

# THE FRIEND OF CHINA, AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

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## NOTIFICATION.

THE publication of the Hongkong Gazette under the authority of Government, will be discontinued from this date: but all public orders and notifications appearing in "The Friend of China and Hongkong Gazette," with the signatures of duly authorized Functionaries of the Government are still to be considered as official.

By order,

J. Robt: Morrison,

Acting Secretary and Treasurer

Hongkong, March, 23rd. 1842.

## FROM THE COMMANDER IN CHINA.

Major General Lord Saltoun, C. B. and G. C. H., Commanding the Army in China, cannot refrain from expressing his thanks to the several Commanders and Crews of the different Ships in the harbour as well as to residents on shore, for the great aid and assistance afforded by them at the late fire, which took place at the Arsenal of the Ordnance Store.

## NOTICE.

ALL Persons having claims on the Estate of the late Mr. THOMAS G. FITZ GIBBON, or owing debts thereto, are requested to make the same known to the Secretary and Treasurer to Her Majesty's Superintendents.

By Order

CHAS. E. STEWART

Assistant Secy. and Treasurer.

Government House,  
Hongkong 3rd February 1843

THE following Proclamation of the Imperial Commissioner—maugre the peculiar periphrasis, which is wont to be indulged in by Chinese Functionaries, when speaking of themselves, in connexion with Foreigners—is very satisfactory and fully evidences the present good faith of the Court of Peking.—*Editor.*

## PROCLAMATION.

ELEPOO, Imperial High Commissioner, General of the Garrison of Canton, lately a Minister, &c., &c., and entitled to wear the 'Red Girdle,'—issues and urgently impresses these clear Commands.

Whereas, two years have elapsed since the English first took up arms, it has now pleased our August Sovereign, with a liberality large as Heaven's, and with a universal benevolence that knows no exclusion, leniently to treat them, and to grant them a renewal of their former Commercial intercourse,—in order that he may rescue his people from the grief and suffering into which they have been cast. And the said English have, or their part, immediately laid aside their arms, yielded to this gentle treatment, followed the influences of Civilization, and ceased from strife.

The High Commissioner has come, in obedience to the Imperial Commands, to Canton, that he may, in concert with the Governor General, Ke-Kung, and the Governor, Liang-Paochang, consider and devise regulations for the levying of duties, &c., and make all the after-arrangements of peace. From henceforward, then, the Sea Coast will enjoy rest, and this frontier will have quiet after all its trials. Our gentry and our people are bound to joy and rejoice herein, and under the impulses of gratitude to sing, as they move, the praises of the Imperial benevolence. Towards the English they should set aside their past enmity, and so remove all root of future quarrel. For it is for this that we have received, and will obey the Imperial Commands, it is not

merely their object, that we should bend and give way to foreigners from afar.

But from what cause was it, that in the first week of December last, a quarrel was commenced from which ensued strife and contention, even till some of the foreign residences were set on fire and consumed, and in their mutual animosity, lives were on both sides taken? It would seem that, from a continuance of War and its calamities, during these years past, the feeling of enmity and indignation had become so deepened,—that foolish people under the idea of taking vengeance became the tools of lawless men, who found occasion to rob and plunder: that while there was not entire absence of cause given on the part of the foreigners, there has yet been, on the part of our people, a criminality that calls for punishment. And the local officers have therefore been instructed, to apprehend with severity those lawless incendiaries and plunderers, that they may duly receive the punishment that the law decrees.

The High Commissioner, has further heard a rumor, that the Gentry and Scholars of the country around Canton, acting still under the name of raising a patriot band of soldiers, to avenge this quarrel, have formed a "Society of Spirit and Loyalty." And sundry of these gentry and scholars, have recently presented themselves before the High Commissioner, to make a surrender of their services for purposes of war. These things are done, indeed, under the momentary impulse of a burst of loyalty and patriotism. But they are in direct opposition, to the sacred purpose of our August Sovereign, tenderly to cherish men from afar, and well-entreat those who yield him obedience,—and not less opposed to His gracious pleasure, that hostilities should cease and commerce be renewed.

The people of Canton are by nature unyielding and great lovers of propriety; they are valiant when impelled by a sense of justice; they rigidly adhere to their pledged word, and where that is concerned are regardless of their lives; they frequently act without a due regard to consequences; and in a moment have recourse to violent measures. Such dispositions are often the source of much good; but they are also the cause of much evil. For example, when the patriot soldiers which the gentry had been trying to raise, banded together, lately, with the populace, and burned some of the Foreign factories,—the people engaged in this affair were of different characters and prompted by differing motives; but they neither knew to exercise due care, before committing the deed, nor did they look forward to the consequences that might follow from it. All rash appeals to arms, all acts of violence, are of this description.

Therefore, in addition to the clear commands which the High Commissioner, verbally gave to the Gentry and Scholars who appeared before him, it behoves him, further, lest there should still be some of the people, in ignorance of these principles, to issue this clear and distinct proclamation for their due warning and admonition.

While ye profess to be guided by the sentiments of loyalty and patriotism, ye must know that ye cannot but obey the Imperial Commands, and may on no account give cause for a renewal of hostilities. It is no doubt the part of loyalty to ward off insult from our shores: but to go in opposition to the Imperial Will, and in the straight line of one's own inclinations, cannot be deemed loyalty. Determinately

to withstand the enemy, is doubtless the part of patriotism; but to give cause for war and strife, is very much opposed to patriotism. Ye gentry and others, having read the sacred books, must understand reason. Do ye therefore take these commands, and impress the same upon all good people; and show them, that, if they set fire to houses and rob and plunder, they are not what they profess to be—"Righteous Men;" but they are thieves and vagabonds, and most proper will it be to deter from such like acts, by making of them severe examples. No laxness shall be shown, which might lead to a spreading of the evil.

It has now been arranged by Treaty with England, that henceforth English foreigners shall not insult or injure our people;—and at the same time, so long as English foreigners, live quietly and attend to their business, our people, may not disturb or molest them. Thus then, those from within and those from without, being at peace together, both parties may enjoy the blessing of living in perfect harmony, which the Sacred Emperor, has himself, so happily brought about.

The High Commissioner indulges the hope, that his people will not frustrate his good intentions, to guard against a recurrence of strife, and to give a full and complete security to all. Let every one tremble and obey! Do not oppose!

## A MOST SPECIAL PROCLAMATION.

TAOUKWANG, 22 year, 12 month, 25 day,  
(25th January, 1843).

[True Translation]

J. ROB. MORRISON.

Chinese Secy. and Interpreter.

(Sd.) R. THOM

Assist. Translator and Interpreter

To His Excellency.

SIR HENRY POTTINGER, BART, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of the British Trade in China.

Sir,

We have the honor to wait on your Excellency with copies of certain resolutions, passed at a General Meeting of British Merchants this day; and we beg leave to refer to the same in reply, to the letters which Y. E. has addressed to us under date 24th and 25th Instant.

\* With reference to Y. E. further letter, dated 27th Instant, we beg to state, that we will lose no time, in collecting all information on the subject to which it relates, and as soon as we are in a position to furnish such details, as can be useful, we will again have the honor of addressing your Excellency.

We have the honor to be  
Your Excellency's  
most Obedt. humble Servts.  
Alexr Matheson,  
George T. Braine,  
Wm. Thomson,  
D. L. Burn,  
W. P. Livingston,

Macao, 26th Jany, 1843.

Minutes of a General Meeting of British Merchants, hold at the House of Messrs Dent and Co. to take into consideration the Notification from H. M. Plenipotentiary, published in the HONGKONG GAZETTE under date 16th January, and three communications to the Committee of British Merchants dated respectively 24, 25 and 26th January.

