

# THE FRIEND OF CHINA, AND HONGKONG GAZETTE. OVERLAND SUMMARY.

No. 1.

VICTORIA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH, 1843.

(GRATIS to Subscribers.)

## LATEST DATES.

ENGLAND	Aug. 5	SINGAPORE	Oct. 19
UNITED STATES	June 14	JAVA	Sept. 27
CALCUTTA	Sept. 28	MANILA	Nov. 12
BOMBAY	Sept. 14	CHUSAN	Nov. 4
SYDNEY	Sept. 2	AMOI	Nov. 7

## HONG-KONG.

We must request the forbearance of our friends in judging this our first number. We are sensible that the present issue is neither so perfect as it might, or as we wish it to be. We trust however, that by means of arrangements now in progress we shall be enabled in our next number to give our friends double the quantity of matter contained in the present, and arranged in a more convenient form. During the past month we have but little matter of interest to note. Though the sickness on the island has generally abated, we have to record the loss of several lives by the prevailing malady. Amongst the most prominent are the names of Major Eldred Pottinger, C. B., the Hero of Herat and Caubul, Lieut. Colonel Knowles C. B., of the Royal Artillery, Staff Assistant Surgeon Grahame, and Assistant Surgeon Dill of H. M. S. *Sumner*. Robberies have again become frequent, and it is known that numbers of *ladrones* have landed on the island with the view of profiting by the long dark nights.—Some notifications have been issued by His Excellency the Governor, the substance of which we give below. A Proclamation has been issued by the *Imperial Commissioner* KEVING and the authorities at Canton, declaring that the Warehouses belonging to the New Merchants (outside men), and the Old (i.e. Hong) Merchants shall stand on an equal footing, and ever after this there shall be no difference between the old and new Warehouses.

His Excellency Sir H. Pottinger in reply to a letter addressed to him by Messrs. Russell & Co. of Macao, states that the interest on Kingo's debt cannot be demanded until July 1850.

In consequence of a Memorial presented by the American Consul to the Imperial Commissioner, the duty on foreign Ginseng is altered as follows; two tenths of every 100 catties are to be rated as superior, and eight-tenths as inferior, thus the average duty is reduced from 33 taels, to 10 taels 4 mace per 100 catties.

Some American gentlemen having visited the city of Chwang-choo, H. E. the Plenipotentiary has addressed a letter to the Imperial Commissioner, assuring him of his anxiety to prevent foreigners from entering into the interior of the country; and further instructions have been forwarded to the various Consuls, to seize, and forward to Hong-Kong, all transgressors against the regulation, of whatever country they may be.

The Reverend Charles Guttsch, Chinese Secretary to the Government of Hong Kong, arrived from Chusan in H. M. Steamer *Vixen* on the 15th instant.

Barracks are about to be constructed at Sywan, for the accommodation of the European troops daily expected from England.

There were no less than four funerals in the island yesterday, viz. 4 military, 1 naval, and 2 civilians.

The Overland mail from England arrived at Hong-Kong on the 8th. November with news to the 5th August.

Much dissatisfaction is felt at the palfry awarded by the Home Government, (under the name of *compensation*) in lieu of the ceded Opium, some parties are however still sanguine enough to hope for a further payment.

Lord Saltoun, the Commander in Chief, is shortly expected to leave Hong-Kong in H. M. S. *Dido* to pay a visit to Manila.

His Excellency Sir William Parker, sails for Bengal in the *Cornwallis*, early next month.

A census of the inhabitants of the island of Hong-Kong is being taken; the increase in the number of Chinese inhabitants is enormous, and a large village is rapidly springing up on the Kowloon side on the opposite side of the harbour.

H. M. Steamer *Daguerre* sailed for Amoy and Chusan on the 2nd proximo, carrying Mr. Thomas, H. B. M. Consul for Ningpo on board.

## CANTON.

It is reported that the British Government have issued the following order:

little probability of the Chinese authorities letting a larger portion of ground than was formerly occupied by the factories.

Apprehensions are still entertained of renewed attempts at incendiarism, although the spectacle of the miserable wretches who are still daily paraded in the neighbourhood of the late fire, undergoing the punishment of the *Kwang*, is described as horrowing. Some of these poor creatures it is said have had nothing to eat or drink for ten days! As one of their own countrymen justly observes, the Chinese in their punishments, are "beastly cruel."

