

TRANSLATION

TRANSLATOR'S INTRODUCTION TO THE 1865 INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH CONVENTION

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Editor's Note: The importance of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to international space law cannot be overstated. As the international coordinating body for electromagnetic spectrum its work touches every satellite in orbit. The ITU, though, predates satellites and even wireless transmission using electromagnetic waves. The ITU, as the oldest international organization, was first formed as the International Telegraph Union. Until now, the original convention establishing this body has only been available in French. This English translation is offered to give readers access to an important historical antecedent to the modern-day treaties that govern this important international body.

Telegraphy, like all other forms of telecommunications, was a heavily codified field. Its practice had national and international implications due to what could be conveyed across its lines, and how it should be done. Indeed, “agreement on standards is inherent in any extension of telecommunications beyond the purely local.”¹

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¹ M.B. Williams, *International Standards for Telecommunications*, Phil. Trans. R. Soc. Lond. A. (Eng.) 289, 185 (1978).

Like all other forms of telecommunications, telegraphy's codification was done through the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).² Utilizing ITU's voluminous documents and records produced and published from over 150 years of International Conventions, legal scholars, academics, and historians are able to explore the legal and operational histories of satellite communication, the Internet, telephonics, and radio to name a few. There is, however, one exception: telegraphy, which for historians may also be the most important. The origin of all international telecommunication and its applicable laws is inextricably tied to the origin of the ITU and its first convention, the 1865 *Convention télégraphique internationale de Paris* (the International Telegraphic Convention of Paris) and subsequent *Règlement de service international* (Rules of International Service). This document not only established the international standards and practices of telegraphy for mainland Europe, (The U.K. and other countries would be added in subsequent Conventions.) but also was the first international document to establish Morse code as the international standard alphabet of telegraphy, and it set the parameters for sending coded messages via Morse across the borders of Contracting States. The ITU's Convention, a repeated title changed only to match the technology of the age, the year, and the place, "has the status of a treaty between sovereign states in recognition of the importance of its role in international relations."³ Unfortunately, this original document is referenced sparingly in historical analyses concerning the ITU, international telecommunications, or telegraphy, in large part because there is no official English version. As such, Williams' article on the evolution of the ITU speaks only to "the catalytic role" of the 1865 convention, and then hurdles quickly to the 1871 Convention,⁴ the first produced in English. An undated internal document from ITU discussing its own history offers only half a paragraph to the 1865 Convention, which *founded* the ITU. The internal document states,

On 17 May 1865 after two and a half months of arduous negotiations, the first International Telegraph Convention was signed by the 20 participating countries and the International

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

Telegraph Union was set up to enable subsequent amendments to this initial agreement to be agreed upon. This marked the birth of the ITU.⁵

Unlike the majority of ITU's Conventions, the documents produced from the 1865 Convention were only in the original French, and before now, remained untranslated. Because of this, one of the (if not *the*) most important foundational documents for International Telecommunication laws, regulations, and standardizations has been excluded from the legal repertoire of lawyers, scholars, and historians alike.

What is presented here are both the 1865 Telegraphic Convention and the Rules of International Service, translated from the original French to English. This introductory text accompanies the translation to serve as an historical introduction, and to deliver translation notes to better appreciate the nuances of the Convention's language, discuss the method of translation, and the idiosyncrasies of translating a document from 1860s French to modern academic English. This introductory text also includes a history of both the 1865 Convention and the origin of Morse Code.

A PIECE IN TIME

There is a tendency, I think, to take for granted the nature of communication and connectivity during the era of the telegraph. This Convention was created in a time when America was at one of its lowest points during the Civil War, and Europe was at a pre-WWI height. It is easy to relegate the concept of kings, queens, and royalty to fantastical ideas of Camelot, Narnia, and fairy tales, and not to the hard, tangible history of telecommunications and wires and networks. However, they are precisely who established the first international telegraphy laws. The Convention was established by the plenipotentiaries of twelve Kings, four Emperors, one Grand-Duke, one Queen, one Free City, and the Swiss Federation. It was the age of royals that led us into communications as we know it.

One of the most striking things in the 1865 Convention, not duplicated in the 1868 or 1871 Conventions, is the introduction of

⁵ ITU History, *History*, www.itu.int/itudoc/about/itu/history/history.txt (last visited Nov. 21, 2017).

Plenipotentiaries. Perhaps nothing more indicates the grandeur of the time than the honors bestowed upon those representing the Crowns. Taking as an example Napoleon III's plenipotentiary, Mr. Édouard Droyn de Lhuys, who was awarded the Grand-Cross of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, an internal award, and also similar national awards from:

the Orders of Saint-Étienne of Austria, of the Danebrog of Denmark, of Charles III of Spain, of the Savior of Greece, of the Saints Maurice and Lazarus of Italy, of the Netherlands Lion, of the Seraphim of Sweden; decorated by the Imperial Order of the Medjidie First Class (Turkey).⁶

These accolades were mirrored either in whole or in part by the majority of Plenipotentiaries at the Convention, which showed both the interconnectivity of Europe, and the type of people who represented their countries in those days. While we tend to think about telecommunications in terms of a bunch of nerds sitting in dark rooms doing long division, the origin of telecommunications was founded by Kings and Queens.

ITU AND THE EXCLUSION OF ENGLAND

It is not until 1872 that an English document is suddenly generated by the ITU, the third such Convention.⁷ This is due to a sequence of events within England that led to their approval as members of the ITU. By the time of the original 1865 Convention, England had authorized the creation of telegraph services inside the United Kingdom via "the Telegraph Act, 1863."⁸ The telegraph offices born out of this act, however, were privately owned, and not under the direct control of the State.⁹ Because of the sensitive nature of telegraphy, as described in the 1865 Convention, the ITU would not allow a non-State-run telegraphy system into the Union.¹⁰ Britain, understanding the importance of being involved in

⁶ Int'l. Telecomm. Union, *Conv. Télé. Int'l. de Paris*, 3-4 (1865).

⁷ *Constitution and Convention*, ITU, <http://www.itu.int/en/history/Pages/ConstitutionAndConvention.aspx>.

⁸ The Telegraph Act 1863, 26 & 27 Vict., c. 112.

⁹ Williams, *supra*.

¹⁰ Williams, *supra* at 186.

international telegraphy, then pursued the adoption of laws that would bring telegraphy back into the fold of State-run services.

When the ITU had convened its second Convention in 1868, the U.K. had passed the “Telegraph Act, 1868,” (the Act) which acknowledged that “the Means of Communication by Electric Telegraphs within the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* are insufficient, and many important Districts are without such Means of Communications.”¹¹ The Act made it clear that the privately-run telegraph system was inadequate for the coming age, and that all the U.K. would profit from a standardized system, and thereby “empowered [Her Majesty’s Postmaster General] to work Telegraphs in connexion with the Administration of the Post Office.”¹²

The Act gave the Postmaster a unique set of powers, including the right to purchase outright any “Undertaking...” or “Company... engaged in the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* in transmitting or authorized to transmit, Messages for Money or other Consideration, by means of Electric or other Telegraphs, or mechanical Agencies, and each and every of those Companies,”¹³ and also to “require the Railway Company to affix Wires to Existing Posts... and the Company may have a like Power to affix Wires to the Posts belonging from Time to Time to the Postmaster General...”¹⁴ These powers allowed the U.K. to create a comprehensive telegraphy network throughout the British Islands. Finally, the “Telegraph Act, 1870” extended “the Telegraphic Acts of 1868, 1869 to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man,” which allowed for a fully-nationalized telegraphy network across the whole of the U.K., thereby qualifying them for ITU membership,¹⁵ joining as members to the 1872 Convention. Due to the new British paradigm wherein telegraphy was owned and operated through the British Post, the United Kingdom was represented at the 1872 Rome Convention by

ALAN E. CHAMBRE, Chef (ad interim) des Lignes Télégraphique— fils privés — Administration Postes-Télégraphes Britanniques.

¹¹ The Telegraph Act 1868, 31 & 32 Vict., c. 110.

¹² *Id.*

¹³ *Id.* at 3.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 9(4).

¹⁵ Williams *supra* at 186-205.

[ALAN E. CHAMBRE, Head (ad interim) of Telegraphic Lines — private wires — British Administration of Telegraph-Post.]¹⁶

While the British Isles struggled to gain entry to the ITU for over seven years, they already had in-roads to the ITU through their then-colony: India. The 1868 Convention accepted *l'Inde britannique* (British India), setting the currency exchange of one French franc to 76 pice, or roughly 1.20 rupee.¹⁷ At the conclusion of the Vienna Document, Lieutenant-Colonel G. Glover signed on behalf of British India.¹⁸ Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas George Glover was an officer in the military portion of the East India Company.¹⁹ He joined in 1844, and would go on to work in the Public Works Department of the Punjab Circle, Garrison Engineer at Lahore, Executive Engineer at Bhirtpore, among other positions, before finally taking on the position of Director-General of Telegraphs in 1867, before retiring from service in India in 1870.²⁰ He continued to work in British international telegraphy, and attended both the International Telegraph Convention at Vienna in 1868 and in Rome in 1871-72. He died suddenly on September 12, 1881, at Neuenahr, Prussia.²¹ While telegraphy entered into the international sphere through the medaled, titled, and crowned, by 1868 and 1872 countries' representatives within the ITU were those whose careers were either for a time, or all their lives, telegraphy.