After some discussion with reference to the first document as to whether the Committee should continue their services, or whether it should be left to the British Mercantile Community to communicate separately with H. M. Plenipotentiary, it was moved by Mr. Harker, seconded by Mr. Blotkin, and carried unanimously.

1. That the Committee be requested to continue to act.

And moved by Mr. Kerr, seconded by Mr. Comp-ton, and carried unanimously.

\* We did not receive a Copy of the letter, with these Documents, but presume it is the one published by the Gazette in their Circular of the 26th ult. & which will be found elsewhere.

2. That it appears advisable to this meeting that to render the services of the Committee satisfactory and efficient, all communications of a Public nature, but between H. M. Plenipotentiary and the British Merchants regarding the Tariff &c. should pass through the hands of the Committee.

The communications of H. M. Plenipotentiary, under date 24th January being then read, it was considered that no further reply appeared at present necessary beyond the expression of the thanks of the Meeting to His Excellency, for the information it contains.

The letter dated 25th January, relating principally to the Hong debts, with the inclosure, being then read, it was moved by Mr. Bleekin, seconded by Heerjeebhoy Rustonjee and carried unanimously.

That after mature deliberation, the Creditors are unanimously of opinion, that it would be highly inexpedient, on all grounds to postpone the payment of the Balance due on the Hong Debts, beyond the period already fixed on by the Treaty.

The communication under date the 27th instant was referred to the Committee for reply, after which the Meeting was dissolved.

George T. Braine,  
Chairman,

Macao, 28th January, 1843.

**FRIEND OF CHINA  
AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.**

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9th. 1843.

We have received No 3 of a New Paper issued at Macao. It is called A *AURORA MACAENSE*. Its contents are but of little interest to the English reader. There is a lengthy representation of grievances to be redressed, which has been forwarded to the Cortes at Lisbon, in which, by the way, the Portuguese Colonies and dependencies are duly represented, a similar Policy we learn, is about to be adopted by France, and which *must* be followed by England, if she really wishes that her colonies, shall become integral parts of the Empire. The facilities of Steam communication, with the election of a substitute or *suppléant*, to act in case of the death, or resignation of a Colonial member, would enable the plan to be quite as practicable, as it would be useful. Moreover, it would be the realization of the great Lord Chatham's conception of Colonial Representation, which he wished to be applied to our American Colonies, prior to their revolt and independence.

The Senate of Macao, have come to the resolution to send a deputation to Canton, to wait on the Imperial Commissioner, TERPOO, and represent the wishes and requirements of the inhabitants of Macao, with reference to its commerce and intercourse with the Chinese. The deputation is to consist of the Procurador and two members of the Senate, Srs. Francisco José de Paiva and José Thomaz d'Aquino. Without disparagement to the respectable individuals, selected for this mission, we yet agree with our Macao Contemporary, that such appointments, should have been named by a majority of the Citizens, in General Council assembled.

We perceive it is wished that the Procurador, should be empowered by the Senate, to assume the functions of Chief Superintendent of the Trade of Portuguese Subjects in China, and in that capacity that he should demand a Chop, or Passport from the Chinese Authorities, so that the honours—due alike to the rank and importance of the deputation—should be officially accorded.

We hope we shall have to congratulate our Macao Contemporary on the success which his spirited undertaking deserves. He has our best wishes for a long tenure of extensive usefulness.

We are very glad to see the Committee solicit Communications with regard to the pending Tariff &c. We have every confidence, that it will well discharge its delegated functions. Its constitution will attach much weight to its recommendations, and hence our earnest wish, for its zealous and cordial co-operation with H. E. the Plenipotentiary, at this important juncture.

We understand Count de Rattf-Menton has been transferred by the French Government, from the Consulate of Damascus to that of Canton, and that our respected and intelligent friend Mr. C. A. Challaye will soon leave for France. As one of the earliest settlers and appreciators of Hong-Kong, he will leave a durable remembrance behind him.

On Tuesday last a numerous assemblage of our friends attended at Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co's. POINT, to witness the launch of the first Vessel built on the Island. She was named the *CELESTIAL*, and is entirely of teak, her model and construction do great credit to her designer, the late Carpenter of the Fort William, whose skill is well known. Her measurement is about 80 tons, and she has been built, we are told, for the eminent Parsee, Sir Jemsetjee Jejeebhoy of Bombay; to which Port she proceeds forthwith.

We are happy in having had opportunities of appreciating, from personal acquaintance, the expansive benevolence and intelligence of the munificent owner of the *CELESTIAL*. We are right glad to see the advantages of our Port, have been so early recognized by the Authority of so eminent an individual.

We take occasion of mentioning, (that one of the oldest residents has a *Patent Ship*, on the way out. It is expected to be put up within a few months, on a site, which is admirably suited, from its convenient locality and sheltered position. We confidently hope the spirited proprietor will meet with the support, to which he is justly entitled.

The interesting nature, at the present time, of the EXTRACTS which occupy so large space in our Columns, must be our apology for deferring our own observations. We hope to insert some similar communications, if so, and with the Report of the Committee, our Readers will have ample materials, to form their judgments and estimate the correctness of our views. Meanwhile, we may say, we differ *toto celo*, with the author of the EXTRACTS in many points, especially, in reference to his proposed regulations for the OPIUM TRADE.

It was the British-Parliament that authorized the Company to monopolize the cultivation of opium, well knowing that the monopoly would be valueless, except as the drug could be introduced into China, contrary to its laws. The war was brought on by a struggle on the part of the Emperor to preserve his own people from the contamination of that vice, which the enlightened nation of England was endeavouring to encourage. The confiscation of the opium, if judged by the laws of England or by the law of nations, was a just and not a criminal act. In this instance we were clearly the aggressors. If the war in Afghanistan is to be deemed unjust, as some suppose, though it was undertaken solely to preserve our Indian empire from foreign aggression, how much more unjust is the war in China which originated in our own cupidity.

The above we extract from the *Friend of India* we would only remark, that the best informed on Chinese affairs are unanimous in the opinion that with respect to his Subjects, the Emperor had far more horror of the acquiring habits of intercourse with Foreigners, and the oozing out of Sycee Silver; than of the demoralising effects arising from the increasing use of the "pernicious drug".

Two thousand cubic feet of Tonnage which were available in the *Luckia* Steam flat, were put up to auction on the 20th Instant. The demand of the public extended to twenty thousand feet. The freight was therefore sold in lots of four hundred each; the lowest price was Eight Pounds a Ton; the highest Twenty-Five Pounds Sterling the Ton. Is there never to be any remedy of this insupportable state of things?

The above is a sample of the Company's management. We hear of a heavy annual loss of life among the Troops; a recent calamity struck every one with horror. Still the troops are conveyed up to their stations in country boats, and more lives are lost during this passage, than on the voyage from England. But for the limited accommodation afforded by the Company's Rivers Steamers; private individuals or associations, would long ere this, have afforded ample public facilities of communication and locomotion.

NOVEMBER MAIL.

We have received letters from London to the date of the 4th of November, but none of our London papers which were sent by the same Mail. Mercantile matters, still continue very gloomy and the Trade of the Country was generally in a bad condition; prices of produce low, with 10,200,000 of bullion in the bank, and good bills discountable at 2 1/2 per cent. The Revenue, despite the Income Tax and New Tariff is still deficient.

The TEA MARKET was very flat with a look down-tendency, fine teas never were cheaper. The run being on low but sound descriptions.

