

Dieckerhoff, Raffloer & Co.
Importers.

Cable Address: Raffloer, New York.
A.B.C. 4th & 5th Edition Code, and
Lieber's Code used.

New York - 44 Bar St
Paris - 22 Munkelstrasse
Paris - 40 Rue. Notre Dame des Victoires
Toronto - 72 Bay Street
Montreal - 301 St. James Street

364 & 366 Broadway.

New York
Nov. 30, 1906.

Mr. Louis Windmuller,
20 Reade Street,
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your inquiry, beg to say that the highest duty which we pay is on the so called Agate Buttons made in France and Germany, out of a composition of porcelain. The article was never made nor attempted to be made in this country, because I believe that they do not find sufficient of the necessary raw material which is "Schwerspat." *(a kind of Spar)*

The buttons are used in great quantities for all class of cheap garments and underwear. The enclosed loose samples of 4 hole goods, represent buttons measuring 18^m, and cost in France 80 centimes per gross, (1728 buttons) or 16 ¢ in American currency. The duty being 1/12 ¢ per line per gross, making 18 ¢, plus 15% ad Val. duty

18 ¢
2 ¢

20 ¢

so while the Foreign cost is only 16 ¢, the duty of 20 ¢ figures about 127%.

Nickel Bar Buttons also used on cheap Underwear, cost 1/12 ¢ per line duty plus 15%. The samples enclosed figure on this basis 80% ad Val.

Bone Buttons used for the same purpose duty 1/4 per line plus 15%, also average 80% ad Val.

Digital Image, 2009 The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

Dieckerhoff, Raffloer & Co.
Importers.

Call Address: Raffloer, New York.
A.B.C. # 457 Edition Code, and
Lieber's Code, used.

New York - 41, Bow 342
Barmen - 22, Hunklestrasse
Paris - 40, Rue. Notre Dame des Victoires
Toronto - 72, Bay Street
Montreal - 301, St. James Street

364 & 366, Broadway,

New York Nov. 30, 1906.

L. W.

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Steel Trouser Buttons such as are used on men's pantaloon by the Tailors, cost $1/4$ ¢ per line plus 15%, making 76% ad Val.

Horn Buttons duty $3/4$ ¢ per line plus 15%. Goods we Import average duty 98 ¢ ad Val.

Wool Mending Cotton as per enclosed sample, cost $38 1/2$ ¢ per lb. plus 40% ad Val., which figures an ad Val. duty of 70%.

Worsted ~~Wool~~ Lustre Cloth as per enclosed sample, used for Men's wear principally, comes from Bradford and costs 30 d. per yd. in 54 inches width, or in American currency 60 ¢. We pay duty on the same at the rate of 44 ¢ per lb., and the cloth weighing $10 1/8$ oz. per running yd. makes it 28 ¢ plus 55% ad Val. 33 ¢, so while the Foreign cost is only 60 ¢, the duty is 61 ¢, or more than 100%.

Hoping these exhibits will be satisfactory proof of some of the extravagant high duties, we remain,

Yours truly,

Dieckerhoff, Raffloer & Company,

R. Erbsloh
President