

TREATY SERIES. No. 9.

1895.

CONVENTION

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA

RESPECTING THE

JUNCTION OF THE CHINESE AND BURMESE  
TELEGRAPH LINES.

Signed at Tien-tsin, September 6, 1894.

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*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.  
May 1895.*

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ARTICLE I.

THE Government of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, and the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of China, with a view to facilitating international telegraph communication, have resolved to effect a junction between the telegraph lines of the two States on the frontier of Burmah and Yünnan.

ARTICLE II.

The junction shall be effected between the British station at Bhamo and the Chinese station at Tingyueh (Momein), at a point situated conveniently near to where the main route of communication between those places crosses the frontier. The exact point of junction is to be arranged as soon as possible.

An intermediate station will be established at Manwyne.

ARTICLE III.

The junction shall be effected as soon as possible, and at latest on the 31st May, 1895, unless prevented by accident or by *force majeure*, and in that case as soon as possible thereafter.

ARTICLE IV.

The Indian and the Chinese Telegraph Administrations shall establish, work, and maintain in good condition the line of connection, and shall exchange the correspondence by wire between the two stations named in Article II.

Each of the Contracting Parties shall bear the expense incurred for these purposes on its own territory, and will take care that the boundaries between the territories of the two Governments are scrupulously respected.

## ARTICLE V.

The rules for the extra-European system laid down in the Service Regulations of the International Telegraph Convention shall be observed with regard to the technical treatment of telegrams transmitted over the line of connection described in Article II.

But in reckoning the number of words in telegrams between China or Hong Kong on the one side, and Burmah, India, or Ceylon on the other side, the rules of the European system laid down in the Service Regulations of the International Telegraph Convention shall be observed.

When the senders of telegrams do not expressly indicate the route by which they wish their telegrams to be forwarded, it is understood that at lower rates all correspondence, and at equal rates half the correspondence, shall be forwarded viâ the line of connection described in Article II, provided that the alternative routes are in equally good working order.

## ARTICLE VI.

Each of the Contracting Parties fixes the charges for transmission of telegrams by its lines up to the frontier of its own territory.

It is, however, agreed that before January 1897 the charges declared in Article VII of this Convention cannot be raised, though each of the Contracting Parties reserves its right to reduce its own charges during that period, if it think fit.

## ARTICLE VII.

In accordance with the stipulations of the preceding Article, the following charges per word are declared for correspondence exchanged viâ the line of connection described in Article II:—

1. *Charges levied by the Indian Telegraph Administration.*

## (A.)—TERMINAL CHARGES.

			Frs.
1.	From stations in Burmah to the Chinese frontier	..	0·575
2.	„ „ India „ „	..	0·825
3.	„ „ Ceylon „ „	..	0·940

## (B.)—TRANSIT CHARGES.

Between the Chinese frontier, viâ Bhamo, and—			
1.	The Siamese frontier, viâ Moulmein	..	0·350
2.	All other frontiers	..	1·500

2. *Charges levied by the Chinese Telegraph Administration.*

## (A.)—TERMINAL CHARGES.

	Frs.
1. For correspondence exchanged by the Burmese-Yünnan line between Burmah, India, and Ceylon on the one side, and on the other side—	
(a.) Stations in Yünnan .. .. .	0·750
(b.) All other stations situated on the Yang-tzû or to the south of the Yang-tzû .. .. .	1·250
(c.) All stations situated to the north of the Yang-tzû, except those in Corea.. .. .	2·250
(d.) Chinese stations in Corea.. .. .	2·500
2. For correspondence exchanged by the Burmese-Yünnan line between China or Hong Kong on the one side, and Europe, or countries beyond Europe, on the other side .. .. .	5·500
3. For correspondence exchanged by the Burmese-Yünnan line between other countries and—	
(a.) Stations in Yünnan .. .. .	1·000
(b.) All other stations situated on the Yang-tzû or to the south of the Yang-tzû .. .. .	1·500
(c.) All stations situated to the north of the Yang-tzû, except those in Corea.. .. .	2·250
(d.) Chinese stations in Corea.. .. .	2·500

## (B.)—TRANSIT CHARGES.

1. Between the Burmese frontier, viâ Tingyueh (Momein), and all other frontiers, on correspondence exchanged between Europe and countries beyond Europe on the one side, and all other countries on the other side	5·500
2. On all other correspondence between the Burmese frontier, viâ Tingyueh (Momein), and—	
(a.) The Cable Companies at Hong Kong, Amoy, Foochow, and Shanghae .. .. .	1·250
(b.) All other frontiers .. .. .	2·500

The charges established for the correspondence between China on the one side, and Burmah, India, and Ceylon on the other side, are solely for correspondence actually exchanged between the named neighbouring countries, and the Chinese European correspondence cannot be retelegraphed at these rates by private Agencies or persons at intermediate stations.

## ARTICLE VIII.

The checking of the amount of correspondence exchanged viâ the line of junction shall take place daily by wire between the stations named in Article II.

The settlement of accounts shall take place at the end of each month, and the resulting balance shall be paid within one month after the end of the month, in account to the Indian Telegraph Administration at Calcutta, or to the Chinese Telegraph Administration at Shanghae.

The month shall be reckoned according to the European calendar.

Telegrams referring to the settlement of accounts shall be considered as Service telegrams, and transmitted free of charge.

#### ARTICLE IX.

The rate of exchange for the collection of the charges declared in Article VII, and for settlement of accounts, shall be :—

One franc reckoned as 0·60 of a rupee, and as 0·26 of a Mexican dollar.

As regards outpayments to Telegraph Administrations beyond China and India, the Chinese and Indian Telegraph Administrations will communicate to each other their amount, and this amount the two Administrations will be at liberty to collect and settle, at such rates as may protect them from loss.

#### ARTICLE X.

The present Convention shall come into force on the date of its signature, and shall remain in force for ten years, and shall thereafter continue in force until six months after one of the Contracting Parties shall have given notice of its intention to modify or to abrogate it.

In witness whereof the Undersigned, duly authorized to this effect, have signed the present Convention.

Done at Tien-tsin in four expeditions, of which two in the English language, and two in the Chinese language, the sixth day of September, 1894, corresponding with the seventh day of the eighth moon of the 20th year of the reign of Kwang-Hsu.

(L.S.)	Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Peking,
(Signed)	N. R. O'CONNOR.
(L.S.)	The Imperial Commissioner, First Grand Secretary of State, Viceroy of the Province of Chi-li,
(Signed)	EARL LI.

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