The SILK MARKET participated in the prevalent depression, and at the Public Sales low Bengal Silk receded about 6 per cent. The China Silk was mostly bought in at high rates, a little sold at full prices, owing to the scanty supply and since the Sales, 182 Bales of Tealee, ex the *Earl Grey, Baring & Co* the *Sophia* have realized as much as 23s. per lb. It is to be observed that these lots together amount to the monthly consumption, because of the relative high rate of the China Silk.

In CHINA PRICE GOODS, little has been done the general inferiority of the Imports is greatly detrimental

to their use on the Continent of Europe and is much complained of. Prices are about 20 per cent lower, than at the September Sale.

It is reported the Queen is again in a delicate situation. Lord Melbourne is slowly recovering from his late severe paralytic attacks. The Garter vacant by the demise of the Marquis Wellesley is to be given to Earl de Grey. A General fast among the Wesleyans has been observed, and prayers offered up in their Chapels for a removal of the national distress.—A large quantity of Specie is being coined, to be sent to India.—The Treasury has taken into its own hands the investigation of the Custom House fraud and several more Officers have been dismissed. On the 22d October the barques Hope from Quebec and the Nancy were lost on Goodwin Sands, close to the Light of All Nations, which is supposed to be destroyed by the former vessel passing over it.—The Catholic Archbishop of Sydney with 20 Priests for Australian use, will leave early in November.—The Stafford Special Commission have transported 11 men for life, 13 for 21 years, 9 for 15, 18 for 10, and 3 for 7 years besides sentencing 146 more with imprisonment and hard labour, for the late riots.—A dreadful storm has raged along the English Coast, the loss of life and property has been immense.—At Leipzig fair business was very active, the value of Furs Sold amounting to £1,500,000.—The whole world seems mitted in a commercial confederacy against us. John Bull is becoming liberal rather late, but not too late we hope.—The Anti-Corn Law League announce a new Campaign and ask £50,000 to carry on the war against monopoly. Her Majesty, in the best taste, has conferred £900 per annum on Wordsworth the Poet.—Miss Martineau, the eminent Authoress, has refused a Civil list Pension of £150 per annum, on public principle, which she has nobly expressed.—Capt. A. Douglas, 49th M. N. I. was to be re-examined at Marlborough Street, Police Office, on a Charge of Desertion.—Parliament is to meet the beginning of February.—The Shah of Persia has accepted the mediation of England to settle his dispute with Turkey.—The Arch-Duke Frederick of Austria is travelling in Scotland.—The *Nimrod* at Liverpool was the only arrival from China during October.—Evans, Foster and Langton of London have failed.—The Ship Owners hope to obtain relief (?) from Parliament next session.—The Emperor of China was reported to have abdicated!

DEATHS.

General Sir Lowry Cole, Allan Cunningham.—Dr. Channing, Sergeant Spinks, Sir William Rae Bt. Sir John Cowan and Dr. Solomon Hirschell, Chief Rabbi.

By the following Extract from our Correspondent at Alexandria, dated 17th November it may be judged what will be the effect of the NEWS OF THE PEACE at home—

"I need not tell you with what gratification, the glorious news of the Pottinger Treaty was received here, and it cannot fail producing an improvement in Trade throughout all Europe. I think the conditions of the Treaty are most favorable for English Interests, and the able manner in which Sir Henry Pottinger has managed the whole affair, entitles him to vast credit, and I hope soon to see him rewarded with a Peerage. The news of this Treaty being concluded, was sent off from here by H. M. Str. "*Medea*" on the 6th instant, would reach Malta only on the 10th, being a poor gear: from thence the Admiral would send on a fast Str. to Marseilles, which would arrive about the 14th, so that on that day, or the 15th, it would be telegraphed in Paris that Peace was concluded with China" and on the 18 or 19th the Dispatches would reach London.

Major Malcolm arrived at Suez, on the 9th Instant in the Auckland Steamer, which I understand sailed from Canton, on the 20th Sept. only touched at Singapore, Ceylon and Aden but I did not receive any Letter or Gazette from you by this occasion. It would appear however, that Major Malcolm is bearer of the Treaty, and I am assured that the Emperor has agreed to execute it, as soon as it is signed by Queen Victoria, as well as to concede any other conditions required by the British Government, provided they are not dishonorable to the Emperor. Major Malcolm left this for Malta, on the 13th Instant, in the *Pacha's* Steamer *Reschid*, which his Highness very handsomely placed at the Major's disposal, owing to there being no British Man of War in this Port, and I calculate the Major will reach London, via Gibraltar, about the 29th Instant. News of his arrival at Malta, will be sent on to Marseilles and most probably reach London on 25th Instant. Never did any thing occur so *propos* as the settlement of the China question, it has come at the moment, when the commercial world was on the brink of a precipice and must inevitably have tumbled down. Even by our last advices from London, to the 28th Instant, several very extensive failures have occurred, principally among the Corn speculators altho not wholly confined to that class, as the Bank of Manchester is gone to pot also, however, I hope as soon as the China news arrives, it will put a stop to all this misfortune and that the ensuing year will bring with brighter times, especially as the American question is terminated and as we are at peace with the world. I hope Palmerston will now see the folly of his wretched policy, I am told he is perfectly rabid and attacks every body, and Lord Ashburton has not escaped his lash. The Whigs appear to have gone to the devil, and I am not sorry for it, as they were incapable and unskillful to a degree, you will see by the paper that Melbourne has been at death's door."



*From Trueman and Cook's Circular, published in the BOMBAY TIMES of the 14th December.*

**Money and Exchanges.**—There has been no return of confidence, but on the contrary, credit was perhaps never before at a lower ebb; a state of things, no doubt traceable to the more complete development, recently, of the evils consequent upon the working of a vicious system of Banking, which has resulted in a sacrifice of property beyond any thing which could have been imagined—to losses in the Corn Trade, amounting to two and a half millions; and to failures almost in every direction, the effects of all which could not be otherwise than paralyzing. In the Manufacturing districts also no sooner have the facilities with the Operatives been adjusted, than a Tariff comes from America adverse to the industrial interests of this country, affecting the Lancashire and Yorkshire districts more particularly, whilst the Linen trade is suffering in an equal degree from the operation of the French Tariff; and prices of manufactures are forced down to the very lowest point of July.

The return of the Revenue, as given for the last quarter, has had a depressing influence, although the falling off should be ascribed in a great degree to the interruption of the receipts by the non-ratification of the Portuguese treaty, for the reduction of Duty on Wine, from 5s. 6d. to 3s. per gallon; but for this contingency, there would no doubt have been a considerable augmentation, arising from the increased consumption of Sugar, Tea, Tobacco, &c.

The plethora of Money so far from abating, becomes more unwieldy; millions of Bank Notes are daily locked up by Bankers and other capitalists in Lombard Street, which cannot be loaned on good security at any rate of interest whatever. This is the more remarkable, from occurring at a season when the engagements of individuals are at the heaviest amount, and discounts should be required on a scale in proportion; the transactions on the Stock Exchange are daily becoming mere and more insignificant; and on the different walks of the Exchange the aspect of affairs is not cheering, more particularly, as applicable to houses of Agency.

The departure of Mr. Ellis to the Brazils has given rise to many conjectures, as to the intentions of the Government, in the course to be pursued with respect to the Sugar Duties. Whatever may result from his mission to that country, it is only reasonable to suppose that due notice will be given of the measures to be determined upon, and that sufficient time will be allowed to the Colonial Interest to make any new arrangements, such as the altered state of things might require; indeed any other course would be entirely embarrassing; this country, in negotiating with the Brazils for any new treaty of commerce, has less to apprehend from the Continental powers—for France and other States have their own Colonies, with not only high protective duties on Sugar, but there is now also a large class interested in the manufacture of Beet Root Sugar, the production of which is annually nearly 100,000 Tons.