¹⁶ What is surprising to learn is that Mr. Chambre would go on, by at least 1880, to become the Official Manager of the London Homeopathic Hospital. There, he served a long career in his role, lauded by gentlemen and Lords, namely Lord Ebury, who said, "he did not like to speak in too strong language of [Chambre's] services, but he always went away from the Hospital with the feeling that he ought to say 'Good-bye, Mr. Chambre, for Heaven's sake, take care of yourself.'" J. Brit. Homeopathic Soc'y., Vol 9 424-25, 1882.

¹⁷ Int'l. Telecomm. Union, *Conv. Télé. Int'l à Vienne*, 17 (1868).

¹⁸ *Id.* at 34.

¹⁹ *The Late Colonel Glover*, *The Electrician*, May- Nov., 1881, at 325.

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ *Id.*

THE MORSE ORIGINS

The history of telecommunication can be traced back to specific moments in time when innovators altered the means by which mankind communicated over vast distances. Some of the most famous examples have either spoken to us, or allowed us to speak through them. Most recently, IBM's journey into AI introduced itself in 2011 with, "Hello, my name is Watson."²² In 1984, Steve Jobs introduced the Macintosh, revolutionizing modern home computing. The Mac entered into tech lore when it introduced itself to us with the classic phrase, "Hello, I'm Macintosh. It sure is great to get out of that bag."²³ Twelve years earlier, in '72, Dennis Ritchie created C Programming Language, one of computer programming's most ubiquitous languages, and, with it, Brian Kernighan taught us to code "Hello, World."²⁴ If we venture farther back to 1876, Alexander Graham Bell gave voice to the distance, by giving us the telephone, stating "Mr. Watson. Come here. I want to see you." However, the mantle of first pioneer in telecomm goes to Samuel F. B. Morse, who perfected telegraphy and created the standard telegraphic writing system: the Morse code. In 1844, twenty-one years before the ITU's first Convention, Morse conveyed over experimental wire from the U.S. Supreme Court chambers in Washington D.C. to the railway station in Baltimore, the first telegraphic phrase, "What hath God wrought?"²⁵

Like so many origin stories, Morse and telegraphy's are fraught with hardship. Samuel Morse was born April 27, 1791.²⁶ After attending Yale at fourteen, and graduating at nineteen, Morse sailed to England to attend the Royal Academy of Arts in

²² Lauren J. Young, *What has IBM Watson Been Up to Since Winning 'Jeopardy!' 5 Years Ago?*, Inverse, April 5, 2016.

²³ David Bunnell, *The Macintosh Speaks for Itself (Literally)...*, Cult of Mac, (May 1, 2010, 6:00 AM), <https://www.cultofmac.com/40440/the-macintosh-speaks-for-itself-literally/>.

²⁴ David Cardinal, *Dennis Ritchie, creator of C, bids 'goodbye, world'*, Extreme Tech, (November 2, 2011, 11:24 AM), <https://www.extremetech.com/computing/102835-dennis-ritchie-creator-of-c-bids-goodbye-world>.

²⁵ *First telegraphic message-- 24 May 1844*, Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/mmorse000107>.

²⁶ *Samuel F.B. Morse Papers at the Library of Congress, 1793 to 1919*, Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/collections/samuel-morse-papers/articles-and-esays/timeline/1791-1839/>.

London.²⁷ After returning, he was commissioned to paint a number of portraits, including President James Monroe's, and fatefully, the Marquis de Lafayette's.²⁸

Morse was a renowned portraitist and founded the National Academy of Design, where he served as president for 20 years.²⁹ The Marquis made his last visit to the U.S. in 1825, and Morse was commissioned to paint his portrait by the City of New York.³⁰ While working on the portrait, he received a letter via horse messenger, the fastest local conveyance of the time,³¹ which would change not only his life, but also reshape communication in the modern world. The letter said that his wife had fallen ill, and while preparing to return the next day, he received another letter informing him that she had died.³² He returned to Connecticut, only to find that by the time he arrived, his wife had been buried.³³ Grief-stricken and determined, Morse set out to ensure that information could freely travel over great distance in much shorter time. He set aside his career as a painter and took up the mantle of inventor, eventually discovering telegraphy through the invention of communication wires, the telegraph key,³⁴ and his eponymous code. Morse, an old man by the time telegraphy became an international affair, lived long enough to see the formation of the ITU and its first two Conventions, but the year the United Kingdom joining the International Telegraph Convention, in 1872, Samuel Morse passed away at 80 years old.

²⁷ *Id.*

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ Bill Federer, *Magnificent Breakthroughs of the Morse Family*, WND, (April 1, 2017, 9:23 PM), <http://www.wnd.com/2017/04/magnificent-breakthroughs-of-the-morse-family/>.

³⁰ Aaron Jones, *Lafayette, Morse, and the March of Progress*, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, (April 27, 2014), <https://crystalbridges.org/blog/lafayette-morse-march-progress/>.

³¹ *Id.*

³² *Id.*

³³ *Id.*

³⁴ In English, the device used to transmit telegrams is referred to as the "telegraph key." In French, however, the telegraph key is referred to as "l'appareil Morse," literally "the Morse device." To be clear, the Morse device is so named not because it transmits Morse code, but because it was Samuel Morse who invented it. (*Dictionnaire étymologique et historique de la langue française*. "morse 2" 510 (1996).

TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

Perhaps the greatest task in translating what is, for want of a better word, a period piece, is combatting the translation of words and phrases whose meanings have shifted in the past 150 years, or that have simply fallen out of use. Researching these was both the most difficult task, and the most rewarding.

The first such word is, perhaps unsurprisingly, *dépêche*. The denotative meaning of the word *dépêche* is a “dispatch,” coming from the infinitive *dépêcher*, “to dispatch,” from Old French *despeechier*, a combination of the root *des-* (to not) and the stem *em-peechier* “to hinder,” (though sharing the same root as “to impeach.”) Therefore, the word “dispatch” traces back to the original meaning “to not hinder.” Imagining Morse’s goal of the dissemination of information across great distances with alacrity, the idea of not hindering that information makes perfect sense. This is the grammatical origin of the word, but not the path the word took once it changed from *despeechier* to *dépêche*.

The verb form, *dépêcher*, was first used in the 13th century. It first meant “to deliver (in the sense of liberate or release) from something.”³⁵ It then went on to mean “to get something over with, to hasten,” and finally by the 17th century, “to send a message with haste.”³⁶ It was not until the 17th-century definition that *dépêche* broke away from its infinitive suffix, *-er*. The earliest definition of *dépêche* meant simply, “a letter or message,” then took on the more specific, “an official letter transmitted by rapid means.”³⁷ Finally, the 19th century altered the meaning once again to “*dépêche télégraphique*,” a telegraphic dispatch, which is translated into practical English as simply, “a telegram.” That is the form of the word I adopted throughout my translation.³⁸

After a telegram is transmitted from one telegraph office to the other, something has to be *done* with it. Generally speaking, telegrams are turned into letters that were then delivered to the addressee through the local postal service. However, Article 16 of the Convention states that, “Telegrams may be addressed either to a

³⁵ *Id.*

³⁶ *Id.*

³⁷ *Id.*

³⁸ *Id.*

domicile, *poste restante*, or *bureau télégraphique restant*.” The concept of *poste restante* is neither an antiquated or defunct service, but it is a phrase that is chiefly postal *and* European.

Translating *poste restante* creates a circular reasoning loop when your translation source says that *poste restante* is still called *poste restante* in the U.K. A literal translation gives us “remainder mail,” which describes its function a bit more. In the U.S. however, it is referred to as “general delivery.” General Delivery a service requested by the sender, who marks *poste restante* in Europe or General Delivery in the U.S. The post office receives the telegram and then holds onto it (remainder mail), rather than delivering it, with the expectation that the person to whom it is addressed is expected to pick it up. Similarly, if marked *bureau télégraphique restant*, the same applies, but to the telegraph office that received the message, rather than forwarding on to a post office first.

In the vein of what must be *done* with a telegram once it arrives at the telegraph office, it can be sent on through the post to the addressee. If that addressee is not home, without further instruction, the telegram may be delivered to any adult member of their family, to employees, or hosts. There is, however, the option for the sender to put into writing that the telegram must be *entre les mains* of the addressee solely. This is not a difficult translation, but it is perhaps my favorite direct translation (which here proves to be the best). The phrase translates to “between the hands.” If marked appropriately, the telegram must literally be delivered “between the hands” of the addressee.

The most era- and occupation-specific word also had the most historic evolution. It is also the one I believe requires the most explanation to truly understand. In Section VII on “Certain Special Telegrams,” the beginning of Article 23 states, “Each sender may *affranchir* the response that they request from their correspondent.”³⁹ The word I chose for translation into English was “frank,” as in the verb, “to frank,” rather than the phrase, “to be frank” (although these share similar roots). This word, while accurate, did not clear up the meaning for me, but editorializing within the translation was outside my purview. My translated phrase reads, “Each

³⁹ Int'l. Telecomm. Union, *Conv. Télé. Int'l de Paris*, 17 (1865) [Partial translation].

sender may frank the response that they request from their correspondent." Still confusing, but the etymology clears it up.

