

THE FRIENDS OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY AND SATURDAY.

VOL. 13, No. 107.

VICTORIA, SATURDAY JANUARY 27th, 1844.

PRICE 1/3 per annum.

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.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Tenders will be received at this Office for Bills to be drawn by H. M. Plenipotentiary in China, on the Right Hon'ble. the Governor General of India, in Council, for two Lacs of Companies Rupees (2,00,000) in sets of Co. R. 10,000 payable at Fort William thirty days after Sight, in exchange for Mexican, or other Republican dollars of equal Standard, payable into this Treasury on or before the 1st proximo. The Bills will be delivered on the 2nd, or on receipt of the dollars.

By order,

CHAS. E. STEWART.

Treasurer and Financial Secretary.

Treasurers Office, Government House, Victoria, 9th January, 1844.

ENGINEER CONTRACT.

Notice is hereby given, that Tenders will be received at this Office until the 27th inst. at noon, from such persons as may be willing to contract for cutting and levelling ground in the Barrack Square at Chuck-Chew, according to the plan which may be seen marked out on the ground. The Tenders are to specify the price required for each portion of ground marked out, and the number of laborers engaged to be daily employed on it until completion.

EDWARD PINE COFFIN, C. G.

Commissariat,

Victoria, 20th January, 1844.

COMMUNICATION WITH INDIA, AND CHINA.—A meeting of bankers, merchants, shipowners, and others interested in opening a more speedy communication with India, was held on Tuesday, at the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street, for the purpose of considering what measures should be adopted for accelerating the arrival and despatch of the overland mails, both to and from China and British India. The arrangements contemplated include measures for insuring the arrival in London of the inward mails on or before the 1st of every month; to allow from six to eight days interval for replying to letters by the outgoing mail of the same month, thus gaining one month in the communication with India, China, &c. By arrangements to be made in India, a month may be also gained in despatching the mails from the east; and these arrangements also formed part of the subject under consideration.

The chair was taken at twenty minutes after one o'clock by J. Abel Smith, Esq., M.P.

The Chairman said he had been requested to take the chair, and the only motive which induced him to do so was the feeling that the objects, for the promotion of which this meeting had been called, were of the utmost consequence both to India and to England. No one who considered the subject could entertain any doubt as to the importance of a rapid communication between England and India. One great reason why Indian objects and Indian interests did not occupy their due share of public attention was mainly the result of the length of time which the communication with India occupied. It must be admitted, and it was, indeed, a daily increasing conviction, that the prosperity of India was of vital importance to the prosperity of England. It might be imagined, by those who were not acquainted with the subject, that the object of the present meeting, namely, to accelerate the arrival of the mails by three or four days, was an object of very little importance; but it should be remembered that those three or four days involved a whole month, in the correspondence. All those who had witnessed the effect upon the development of the resources of the country, and upon the economical management of business, of the establishment of railways in England, must be aware of the immense importance of establishing a more rapid communication with India. It was almost impossible to exaggerate the importance of establishing a more rapid communication. They had, therefore, taken the present method of giving expression to the public opinion, that it was the duty of the Government and of the East India Company to do everything in their power to accelerate the communication with India. He was anxious to correct an error which he believed extensively prevailed, and which was that this meeting had been called solely to promote the interests of the Peninsula and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. With regard to that company, all that he knew or believed was, that for some years they had been instructed by the Government, with the carrying of the mails from England to Alexandria, and that they had performed that duty with exemplary regularity. But as to that meeting putting out any particular mode by which the acceleration of the mails could be accomplished, he

thought nothing could be more improper; their only object was to impress upon the Government and the East India Company the importance of this acceleration, without at all dictating to them as to the means by which the acceleration should be accomplished. He totally disclaimed any intention of dictating either to the Government or the East India Company. It was for the Government and the East India Company alone to decide as to the means by which the acceleration was to be accomplished. All the meeting had to do was to give expression to an opinion which had been deliberately framed, that if it were possible to shorten the time occupied in carrying on the communication between England and Bombay, it would be a matter of the greatest importance both to this country and to India. It was not their object to suggest the means by which this could be accomplished, but they left to others the development of the views which they entertained. He would therefore read at length the various resolutions, which would be proposed to the meeting, in order that those present might understand precisely the objects which they had in view. The hon. gentleman then read the various resolutions as they were subsequently proposed to the meeting.

Some minutes elapsed, but no one came forward to propose any of the resolutions.