**Tea.**—Since the arrival of the last India Mail, there has evidently existed a stronger inclination to realize, and the impression is gaining ground, that from better arrangements and more extensive intercourse with the natives, our supplies will be larger next season, and obtainable at less cost, even should there be a continuance of hostilities; be that as it may, the market has felt the influence of sales being pressed; prices in the course of the month having receded 1d. to 1½d. on Congou, and 2d. on the Pekoe kind; 1d. at 1 & half d. on Twankay and 1d. to 2d. on Hyson. The Imports have also doubled those for the corresponding period of last year, say twenty-eight millions of pounds, against fourteen and a half the deliveries of the last year, in 1841, which are progressively increasing, and now amount to about 29,300,000 lb., against 27,500,000; the Stock at this Port stands at 28,500,000 lb., against 25,800,000; and prices for the common sound descriptions may be quoted;—Congou, is 7d. to 1s. 7 & half d. per lb.; Twankay, at 1s. 7 & half d. at 1s. 8 & half d.;—Hyson, 2s. 3d. at 2s. 5d.;—Banco, 1s. at 1s. 3d.

**CASSIA LIGNEA.**—The Stock is still very light, being now only about 1700 Chests, against 2200 in 1841, and 1500 in 1840, whilst the Imports for the same period amount to 17,500 Chests, against 13,000 in 1841, and 4000 in 1840. The demand has been good throughout the month, and higher prices have been realized. The present quotations are 88s. 9ds. against 92s. at 100s.

**LORD MAYOR'S COURT, OCT. 29th.**—The Court was occupied during its sittings in adjudicating on claims made by four Chinese Merchants, bearing the respective names of Fwankeung, Sangus, Watsching, and Tongching, against a British Subject, and he several sums of 1200l., and 1600l.

**WATSCING V. STEVENS.—G. AND J. HORSLEY PALMER AND CO., GARNISHEES.**

Mr. Ryland (with whom was Mr. Leurier) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Gurney for the Garnishees. The sum claimed was 1600l.

Mr. Ryland, in stating the plaintiff's case, said, his client was a Tea-merchant at Canton, the defendant John Woodham Stevens, was a Tea-dealer in the City of London, and the Garnishees were the well-known large wealthy Tea-dealers trading under the firm of "George and John Horsley Palmer, and Co." This suit was an attachment against some property belonging to the defendant, now in the hands of the Garnishees. This was an ancient custom peculiar to the City of London, and its benefits would, in this instance, be very apparent. Actions having been brought, and verdicts obtained, against a party who could not be found, his property being found in the hands of a third party, was a device, and through the jury the plaintiff would get possession in aid of his claim; and the defendant, though not present, could not be damaged, as he would be allowed a twelvemonth to come in and dispute the claim. This was the case of a person who, although residing and carrying on business in China, could nevertheless through his agent, attach property in the hands of persons in the city of London—a proof of the goodness of this salutary custom.

Mr. Ryland was about to call witnesses, when Mr. Gurney said, to save trouble, he would admit that the Garnishees had in their hands money amounting to 1572l. 17s., and 400 pieces of silk of the value of 500l., belonging to the defendant.

The Jury, under the learned Recorder's directions, then gave the plaintiff a verdict for 192l. 12s. 6d., being one-fourth of the above property proportionate to his claim of 1600l.

The other cases were not gone into, verdict in like manner were taken by consent, awarding Plaintiff 1823l. 3s., and to the firm of Sangus and Tongching 457l. 1s. 6d.; the parties thus only receiving 2127l. 17s. in lieu of 17,600l.

LONDON MAIL.

**ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENTS.**  
AMOY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FRIEND OF CHINA, AND HONGKONG GAZETTE."

MR. EDITOR.

HAVING from time to time perused your paper, with much pleasure and interest, containing as it does, much useful and pleasing information, inasmuch as it has made us, in this forgotten spot, acquainted with

all that is going on in the busy world. I am induced, to request, the favor of your acquaintance, for a spare editor of your Journal—an outline of the way in which we ushered in, the Infant Year. The Garrison having comfortably settled down for the winter. Races which had been talked of, for sometime past (and the weather still continuing fine) were now seriously thought of—and every thing immediately put in progress, the course though not, by any means, good—was put in tolerable repair,—and our Steeds (a dozen in number) trained; while these preparations were going on, the Navy were not backward, and their squadron having been strengthened, to 3 Bays and a Frigate, at once planned a Regatta. The morning of the 5th presented a very animating appearance, the ships were all dressed out with flags, and the day being fine, all promised well; the breeze which was at first fresh, lasted sufficiently long, to enable the larger Boats to complete their course, but about noon it became somewhat faint, the Sailing however was particularly good; but the Frigate's Barge from her superior construction, carried easily the palm. The Cutters and Jolly Boats followed in the same track; and each in their turn, on passing the winning post, were gladly welcomed by the Band of the 18th, who through the kindness of the Commandant, COL. COWREN, were lent for the occasion; an elegant collation was prepared, by the Captain and Officers of the Frigate, and after which, the Rowing Matches came off; the Frigate's Barge, which had shown herself so conspicuously in the morning, again took the lead, and came round the Course in the same masterly way, though ran very hard by the Wanderer, the whole concluded with an amateur Rowing Match, by the Officers of the Navy and Garrison; the Sport throughout the day was excellent, and we only regretted, as the Sun went down; that there was a termination to our day's amusement.

The 16th was at last settled, as the day for those on shore, and all anxiously looked forward to it, with pleasure and interest, the first morning though fine, was exceedingly cold, but notwithstanding which, the Course was thronged, Tents were erected, and every thing looked as promising as in 1842. After some little delay, incident to these occasions, the Bugle sounded and collected the little Band that were to run for the Maiden Plate, 8 started; and although they soon bolted, separated, either by bolting or swerving, the Race was a very well contested one, and won by Lieut Noble.

Others of minor importance followed, though more closely run for, and the whole went off a *merveille*, an intermediate day, between each, being allowed for the horses to recover their strength; the next of importance ran for, were the Cheroot Stakes, the stipulation being—the rider to smoke whilst going round, or forfeit, and the last terminated with Hurdle and Foot Races, nothing could have passed off more agreeably, and the pleasing Band of 18th performing throughout the day, tended much to the amusement and gratification of all.

Though out of the world, we try to fancy ourselves in it, and the attempt has certainly not disappointed us.

The Navy are daily expecting the Admiral, and were in great hopes that these little several amusements, would have witnessed his presence.

If what is passing on in this world should prove at all acceptable, we shall be glad to send you from time to time a sketch of passing scenes. And believe me, Sir,

Yours,  
A LOOKER ON.

**EXTRACTS**

*From a Communication addressed to H. E. the Plenipotentiary.*

Having heard that individual opinions, from parties more or less acquainted with the trade of China, would be acceptable to Y. E. I take the liberty of waiting on Y. E. with the following remarks, in hopes they may not prove altogether valueless; in the negotiations shortly to commence between Y. E. and the Chinese Commissioners.

In the first place I would call Y. E.'s attention to the Duties, leviable on Imports into China, from Europe and India; I mean the *legal duties*, not the exorbitant charges, levied by the Hong Merchants and Canton Authorities.