## NORTHERN PORTS.

From the northward the accounts of the state of Chinese feeling towards the British are most favourable. They appear (especially in Chusan) duly to appreciate the advantage of living under a Government which does not recognise the *gouging* system practised by the Mandarins, and look forward to the period of our evacuation of the island with regret. At the new ports, trade can scarcely be said to have commenced; the Chinese Authorities throwing every obstacle in the way, with the view it would appear of ascertaining how much duty they can under various pretences squeeze out of both buyer and seller. It is certain that the present regulations will require to be modified, for it is absurd to suppose that a Vessel shall be made to pay Port dues five or six times over within the space perhaps of two months. Yet this is likely to be the case at present.—A vessel sails from Hong-kong with a general cargo, hoping to find a market at Amoy; on her arrival there she pays dues, but finding prices too low, she proceeds on her voyage without discharging an article in search of a better locality. She tries in succession perhaps two, or may be all of the other ports, at each of which the demand for Port dues is repeated, until when at last she has disposed of her cargo, she finds not only that the profit of the speculation is eaten up, but that a considerable loss has been incurred. In English and Continental ports, it is we believe the custom when a vessel has once paid her port dues, that she should go free during the period of six months to any port or ports belonging to the same nation;—and we are told that the same custom is observed in the Dutch possessions in the East, and a nation whose policy is more restrictive does not exist. We hope that His Excellency will relieve the merchant from this large impost, which acts as a sad hindrance in carrying on the trade, more especially in small vessels.

## SIDNEY.

We have files of papers from Sydney to 2nd September and Port Phillip to 12th August. The public attention at the former place was engrossed by the opening of the first Legislative Council; an account of which we subjoin. From Port Phillip there is nothing new, save that there appears to be an increasing business going in the preparation of wool.

## OPENING OF THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, the 1st instant, being the day appointed by the Governor for the opening of the First Session of the new Legislative Council of New South Wales, the Members assembled for that purpose.

The gallery for strangers was crowded at an early hour, and was being occupied by members' tickets. After the necessary preliminaries, the Colonial Secretary read His Excellency's message to the House, appointing the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, and Mr. E. H. Macardir, Commissioners to administer the oath of affirmation which each member is required to take and subscribe before he can sit and vote in the council. The message also reminded the council of the necessity of electing one of their members to the office of speaker.

The majority of the members took their seats on what is considered in the House of Commons the ministerial side of the house, namely, the right of the table; but nine members occupied the left hand seats, and those were Mr. W. C. Wentworth, Dr. Blundell, Messrs. C. Cooper, Pantou, Jolly, Murray, R. Windyever, Dr. Lang, and Major Wentworth.

The Commissioners having left the table, and taken their seats, the Clerk of the Council took the chair. The Colonial Secretary delivered an opening address. Proposed by the Commander of the Forces, seconded by Mr. J. H. Macardir, Esq., that Alex. M'Leay do administer the oath.

Mr. M'Leay then administered the oath, and Mr. J. H. Macardir, Esq., do take the chair.

Mr. M'Leay then addressed the house. In the course of his speech he availed himself of a pleasant opportunity, and "traced" through the house, elected

him they would not expect him to concede his opinions; nor would he accept office on any such terms of concession."

Mr. Foster addressed the house in support of Mr. M'Leay.

Dr. Nicholson followed on the same side. Mr. R. Windyever supported the remarks of the Hon. member for Sydney.

Mr. M'Leay then replied to the observations which had fallen from both the hon. gentlemen:—

After a few observations from Mr. T. A. Murray, Dr. Lang rose.—He alluded to the withdrawal of Mr. Wentworth from the contest for the Speakership in deference to the sentiments of his constituents and some of his friends, and spoke warmly of his ability, talent, and influence; his withdrawal from the contest, he considered, was a striking example of political virtue, of patriotism, and self-denial, one which was worthy of every respect. He denied that Mr. M'Leay had any qualifications for the office he aspired to; it was objected to his opponent that he was unknown, but they knew that he had pursued his career at the university with great ability and success. The hon. member then took a brief review of Mr. M'Leay's past life, and accused him of being concerned in all the oppressive and disastrous measures which characterised the Darling administration.