Traveling back in time farther than any other word, we find the 3rd century European tribal people, the Franks, who conquered northern Gaul around the 6th century.⁴⁰ The Franks were so named for the Old English *franc(a)*, meaning "freeman, or noble."⁴¹ As the tribal Franks developed their land, in time they became the French, from the same root, meaning the free people.⁴² Returning to the Convention, when we look up *affranchir* in the Dictionnaire Étymologique, we are told to "see *franc*."⁴³ The word *franc* comes from the 10th century *franc/frank*, a Latinized ethnic adjective of the masculine singular of *Francus*,⁴⁴ thereby sharing the Latin root with the Franks of yore. The time gap between the 3rd century tribe and 10th century adjective form shows that the "free" denotation derives from the people, and not the other way round. Later, in the 15th century, "*Francus*" would make another appearance on what we know as the French Franc. The Franc likely got its name from the original inscription on the coin: *Francorum rex*, "King of the Francs,"⁴⁵ i.e. King of the free people. In French, the adjective form meant, "having the condition of freedom, being born free," from which the meaning "exempt from certain servitudes" comes. The sense of "one who expresses themselves openly, who says what they think" ("to be frank") appears in the 12th century. This is also the time period for the French adjective "*franchise*," which follows the evolution of *franc*. *Franchise* has persisted into Modern French (the French of the Convention) as "exemption."⁴⁶ The example given is "*franchise postal*,"⁴⁷ or "exempt mail."

Therefore, *affranchir* ultimately means to make something free, liberated, or exempt. In English, we took this word and went back to the beginning and used, "to frank," which has since fallen

⁴⁰ *Frank (n)*, Online Etymology Dictionary, <https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=frank> (last visited Nov. 21, 2017).

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² *Id.*

⁴³ *Dictionnaire étymologique, supra* at 18.

⁴⁴ *Id.* at 338.

⁴⁵ *Id.*

⁴⁶ *Id.*

⁴⁷ *Id.*

into disuse, but is still the accurate translation of *affranchir*. Finally, the editorialized version of Section VII, Article 23 reads:

“Each sender may request a response from their correspondent, and make their correspondent’s response free by paying its cost.”

While there are a handful of other translation notes, none add as much to the historical and interpretive value as these four. Given the unimaginable leaps in technology and communication, the importance of this document is rooted in history, rather than applicability. Because of that, the history of its words is integral to the document’s place in the annals of telecommunication.

1865 INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH CONVENTION

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, KING OF HUNGARY AND OF BOHEMIA, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE GRAND-DUKE OF BADE, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF BAVARIA, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF BELGIUM, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF DENMARK, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SPAIN, HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF FRANCE, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF GREECE, THE FREE CITY OF HAMBURG, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF HANOVER, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ITALY, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE NETHERLANDS, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF PORTUGAL AND THE ALGARVES, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF PRUSSIA, HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF ALL RUSSIA, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SAXONY, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SWEDEN AND NORWAY, THE SWISS CONFEDERATION, HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF WURTEMBERG,

Equally moved by the desire to ensure the telegraphic correspondence exchanged between their respective States have the advantages of a simple and lowered tariff, to improve the current conditions of international telegraphy, and to establish a permanent agreement between their states, while conserving their freedom of action for any measures that do not interest all of the service,

Have resolved to finalize a convention to that effect, and have named their Plenipotentiaries, namely:

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, KING OF HUNGARY AND OF BEHOMIA, THE PRINCE RICHARD DE METTERNICH-WINNEBURG, Duke of Portella, Count of Königswart, his Chamberlain and Personal Councilor, Grandee First Class of Spain, Grand Cross of the Imperial Austrian Order of Leopold, of the Order of Albert of Saxony, Grand Officer of the Belgian Order of Leopold, Knight of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, etc. etc., his Special Ambassador to his Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE GRAND-DUKE OF BADE, HIS CURRENT PERSONAL COUNCILOR, THE BARON FERDINAND ALÉSINA

OF SCHWEIZER, Grand Cross of the Zaehringen Order of the Lion, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF BAVERIA, THE BARON AUGUSTE DE WENDLAND, his Chamberlain, Grand Commander of the Order of Virtue of the Crown, Grand-Cross of his Order of St.-Michael, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF BELGIUM, THE BARON EUGÈNE BEYENS, Officer of the Order of Leopold, Commander of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, Commander of the Special Number of the Order of Charles II and of Isabella the Catholic of Spain, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF DENMARK, THE COUNT LÉON DE MOLTKE-HVITFELDT, his Chamberlain, Commander of the Order of the Danebrog and decorated by the Gold Cross, Grand-Cross of the Orders of the Savior of Greece, of the Conception of Villa-Viçosa of Portugal, of Isabella the Catholic of Spain, Commander of the Order of the Tour and the Épée of Portugal, Officer of the Order of Léopold of Belgium, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty the Emperor of France.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SPAIN, MR. ALEXANDRE MON, former President of the Council of Ministers and the Chamber of Deputies, Deputy of the Courts, Grand-Cross of the Royal Order of Charles III, of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, etc. etc. etc., his Special Ambassador and Plenipotentiary near his Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF FRANCE, MR. ÉDOUARD DROYN DE LHUYS, Senator of the Empire, Grand-Cross of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, of the Orders of Saint-Étienne of Austria, of the Danebrog of Denmark, of Charles III of Spain, of the Savior of Greece, of the Saints Maurice and Lazarus of Italy, of the Netherlands Lion, of the Seraphim of Sweden; decorated by the Imperial Order of the Medjidie First Class, etc. etc. etc., his Minister of Foreign Affairs;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF GREECE, MR. PHOCION ROQUE, his Plenipotentiary, Officer of His Royal Order of the Savior and of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, etc. etc. etc.;

THE FREE CITY OF HAMBOURG, MR. JEAN-HERMANN HERREN, Doctor of Law, Resident Minister of the Free Cities of Germany near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF HANOVER, THE BARON CHARLES DE LINSINGEN, his present Legation Councilor, Officer of his Royal Order of the Guelphes, Commander of the Order of the Netherlands Lion, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ITALY, KNIGHT CONSTANTIN NIGRA, Grand-Cross of his Order of the Saints Maurice and Lazarus, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, etc. etc. etc. his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE NETHERLANDS, Mr. Léonard-Antoine Lightenvelt, Grand-Cross of the Order of the Netherland Lion, Grand officer of the Imperial order of the Legion of Honor, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF PORTUGAL AND THE ALGARVES, THE VISCOUNT DE PAÏVA, Peer of the Realm, Grand-Cross of the Order of the Conception of Villa-Viçosa, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF PRUSSIA, COUNT HENRI-LOUIS-ROBERT DE GOLTZ, Knight of the Royal Order of the Red Eagle First Class and of Saint John of Jerusalem, Grand-Cross of the Order of the White Eagle of Russia, of the Imperial Order of the Medjidie of Turkey, of the Royal Order of the Savior of Greece, etc. etc. etc., his Special and Plenipotentiary Ambassador near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF ALL RUSSIA, BARON ANDRÉ DE BUDBERG, his private council, Grand-Cross of the Imperial Orders of Saint Elexandre Newsky and of the White Eagle, Knight of the Order of Saint Wladimir Second Class, Grand-Cross of the Imperial Order of Sainte Anne and of the Orders of the Legion

of Honor, of the Red Eagle of Prussia, of the Iron Crown of Prussia, of the Danebrog of Denmark, of the Guelphes of Hanover, etc. etc. etc., his Special and Plenipotentiary Ambassador near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SAXONY, BARON ALBIN-LÉO DE SEEBACH, his present Concillor and Chamberlain, Grand-Cross of his Royal Order of Merit, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, decorated by the Order of the Iron Crown of Austria First Class, by the Order of the Red Eagle of Prussia Second Class, Grand-Cross of the Order of the Ernestine Branch of Saxony, of the Orders of the White Eagle and of Sainte Anne of Russia; decorated by the Order of the Medjidie Second Class, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SWEDEN AND OF NORWAY, MR. GEORGES-NICOLAS BARON ADELWARD, Grand-Cross of the Order of the Polar Star, Grand Cross of the Order of Saint Olaf of Norway, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

THE SWISS CONFEDERATION, MR. KERN, Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary of the aforesaid Confederation near His Majesty the Emperor of France;

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, ESSEÏD MOUHAMMED DJÉMIL-PACHA, Muchir and Member of the Grand Council of the Empire, decorated by the Imperial Orders of the Medjidie First Class, of the Osmanieh Second Class, Grand Cordon of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, of the Orders of Isabella the Catholic of Spain, of the Iron Crown of Austria, of the White Eagle of Russia, of Saints Maurice and Lazarus of Italy, of the Polar Star of Sweden, of Leopold of Belgium, of the Netherlands Lion, etc. etc. etc., his Special Ambassador and Plenipotentiary near Her Majesty the Queen of Spain;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF WURTEMBERG, THE BARON JEAN-AUGUSTE DE WAECHTER, his State Counselor and Chamberlain, Commander of his Order of the Crown, Grand-Cross of his Royal Order of Frederic, etc. etc. etc., his Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary near his Majesty the Emperor of France.

Which, after having communicated their full powers, believe in due form, agreed to enforce upon Contracting State telegraphic correspondences the following agreement:

TITLE I: ON THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

Art. 1.

The High Contracting Parties undertake to assign special wires to the international telegraphic service, in number sufficient to insure a rapid transmission of telegrams.

The wires will be established in the best conditions known to the practice of the service.

The cities between which exchange of the correspondences are continuous or very active will be, successively and as much as possible, connected by direct wires of superior diameter, and the service will remain open for the work of the office intermediaries.

Art. 2.