It appears from the *Imperial Tariff*, that the Duty on the Importation of raw cotton is 5 per cent, on the average Market Value at this time. This might with great advantage to the English Manufacturer be raised to 10 per cent, *ad valorem*, a sufficiently moderate rate, when compared with the exactions of the Co-hong, and at the same time a Rate that will lead the Chinese to purchase more of our Manufactures, in preference to the Raw material.

COTTON GOODS are subject by the *Imperial Tariff* to a Duty varying from 10 to 30 per cent, an average Duty of 20 per cent on them, would in my opinion be willingly paid by Importers, and could be afforded by the Manufacturer.

ON IRON, LEAD, STEEL, TIN, and COPPER, I would let the Duty remain, as quoted in the *FRIEND OF CHINA*, on the 12th Instant, or if any alteration is thought necessary, an *ad valorem* charge of 10 per cent could be paid on each of these Metals, without detriment to the Trade. They are comparatively minor articles, and not worthy much consideration.

ON BROAD CLOTH, SPANISH STRIPES, and LONGS, the *Imperial Tariff* levies too high a Duty,

which leads to Smuggling, particularly of the last named goods. I am of opinion that 5 per cent on those three articles would put an end to Smuggling, lead to their more extensive use, and very materially assist the Revenue.

ON CAMLETS the Duty is prohibitory, and not one piece of them pays it in a year, they are all smuggled, being very valuable goods, and of extensive use among the Chinese, a Duty of 5 per cent would yield a large Revenue. These goods and Woollens interfere with no native manufacture of China, consequently may well be admitted by that Government, at the moderate Duty I have put on them.

STRAITS PRODUCE. It would be advantageous to the Trade were a moderate Duty say, from 5 to 10 per cent, laid on every article that comes under this head, such as Pepper, Betel Nut, Beche di Mar, (Tripang or Sea Slug), Cloves, Nutmegs, Malay Camphor, Gambier, Ebony, Rattans, Sandal, and Sapan Wood; &c. The high Duties and exactions at Canton, have almost put an end to a Trade, that was once a flourishing one in that City; while the China Junks continue to carry large quantities of the articles just named, from Singapore to the Northern Ports every year; for the last three years, scarcely a ship load has been sent from the Straits on European account.

These are the principal articles of Import, into this vast Empire, and indeed, not to take up your Excellency's time with any lengthened remarks, on the immense advantage Great Britain and British India would derive, were the moderate Duties mentioned above made legal, and all extortions by the Canton authorities, Co-Hong, &c. annihilated.

The great object I have in view, is the increase of our Trade, and I do not think the Duties proposed by me, would check that increase in the slightest degree.

Before saying any thing on the Exports of China, I will wind up my remarks on the Imports, by a few remarks on the OPIUM TRADE. Could Y. E. by any means in your power, get that Trade legalised, you would be doing an incalculable benefit to every one concerned in it. It would be presumption in me, to attempt to point out to Y. E. the positive horrors of that Trade, as carried on these last three years, knowing them as Y. E. must, much better than I do.

It has occurred to me, and my opinion corresponds with many respectable Chinese, that OPIUM might be legally imported into China, under the name of Medicine, or in fact under any other than its own name. A Duty of One Hundred and Twenty Dollars per Chest, would cost the Importer less than it now does to sell his drug on the coast, and in my opinion stop Smuggling.

To insure the payment of this Duty by Europeans, before they were allowed to unload a single Chest from their ships, I would establish some stringent Rules; such as

1st. Any European Vessel selling Opium in any Port or Harbour on the coast of China, except those authorised by treaty, to be a lawful Prize (Ship and Cargo) to any of H. M. Ships.

2d. All Vessels Importing OPIUM, to bring from the Port they loaded at, a Certified Manifest, stating the number of Chests they may have on board.

3d. No OPIUM to be discharged from any Vessel till such Certified Manifest has been exhibited, to one of H. M. Consuls, and the Duty paid to the proper Authorities.

4th. Any Vessel having more or less Opium on board, than the quantity specified in the Manifest, to forfeit the Drug in the first case, and in the second, (unless her Commander can satisfactorily account for the deficiency), to pay a Fine of three times the Duty, on such deficiency, the probability being, that he smuggled it on shore somewhere up the coast.

5th. OPIUM on being landed at any authorised Port, and afterwards shipped for any other authorised Port, should be accompanied by a Pass or Permit, stating the number of Chests, Marks, Numbers, &c., and no Opium should be permitted to be moved from Port to Port, (after being once landed) without such Permit from the Consul.

These are a few Rules which suggest themselves to my mind, and I trust Y. E. will not think my offering them presumptuous. If Y. E. should find it impossible to persuade the Chinese Government to legalise the OPIUM TRADE, on any terms, I would respectfully submit to Y. E. the positive necessity that exists for some such Rule as my No. 1, being put in force, to restrain the numerous Commanders, now on all parts of the Coast, selling the Drug in defiance of all laws, human and divine; it may appear paradoxical to talk of authorised Ports, in carrying on an illegal Trade, but it is not so, the Opium supplied to the Trader, by the E. I. Company, and though the Chinese may refuse it admittance, still the fair Trader deserves some protection, and I would give him his chance against the Chinese Authorities, at all Ports open to the British Flag.

SEE SUPPLEMENT.

**NOTICE.**

The Service of the "Church of England" will be performed at the Temporary Chapel at the foot of Government Hill every Sabbath at 3 P. M. until further notice.

**NOTICE.**—Storage can be obtained at low rates in Granite Godowns on application

C. V. Gillespie.

Hongkong, 20th December 1842.

**FOR SALE**—Batavia Arrack, Claret, Cherry Wine, Brandy in Cases, Manilla Segars No. 3. 4. and Sodawater.

Apply to

W. ALLANSON & Co.

**NOTICE.**

**PUBLIC Auctions** are held at the Rooms of the undersigned every Tuesday and Saturday regularly.

**CONDITIONS.**

Account Sales will be rendered three days after and proceeds fifteen, or sooner if required.  
A Commission of 5 per cent will be charged on any amount not exceeding \$ 500  
4 not exceeding " 1000  
3 " " 2000  
2 1/2 " on any amount exceeding " 2000  
Opium, Ships or Vessels, Landed property, Silver ware, &c. &c. &c., 1 1/2 per cent: as soon as the Lots are knocked down, they will stand at the risk of the purchaser, and no Lot or Lots will be removed from the Spot before the money is paid. Should parties refuse to clear their Lots in course of three days or paying for the same the said Lot or Lots will again be brought to hammer at the Risk of the first purchaser who will be held responsible for Losses and forfeit the Gains. A commission of 2 1/2 per cent each time will be charged on limited goods sent to Auction. Should any party or Parties send articles to the Auction Rooms and themselves dispose of the same by Private contract, 5 per cent commission will be charged and it must be clearly understood between the Vender and purchaser who will pay the said charge. An advance of 50 per cent if required, will be made upon unlimited Goods deposited for Public Auction.

The undersigned will not be answerable for any property lost in their Sale Rooms unless it is left under their charge.

G. MOSES & CO.

*P. S. Should any dispute arise between Two Bidders at the time of sale, the Lot or Lots will be put up again for the satisfaction of all parties.*

G. M. & CO.

Hongkong 2 Jan. 1843.

For Sale at the Rooms of the undersigned the following Goods Viz.