After a few additional observations had fallen from Mr. Therry, denying that Mr. M'Leay had been, as stated connected with Sir Ralph Darling's government, and after Major Wentworth had briefly delivered his opinion that Mr. M'Leay was unfit for the Speakership, the house divided.

The mover and seconder of the motion having installed Mr. M'Leay in the Speaker's chair, that gentleman returned thanks in a short speech.

The council adjourned to Thursday.

Sydney Herald.—2d. Aug.

The Council has since been principally occupied with the consideration of Bills for the preservation of Solvent Debtors Property; a Bill for the restriction of interest on money to 5 P. Cent. and one for allowing a Mortgage on live stock, without removing them from their grazing ground.

The number of Insolvents daily declared was great, and their assets in nearly every instance ruinously small. Trade was dull, but there seemed a prospect of a revival under a more prudent system.

## VESSELS IN SYDNEY HARBOUR 2d. SEPTEMBER.

Alert, Ann, Artemis, Australasian Packet, Avon, Alexander Johnstone, Bee, Calypso, Clarkstone, Cornelia, Corral, Cuba, Coquette, Diana, Edward, Eleanor, Emancipation, Emma, Euphrates, Exporter, Fame, Fanny, Florentina, Gisaffe, Harlequin, Hawk, Hind, Isabelle Ann, Jane, Jean, Julia, Juno, Juno (Steamer), Joan (Brig), Louisa, Margaret, Mary Ann, Mountezuma, Morayshire, Oread, Orwell, Packfield, Perseverance, Petrel, Portenia, Rachel, Rajah Redactor, Salus, Scamander, Seahorse, Strathalasia, Standerling, Sarah Birkett, Terror, Tyrion, Thomas Lord, Hobago, Velocity Victoria, William (Barque), William (Brig), Woodlark.

## VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

By the *Louisa* we learn that his Excellency Sir J. E. WILMOT, had arrived in Van Diemen's Land, and assumed the Government on the 21st August last.

Sydney Herald.

## COMMERCIAL.

Canton 26th November, 1843.

Our Canton Correspondent writes as follows:—

Business continues in the same depressed and unsatisfactory state as it has ever since the new *Regulation* came into operation. We have to struggle against the restrictive local regulations of the fiscal authorities. Some time back, an attempt was made to get up a public meeting having in view the amelioration of the linguist system as established under the new arrangements. The meeting was convened for the highly necessary object of getting established a branch of the Hoppo's Office within the reach of, and accessible by, the foreign Merchants; so as to enable them in case of dispute, to pass their own goods through the customs. Through some misunderstanding of the Committee then appointed, this object failed to be carried out, though there was no division of opinion as to its being highly requisite.—We understand that a Memorial has been presented to H. E. Sir H. POTTINGER, drawing his attention to the subject, and hopes are entertained that from his well-known anxiety to facilitate as far as possible the Trade, he will endeavour to obtain the establishment of such an Office.

TRADE.—Canton, T. 18 & 25. The market is quiet. 18 & 25 of the Chinese market. 20, 42 and 48 of the same.

**Hungmucy,** 22 28 in market; no buyers.  
**Orange Pekoe** } 36 44 No fine left.  
     *scented* }  
     *Do. Plain* 22 27  
**Twankay** 21 23 No fine left.  
**Hyson** 40 69  
**Young Do.** 17 28 No true left.  
*Gunpowder and Imperial, Canton* 22 30  
 Total quantity of TEA exported up to 26, November 14, 646,000 lbs. from 1st. July to Thos. Fielding.  
**SILK.**—*Tsaltee*; none in the market; an arrival of a parcel of first class would certainly command \$500.  
**Tayam;** none.  
**Canton No. 1, 2, 3;** \$ 250 a 350.

**COTTON.**—*Bengal*; 7 a 7,80 Within these few days, prices for Bengal a shade better:  
*Madras*; Ts. 6 a 7. 8 Madras and Bombay, Bombay; 5 7. 0 market overstocked.  
**LONG CLOTHS.**—*Grey* \$ 2, 60 a 2, 80. Large shipments northward have relieved this market, and prices have an upward tendency.

