergänzt von zweiter Hand:]

Abschrift

Hamburg Acta [?]

To His Excellency

Mr. Sindicus Sieveking

Hamburg

Canton 17th January 1831.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge Receipt of your letter of the 13th September 1829 accompanying a Patent from the Honorable The Senate of Hamburg, appointing me their Consul in China.¹ My departure from England earlier than I expected prevented my writing to you before I sailed from there [?]. I beg to assure you that the instructions you are pleased to give me will be attended to and that I will pay every attention, that may be in my power to the Interest of the Citizens of Hamburg.

1 Gemeint war das Konsulat der Hansestadt Hamburg in Kanton.

Shortly after my arrival in September last, I waited upon the principal Hong-Merchants, and informed them of my appointment, and I am assured by them, that no obstacle will exist on the part of the Chinese Government, to a mercantile intercourse with the citizens & Flag of Hamburg on the same footing as with the English & other favoured nations.²

When a Ship under the Hamburg Flag arrives here, the Captain should adress himself to one of the respectable Agency houses & he will experience no difficulty in getting his Ship secured, & admitted to Entry at the Custom House, through the medium of one of the Hong-Merchants, who are the Organs through whom all mercantile Affairs are conducted.

There has lately been an alteration in the Shipping and Port Charges, the present Charges may be interesting to the Mercantile Community, and are as follows:

There are two principal Charges, namely the „Cumshaw“ or Present & the measurement Duties. The Cumshaw is the same on all ships of whatever size, viz. Tails 1600.6.8.3. For the measurement duty they are divided into three classes.

The 1st or largest Class measuring 150 Cubic Cubits & all above are charged p. Cubit
Tails 7.8.7.4.7.5.5.

2nd or middle Class, measuring from 120 to 150 Cubits p. Cubit
Tails 7.2.3.1.9.1.0.

3rd our smallest Class, measuring 120 Cubits & all below that size p. Cubit
Tails 5.0.6.2.3.3.5.

The lineal Cubit or Covid, is equal to 14 1/2 á 14 5/8 English Inches and the measurement is ascertained by multiplying the length from the Forement to the Mizzen by the breadth from side to side abaft the Mainmast. The product divided by 10, and multiplied by the Rate of Charge gives the Amount. The Rate of Pilotage, is 60 Spanish Dollars, inwards & the same outwards. The Compradores & Linguists fees are for a ship of the 1st Class about Sp. \$ 450.- of the 2nd Class about Sp. \$ 370 & of the 3rd Class about Sp. \$ 275.

On a Vessel of the 1st a largest Class & which measures 1192 Tons British Register the Charges and measurement were, for

[Nachträglich ergänzt von dritter Hand:] 1831, Jan. 17.

[1. Blatt, Rückseite]

measurement duty	length	89.5	} Solid Cabits =	
	breadth	29.4	} 263.1.3 à	[Angabe fehlt]
			7.8.7.4.7.5.5.	
Cumshaw				<u>Tails 1600.6.8.3</u>
				<u>Tails 3672.7.6.7.</u>
		à 720 Tails for 1000 Spanish Dollars is	Sp. \$ 5101.66 ct.	
		Linguist & Compradore fees	Sp. \$ 450.00.- ct.	
		Pilotage in & out	<u>Sp. \$ 120.00.- ct.</u>	
			<u>Sp. \$ 5671.66 ct.</u>	

2 Das Prinzip der Meistbegünstigung hatte sich zu dieser Zeit noch nicht durchgesetzt.

On a Vessel of the 2nd Class, which measured 545 Tons British Register

measurement	Length	67.5	} solid cabits	
	Breadth	22.-	} = 148.5 à 7.2.3.9.1.0. is	Tails 1073.9.3.9.
Cumshaw				<u>Tails 1600.6.8.3</u> <u>Tails 2674.6.2.2</u>
		à 720 Tails per 1000 \$ is	Sp. \$ 3714.75 ct.	
		Linguist & Compradores fees	Sp. \$ 370.00 ct.	
		Pilotage in & out	<u>Sp. \$ 120.00 ct.</u> <u>Span. \$ 4204.75 ct.</u>	

On a Vessel of the 3rd or smallest Class which measures 304 Tons British Register

measurement	Length	58.4	} solid cubits	
	Breadth	18.43	} = 107.4.5.6 à 5.0.6.2.3.3.5 is	Tails 543.9.7.9.
Cumshaw				<u>Tails 1600.6.8.3</u> <u>Tails 2144.6.2.2</u>
		à 720 Tails per 1000 \$ is	Span. \$ 2978.70	
		Linguist & Compradores fees	Span. \$ 273.00.-	
		Pilotage in & out	<u>Span. \$ 120.00.-</u> <u>Span. \$ 3371.70.-</u>	

Intending to return to Europe very soon on account of my own commercial arrangements, and in case any ships under the Flag of Hamburg should arrive here before my return, I have thought it expedient, to nominate a Gentleman to act as Vice Consul during my absence and by Indorsement on my Consular Patent I have appointed Mr. Alexander Matheson (of the house of Messrs. Magniac & Co.) to act in that capacity – which I hope will meet with the approbation of the Honorable The Senate.

I will either have the honour of seeing you, when I am in Europe, or of writing to you from England.

I have the honour to be

Your Excellencies

most obedient humble servant

John Macvicar.