- Anchors of all Sizes,
- Chain Cables,
- Manilla Segars, 4; Superior,
- do. do. 4; Fine equal to 3rd Superior
- Superfine Blue cloth,
- Ladies Muslin dresses of all colours,
- Silks, Satin and Straw Bonnets,
- Stout and Patent Leather Shoes,
- Sewing Cotton of all numbers,
- Black Silk Stuffs,
- White coloured and Fancy Socks,
- Regatta Shirts,
- Duck and Fancy Trowsers,
- Dress and Shooting Coats,
- Woolen Caps, and Striped Gingham for Shirts,
- Bengal Towels,
- Copying and writing ink,
- Best double distilled Lavender water with Glass Stoppers
- by Smith & Co.
- Eau de Cologne.
- Needles of all Nos.
- Fancy quilting for Gents, Vests and Childrens Frocks,
- Plain and figured Jean and drillings,
- Figured Flannel for Ladies winter dresses,
- Quills and Black Lead Pencils,
- Fresh Table Raisins,
- Copper Kettles horn Lenthens and fish Boilers,
- Spermeite candles, Pad Locks, Powder Flasks,
- Vices, Chisels, files &c. &c.
- Dutch Blankets, Persian Carpets, &c. &c.
- Best Brandy, Sherry, Gin and Beer &c. &c.

Also an invoice of Sadelery &c. &c. daily expected by Sophia Fraser, and a Variety of other Goods and articles too numerous to mention.

G. Moses & Co.

Hongkong, 25th Jan. 1843  
Queen's Road.

**WANTED**—A steady sober and Competent young man for Auctioneering, Liberal wages will be given.

G. Moses & Co.

Hongkong, 25th Jan. 1843  
Queen's Road.

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**, the house and lot opposite the Hongkong Market, known as the Auckland Hotel, also one lot on Queen's Road, south side,

Apply to

C. V. Gillespie.

Hongkong, 25th Jan. 1843.

D. WILSON & Co.

**WINE, BEER & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
OIL & ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMEN,  
HOTEL and STORE—KEEPERS.**

have, in connexion with their Establishment in Calcutta, completed most extensive arrangements with the first Houses in England and France for receiving regular consignments of every description of goods: and they are now prepared to execute orders to any extent for goods of the best quality, on the most moderate terms, and every article is guaranteed to arrive in the best Condition.

**FIRST—RATE WINES.**

received from the most eminent Houses in England and on the Continent.

N. B. Liberal Credit and the usual Discount given to Regimental Messes and Dealers taking their regular supplies.

Lists of goods for sale to be had on application at the Store.

**AUCKLAND HOTEL**  
January 1st 1843.

**NOTICE.**—Goods and Merchandise of all descriptions, received and carefully stored in spacious dry, and secure Brick Godowns, at Hongkong upon moderate terms; apply upon the Premises to

N. DUUS, or

FEARON & SON.—Macao

Goods are received and sold on Commission.

HONGKONG, 1st JANUARY, 1842.

**FOR SALE.** Bally Rice, Coffee, Coconut Oil, Java arrack, in cases and casks. Port and Sherry wines, whiskey, and Old Rum, in barrels. Cherry Cordial (in pints) — Singapore Beams, and Planks — Europe Rope from 1, to 3 in.

By JOHN BURD & Co.

Queen's Road.

Hongkong

December, 1842.

C. V. Gillespie 46 Queens Road, has on Sale Large Singapore Spars suitable for Lower Masts, Orrel Coni, square Iron, Plate Glass; Lish Pork in barrels, Preserved Meats, Fish and Vegetables in tin and in cases of six dozen each, Sherry, Champagne, Port, Hock, Brandy, White and Grey Long Cloths, &c. Hongkong 3. in Nov. 1842.

**FOR SALE** Anchors, Cables, Copper Sheathing and Nails, Patent Felt, Carpeting and Rugs and Woolen Tartan—by

W. T. Kinsley.

Hongkong, Jan. 11th 1843.

**FOR SALE.**—On the marine Lot next the China Bazaar. Chains 1 1/2 and 1 5/16 inches, do. Rigging, Topsail sheets, Jyes &c. 1-16, 5-16, 11-16, Anchor 300 to 360 lb, and 21, 22, and 23 Cwt. each, One double purchase Crab, Canvas (English length) and twine, Singapore spars 68 to 74 feet, by 22 to 24 inches, Rough pine spars 30 to 50 feet, Java Coffee in bags, Sherry in Wood and bottle, very Superior, Java Arrack in half Leaguers.

Apply to Mr. ANTONIO COLLAÇO, on the premises, or to WILLIAM SCOTT, —Macao.

Hongkong, October 5th, 1842.

**FOR SALE**

Shaw and Maxwells Port and Sherry in 3 and 6 dozen Cases, apply at the Godown of Messrs Gibb, Livingston & Co.

Hongkong 10th December 1842.

**NOTICE.**—The interest and responsibility of Mr. WILLIAM WARRIOR Shaw in our firms here, at Maulmain, and in that of Buchanan & Co. Glasgow, ceased on the 31st December last.

[Signed] DUNNETT, SHAW, & Co.  
Pinang, 10th Jan. 1842.

**FOR SALE.**—Java Coffee and Rice Best Bengal Moonrhy Rice and Dholl, American Flour and Biscuits, Salt Provisions, Tobacco, Soap and Candles, Manilla Rum, Java Arrack and English Brandy in Cases, &c. all spec.

Apply to FEARON'S Wharf, No. 18, Queen's Road. N. DUUS.  
Hongkong, 2nd November, 1842.

**FOR SALE.**—Newcastle Coals in bags at 50 cents per pecul.

Apply to C. V. Gillespie.

Hongkong 20th December 1842. 40 Queen's Road.

**ON SALE.**

- Beef and Pork in barrels
- Cabin and Ship Bread
- Sperm Candles
- Arrack
- Glassware

P. Townsend & Co.

**NOTICE.**

Mr. Edward Farncomb, Notary Public and Solicitor No. 1 & 2 Magistracy Street Hongkong.

**FOR SALE** on board the Barque Siam, Patent bleached Canvas No. 4. 5. 6. 7.

- Roving and Roping Twine
- Bright Varnish in barrels 28 gal. each
- Patent Black do. do. do.
- Limeed Oil in iron casks 3 gal. each
- White Lead in do. 28 do.
- Green Paint in do. 28 do.
- Black Paint in do. 22 do.
- Europe bottled Beer

Apply to Capt. Willmet, on board.

**NOTICE.**

Notice is hereby given that the Partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

Hongkong January 13 1843.

J. Moulton,  
Chas. Smith,  
John Woolner.

All persons indebted to the above named firm, are called upon to make immediate payment, and all persons having any demands, are requested to present the same to the undersigned for liquidation.

P. Townsend & Co.

Hongkong January 13 1843.

**FOR SALE.**

Ship Chandlery, and Stores of all kinds for Ships.

P. Townsend & Co.

**JUST** received ex Greyhound, a quantity of Stationery of all kinds, Port, Sherry, Champagne and Claret Wines, Beer and Porter in Bottles, Top Coats, Hats, also a few Cheeses.

P. Townsend & Co.

Hongkong, Jan. 7th 1843.

**FOR SALE.**—The Bungalow, with six Rooms, convenient Offices for servants, and Godown; also Stables situated on the Queen's Road, opposite to Marine lot No. 46. dimensions of lot, f120+ f105. Apply to

C. V. GILLESPIE.

**FOR SALE.**—Several Extensive and Valuable Lots of Ground, eligibly situated on the Queen's Road, having deep water frontage, and within a short distance of the Government Offices. A convenient one Storey Dwelling House, with a large plot of ground attached, fronting the Sea. —Particulars will be had of

RICHARD OSWALD.

Hongkong, 7th Feby. 1843.