" *White* 3, 20 3, 50.  
**AMERICAN DRILLS.** 2,00 2,20 market dull, few sales.  
**COTTON YARN.**—*Nos. 18 a 24* } \$ 21 a 24 nominal;  
     *26 a 42* } heavy stock.  
**SPANISH STRIPES.**—1,10 to 1,25 No disposition to purchase.  
**LONG ELLS.** \$ 7 to \$ 8 50. Dull; nothing doing.  
**CAMLETS.** \$ 26 a 30. In request; stock moderate.  
**IRON,** *Rod* \$ 2, 30 a 2, 50 } In little request.  
     *Bar* 1, 50. }

**LEAD.**—\$ 4,50 Stock heavy; price nominal.  
**TIN.**—Nominal, no-demand.  
     *Plates,* \$ 10 In little request.

**RICE;** Java, \$ 1,25 Outside the, demand is very large, and \$ 1,50 is readily obtained. Stock light, further supplies expected.  
**PEPPER,** \$ 4,20 a 4,30 Supply small; sale dull.  
**SANDAL WOOD;**—*Good* \$ 9 a 12 quite neglected.  
     *Inferior* 4,50, 5.

**RATTANS;**—*Good* \$ 3,30 a 3,50 Stock moderate; fair demand.  
**OPIMUM;**—*Patna* \$820 *Benares* 775, *Malwa* 780. Patna, dull and looking down. Malwa, a little firmer. At this period of the year, the Opium market is generally most active, but at present, owing to considerable supplies being expected, transactions are limited; although stocks in importers hands are small.

Exchange on London 4s 3 to 4s 4. Bills scarce. On Calcutta 30 days sight Rs.222 per \$100.

**SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.**

**VESSELS NOW IN VICTORIA HARBOUR.**

John Christian	Slains Castle
Rosa (Hulk)	Zenobia (Am.)
James Campbell	Lady Mc. Naughten
John Barry (Recg. ship)	Sri Singapore
Louisa	Crishna
Sarah (Ship)	Ruby
Mary (Sch.)	Algerine
Mercury (Recg. ship)	Cecilia
General Wood (Recg. ship)	Ina
Jardine do.	Canton
Isabella (Hulk)	Ariel
Wanderer	Ino Dalton
Scotia	Zemindar
Falkstone	Posthumous
Bombay	Possidone
Moffat	Spec
Hope,	Victoria

**HER MAJESTY'S SHIPS.**

Cornwallis, Vice Admiral Sir William Parker G. C. B.  
 Captain Richards C. B.  
 Minden, Captain Quin, Hospital Ship.  
 H. M. Steamer Driver, Commander Hayes.  
 Troop Ship Sapphires, Master Commanding J. R. Pittock.  
 Troop Ship Rattlesnake, Master Commanding James Sprent R. N.  
 H. C. Steamer Proserpine, Commander Hough R. N.

**ARRIVALS.**

NOVEMBER.			1843.
23rd Posthumous.	Milner	Chusan	
25th Possidone	Valentine	Macao	
" Spec	Harding	"	
26th Theresa	Hopwood	"	
27th Victoria	Potter	Whampoa	

**DEPARTURES.**

NOVEMBER.			1843.
23rd Anglona	Abbott	E. Coast	
" Countess of Minto	Mc. Millan	Macao	
24th William Hughes	Mc. Farlane	"	
26th Charles Jones	Mc. Fee	" & Manila	
" Omega	White	Chusan	
" H. M. S. Vixen	Com. Giffard R. N.	a Cruise	
" Velocipede	Woodward	Macao	
26th Spec	Harding	"	
" Possidone	Valentine	"	
" Warlock	Jauncey	Amoy	
" Reprise	Marquis	Singapore	
" Herald (Fr.)	Crash	"	

27th Hebe [Hambur.] Petersen Macao & Singapore  
 Theresa Hopwood Macao  
 28th Foam Greig Whampoa  
**REPORTED TO SAIL.**  
 Wanderer Chusan Shortly  
 Moffat Macao "  
 Ruby Whampoa "  
 Ina " "  
 H.M.S. Spiteful<sup>l</sup> Bombay Dec. 1st  
 H.M.S. Dido Manila "  
 H.M.S. Driver Amoy & Chusan " 2nd.