The Chairman then stated that it had been suggested to him, as no one had been asked to move any of the resolutions, that it would be better that he should at once propose them separately to the meeting. The hon. gentleman then put the first resolution:—

"That the present arrangements for the transmission of the mails *via* Egypt and the Red Sea, to and from India, China, Ceylon, Singapore, and Australia, are defective in two essential points, namely, the non-arrival of the mails from India usually until after the outward mails have been despatched, and the non-arrival of the outward mails at Calcutta, and other places in India of similar distance, until after the departure from thence of the homeward mails for Europe; that such inconvenience to the public interests results from the consequent delay in the interchange of correspondence; and that any measure which proposes to remedy these defects is deserving of the prompt attention and encouragement of the Government and the public."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then proposed the second resolution.

"That it appears to this meeting, that if, by the employment of steam-vessels of superior power and speed to those at present used to transmit the mails between Suez and Bombay, such an acceleration can be obtained as to remedy the inconvenience pointed out in the preceding resolution, and give the opportunity of replying to letters from India by the outgoing mails of the same month, not only to London, but the manufacturing towns and districts of the kingdom, an advantage of great importance would be gained for this country as well as for our Indian empire and our Australian colonies."

Mr. Elliott agreed with everything that had been said as to the importance of accelerating the Indian mails, and he should not have addressed the meeting had it not been for the occurrence of the word Bombay in the resolution. He had no hostile feeling against the Peninsula and Oriental Steam Company. On the contrary, he thought that a large debt of gratitude was due to them, both from the Indian and the English public for the exertions they had made to accelerate the communication with India. It was his wish to see them in the possession of such a contract as would enable them to exert their enterprise and skill as well as to secure a rapid communication with England for all parts of India, and not for Bombay alone. He knew that it was of the last importance to the merchants of Madras and Calcutta to receive their letters in time to answer their next overland mail, but he could not see how that could take place as long as the communication was carried on by means of Bombay. If it had been proposed that the mails should be taken to Aden and that from thence they should be despatched by branch steamers to Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta, he should not have objected to the resolution, but he certainly did object to the proposal for making Bombay the station; for as long as that was the case any acceleration would only be an aggravation of the evils at present in existence. There was a mode of obviating all this; the mails might be conveyed from Bombay by the Bombay Government to Singapore, Madras, and Bengal. No one could doubt the superiority of the sea-line of intercourse to Bombay. The superiority of the sea route over that of Bombay was established by the case of the mail of the 6th of February, which reached Madras in 24 days, and Calcutta in 47 days; whereas by the Hindostan letters reached Madras in 29 days and Calcutta in 46 days, thus effecting a saving of five days in the case of Madras and of twelve days in the case of Calcutta. And he mentioned that, in an extraordinary expedition which he had in the case of the steamer for which the Peninsula and Oriental Steam Company sought the aid of the Indian public they promised that their

steamers should reach Calcutta in 42 days. Now, if from this be deducted the proposed saving of time, which is all, or nearly all on this side of Aden, then the mail by the steam route will reach, not in 47 days, as at present—not in 45 days, as in the case of the Hindostan—not in 40 days, as proposed in the improvements now suggested, but in 35 or 36 days. He would move as an amendment that the words "Bombay and Suez" be omitted, because, as the resolution stood, it was giving those places too great an advantage over Madras and Calcutta.

The Chairman thought the most judicious course would be to abstain from suggesting any particular course for the adoption of the Government. [Hear, hear.] An impression had gone abroad in the City that the present meeting was called for the purpose of aiding a particular company. That was not the case; the only object was to have a more speedy communication with India. He thought the object of the hon. gentleman might be obtained by not naming either Suez or Bombay.

Mr. Elliott then withdrew his amendment; and the original resolution was declared by the chairman to be carried by a large majority.

The following resolution was agreed to without a dissentient voice:—

"That memorials to the Hon. East India Company and the President of the Board of Control be prepared and transmitted by the chairman, on behalf of the meeting; and that the chairman be requested to transmit copies of the resolutions and memorial to the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel, the Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the President-General, the President of the Board of Trade, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty; and to solicit their influence for the speedy carrying into effect of an improvement of such vital importance to the commercial and manufacturing interests of this country."

The fourth resolution, nominating the committee, was then put from the chair, and carried without opposition. This committee consists of the Chairman, D. Barkley, Esq., J. Cook, Esq., C. J. Hunt, Esq., and A. De Arroyane, Esq., with power to add to their number, to take measures for furthering the objects of the meeting, and to make a report at the next meeting, to be held on the 1st of December next.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was put and carried by acclamation, and he having briefly acknowledged the compliment, the meeting broke up.—*Colonial Gazette.*

ALTERATION OF THE INDIA MAILS.—The following important notice was issued on Wednesday by the command of the Right Hon. Lord Lewthorpe, and put up at the General Post-office, St. Martin's-le-Grand and the branch offices:—

"General Post-office, September 6, 1843.