**FOR SALE.**—Singapore Planks, and Beams measuring 20 to 25 feet long, 7 to 10 inches Square.

Apply to

R. OSWALD.

Hongkong, 9th Feby. 1843.

**FOR SALE.**—On Board the American Bark LARK, 200 barrels flour, 500 Handspikes, 200 barrels Beef, 15 Rough Spars, 25 barrels Pork, 4 Whale boats, 5 Hogshoads Bread, 100 Boxes of Soap, 5 barrels Spirits of Turpentine, 5 Cases of Shoes, 8 barrels of White Beans, 100 Tons of Coals, 15 barrels of Tar, 10,000 Lath boards, 10 barrels of Pitch, 30 Casks Jamaica Rum, 500 Ash Oars, 4 Cr. Casks Madeira.

For particulars apply to the Commander on board—the LARK or to

G. F. DAVIDSON.

Hongkong, 8th Feby. 1843.

**EMPLOYMENT.** A Gentleman, lately arrived from an eminent Mercantile firm in London, is desirous of obtaining permanent employment: good testimonials can be shown. Address A. B. C. Post Office Hongkong.

**EXCHANGE ON PARIS.**

TENDERS will be received by the Undersigned for Bills for Francs 70,000, & 80,000, in various sets, drawn by Captain Page of the French corvette Favorite, on the French treasury, at 30 days sight.

J. A. Durran Jur.

Macao 2 February 1843.

**Shipping Intelligence.  
ARRIVED.**

Feb.	Ship	Agent	Origin
1st	Sri Singapore & Kappa	—	Macao
2d	Young Queen	Jauincey	"
"	Vixen	Carr	"
3d	H. M. S. Royalist	Lt. Chetwode R.N.	"
4th	Theresa	"	"
5th	Wuld Irish Girl	J. Hall	"
"	Nepaul	J. Campbell	Whampoa
6th	Birman	J. Cleland	Macao
"	Vixen	Carr	"
7th	Zephyr	Johnson	Bombay
5th	Rockcliffe	Harrison	Macao
"	Lark	Tibbits	"
"	Judith Allan	Hayes	Chusan

**S A I L E D.**

Feb.	Ship	Agent	Destination
2d	Elizabeth	Geoffrey	Macao
"	Prince George	Foster	Whampoa
3d	Young Queen	"	Whampoa
"	Vixen	"	Macao
"	Mary Anne	Holton	Chusan
"	Anglona	"	Whampoa
4th	John Cree	Rodgerson	Singapore
5th	William	Hay	"
"	H. C. Str. Ackbar	Com. Pepper, I. N.	Macao
"	Ceprey	Sedgwick	"
8th	Theresa	"	"
"	Vixen	Carr	Namoo
"	La Belle Alliance	Pryce	Singapore
"	Zephyr	Johnson	Macao
8th	Birman	Cleland	Manila
"	H. M. S. Agincourt	"	"
"	H. M. S. Wolverine	"	"
"	H. M. S. Royalist	"	Gone Out

William Pedder  
Harbor Master.



while I would seize him, if he dared to enter another. One or two large seizures and confiscations, would tend more to put an end to bloodshed on the coast of China, than any Rule or Law, however ably framed.

It may be that Y. E. has not the power to impose such restrictions, on the movements of British Shipping; in that case, I respectfully submit to Y. E. the propriety of urging the matter on H. M. Government, for its immediate consideration.

I come now to the Exports from China, the first and most important of which, as Y. E. is well aware, is TEA. The *Imperial Tariff* lays only 4 per cent on this article, though the Canton exactions, have of late years, amounted to something like thirty. I quite agree with the Editor of the *FRIEND OF CHINA*, in rating the Tea Duty at 4 Taels per Picul, a rate that would yield a large Revenue to the Emperor, and satisfy the European Trader. The uncertainty of late existing on this point, has been a great drawback to the Trade, and is perhaps the best, or one of the best arguments, that can be urged in favour of the entire dissolution of the Co Hong system.—To insure the payment of the Tea Duty, it would perhaps be necessary to impose a regulation, compelling every Ship, carrying the article to Britain, or even to any of its Colonies, to take with her a Certificate from the Consul, at the port she takes in her cargo, certifying, that her Tea was shipped in the regular way, and paid the Duty; any Tea arriving in England without such Certificate, ought to be subjected there to Double the China Duty, in addition (of course) to the English. American Vessels are compelled, to carry Consul's Certificates to the United States, from any Foreign Port they may load at, even their Bills of Lading are stamped at the Port of loading, with the Consul's Seal of Office, to show the real place of Shipment.

ALUM is an article of considerable export to India and is Subject to too high a duty, 5 per cent would make the trade more regular, certain and lucrative and be ample on such an article.

CAMPFUR.—Is a valuable article of increasing demand in Europe and would bear a duty of 10 per cent—the Chinese import some 2000 piculs of it into Singapore every year, the whole of which finds its way to London and the Continent of Europe.

CASSIA.—This article is all Smuggled out of China, owing to the very exorbitant duty, which amounts to no less than from 70 to 80 per cent—a dollar per pecul would render the trade safe and stop Smuggling—this rate would be about 12 per cent on the average value of this country.

RHUBARB.—It seems strange to see so low a duty as 1 1/2 per cent, laid on this valuable article by the Chinese; it is in great demand in England and the Continent of Europe, and would bear a duty of 15 per cent well.

RAW SILK.—On this article, there are some vexatious restrictions in China, of which Y. E. is doubtless well aware. That they do not answer the purpose intended by the Chinese is also known. Their being vexatious and useless are two good reasons for doing away with them. A duty of 5 per cent would probably be a fair rate, allowing purchasers to Ship, in one or more vessels, as may suit their convenience.

SUGAR.—5 per cent on the export of this article seems to me, from what I know of the rates levied elsewhere, to be as much as it can well bear.

These are the principal articles of export from this empire, and I will now trouble Y. E. with a few remarks on the value and importance of the trade.

To go through the articles in the order I have placed them, we must begin with.

RAW COTTON.—Take the annual import at 300,000 bales, each worth \$ 28 this will give \$8,400,000 at 10 per cent, gives - - - \$ 840,000

COTTON GOODS.—600,000 pieces are about the annual import, and the average value nearly \$ 3. gives \$ 1,800,000, at 10 per cent yields - - - 180,000

COTTON TWIST.—China takes off 12,000 pecul ls. average price \$ 25 gives \$ 300,000 at 10 per cent yields - - - 30,000

IRON, LEAD, TIN &c.—will, at the present annual import give the treasury - - - 7,800

WOOLLENS BROAD CLOTH.—350,000 yards are annually sold, at about \$ 1.30 per yard, thus giving \$ 455,000 at 5 per cent. - - - 22,750

LOWE ELLS.—the import is about 41,000 ps. at \$ 8 ea. gives \$328,000 at 5 p. cent. - - - 16,400

CAMLETS.—Say 12,000 ps. at \$ 26 pr. pl. gives \$ 312,000 at 5 per cent is - - - 15,600

SPICES PRODUCE.—at my lowest rate would give a revenue of - - - 20,000

\$ 1,132,350

Here is a Revenue of considerably more than a million of Dollars, without taking in OPIUM, which

would yield at \$ 120 per chest \$ 4,800,000 more; thus trebling the present Imperial Revenue, from the whole foreign trade, on Imports alone. I cannot, help thinking the Imperial Commissioners Y. E. is about to meet, might be brought to terms, even on the OPIUM point, when the great pecuniary benefit, to be derived from it, is pointed out to them to say nothing of the atrocities that would be put an end to, by legalising this obnoxious trade.