**VESSELS IN THE COAST.**

**ARRIVALS.**

NOVEMBER.			1843.
30th John Bull	Cap. Crawford	Liverpool	
" Possidone	Valentine	Macao	

**DEPARTURES.**

" Ariel	Sullivan	Macao
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**MORE REPORTS.**

" Lady	Mc. Naughten.	Batavia
" Hope	Chusan	"

**WILLIAM PEDDER,**  
*Harbour Master.*

**VESSELS AT WHAMPOA.**

Earl Balcarras, Baker, Bombay; Sultana, Wadge, do; Earl Clare, Scott, do; Caledonia, Burns, with despatch for London; Scotia, Drayner; La Belle Alliance; William Jardine, Coromandel; Ann; Simon Taylor, Brown, London; Repulse, Bombay; Hesperus; Duke of Wellington; Chioftain, Burnev, Ceylon; Thomas Fielder; Chusan; Ariadne; Lucy Wright; John Mitchell; John Brewer; Margaret Wilkie; Waverley; Rookery; Diana; Hector; Indian; Carolina; Ranger; Viscount Sandon for Liverpool with despatch; Harmony; Hashemy; Thomas Arbuthnot; John Laird; H.M.S. Childers; Splendid, (Am.) Louvre, (do.) Talbot, (do.) Mary Ellen, (do.) Stephen Surman, (do.) Cincinnati, (do.) Ronaldson, (do.) Steiglitz, (do.) Congress, (do.)

**ARRIVALS.**

Novb. 22, Akbar, (Am.) Hallett,	Liverpool
" 23, Child Harold (Am.),	Johnson.
" Helena (Am.),	Benjamin
" 14, Delhi (Am.),	Amer
" Emu (Brit.),	Jones, Hongkong.

**DEPARTURES.**

Novb. 23, Conaxer, Ridley,	Liverpool
" Lucas (Am.),	Miller, New York
" 24, Admiral Moorsom, Mc. Knight,	Batavia
" Victoria, Potter,	Bombay
" 25, Viscount Sandon, Lancaster,	London
" 26, Buckinghamshire, Mc. Gregor,	Bombay
" 27, Ingleborso, Reay,	London.

**SHIPS LOADING FOR LONDON.**

John Brewer, William Jardine, and Emu.  
 It is expected that many of the Ships which are here at present will shortly make a start for the northern ports in quest of freight.

**CALCUTTA.**

The *Water-Witch* from Calcutta arrived at Macao yesterday. We stop the press to give the following extract from the price current of 27th. September.

**OPIMUM.**—Owing to the holidays, Native holders have been anxious to dispose of a part of their Stock and the demand being languid, prices have fallen a little since our last for Patna, which is now at 1575—Benares maintains its price at 1550—395 Chests have been shipped during the week.

**QUANTITY FOR NEXT YEAR'S SALES.**

Patna	Chests	12,545
Benares	"	5,807
		18,352

which we believe is considerably less than was expected.  
 We annex a Statement of Shipments made from 19th to 26th Instant, inclusive

PATNA, BENARES.		
For Singapore, per <i>Sylph</i>	Chests	80 - 35
For China, per ditto	"	65 20
For China, per <i>Water Witch</i>	"	140 15
For Singapore, per ditto	"	0 40

285 110		
Stock in Opium Godown, 26th September, 1843		
PATNA, BENARES. TOTAL.		
NEW, . . . . .	2,043	284 2,327
OLD, . . . . .	0	0 0
	2,043	284 2,327

**DEATHS.**

2nd Nov. at Macao on board the *Countess of Minto*, Captain JOHN R. WISHART, her commander.  
 5th Nov. at Hongkong, Staff Assistant Surgeon WILLIAM GRAHAM, of fever.  
 7th Nov. at Macao, LIEUT. COLONEL JOHN KNOWLES, C. B. Royal Artillery, of fever.  
 15th Nov. At Hongkong, MAJOR ELDERD POTTER, C. B. of fever.  
 15th Nov. At the house of the Morissonian Institution Hongkong, VICE PAULST HARRIS, son of Charles Paullet Harris Esq. Manchester, England, of fever.  
 28th Nov. At Hongkong L. DILLI, M. D. Assistant Surgeon of H. M. Steamer *Spiteful*, of dysentery.

**AGENTS FOR THE SALES OF TEA.**

*Friend of China, and Hongkong Gazette.*  
 • London: Messrs. Woodward and Cochrane, Bank Road Court.