Between the important cities of the Contracting States, the service will be as often as possible permanent, day and night, without any interruption.

Ordinary offices, once daily service is completed, are open to the public:

From April 1st to September 30th, from 7:00AM to 9:00PM,

From October 1st to March 31st, from 8:00AM to 9:00PM.

The offices' open hours for limited service are fixed by the respective administrations of the Contracting States.

The hour of all the offices of a State is the standard time of the capital of that State.

Art. 3.

The Morse apparatus (telegraph key) remains adopted provisionally for international wire service.

TITLE II: ON CORRESPONDENCE.

First Section: General Conditions.

Art. 4.

The High Contracting Parties acknowledge the rights of all people to correspond by means of international telegraphs.

Art. 5.

The High Contracting Parties commit to learn of all necessary arrangements in order to make and dispatch secret correspondences.

Art. 6.

The High Contracting Parties declare however not to accept, at a rate of international telegraphy service, any responsibility.

Second Section: On Submission.

Art. 7.

Telegrams are classified into three categories:

^{1st} State Telegrams: those that come from the Head of State, from Ministers, from Commanders-in-Chief of Ground or Naval Forces, and of Diplomatic Agents or Diplomats of the Contracting Governments.

Dispatches by Consular Agents who practice commerce are only considered as State dispatches when they deal with matters of service.

^{2nd} Service Telegrams: those which come from telegraphic administrations of the Contracting States, and which are relative, either to service of international telegraphy, or to objects of public interest determined by the entente of the aforementioned administrations.

^{3rd} Private Telegrams.

Art. 8.

State Telegrams are only accepted as such, that bear the seal or stamp of the authority that sent them.

The sender of a private telegram may always be required to establish the sincerity of the signature that the telegram bears.

Art. 9.

Each telegram may be written in any of the languages used in the territory of the Contracting States.

Each State remains free to appoint, among the languages used in their territory, those that they consider suitable for telegraphic correspondence.

Private telegrams may also be composed in code or secret missives, either in total or in part.

Private telegrams may also be composed in code or in secret missives, when they are exchanged between two Contracting States that admit that mode of correspondence, and in the conditions decided upon by the rules of service that are mentioned in Article 54 hereinafter.

The reservation mentioned in the above paragraph does not to apply to transit telegrams.

Telegrams in ordinary language cannot contain combinations of words, compositions, nor uncommon abbreviations.

Art. 10.

The official record of the telegram must be legible, in characters that have their equivalent in the regulatory table of telegraphic signs in use in the country where the telegram was presented.

The text must be preceded by the address and followed by the signature.

The address must carry all the necessary indications to ensure the delivery of the telegram to its destination.

Each writing between the lines, return-to-sender marking, crossing-out, or alteration must be approved by the signature on the telegram or its representative.

Third Section: On Transmission.

Art. 11.

The transmission of telegrams have place in the following order:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1 st | State Telegrams; |
| 2 nd | Service Telegrams; |
| 3 rd | Private Telegrams. |

A telegram begun may only be interrupted in order to make a place for a communication of a superior rank in case of absolute emergency.

Telegrams of the same rank are transmitted by the departure office in the order of their submission, and by intermediary offices in the order of their reception.

Between offices of direct relation, telegrams of the same rank are transmitted in alternating order.

Nevertheless, that rule may be contravened in the interest of speed of transmission on lines whose work is continuous or which lead to special telegraph keys.

Art. 12.

Offices of which the service is not permanent may not close before they have sent all their international telegrams to a permanent office.

These telegrams are immediately exchanged to their reception tower between the permanent offices of different States.

Art. 13.

Each Government remains adjudicator vis-à-vis the sender, the direction it agrees to give telegrams, while in ordinary service in case of interruption or blockage of habitual routes.

Art. 14.

As soon as an interruption in telegraphic communication occurs in the course of a telegram's transmission, from the moment when the interruption occurs, immediately dispatch the telegram by the mail, or by a means a faster transportation, if available. — Its address, following the circumstances, will be to the first telegraph office able to forward the telegraph, either a destination office, or to the same recipient. As soon as the communication is reestablished, the telegram is sent once again by telegraphic means, unless it has otherwise been previously been marked as received.

Art. 15.

If there is enough time, a sender may, in justifying its quality, stop the transmission of a telegram they have sent.

Fourth Section: On Delivery to Destination

Art. 16.

Telegraphic dispatches may be addressed to either a domicile, to *poste restante*, or telegraphic office *restant*.

They are delivered or dispatched to their destination in the order of their reception.

Telegrams addressed to domiciles or *poste restante* in the locality of the telegraphic office serves are immediately carried to their address.

Telegrams addressed to domiciles or *poste restante* outside the locality served, following the demand of the sender, are sent immediately to their destinations by post, or by a faster means, if the administration of the destination office are capable.

Art. 17.

Each Contracting State reserves to structure itself, as much as possible for localities not served by telegraph, a faster transport service than the post; and each State works with the others to let every sender be in a position to profit, by their correspondence, from the dispositions held and notified in this regard, by one of any of the other States.

Art. 18.

When a telegram is sent to a domicile and the recipient is absent, it may be delivered to adult members of their family, to their employees, tenants or hosts, unless the recipient is designated in writing, a special appointment, or that the sender did not demand that the delivery be placed in the hands of a single recipient.

When the telegram is addressed *bureau restant*, it is only delivered to the recipient or their representative.

If the telegram cannot be delivered to the destination, notice is left at the domicile of the recipient, and the telegram is returned to the office, to be delivered upon demand.

If the telegram is not claimed within six weeks, it is destroyed. The same rule applies to telegrams addressed *bureau restant*.

Fifth Section: On Inspection.

Art. 19.

The High Contracting Parties reserve the ability to stop the transmission of all private telegrams that appear dangerous to State security, or that could be against the laws of the country, public order or good customs, at the charge of immediately notifying the sender.

This inspection is exercised by the most distant or intermediary telegraph offices, or if necessary to the Central Administration, who decide without appeal.

Art. 20.

Each Government also reserves the right to suspend international telegraphic service for an indeterminate time, if they judge it necessary, either in a general manner, or only on certain lines and for certain types of correspondence, at the charge to immediately advise each of the other Contracting Governments.

Sixth Section: On Archives.

Art. 21.

Originals and copies of telegrams, groups of signals or analogous pieces are conserved in the archives of offices for at least one year, from their date, with all the necessary precautions to keep their contents secret.

After that date, they may be destroyed.

Art. 22.

Originals and the copies of telegrams may only be communicated to their sender or their recipient after observing their identity.

Seventh Section: On Certain Special Telegrams.

Art. 23.

Each sender may frank the response that they request from their correspondent.

Each may request the response to an ordinary point in the territory of the Contracting States.

For lack of indication given in the same telegram, or by a later telegram received in due course, the response is transmitted to the office of origin, to be delivered to the destination, care of that office.

When the response is not presented in the eight days following the date of the first telegram, the destination office informs the sender by telegram, which serves as a response. Each response presented after this period is considered and treated as a new telegram.

Art. 24.

The sender of each telegram has the ability to send it *registered*.

When a telegram is sent registered, the office of the destination transmits by telegraph to the same sender, the whole reproduction of the copy sent to the addressee, followed by the double indication of the precise hour of the delivery and of the person between whose hands the delivery took place.

If the delivery could not be made, the double indication is replaced by a notice of the circumstances that obstructed the delivery and the necessary information in order for the sender to forward their telegram, if necessary.

The transmission of the *return telegram* is performed by priority of the other telegrams of the same rank.

The sender of a registered telegram address the return telegram to a point somewhere within the territories of the Contracting States by furnishing the necessary indications, as in the material on paid responses.

Art. 25.

The registration is obligatory for telegrams composed in numbers or in secret letters.

Art. 26.

When a telegram carries the phrase *forward*, without other indication, the office of the destination, after presenting it to the indicated address, forwards it immediately, when necessary, to the new address indicated that is designated as the domicile of the addressee; however, it is only bound to retransmit the telegram within the limits of the State to which it belongs, and the telegram is treated like an interior telegram.

If no indication is furnished, the telegram is kept for safekeeping. If the telegram is resent, the second office does not find the addressee at the new address, the telegram is held by that office.

If the *follow* marking is accompanied by successive addresses, the telegram is successively transmitted to each destination indicated, until the last one, if necessary, and the last office conforms to the arrangement of the preceding paragraph.

Each person may demand, by furnishing the necessary justifications, that the telegrams which arrive to a telegraphic office, for it to be delivered in the area of distribution for that office, they may resend to the address that they had indicated or in the conditions of the preceding paragraphs.

Art. 27.

Telegrams may be addressed:

To multiple addressees in the different localities;

To multiple addressees in the same locality;

Or to the same addressee in the different localities, or to many domiciles in the same locality.

In the first two cases, each copy of the telegram must only carry its own address, unless the sender asked for the contrary.

Telegrams sent to multiple States must be deposited in as many of the original copy as there are different States.

Art. 28.

In application of the preceding articles, one will combine the facilities given to the public for telegrams with paid responses, registered telegrams, and multiple telegrams.

Art. 29.

The High Contracting Parties commit to take measures that comprise delivery to destination of delivered telegrams, by sea, by the established semaphore intermediary, or as established on the coastline of any of the States who will take part in the present Convention.

TITLE III: ON TAXES.

First Section: General Conditions.

Art. 30.