"Her Majesty's Government having decided that Southampton shall be made the port of arrival and departure for the Peninsula, Mediterranean, Oriental and West India mails, instead of Falmouth; the following are the arrangements which have been sanctioned, and which will come into operation on and from the 16th inst. on which day the next packet to the West Indies will be despatched from Southampton. The respective mails to be forwarded by the packets from Southampton will be made up in London and transmitted from London to Southampton by the morning instead of the evening mail, as at present, upon the undormentioned days—viz:—

"PENINSULAR MAILS—viz., Vigo, Oporto, Lisbon, Cadix, and Gibraltar, every Thursday.

"MEDITERRANEAN—viz., Malta, Greece, and the Ionian Islands, the 1st of the month, and the Thursday nearest the 16th of the month.

"EGYPT AND INDIA—The 1st of the month.

"WEST INDIA, MEXICO, CARTHAGENA, &c.—The 2nd and 17th of the month.

"Those postmasters whose instructions direct them to send the correspondence for the above packets to Falmouth, will, upon this measure coming into operation, forward such letters to London.

"The Brazilian packet will continue to be despatched from Falmouth as at present.

"Letters to and from the Mediterranean and the East Indies, &c., intended to be forwarded by the direct packet instead of the Marselles, should be forwarded by the direct packet to Southampton.

"By command, W. L. MANNING, Secy.

Despatches for the Governor of Hongkong were sent off on Wednesday evening 6th Sept. 1843 from the Colonial Office.—*Id.*

1844. Feb. 7. P. F. A. Mac Donnell, sent to the East, by P. & O. Steamer, dec.—*The London Mail.*

"When the 1st of the month falls on Sunday, the Mediterranean and West India mails will be made up in London, and despatched on the previous morning.

"When the 2nd of the month falls on Sunday the West India, &c. mails will be made up and despatched on the following morning."

LIVERPOOL.

COTTON: On the receipt of letters from all parts of the United States, with various reduced estimates of the new crop, the market became very active, and Surat prices advanced 1d per lb. generally.

DRUGS AND DYERS.—CAMPHOR has sold at 12l to 12l 2s 6d.—CARDAMOM inquired for.—IN CASTOR OIL a very large business has been done for export, at 5d per lb for good quality; holders ask 6s.—GALLS are inquired for.—MYRANOLAMS have sold at 6s for mid Calcutta, and 10s 6d to 12s 3d per cwt for mid to good yellow Bombay.—GUM ARABIC is in very good demand.—INDIGO is very much wanted; 107 10s was paid for a small lot of mid.—OLBANUM SIFTINGS sold at 6s 6d by auction; 9s has since been obtained.—FOR SURELAC rather higher prices can be obtained.—INDIGO: At the public sale on 14th Sept., the prices paid were from par to 3d per lb higher than the London July sale.—LAC DYE continues to sell at last month's rates.—MUNSBET: In fair request.—The market being bare of Bengal Safflower, Bombay sold by auction at 46s for very low, up to 57s for good bright.—East India SENNA in good demand.—GAMBIA has sold to a fair extent, at 17s 6d; Kutch at 13s to 14s; Bengal Turmeric at 14s 6d to 15s.—VERMILION and WAX continue very scarce.—SAPAN WOOD from Bombay sold at 13l 15s to 14l per ton, which are full rates.

SILK: Since our last still higher prices have been obtained.

CHINA: Tealoe, 16s 6d to 1l 1s 6d; Yamp, 10s 10s 6d to 14s; Canton, 8s to 13s; Chin, Chew, 9s 6d to 14s.—"Bengal": Bangleah, 8s to 16s; Commercolly, 9s 6d to 18s 6d.—"Cassimabuzar", 10s 6d to 13s; Feridpore, 12s to 19s; Gonatoe, 8s 6d to 13s; Ruds to 8s; Jungypore, 8s to 13s; Madras, 10s 6d to 16s; Rangoon, 9s to 17s; Saradah, 10s 6d to 18s.—"Silk Piece Goods": Corahs, 13s 6d to 20s 6d; Choppahs and Bandannoes, 13s 6d to 15s.

SPICES.—OF CASSIA the sales have been very limited.—Ceylon "Cinnamon" has sold with spirit by auction, at 4s 9d for mid thirds, and 5s 6d for good seconds.—PEPPER has been in fair demand, at 2 1/2 for half-heavy Eastern, 2 3/4 for light, to 3 1/4 fully half-heavy.