I come now to the Exports from China to Europe, India &c. and will endeavour to show, what Revenue might be expected from them. To begin with the article of TEA, at 4 taels per pecul, it would yield (assuming the whole export of the Country to be 60 millions of lbs) to the Chinese Government 1,800,000 taels or - - - \$ 2,220,000

ALUM.—the export of this article is from twenty to thirty thousand pls. and it costs about \$ 2 per pecul; this at 5 per cent will yield - - - 3,000

CAMPFUR.—the annual export of this article, has of late been upwards of 4000 pls, including what the junks carry to Singapore, in ordinary times \$ 25 is its value, this at 10 per cent yields - - - 10,000

CASSIA.—Is exported to the extent of 8000 pls, this at my rate of \$ 1 yields, (this article being entirely smuggled under existing regulations, yields no duty.)

RHUBARB.—on an export of 700 pls. at \$ 60 per pecul and a duty of 15 per cent will give - - - 6,100

RAW SILK.—As far as I can learn was exported to the extent of 7000 p'ls, tho' the quantity has decreased of late. At an average value of \$ 400 per pecul and 5 per cent duty, this would give - - - 140,000

and the consumption of the article in England would in all probability on these terms increase, the present state of the trade being very unsatisfactory.

SUGAR and SUGAR CANDY.—The export amount, to about 40,000 peculs 1/2 of each, take an average value of \$ 4 1/2 for both, and you have a duty at 5 per cent, of - - - 9,000

\$ 2,396,100

Total Revenue on the few exports named by me, add to which many other articles of which I have taken no notice, and Y. E. will see, that the moderate Scale of duties laid down in this sketch, would yield to the Imperial treasury four times what it now derives from the whole foreign trade. I do not hesitate to say that, *four taels* per pecul on TEA is a rate, that the article can well afford, and that will satisfy nine tenths of the purchasers. Could your Excellency succeed in establishing a Regular System of levying duties, putting an entire stop to the numerous and vexatious exactions, now in full operation, there is little doubt, but that the Revenue from the foreign trade, would soon amount to ten millions of Dollars, a state of things that would open the Emperor's eyes, and probably lead him to look upon the long despised *Barbarian*, with a little more placency.

On the subject of Port Charges I can speak with confidence from personal experience at various ports. On all Ships entering any of the duly authorised Ports I would levy a tonnage duty of half a dollar per ton, register measurement; this ought to cover every thing, except the charge for pilotage, which I would rate at \$ 75 for every Ship of, or more than, 1000 tons Register, and \$ 50 for those of smaller size; this to be charged each time they enter or leave a River, and no master of a Merchant vessel ought to be suffered to go up or down any River, or leave any dangerous Roadstead without a pilot.

N. B. Tonnage dues are usually charged once in six months, that is, if a vessel enters any port in China more than once in that time, she only pays tonnage dues at the first port she enters, and goes free at all others, till the stipulated time expires.

Nearly the whole of the duties proposed by me being *ad valorem*, it is of course necessary some plan should be adopted, for fixing rates, on which to levy them.

Perhaps the fairest would be to tax everything at the average price of the last seven years, fixing that term for every revival of such rates, that is, every seven years the average to be struck, and duty charged accordingly, this plan is adopted in other parts of the world, and found to answer.

Since writing the foregoing remarks on OPIUM, I have accidentally heard some conversation by different influential individuals on the point. They seem to think \$ 80 per chest, would be a sufficient tax on the drug, in this, I confess, I cannot agree with them. My object in laying on so heavy a duty as \$ 120, is to tempt the Chinese Government to get regulations framed, that will insure the

buyer of any quantity, safe conduct to his home with his property, and to put an entire stop, to the existing wholesale system of corruption on the part of European and Chinese Opium dealers. My opinion is, that no Chinese dealer would grudge \$ 120, on every chest of Bengal drug, (it might be less on *Mahua* and *Turkey*, the chests being smaller) were he certain of being permitted to carry his purchase home, unmolested by the gangs of low and unprincipled Mandarins that now infest this, and every other branch of trade. Before concluding, I may observe, that the duties to be paid to the Chinese Government, under the *New Tariff* ought, in my opinion, to be the same at all the ports opened to European traders. If higher rates are laid on at the Northern Ports, it will induce traders to stick to Canton and its neighbourhood, which, in all probability is just what the Chinese Government wishes them to do.

CIRCULAR OF THE BRITISH MERCHANTS.

In circulating the annexed correspondence, with H. Ms. Plenipotentiary, the Committee beg to solicit communications on the subject referred to, in H. E's letter dated 27th instant.

Macao, 28th January, 1843.

No. 46.

Macao, 27th January, 1843.

Gentlemen,—I forward to you a translation of a letter, addressed to me by the Imperial Commissioner, ELERFOO and his Colleagues, and request you will oblige me, by furnishing me at your earliest convenience, with the information those high Officers require.

I beg to suggest, that this letter and its accompaniments should be circulated generally, and that all British Merchants should be invited to address communications to me (either direct or through you) on the subject.

I take this opportunity to forward with the same view as to circulation, and for general information, a letter which was addressed under my authority to Messrs Bell & Co., on the 29th of last month.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

HENRY POTTINGER,

H. M.'s Plenipotentiary.

MESSRS MATHESON, BRAINE, BURN,

THOMSON, and LIVINGSTON.

ELERFOO, Imperial High Commissioner, &c. &c., KEKUNG, Governor of the "Two Kwang," and LEANG PAOCHANG, Governor of Kwangtung, &c, make this communication of their views.

In the Treaty recently concluded in Kiangnan, it is stipulated that, "at all the Ports which are to be thrown open for the resort of British Merchants, there shall be established a fair and regular Tariff of Export and Import Customs, and other Dues, which Tariff shall be publicly notified and promulgated (by the Board of Revenue,) for general information."

We find, upon examination of the subject, that on all Goods Imported and Exported, by the Merchants of any foreign countries, the Duties to be levied are laid down in an old, already existing Tariff; but that the Hong Merchants conducting Foreign Trade, have in the process of years, gradually added charge upon charge, till they amount, in some cases, to several times the sum of the Tariff-dues. Under the head of miscellaneous charges, there are things affecting the Tribute payable to the Emperor, and sundry contributions to the public service. There are also some things which the Hong Merchants find pretext for charging, to the personal advantage of themselves. It, of course behoves, that these things should be examined to the bottom, equitable arrangements should be made regarding them, and that the Tariffs should be reduced to one standard, so that the whole may be sent up to the Board of Revenue, and by it be published to the Customs-Officers of the several Ports, and conformity thereto commanded in receipt of all Customs Dues, that thus the Hong Merchants may be prevented from finding any screen, for illicit and gain hunting practices, to the creation of further evils and offences.

The High Commissioner and his Colleagues, have therefore, called upon the Superintendent of the Maritime Customs of Canton, to direct the Hong Merchants engaged in Foreign Trade, to make a complete return of all charges and fees; and lest there should be any intentional concealment or omissions therein, lest the whole should not be reported thoroughly, the High Commissioners, &c. deem it their duty also to request of the Honourable Plenipotentiary, that he will take the trouble to examine into this matter, and to direct some Officer, well experienced in, and acquainted with, commercial matters, to learn what amount of charges, is actually paid on each article of their Imported and Exported Goods, by the British Merchants, and to make a clear written report thereof; also that he will have such returns rendered into Chinese, and will send it to the High Commissioner, &c. to facilitate an equitable consideration, and arrangement of the matter. In the hope that the Plenipotentiary will cause this to be done speedily, this most necessary communication is now made.