The High Contracting Parties declare to take on, for the formation of international tariffs, the tenets hereinafter:

The applicable tax on all correspondences exchanged, by the same line, between the offices of any two Contracting States will be uniform. However, the same State may be subdivided, for the application of a uniform tax, into two large territorial divisions at most. The Contracting States reserve incidentally every freedom of action to the respect of their possessions or of their colonies situated outside of Europe.

The minimum of the tax applies itself to the telegram of which the length does not overrun twenty words. The tax applicable to telegrams of twenty words increases in half by indivisible series of ten words above twenty.

The franc is the monetary unit used for the composition of international tariffs.

The tariffs for correspondences exchanged between any two points of the Contracting States must be composed in such a way that the tax on the telegram of twenty words is always in multiple of half-francs.

It will be received for a franc :

In Austria, 40 kreutzer, (Austrian value);

In Spain, 0.40 crown;

In Greece, 1.11 drachma;

In Hanover, Prussia, Saxony, 8 Silbergroschen;

In the Netherlands, 50 cents;

In Portugal, 192 reais;

In Russia, 25 kopecks;
In Sweden, 72 öre;
In Norway, 22 skillings;

Art. 31.

The rate of the tax is established from State to State, in concert between the most distant Governments and the intermediary Governments.

The tariff immediately applicable to the correspondence exchanged between the Contracting States is fixed, conforming to the tables annexed to the present Convention. The taxes inscribed in the tables may always, and at any time, be reduced by a joint agreement between this and that of the interested Governments; but each general or specific modification will only be binding for at least a month after its announcement.

Second Section: On the Application of Taxes.

Art. 32.

Everything that the sender writes in the official record their telegram in order to be transmitted, goes into the calculation of the tax, except that said in paragraph 7 of the following article.

Art. 32.

The maximum length of a word is fixed at seven syllables; the excess counts as a word.

The expressions joined by a hyphen are counted for the number of words that serve to form them.

Words separated by an apostrophe are counted as isolated words.

The proper names of cities and of persons, names of sites, places, boulevards, etc.... the titles, the Christian names, aristocratic particles and qualifications, are counted for the number of words used to express them.

Numbers written in code are counted for as many words that they contain at a time of five figures, plus a word for the excess.

Each isolated character, letter or number, is counted as a word; the same applies for underlining.

The marks that the machine expresses by a single mark (punctuation marks, hyphens, apostrophes, quotation marks, parentheses, indentation) are not counted.

Always counted for a character: periods, commas, and division lines that enter into the formation of numbers.

Art. 34.

The count of words is established in the following manner for telegrams in code or in secret letters:

All characters, numbers, letters or signs employed in the coded text are added up; the total, divided by five, given for quotient the number of words they represent; the excess is counted for one word.

One adds there, in order to obtain the total number of words for the telegram, the words in the ordinary language of the address, of the signature, and of the text, as the case may be. Their count is made according to the rules of the preceding article.

Art. 35.

The name of the office of departure, the date, the hour and minute of dispatch are transmitted from the office to the addressee.

Art. 36.

Each corrective or completive telegram, and generally each communication exchanged between a telegraphic office at the time of a telegram's transmission or in the course of transmission, is taxed conforming to the rules of the present Convention, unless that communication was made necessary by an error of service.

Art. 37.

The tax is calculated according to the least costly means between the point of departure of the telegram and its point of destination.

The High Contracting Parties commit to avoid, whenever it is possible, variations of tax that could result in interruptions of service of underwater conductors.

Third Sections: On Special Taxes.

Art. 38.

The tax for registration is equal to that of the telegram.

Art. 39.

The tax for paid responses and return telegrams, to direct to a point other than the place of origin of the first telegram, is calculated according to the tariff applicable between the point of transmission of the response or of the return telegram and its point of destination.

Art. 40.

Telegrams addressed to multiple addressees or to the same addressee, in localities served by different offices, are taxed as separate telegrams.

Telegrams addressed, in the same locality, to multiple addressees, or to the same addressee at multiple domiciles, with or without resending by the post, are taxed as a single telegram; but it is collected, as a fee of copy, apart from the fees of the post, as the case may be, as much as a half franc at a time for each destination there is, minus one.

Art. 41.

For each copy delivered conforming with Article 22, a fixed fee of a half franc per copy is collected.

Art. 42.

Registered telegrams, sent by post or deposited into general delivery, are franked, like registered letters, by the telegraphic office of their arrival.

The office of origin collects the following supplemental taxes:

A half-franc per telegram deposited *general delivery* in the locality served, or sent by post, in the limits of the State that makes the dispatch;

One franc per telegram to be sent, outside of those limits, in the territory of the Contracting States;

Two and a half francs per telegram to be sent beyond that.

Non-registered telegrams are sent like ordinary letters by the telegraphic office of their arrival. The mailing costs are paid off, if there are any, by the addressee, no additional tax being collected by the office of origin.

Art. 43.

The tax on telegrams to be exchanged with ships at sea, by a semaphore intermediary, to be fixed conforming with the general rules of the present Convention, except, for those Contracting States that will have organized this mode of correspondence, the right to determine, as it will belong to them, the tax pertaining to the transmission between semaphores and ships.

Fourth Section: On Collecting.

Art. 44.

The collecting of taxes takes place at departure.

However, these are collected upon arrival to the addressee:

1st The tax on expedited telegrams, on the sea, by semaphore intermediaries;

2nd The additional tax on telegrams marked *forward*;

3rd The additional tax on paid responses of which the extent exceeds the franked length;

4th The transport costs, beyond telegraphic offices, by a means faster than the post, in the States where such a service is organized.

However, the sender of a registered telegram may frank its transport, by way of depositing a sum determined by the office of origin barring later administration. Return telegrams discloses the amount of costs spent.

In each case where it is necessary to have the tax collected at arrival, the telegram is not delivered to the addressee in exchange for the payment of the tax that is due.

Fifth Section: On Tax Exemption.

Art. 45.

Telegrams relative to the service of international telegraphs in the Contracting States are transmitted tax-free throughout the network of said States.

Sixth Section: On Tax Deduction.

Art. 46.

The tax of each telegram of which the telegraphic transmission was not effectuated is returned to the sender by the State that collected it, without recourse against the other States, if necessary.

Art. 47.

As a result of a notable delay or of grave errors in the transmission, if the telegram cannot clearly fulfill its purpose, unless the delay or error is either attributable to a State or a private company who have not accepted the provision of the present Convention, the integral tax of each registered telegram, if necessary, is reimbursed to the sender by the State that collected it.

Art. 48.

Each claim must be formed, subject to decline, within three months of the collection.

This period is carried out to six months for correspondences exchanged with countries situated outside of Europe.

TITLE IV: ON INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTANCY.

Art. 49.

The High Contracting Parties must reciprocally tally the taxes collected by each other.

Taxes pertaining to copy and transport fees beyond the lines are reserved to the State that delivered the copies or effectuated the transport.

Each State credits the bordering State for the amount of taxes of each telegram that they transmitted, calculated from the border of the two States to the destination.

These taxes may be regulated by a simple agreement, from the number of telegrams that have crossed that border, leaving out the number of words and incidental fees. In that case, the parts of the bordering country and of each of the following States, if necessary, are determined by the means established by both parties.

Art. 50.

Taxes taken in advance for paid responses and registered telegrams are returned, between the various States, conforming to the provisions of the preceding article, the responses and the telegrams being handled, in the accounts, like some ordinary telegrams that would have been sent by the State who collected.

As soon as the transmission did not occur, the tax is given to the office that collected it, except for the sending fees.

Art. 51.

As soon as a telegram, whatever it is, was transmitted by a different means than that which served as the basis for the tax, the difference in tax is supported by the office that rerouted the telegram.

Art. 52.

The reciprocal regulation of the accounts takes place at the end of each month.

The detailed account and the administration of the balance is done at the end of each quarter.

Art. 53.

The resulting balance of the administration is paid in the common currency of the State to which the balance is established.

TITLE V: GENERAL PROVISIONS.

First Section: On Supplementary Dispositions.

Art. 54.

The provisions of the present Convention are completed, in that they concern the detailed rules of international service, by a common agreement that will be a statement of agreement between the telegraphic administrations of the Contracting States.

The provisions of this regulation will enter into power in the same time as the present Convention; the provisions may be, at any time, modified by a simple agreement by the aforesaid administrations.

Art. 55.

The administration of the State where, by virtue of article 56, below, the final conference will take place, will be charged with the relative measures of execution for the modifications to the regulations, to be carried by a common accord.

All the demands for modifications will be addressed at that administration, which consults all others, and, after having obtained their unanimous assent, will promulgate the adopted changes, in fixing the date of their application.

Second Section: On Conferences and Reciprocal Communications.

Art. 56.

The present Convention will be subjected to periodic revisions, where all the Powers who have taken part will be represented.

To that effect, these conferences will take place successively in the capital of each of the Contracting States, between the delegates of the aforementioned States.

The first reunion will take place in 1868, at Vienna.

Art. 57.

The High Contracting Parties, in order to assure, by an exchange of regular communications, the good administration of their

common service, endeavor to transmit reciprocally all the relative documents to their interior administration and to convey each improvement that they may buy or introduce.