The London Mail.

TEA has been in fair demand.—BOHEA: Canton, 6d to 8d per lb.—CONGOU: Ord, 1s 1d to 1s 1 1/2d; but mid to bid rather strong, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; blackish leaf, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; blackish leaf rather strong to strong, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; blackish leaf Pekoo flavour, 1s 9d to 2s 3d.—"Souehong": Ord, 1s 1d; fine to finest, 2s 4d to 2s 8d.—"Pouchong", common to good, 6d to 1s.—"Black Leaf Pekoo or Hung Muey", 1s 2d to 1s 4d.—"Caper": Chests, 1s to 1s 2d; boxes, 1s 4d to 1s 6d.—"Orange Pekoo": Good to fine selected, 1s 10d to 2s 8d.—"Twankay", 1s 3d to 1s 4d; fine mid Hyson kind, 1s 7d to 1s 9d.—"Hyson Skin": Common to fine, 1s to 1s 4d.—"Hyson": Common, 1s 10d to 2s; mid, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; fine to finest, 3s to 4s.—"Young Hyson": Common to fine, 1s 4 1/2d to 3s.—"Imperial": Good to fine, 2s 3d to 3s; ditto, Canton, 1s 4d to 1s 8d.—"Gunpowder": Good to fine, 2s 8d to 4s 6d; ditto, Canton, 1s 7d to 1s 10d.—Ibid.

MANCHESTER.—The improvement noticed in our last continues, and a gradual advance has taken place in the prices of most descriptions of goods. 27-inch printing cloths have advanced, and such as were bought last November at 4s 6d, are now selling at 5s 10d. Other goods remain more steady, but there is an advance of 8d to 4d on 36 and 40 inch shirting or fuce long cloths, and 1-16th to 1d on stout domestics.

There has been a steady business doing in Twist for the home trade. For India and China but few purchases have been made. Prices rate 1d per lb higher than last month.—Ibid.

EXTRAORDINARY SALES OF COTTON.—The sales of cotton on Monday amounted to not less than 25,000 bales, and an advance of 1/4d per lb. was established. This is one of the largest daily sales that has ever taken place in Liverpool.—Ibid.

VESSELS IN BOMBAY NOVEMBER 15. 1843.

LAID ON FOR CHINA.

—Forth; George IV; Anna Eliza; Ed. Robinson; Circassian; Brahmin; Corsair; John Witt; Syed Khan; Gratitude; Kelpie; Anonyma; Antelope; (Amer.); Sea Horse.—The Bombay Times.

FOR SALE.

AT the Office of the Friend of China, Blank forms of Ship's Articles, prepared according to the existing law relative to Merchant Seamen, and an Abstract of the Merchant Seaman's Act indorsed on the back.

ALSO

Charterparties and General Powers of Attorney after forms prepared by Mr. Chitty. Victoria, Hong-Kong, 13th December, 1843.

In the Press, and will be published on the 15th January THE HONG-KONG ALMANAC FOR 1844;

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Fixed and Movable Feasts, Chinese Kalander, English Kalander, Moon's Age, Sun's Declination Table, Equinox Table, Her Majesty's Government Hongkong, Consular Establishments, Her Majesty's Fleet in China with a list of Officers on board each Ship, date of appointment, pay &c. Her Majesty's Forces in China. H. E. I. Co's, do. Dangers in the China Seas, Post Office Regulations, Port and Harbour do. Table of dates of arrival of the Overland Mail in China. Do. Do. in Calcutta. List of Houses of Agency in China. Do. Do. Do. in London connected with China. Foreign Residents in Hongkong and China. The Chinese Tariff, The Duties levied in England on Chinese Exports. The report of the Assay of various coins at Canton. Do. Do. Shanghai. The new act of Parliament relative to the government of British subjects of China. Also, at the same time will be published.

THE HONG-KONG SHEET ALMANAC FOR 1844;

The publication is unavoidably delayed until the 15th instant, owing to the desire to make the work as complete as possible.

NOTICE.

From the Office Charges for Printing at the Hongkong Gazette Office will be as follows: Boat Notes - 2 per hundred. Opium Orders - 1 do. Bills of Exchange in sets - 3 do. Cheques - 1 do. Ship's Articles - 1 each or 8 6 per doz. Powers of Attorney - 1 do. or 5 do. Charter Parties - 1 do. or 6 do. Auction Bills - 2 per first 100, and 75 cents for every succeeding 100. Auction Catalogues - 3 per do. and 1 per do.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Ships, not exceeding 10 lines, 1 month 3 2 longer period, 4. General Advertisements under 19 lines first insertion 3 1 and 10 cents additional for every line exceeding ten. Repetitions one fourth of the original charge. Contracts may be entered into for long or short periods. Terms may be known on application at the Office.

