

Opinion of the Court.

transportation was not manufactured marble, but was free from duty, as being unmanufactured.

We are of opinion that the decision of the Circuit Court was correct. But, if the question were one of doubt, the doubt would be resolved in favor of the importer, "as duties are never imposed on the citizen upon vague or doubtful interpretations." *Powers v. Barney*, 5 Blatchford, 202; *United States v. Isham*, 17 Wall. 496, 504; *Gurr v. Scudds*, 11 Exch. 190, 191; *Adams v. Bancroft*, 3 Sumner, 384.

Judgment affirmed.

HARTRANFT v. WINTERS.

ERROR TO THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Argued April 20, 21, 1887. — Decided May 2, 1887.

This case is affirmed on the authority of *Hartranft v. Wiegmann*, ante, 609.

THIS was an action to recover back duties alleged to have been illegally exacted. Judgment for plaintiff. Defendant sued out this writ of error.

Mr. Solicitor General for plaintiff in error.

Mr. Frank P. Prichard for defendant in error.

MR. JUSTICE BLATCHFORD delivered the opinion of the court.

This is an action by Anton Winters, brought in a state court of Pennsylvania and removed into the Circuit Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, against the collector of customs for the District of Philadelphia. The proceedings in it, and the questions arising, are in all respects the same as those in the case of *Hartranft v. Wiegmann*, just decided, the only difference being that in this case there were no shells called "green snails" or "mottoes" or "Turk's caps" or "magpies" or "trocus," and that there were

Opinion of the Court.

shells called "rose murex," "motto cowries," "banded snails," "Japan ears," "turbo shells," "red ears," and "pearl snails."

The same conclusion is arrived at as in the Wiegmann case, and the judgment of the Circuit Court is

Affirmed.

SNOW v. LAKE SHORE AND MICHIGAN SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

APPEAL FROM THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

Argued April 19, 1887. — Decided May 2, 1887.

The first claim in letters-patent No. 127,933, granted to the Buffalo Dental Manufacturing Company as assignee of George B. Snow, June 11, 1872, for a new and useful improvement in steam bell-ringers is limited to a combination in which the piston and piston-rod are detached from each other, and is not infringed by the use of steam bell-ringers constructed and operated in conformity to the drawings and specifications of letters-patent granted August 25, 1874, to Charles H. Hudson for a new and useful improvement in steam bell-ringing apparatus.

THIS was a bill in equity to restrain an alleged infringement of letters-patent. Decree dismissing the bill, from which the complainants appealed. The case is stated in the opinion of the court.

Mr. James A. Allen for appellants.

Mr. George Payson for appellee.

MR. JUSTICE MATTHEWS delivered the opinion of the court.

The appellants, who were complainants below, filed their bill in equity August 7, 1882, against the defendant, to restrain the alleged infringement of letters-patent No. 127,933, granted to the Buffalo Dental Manufacturing Company, as assignee of George B. Snow, on June 11, 1872, for a new and