Each one of these will be sent directly to all the others:

1st By telegraph:

The immediately notification of interruptions which may occur in their territory, or on the lines of States and private companies who will serve as intermediaries, for their connection with each of the Contracting States;

2nd By post:

The notification of all the relative measures to the opening of new lines, to the suppression of existing lines, to the openings, suppressions, and modifications of service by the offices included in the territory or in the routes of the telegraphic lines of the States and companies designated in the preceding paragraph;

At the start of each year, a statistical table of the movement of telegrams on their network, during the past year, and a map of that network, drawn up and ended on 31 December of that year;

Finally, their memorandums and service instructions, as they are published.

ART. 58.

An Official Map of Telegraphic Relations will be drawn up and published by the French Administration and subjected to periodic revisions.

Third Section: On Stocks.

Art. 59.

The High Contracting Parties respectively reserve the right to take separately, between one another, some particular arrangement of any nature, on all points of service that do not interest the majority of the States, namely :

On the formation of taxes;

On the adoption of devices or special vocabularies, between the points and in some defined cases;

On the application of a system of telegraph stamps;

On the collection of taxes on arrival;

On the delivery service of telegrams to their destination;

On the extension of right to make telegrams of service that concern meteorology, and all other objects of public interest, tax exempt.

Fourth Section: On Membership.

Art. 60.

The States that do not take part in the present Convention will be allowed to become a member upon their request.

That membership will be notified by diplomatic means to those Contracting States present at the last conference, by that State, to all other States.

The State will take, by right, accession to all the clauses and admission to all the advantages stipulated by the present Convention.

Art. 61.

The High Contracting Parties commit to impose, as far as possible, the rules of the present Convention upon concessionaire companies of land-based or underwater telegraphic lines, and to negotiate a reciprocal reduction of taxes with the existing companies, if necessary.

Not included, in any case, in the international tax:

1st The telegraphic offices of the States and of private companies who will not have accepted the uniform regulatory dispositions and obligations of the present Conventions;

2nd The telegraphic offices for the companies of railways or other private exploitations, situated in the continental territories of the Contracting States or adherents, and those for whom there would be a supplemental tax.

Fifth Section: On the Execution.

Art. 62.

The present Convention will be carried out from 1st January 1866, and remain in force until an undetermined time and until the end of one year from the day when the denunciation takes place.

Art. 63.

The present Convention will be ratified, and the ratifications of it will be exchanged in Paris with the least delay possible.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the Convention and affixed the seal of their arms.

Completed in Paris, 17th May 1865.

(L.S.) Signed : METTERNICH.

(L.S.) SCHWEIZER.

(L.S.) WENDLAND.

(L.S.) BEYENS.

(L.S.) MOLTKE-HVITFELDT.

(L.S.) MON.

(L.S.) DROUYN DE LHUYS.

(L.S.) PHOCION ROQUE.

(L.S.) HEEREN.

(L.S.) LINSINGEN.

(L.S.) NIGRA.

(L.S.) LIGHTENVELT.

(L.S.) PAÏVA.

(L.S.) GOLTZ.

(L.S.) BUDBERG.

(L.S.) SEEBACH.

(L.S.) ADELWARD.

(L.S.) KERN.

(L.S.) DJÉMIL.

(L.S.) WAECHTER.

**ANNEXES OF THE INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION SIGNED IN PARIS 17TH MAY
1865**

TABLES ON THE FIXED TAXES TO BE USED FOR THE FORMATION OF
INTERNATIONAL TAXES, IN EXECUTION OF ARTICLE 31 OF THE
CONVENTION SIGNED AT PARIS ON TODAY'S DATE

A. Terminal Taxes

(The terminal tax is that which returns to each State for the correspondences coming from or destined for its offices.)

DESIGNATION OF STATES	INDICATION OF CORRESPONDENCES	TAX	OBSERVATIONS
AUSTRIA	For the correspondences exchanged with each of the Contracting States...	3 ^f 00 ^c	For each telegram that traverses the State of the Austro-Germanic Union, that tax is shared with its States.
BADE	For the correspondences that traverse the States of the Austro-Germanic Union...	3 00	<i>Idem.</i>
	For all others...	1 00	
BAVARIA	For the correspondences that traverse the State of the Austro-Germanic Union...	3 00	<i>Idem.</i>
	For all others...	1 00	
BELGIUM	For the correspondences exchanged with Denmark, Norway, Russia, and Sweden...	1 50	
	For all others...	1 00	

DENMARK	For all of its correspondences...	1 ^f 50 ^c	
SPAIN	For the correspondences exchanged with Denmark, Italy, Norway, Sweden, and the States comprising the Austro Germanic Union, with the except of Prussia...	3 00	
	For all others...	2 50	
FRANCE	For the correspondences exchanged with Denmark, Greece, Norway, Russia, Sweden, Turkey, and the States comprising the Austro-Germanic Union...	3 00	
	For all the others, comprising those exchanged with Holland and Wurtemberg...	2 00	
GREECE	For all of its correspondences...	1 00	
HANOVER	For all of its correspondences...	3 00	Common tax with the other States of the Union
ITALY	For all its correspondences...	3 00	
NORWAY	For all its correspondences...	2 00	
HOLLAND	For the correspondences exchanged with Italy and Switzerland by Belgium and France...	0 50	
	For all others...	1 00	
PORTUGAL	For all its correspondences ...	1 00	
PRUSSIA	For the correspondences that traverse the State of the Union...	3 00	<i>Idem.</i>

RUSSIA	For the correspondences exchanged with each of the Contracting States, with the exception of Turkey...	5 00	The tax is raised to 8 francs for the stations of the Caucasus.
SAXONY	For all its correspondences...	3 00	Common tax with the other States of the Union
SWEDEN	For all its correspondences...	3 00	
SWITZERLAND	For all its correspondences...	1 00	
TURKEY	For the correspondences exchanged with each of the Contracting States, with the exception of Russia...	4 00	Principalities of Serbia and Moldo-Wal-lachia not included.
WURTEMBERG AND HOHENZOLLERS	For the correspondences that traverse the States of the Union... For the correspondences exchanged with France, Italy, and Switzerland...	3 00 1 00	Common tax with the other States of the Union. The tax of 1 franc, for France, is shared with the other States of the Union.

B. Transit Taxes.

(THE TRANSIT TAX IS ONE WHICH RETURNS TO EACH STATE FOR THE CORRESPONDENCES THAT TRAVERSE ITS TERRITORY.)

DESIGNATION OF STATES	INDICATION OF CORRESPONDENCES	TAX	OBSERVATIONS
AUSTRIA	For all correspondences and in all directions...	3 ^f 00 ^c	For each telegram that traverses the State of the Austro-Germanic Union, that tax is shared with its States.

BADE	For the correspondences that traverse the States of the Austro-Germanic Union, in all directions...	3 00	<i>Idem.</i>
	For all others...	1 00	
BAVARIA	For the correspondences that traverse the State of the Austro-Germanic Union, in all directions...	3 00	<i>Idem.</i>
	For all others...	1 00	
BELGIUM	For the correspondences exchanged firstly by France between Holland, and secondly Italy and Switzerland...	0 50	
	For all other correspondences, in all directions...	1 00	
DENMARK	For all of its correspondences and in all directions (underwater lines included)..	1 50	
SPAIN	For the correspondences originated from or the destination of Denmark, Italy, Norway, Switzerland, and the States comprising the Austro Germanic Union, with the except of Prussia...	3 00	
	For the correspondences exchanged between France and Portugal...	2 50	

FRANCE	For the correspondences exchanged:		The transit of Corsica is fixed at 1 franc.
	1 st Between Italy initially, then Spain and Portugal after; 2 nd Between Holland initially, then by each of the States, by the borders of Germany, Italy, and Switzerland...	2 00	
	For all the other correspondences, in all directions...	3 00	
GREECE	#	Does not transit.
HANOVER	For all of its correspondences and in all directions...	3 00	Common tax with the other States of the Union.
ITALY	For all the correspondences exchanged between the same borders and the Ottoman border (underwater lines included)...	3 00	
NORWAY	2 00	Does not transit.
HOLLAND	For all correspondences, in all directions...	3 00	Common tax with the other States of the Union.
PORTUGAL	#	Does not transit.
PRUSSIA	For the correspondences that traverse the States of the Union...		Common tax with the other States of the Union.
	For all the other correspondences, in all directions	3 00	
RUSSIA	For all correspondences, in all directions, with the exception of Turkey...	5 00	The Convention only applies to Europe. It does not mention transit across Asia.

SAXONY	For all correspondences, in all directions...	3 00	Common tax with the other States of the Union
SWEDEN	For all correspondences, in all directions (underwater lines included)...	3 00	
SWITZERLAND	For all correspondences, in all directions...	1 00	
TURKEY	For correspondences originating or destined for Greece...	4 00	Principalities of Serbia and Moldo-Wallachia not included.
WURTEMBERG AND HOHENZOLLERS	For all correspondences, in all directions...	3 00	Common tax with the other States of the Union.

Done in Paris, 17th May Two-Thousand and Sixty-Nine
Signed: METTERNICH.

SCHWEIZER.

WENDLAND.

BEYENS.

MOLTKE-HVITFELDT.

MON.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

PHOCION ROQUE.

HEEREN.

LINSINGEN.

NIGRA.

LIGHTENVELT.

PAÏVA.

GOLTZ.

BUDBERG.

SEEBACH.

ADELSWÄRD.

KERN.

DJÉMIL.

WAECHTER.

II. REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICE.

*Destined to be completed with the dispositions of the
Telegraphic Convention of Paris*

I

The wires especially assigned for international service receive a particular notation on the *Official Map*, drawn up conforming with Article 58 of the Convention.