TERMS; CASH.

Victoria, 8th January, 1844.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A Notice.—We suspect it no Notice. He however makes such sweeping charges that we are compelled to withhold his Communication. His allusion to the partnership in the purchase of land and the behaviour of "The Legal Adviser" to a British merchant in the sale room, we do not understand. Can he authenticate his statement, or will he favor us with his name in corroboration of it?

We have received a communication from a correspondent signed "Subject", in reply to that of "A Citizen" which appeared in our last issue. The difficulty of deciphering "Subjects" writing prevents our publishing his letter in this number; we shall endeavour to give it a place in our next.

C. W. Murray.—The fault rests not with us: we have done everything in our power to remedy the irregular delivery at Macao. On the day of publication the papers are invariably sent off through the Post-office.

PUBLICOLA.—In our next.

The publication of the FRIEND OF CHINA, AND HONGKONG GAZETTE, commenced on Tuesday last at 6 o'clock A.M.

LATEST DATES. ENGLAND Oct. 6 MANILA Dec. 29 UNITED STATES Aug. 15 SYDNEY Nov. 19 THE CAPE Oct. 16 SHANGHAI Dec. 24 SINGAPORE Dec. 20 CUBAN Jan. 1 BOMBAY Nov. 15 AMOY Jan. 17 CALCUTTA Nov. 10 CANTON Jan. 17 Peking Dec. 9 ST. HELENA Aug. 27 JAVA Nov. 25

THE FRIEND OF CHINA, AND HONG-KONG GAZETTE.

VICTORIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th 1844.

Universal dissatisfaction prevails amongst the resident holders of land in the Colony, in the course the local Government is pursuing in adjusting the land tenure, and the claims of those holding

under grants made by the Deputy Superintendent, "Charged with the Civil Government of the Island". Complaints are made that it was an act of injustice on the part of Government, to sell Lands without previously giving notice to the original holders; for it is urged, that by not having had notice of the intention of Government to resume and sell such lots of ground as they might be pleased to take from them, they were placed in a most disadvantageous position, and one in which they could not protect themselves. Viewing the stringent terms, and the course the Local Government have taken with regard to land, we are free to confess that just grounds of complaint exist. It would have been far preferable if they had followed the system now recognised in our Australian Colonies. In them the Governor or Lt. Governor is obliged, before selling land by Auction, to notify by Proclamation with all practicable precision what are the Lands to be offered for Sale, and what are the upset prices at which they will be offered, also the tenure, conditions &c. It is perhaps to be regretted that this course was not adopted in this Colony; still we would assure our readers that we entertain too high an opinion of H. E. Sir Henry Pottinger's sense of justice to imagine, for a moment, that the interests of the original holders of Land will be prejudiced, by the sale. We feel convinced that H. E. in every instance will adjust the claims of parties who have built and improved their grants, on just and equitable principles.

There is a report afloat in the town that the "Earlie", having a portion of H. M. 18 Regt. on board, has been lost on the Pratas Shoal; and that she is one of the wrecks seen by the Duke of Wellington; we cannot give credence to this rumour, because had either of the wrecks seen by the Duke of Wellington been that of the "Earlie", she surely must have seen some one about the wreck, for it is not probable that the large number of people on board could have all perished. It was expected the Admiral would despatch a Steamer to the Pratas to look after the wreck.

An attempt to force an entrance into the Godown of Messrs. Jamieson, How & Co. near West Point, was made by a Band of about 70 Ladrones, about 1 o'clock on the morning of Sunday 21st instant. The robbers first seized and bound the Watchman on duty upon the Wharf, then went to some masons, who slept in a Mat hut by the landing place, and by threats compelled them to be quiet, after which they fired off two muskets and proceeded to force the doors, with axes, crow bars &c. The people inside made the signal for assistance, which was immediately heard and answered by Mr. Edger at the Bungalow on the hill at the back of the Godown. The inmates of the Bungalow hastily armed themselves, and the servants and coolies voluntarily mustered with Pikes. Meantime the noise and battering at the doors indicated that a formidable party was collected encouraging each other to persevere. The small force from the Bungalow proceeded down the hill as expeditiously as possible, but the preparations for resistance frightened the robbers, who decamped to the Westward. The affair scarcely lasted a quarter of an hour, and the Ladrones unfortunately escaped unpunished. They kept close to the wall of the Godown, so that the shots from the loop holes took no effect, and one of the coolies inside injured his hand by the barrel of his pistol parting from the stock, in consequence of being doubly charged.

[The above is authenticated, and we are moreover informed that Mr. Edger received warning on Saturday that a party of Ladrones was on the island and intended to attack the Godown. It is matter of much regret that the villains escaped, we would recommend in the event of similar attacks that the parties stationed inside the Godown should reserve their fire until they can use it effectually, even until a breach is made in the door or wall. One volley well aimed would probably be sufficient, and the advantage to be gained by the then certain capture of some of the wounded would be great, and probably lead to disclosures which would render the residence of some two or three apparently honest Chinamen in the island no longer desirable. We trust that the attention of the Legislative Council will be speedily directed to the formation of an efficient Police force; [Ed.]

We have been favoured by a friend with the perusal of a letter from Shanghai, dated the 9th inst. from which we make the following extracts: Affairs here in general wear a favorable aspect. Trade has lately materially improved in fact the market is swept of piece goods. It has been to judge from the number of Junks continually coming and going—about 2000 are constantly in the harbour, and amongst them a great many very large ones, nearly 1000 Tons burden, the trade of this place must be enormous and no doubt will ultimately offer a vast vent for British Manufactures and a splendid field for British enterprise and Capital. The British Consul deserves the highest encomiums for the energetic and firm manner he treats with the local Authorities, and the liberal manner by which he endeavours to facilitate the legitimate trade between the natives and foreigners. Duty is only paid on such goods as are actually sold and landed; that affords evidence of a wise and prudent commercial policy being worked out in this important emporium. If Batavia is only left un-

hacked by foolish orders, I only hope he may be left to carry out the good work he has so ably begun. How different is the policy pursued at Canton? There you have to pay duty on all the cargo, and are met with linguists vexatious interference; here every encouragement and facility is afforded to the Merchant, and the greatest confidence is placed in the statements of foreigners as to import cargoes, contents of packages, weight &c., &c. In corroboration of this I may tell you, that in no instance has it occurred that cases or Bales have been opened for examination at the Custom house.

There are five British Merchant vessels Anchored close off the town viz, Eliza Stewart; Litherland; George 4th; Frankland; Wanderer. The Opium Craft have had a hint to shift their quarters; they have moved down the river, and take up a station a bout 2 Miles off-Woosung.

The foreign residents here at presents are Capt. Balfour, H. M's. Consul, Mr. Wise, Mr. J.D. Gibb, Mr. Evans, Mr. White, Capt. Wade.

Tea and Silk are coming in freely, but the high rates demanded prevent purchases, these excessive rates must shortly give way, when you may expect large shipments hence.

Malwa in good demand a 880 \$.

The following particulars of a wreck seen on the Pratas shoal have been kindly furnished us by a friend.

Extract from the log Book of the Duke of Wellington from Bombay. James Hargraves Commander.

Thursday, 18th January, 1844, 4 p. m. Pratas shoal bearing about N. W., distant 10 miles: observed a vessel to the westward apparently on the starboard tack, at 5 prepared to tack, saw the same vessel her head to S. E. with agreed list to windward, all sails clewed up and evidently on the reef, night coming on, wind increasing and threatening a gale, obliged to tack ship and stand to the eastward; wind increasing with heavy gusts, reefed mainsail at 8; gale increasing with thick weather, double reefed topsails and foresail, midnight, blowing a heavy gale with hard squalls.

Friday, 19th 8 a. m. standing in for the shoal, thick weather at 9.30, saw breakers on the lee quarter and the wreck of the vessel lying high out of the water the sea making a complete breach over our squared yards and ran down the edge of the reef to the wreck to render assistance.

At noon; wreck bore from us N. W. 3 or 4 miles, could see no signs of any person on board and no signal of any kind made from the vessel; at 1 p. m. bore to, head in shore towards the reef, but could perceive no signs of boats; at 2 p. m. filled and stood round the south and western edges of the reef; breakers within about 2 miles; at 3 p. m. the island bore N. E., distant about 5 miles; saw the remains of three other wrecks on the south extreme of the shoal, could discover no signs of boats; at 4 p. m. stood to the N. N. W. on our course.

The vessel proved to be a barque of about 600 tons with painted ports, long top-gallant masts and top-gallant yards across. Flying jib-boom out, and topsails and courses hauled close up; top-gallant sails and jibs stowed.

We are happy to announce the safe arrival of the long missing ship "Emperor"; and to lay before our readers an authenticated account of her voyage from Anger to this Port.