These wires are designated under the name: *international wire from. . . . to. . . .*

They only serve, as often as possible, for relations between the two cities designated as their extreme points.

They may be detoured, from that special purpose in case of derangement of lines, but they must be remanded as soon as the derangement has ceased.

These wires are placed under the collective safeguard of the States of whose territory the wire crosses; the respective administrations plan, for each of them, the placements that make it possible to make the best of it.

The heads of service of the districts neighboring the borders speak with one another directly in order to assure, as far as they are concerned, the execution of these measures.

II

The following notations are adopted in the international taxes in order for the telegraphic offices to refer:

N. Office with permanent service (both day and night).

N. Office with day service open until midnight.

2

c. Office with service for the entire day.

l. Office with limited service (that is to say, open during a number of hours lower than the offices with service for the entire day.

- B. Office open during swimming season.
- H. Office open only during Winter
- L/BC. Office open with complete service during swimming season and limited during the rest of the year.
- L/HC. Office open with complete service during winter and limited during the rest of the year.
- E. Office open only during the sojourn of the Court.
- F. Railway station open to the correspondence of private individuals.
- P. Office owned by a private company.
- *. Office to be opened in the near future.
- S. Synonymous.

These notations may
be combined with
the preceding.

III

The telegraphic administrations employ, as often as possible, the telegraph keys marking colored dashes.

IV

Each office that receives by an international wire a telegram presented as a telegram of the State or service forwards it as such.

Telegrams by Consular Agents who apply to Paragraph 3 of Article 7 of the Convention are not refused by the departure office, and instead their signal is immediately sent to the central administration.

Dispatches emanating from multiple offices, and related to transmission incidents, circulate on the international network like telegrams of service.

V

Each State designates, if it judges it reasonable, the responsible functionaries or magistrates in each city to certify the signature of senders. In that case, each of the offices of that State control the fairness of the authentications that they are presented, and they transmit, after the signature, in the following form:

Signature certified by (qualified by the functionary or magistrate).

That mention enters in the summary of the taxed words.

<i>i</i>	█	█							
<i>j</i>	█	█	█	█	█				
<i>k</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█			
<i>l</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█		
<i>m</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█		
<i>n</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
<i>ñ</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
<i>o</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
<i>ö</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
<i>p</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
<i>q</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
<i>r</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
<i>s</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
<i>t</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
<i>u</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
<i>ü</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
<i>v</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
<i>w</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
<i>x</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
<i>y</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
<i>z</i>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

NUMBERS.

1	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
2	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
3	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
4	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
5	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
6	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
7	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
8	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
9	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
0	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

Bar

One may also use, to express numbers, the following signs, but only in compulsory practice:

1	█	█	█	█
2	█	█	█	█

The office called must respond immediately by giving its *code*, and, if it prevents itself from receiving, the *Wait* signal, followed by a number indicating the probable duration of the wait. If the probable duration exceeds ten minutes, the wait must be justifiable.

When the office that had just called has received, without other signal, the indication of the responding office, it telegraphs, before everything, the signal indicating *the nature* of the telegram, namely:

- S. for a Telegram of State;
- A. for a Telegram of Service;
- P. for a private telegram.

At this signal, the correspondent responds by the *Invitation to Transmit*. The office that transmit gives, in the order below, all the indications of constituting the preamble of the telegram:

- a. — Office of destination¹;
- b. — Office of origin, preceded by the word *from* (example: Paris from Bruxelles);
- c. — Number of the telegram;
- d. — Nature of the telegram (of the manner indicated above), when it is a Telegram of State or Service;
- e. — Number of words. (In coded telegrams, one indicates: 1st the number of words that serve as the base of the tax, and 2nd, if necessary, the number of words written in ordinary language);
- f. — Depot of the telegram (by three numbers, date, hour, and minute, separated by commas, with indication *m.* or *s.* [morning or evening]);
- g. — Path to follow (if necessary);
- h. — Other *potential indications*.

Any office called may only refuse to receive telegrams by announcement, when it is the destination.

One must not refuse, nor delay a telegram, if the indications of service are not regular: it must receive the telegram and then ask for regularization from the office of origin, via a Telegram of Service.

Following the preamble specified above, one successively telegraphs the address, the text, and the signature of the telegram, and

¹ When the telegram is destined for a locality not under the purview of a telegraphic office, the preamble indicates, not the residence of the addressee, but the telegraphic office under whose care the telegram must be forwarded to the destination or mailed.

it is ended by the signal of *End of Transmission*; after that is received, the correspondent give the signal *Understood*, or, if necessary, *Not Understood* (the question mark).

If the employee who transmits notices that they have made a mistake, they must interrupt by the *Error* signal, repeat the last most properly transmitted, and continue, starting from there, the fixed transmission.

Likewise, the receiving employee, if they notice a word that is not managed to be understood, must interrupt their correspondence by the same signal, and repeat the last understood word, and in doing that follow with question mark. The correspondent responds with the transmission beginning from that word, making an effort to make their signals as clear as possible.

Immediately after the telegram is transmitted, the employee who received it compares the number of words transmitted to the number sent, and, if there is a difference, signals it to their correspondent. If the latter simply erred in announcing the number of words, they respond *successful*; if not, they repeat the first letter of each word up to the omitted passage, which they reestablish.

Apart from the cases determined in concert by the separated Administrations, it is not permitted to use any abbreviation in transmitting the text of a telegram, or to modify the text in any way whatsoever. Each telegram must be transmitted such that the sender wrote it in that moment.

Each telegram produces a partial non-taxed collation, which must not be confused with the integral collation pertaining to registered telegrams.

The partial collation is made at the end of the transmission of the telegram.

After having verified the word count, the employee who has received immediately repeats the proper names, the numbers (with the exception of the year), the uncertain words or the few known and those that contain the principal meaning of the telegram.

This repetition is obligatory for all telegrams. The employee who received may, incidentally, extend the collation and repeat the telegram completely, if they judge it essential to cover their responsibility. Likewise, the employee who has transmitted may ask for an integral repetition of the telegram.

In the repetition of numbers followed by fractions, or of fractions of which the numerator is formed by two numbers of more, one must repeat, in all letters, the numerator of the fraction, in order to avoid any confusion. In this way, for $1\frac{1}{16}$, it is necessary to repeat 1 one/16, so that one does not read it as $\frac{17}{16}$; for $\frac{13}{4}$, it is necessary to repeat thirteen/4, so that one doesn't read $1\frac{3}{4}$.

The repetition may not slow or interrupt under any pretext. When it is finished, and the telegram is identified as perfectly exact, the office that received gives to that which transmitted a signal of *Reception Terminated* or *Acknowledgement of Receipt*, which is immediately by the correspondent. After that, the office that just received transmits in its turn, if it has a telegram; if not, the other continues. If neither side has anything to transmit, the two offices give the other the signal *zero*.

If sometimes, as a result of interruptions or by some other reason, one cannot receive the repetition, that circumstance does not delay the forwarding of the telegram to its destination.

IX

Between two offices of different States, communicating by a direct wire, the closure is given by the one who belongs to the State who has the westernmost capital.

That rule applies to the closure of the official reports and to the division of sessions, in the offices of permanent service.

X

Notices of service relative to a telegram previously transmitted are guided as far as possible to the offices by which the first telegram was transmitted.

When these offices each have all the necessary elements to proceed with notices of service, they take their own measures to avoid an unnecessary forwarding.

XI

Telegrams that are, in case of interruption, addressed by a post office to a telegraphic office are transported by a form.

The office that received the form registers reception of it by post, and reproduces the notice at the moment telegraphic communications are reestablished.

When a telegram is sent directly to the addressee, in the case previewed in Article 14 of the Convention, it is accompanied by a note indicating the interruption of the lines.

The office that forwarded, by telegraph, a telegram already transmitted by another means, must indicate in the preamble that this telegram was transmitted by a certified copy. This notice is carried on the mail delivery to the addressee.

The office that has sent telegrams by post may avoid redelivering them by telegraph, in cases of exceptional encumbrance, and when that redelivery would be clearly injurious to the service system.

XII

When a sender removes or stops their telegram, the enclosed tax remains collected by the interested offices.

The potential relative costs for the delivery to a domicile, the same as those which would be returned at payment for the response or for registration, are only reimbursed if the telegram was stopped in due course.

If the telegram was not entirely transmitted by the relaying office at the moment the sender removed it, the sender requests the cancellation in writing. That request is appended to the original, which remains at the office.

If the telegram was transmitted, the sender may only ask for the annulation by a telegram addressed to the chief of the arrival office, and of which the tax is settled; the sender equally pays for the response, if they desire to be informed by telegraphic means on the development of their request.

The delivery office gives telegrams of this nature the form indicating hereafter, § XXIII.

XIII

The telegraphic office of arrival has the right to utilize the post:

1st With an error in instruction, within the telegram, in the method of transport requested by the sender;

2nd When the method indicated differs from the adopted mode and notified by the State of arrival, conforming to Article 17 of the Convention;

3rd When there is a question of payment by an addressee who has previously refused to pay for the costs of the same nature.

When a telegram sent by registered letter cannot be immediately conformed to the formality of the charge, each may take advantage by a postal delivery, it is first placed by post by ordinary letter; a certified copy is addressed by a registered letter, as soon as possible.

Telegrams addressed to passengers of a ship that docks in a port are delivered to them, as often as possible, before disembarkment.