The Emperor, Capt. M. M. Keane, from Liverpool, after a fine run of 100 days arrived off Anger on the 12th October. Passed through the straits of Banca, and on the 19th entered the China Sea: 24th made pulo Aor; was becalmed between that and the South Natunas 17 days. November the 10th in Lat 8° 39' N. Long 109 17' E., the chief officer having the watch on deck, from midnight till 4 A. M. allowed the ship to luff up from N. W. to North, in the face of a squall, which had been gradually gathering for half an hour; when the vessel was struck by the strength of it, he only clewed down his Fore Royal, and permitted one of the men to ask him to clew down the main Royal; the Topmast, main topmast head and main top-gallant mast were carried away, cleared the wreck and bore up for Pulo Condore to refit. On the 12th November anchored in Great bay. Refitted, watered and left for Hongkong on the 27th, beating up for the Palawan passage, with strong head winds till the 12th December, when finding it impracticable to get up the Palawan passage, against the N. E. Monsoon stood through the Balabac passage, into the Sooloo Sea, beating up past Mindanao, Negroes, and Panay Islands till the 30th December, when we anchored in Antiquo Bay, Panay, for provisions. Left on the 31st of January without being able to procure a supply of stock; beat up to Batangas, Luzon, 5th anchored there for stock, which we procured from the Alcalde, who in the most friendly and liberal manner presented the Captain with it. Sailed on the 11th and arrived in Hongkong bay on the 24th January 1844.

CANTON COMMERCIAL REPORT: About 1844. THE QUOTATIONS ARE VERY NARROW.

Size Tenches @ 495 @ 210 Demand very scarce about 10 Bales, 110 @ 210.

to this date, including the Cargo of the Ship Ann, reaches about 1700 Bales, consisting mostly of fairly good to first class. It is expected that considerable supplies will shortly make their appearance from the Northward. If so the seasons export will be raised to fully 3000 Bales; this quantity will be amply sufficient to supply the limited demand at Home for Tatsoe silk; and, in all probability, cause the high rates ruling, by the last advices, to recede.

COTTON Bombay 5 1/2 a 7 1/2 Enquiry only for fine descriptions.
MADRAS 5 8 a 7 5. Nominal. Nothing doing.
BENGAL 7 a 8 1/2.

LONGCLOTHS Grey \$2,70 a 3,10 In demand.
White \$3,40 a 4. 15. do.
COTTON Yarn No. 15 a 32 \$ 23 to 25 No. 38 a 42 \$24, to 35

An enormous unsold Stock, with heavy expected arrivals, and the absence of all demand, will prevent any improvement in price for many months.

SPANISH Stripes \$1,10 a 1,25.
LONG ELLS Scarlet ,, 9, 30. Saleable.
Do. assorted ,, 7, a 7,75.
CAMBLETS ,, 25 a 28. no market.
IRON BAR ,, 2, 70.
" NAIL ,, 2,60.
" HOOP ,, 3.
LEAD Pig ,, 4,75 a 4,80. Little demand.
The importation of American precludes all chance of English sales until home prices are much reduced.
PEPPER \$6 a 6,50.
SALPETRE ,, 7 a 6.
ORPUM Patna ,, 675 a 680.
" Benares ,, 625 a 630.
" Malwa ,, 700 a 720.

NOTICE.

TENDERS will be received at this office until Friday the 2d. February, from such persons as may be willing to contract to furnish the undermentioned articles for the use of the Troops and Hospitals viz.

- 100 Privy Tubs.
- 50 Water Tubs.
- 40 Chopping Tables.
- 60 Cane Bottomed Cots.
- 6 Tables 6 1/2 by 3 1/2.
- 6 Blocks.
- 6 Privy Seats.

To be delivered within one month from the date of Agreement.

Patterns of the above may be seen on application at the Barrack Master's office.

EDWARD PINE COFFIN, C. G.

Commissariat,
Victoria, 26th January, 1844.

CONTRACT FOR WORKS.

Sealed Tenders will be received until the Tenth of February next at Noon from Persons willing to contract for forming streets, building sewers, and for other works in the Town of Victoria. The Drawings and specifications may be seen at this Office after the 3rd of February.

A. T. GORDON,

Land officer.

Land Office, 26th January, 1844.

FOR SALE.—A very excellent Grey Gelding, fit either for saddle or harness, perfectly quiet, and price moderate. Apply to,

Mr. CARPENTER,

Commissariat.

Victoria, 26th January, 1844.

NOTICE.—Any persons who may have claims against the Royal Artillery cañon are requested to forward the Same to the Royal Artillery Barracks by the 31st inst.

Victoria, Hongkong, 24th January, 1844.

AUCTIONEER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.

J. B. PAIN.

QUEEN'S ROAD OPPOSITE CHINAM'S HONG.