XIV

When the sender desires that the delivery be only between the hands of the addressee, they must mention it in the address.

At the arrival office, that notice is carefully reproduced on the envelope of the telegram, and the postman receives the necessary indications to conform to it.

When one cannot find the addressee of a telegram, and the arrival office has reason to suspect that an alteration was committed in the transmission of the address, it sends to the originating office a notice of service in the following form:

N^o. . . . from addressed to street (indication of the city). *Addressee unknown.*

The address given in this notice of service must be a verbatim reproduction of the address received.

The departure office verifies the exactness of the address and only respond to the arrival office if there is an error of service to correct.

Each Administration retains control to authorize offices to communicate these notices to senders. In this case, the senders may only complete, rectify, or confirm the address by paid telegram, in the form indicated hereafter, § XXIII.

XV

The transmissions of Telegrams of State have the right. Telegraphic offices have no control to exercise over them.

When a private telegram is stopped after acceptance, the sender is informed of it by telegraph or by post, depending on what each Administration finds convenient.

XVI

The telegraphic Administrations are only bound to give communication or copy of pieces designated by Article 22 of the Convention, if the sender or the addressees furnish the exact date of the telegrams to which they relate.

XVII

In the case of a telegram requesting a paid response, the sender must write after the text, and before the signature, the indication: *paid response*.

The tax of a simple response is collected.

The sender may incidentally complete the notice by putting: *paid* (number of words) *response*, at paying off the corresponding tax.

The sender may also request an unlimited response. In this case, the telegram carries the notice: *unlimited paid response*, and the State of origin remains responsible for the tax due.

The starting telegram must reproduce, in the preamble, the notice indicative of a paid response.

The response must equally contain, in the preamble, the indication: *paid response to N° . . from* (office of origin). This indication does not contribute to the count of taxed words.

The response made by the office, after eight days, by the originating office is given in the following form:

Paris by Berlin. — N° . . . — Date.

Office Response to N° . . . from . . .

Mr

The addressee has not left a response.

XVIII

When the departure office identifies some alteration in the text that they have returned regarding the return telegram, it must immediately bring about a rectification.

It transmits to this effect:

The preamble and the ordinary address of the service telegrams;

The number and complete address of the registered telegram;

The number of words or groups to be fixed.

Then it successively repeats each word, group, or altered passage, doing so from beginning to end, if necessary, of the last words or groups correctly transmitted; each passage repeated in this way is separated from the following by a question mark.

The arrival office resends this rectification like a service telegram.

The return copy is only communicated to the sender when it is correct, at least if it does not result in a considerable delay. In this case, a note is written on the copy indicated that a rectification will be sent later.

The integral repetition of registered telegrams does not exclude the partial collation determined by § VIII, which is required, in so far that the telegram has not been exchanged in direct communication by the originating office and the destination office.

By general rule, return telegrams accompanied by notices relative to the delivery receive, like paid response, an order number at the office that receives them, and their transmissions are incidentally treated like new telegrams.

The return telegram is given in the following form:

Paris by Beirut. — N^o . . . — Date.

Registered Telegram to N^o . . . from . . . — for return.

(Primary text.)

Delivered (date) — to — h — m — m. or s. — to M^r

(or a style for non-delivery).

When the registered telegram is received directly from the originating office to the destination office, the latter office immediately give the integral collation: but the originating office only sends this to the sender when it has received notices relative to the delivery, under the form mentioned above.

XIX

The primary text of the telegram must be fully transmitted to the destination office successively and reproduced in the copy addressed to the addressee, but in the preamble, each office only reproduces, after the word *forward*, the addressed to which the telegram may then be sent.

The requests for forwarding provided for in § 4 of Article 26 of the Convention may be made by the post.

Each Administration retains for themselves the ability to forward, when it is necessary, according to the indications given to the domicile of the addressee, telegrams for which no special indication was given.

The international tax of forwarded telegrams is simply the tax pertaining to the first route, the complete address counted in the total number of words.

XX

By transmitting a telegram addressed to two or more addressees, it is necessary, in the preamble, to indicate the number of addressees.

The indication given in § 5 of Article 27 of the Convention must enter in the body of the address, and by consequence in the number of taxed words.

It is reproduced in the potential indications.

XXI

The sender must write in the official record the potential indications relative to the delivery to a domicile, to paid responses, to registered telegrams, or to forwarded telegrams.

The words, numbers, or signs added by the office in the interest of service are not taxed.

XXII

The name of the office of departure, the date, the hour, and the minute of deposit are transmitted from the office and inscribed on the copy sent to the addressee.

The sender may repeat their indications, in total or in part, in the text of the telegram: they enter thusly into the count of the words.

XXIII

The telegrams discussed in Article 36 of the Convention are formed as follows: *Paris by Berlin*. — *Service taxed*. They take rank among service telegrams and take a number in the order.

If the sender of a registered telegram notices an error in the text of the return telegram and requests a clarification, the rectifying telegram is transmitted for free by the originating office, so long as the error was not caused by the sender.

The addressee of an ordinary or registered telegram may request a clarification of passages that appear in doubt, and they are cleared as follows: 1st the price of a simple telegram for the request; 2nd the price of a telegram calculated following the length of the repeated passage, conforming to the rule prescribed in § XVIII.

These taxes are reimbursed to them if the repetition finds that the telegraphic service had altered the meaning of the telegram. In that case, the arrival office conducts the reimbursement by the office and with no delay.

The sums paid for taxed service telegrams remain earned entirely by the Administration that collected them, and are not figured in the international counts.

The telegraphic office that receives a telegram by which one asks from them the annulation of another telegram they had previously received, notifies the originating office by post, the party who had made the request, as far as the sender has not paid the price of a telegraphic response.

XXIV

If the tax to be collected at the arrival is not recovered, the loss is supported by arrival office, unless there are special conventions, and brought to a close under article 59 of the Convention.

However, the telegraphic Administrations take, as far as possible, necessary measures in order that the taxes collected upon arrival and would not be paid by the addressee are recovered by the

sender. When thusly recovered, the office who made the telegram maintains a count for the interested office.

XXV

The Administrations and telegraphic offices take necessary measures to diminish, as far as possible, the number of service telegrams benefiting from a gratuity.

Details not presenting a sense of urgency are requested or given by post.

XXVI

Each reclamation or reimbursement of tax must be presented to the originating office, if there is a question about an altered telegram, to be accompanied by the copy sent to the addressee.

The sender who does not reside in the country where they sent their telegram may present their reclamation at the office of origin, by the intermediary of another office. In this case, if it is known that the reclamation is justified, the office that received it is charged with effectuating the reimbursement.

For ordinary telegrams not sent to a destination (Art. 46 of the Convention), or for registered telegrams that do not fulfill their purpose (Art. 47), the reimbursement is supported by the offices on the lines of which there were irregularities which justified the reclamation by the sender.

In the case of alterations to the transmission, the originating office determines the errors that delayed the telegram from fulfilling its purpose, and the part contributable to the various Administrations is resolved according to the number of faults determined in this way.

The errors resulting from a non-fixed repetition are imputable to the sending office. The errors committed in a case where the obligatory repetition was not made, in spite of the request by the sending office, are imputable to the office that received the telegram. The two offices are responsible if the obligatory repetition was not made by the office that received the telegram and was not requested by the sending office.

If a response has fewer words than were paid for, the exceeding is not returned.

Reclamations communicated from office to office are transmitted with a complete dossier, which is to say that they contain (in original or in copy) all the pieces or letters that are concerned.

When a reclamation is found to be justified, the originating office effectuates the reimbursement without waiting for a response from the interested offices.

XXVII

The tax pertaining to semaphore transmissions of telegrams by sea is attributed to the State that made the transmission.

XXVIII

The tax that serves as the base for the distribution among States, or to the determination of the means mentioned in Article 49 of the Convention, those which result from the regular application of taxes, without which it must take count of errors in taxation that may have been made. Each Administration incidentally keeps for itself the right to request from senders or addressees, following the scenarios, the remainder of required taxes by a initially incomplete taxation, and commit to reimburse sums taken in excess by error.

However, the number of words announced by the originating office serves as the base for application of the tax in the international counts, except for the case where it would have been rectified by a common agreement with the corresponding office.

XXIX

The exchange of monthly counts take place before the end of the quarter that follows the month that they concern.

The review of the accounts takes place in a maximum delay of six months, from the date of their delivery. The office that has not received, in this interval, corrective compliance considers the account as accepted without other reason and inscribes the amount in the quarterly calculation.

It is not accepted for reclamation, in the counts, for the subject of telegrams more than one year from the date.

The present rules, intended to be complete the dispositions of the diplomatic Convention of whose project is currently submitted

for the approval of international Conference of Paris, will be entered into rigor at the same time as the Convention.

Completed in Paris, 11th April, 1865.

Signed : BRUNNER,
DE CHAUVIN, for the Grand-Ducy of Bade,
DE WEBER,
DE DYCK,
FASSIAUX,
J. VINCHENT,
FABER,
SAL SANZ,
IGNACIO DE HAKAR,
Vicomte H. DE VOUGY,
JAGERSCHMIDT,
PHOCION ROQUE
GAUSS,
J. DE MINOTTO,
NIELSEN,
STARING,
J. V. DAMASIO,
DE CHAUVIN,
Major General DE GUERHARD,
DE CHAUVIN, for the realm of Saxony,
P. BRÄNDSTROM,
L. CURCHOD,
AGATHON,
KLEIN.