BEGS to acquaint his friends and the public generally that he has commenced business as an Auctioneer and General Commission Agent, and in returning thanks for all past favours, craves by unremitting attention and punctuality to merit a continuance of their support in this his new undertaking, at the same time to assure them and all those who have promised their patronage that no exertion on his part shall be wanting to confirm him in their good opinion.

The business will be conducted entirely on Cash principles so that his prospects will be handed over immediately on the completion of Sale. His new premises are now ready for the reception of every description of goods intended for public or private Sale.

Queen's Road opposite Chinam's Hong

Victoria, 27th January, 1844.

FOR SALE.—A few Tons of English Coal at \$ 10 per Ton, Apply to,

J. B. PAIN.

Queen's Road,

Victoria, 27th January, 1844.

FOR SALE.—At the Stores of the undersigned Superior Palp and Brown Sherry, Bottled Ald and Porter, Mass Stores of every description, Ship Chandlery &c.

J. B. PAIN.

Queen's Road,

Victoria, 27th January, 1844.

NOTICE.—We the undersigned beg to announce that we have this day established ourselves as Commission Agents at Hongkong, under the firm of DISANDT & TIEDEMAN.

D. DISANDT.

E. H. TIEDEMAN,

Victoria, Hongkong, 1st January, 1844.

FOR SALE.—Small consignments of the following Goods, viz. Sheet Copper and Nails, a few Marr's Fire Proof Iron Safes and Chests, Batavia Arrack, Sherry and Brandy in Wood, Superfine Champagne, Port, Madaga, Hoek, Sherry, and Claret in dozen Cases Brands warranted; a good assortment of Oilman's Stores, Coconut, Turpentine and Paint Oil French and English Corks.

FOR SALE.—A small parcel of good No. 3 SUPERIOR MANILLA GIGARS, Boxes of 500 each, just received per Duchess of Cumberland.

Apply to

DISANDT & TIEDEMAN.

Oswald's Hill, Opposite to the Premises of Messrs, GIBB LIVINGSTON & Co.

NOTICE.—The undersigned have this day been appointed attorneys for Messrs. D. Wilson & Co. Parties indebted to said Establishment are therefore called upon to settle their accounts with

DISANDT & TIEDEMAN.

Victoria, Hongkong, 10th January, 1844.

JUST RECEIVED.

AMERICAN Beef, Superfine Flour, American Cyder, a large Invoice of new publications, Preserved Mackerel, Black Beaver Hats, Silk and Cotton Horse Furniture, Chintzes, Handkerchiefs and sundry other articles.

FOR CASH ONLY.

Apply to

P. TOWNSEND,

Victoria, 12th January, 1844.

FOR SALE.—E. I. Cos Bills on Bengal.

Apply to

GIBB LIVINGSTON, & Co.

FOR SALE.—A few Cwt. of prime English Cheese, at moderate prices; also Pickles, Sauces, Mustard, &c. by

Mr. H. J. CARR.

Nemesis Tavern.

Victoria, 18th January, 1844.

B. KENNY M. D.

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON &c.

Has fitted up a Chinese Vessel as a residence at Wharpoon, moored opposite the Orange Grove, a little above Junk river.

DICKENS & McINTYRE.

(Oswald's Row, Queen's Road.)

HAVE just received a fresh supply of very Superior Oilman's Stores, consisting of White Wine vinegar, Mushroom and Walnut Ketchups, Essence of Anchovies, Harveys, Reading, Beesitak, Pomata, John Bull, City of London and Camp Sauces, Salad Oil, French Olives and Capers, Durham Mustard in one and half lb bottles, Chili, Raspberry and Tarragon Vinegars, Assorted Pickles.—Also a Supply of Gooseberry, Strawberry, Raspberry, Green Gage and Black Currant Jams, Raspberries, Damsons, Red and Black Currants, Green Gages, Gooseberries and Kentish and Morrell's Cherries, for Paris &c., Westphalia and Cumberland Hams, Cheshire Cheese, English Butter, &c. &c.

JAMES WELCH

CHEMIST DRUGGIST &c. &c. &c.

Queen's Road Victoria.

RETIRES his most grateful thanks to the Officers of H. M. Navy, the Military Masters of Merchant Vessels, and the public of Victoria for the very liberal support he has experienced since his commencement in business, and to inform them that he has lately made considerable additions to his Stock of Medicines, Remedies, Ointments, &c. &c. &c. He further assures them that any commands with which they may be entrusted in the preparation of Prescriptions, Receipts, Mortar Ointments &c. will be most faithfully attended to.

1st January, 1844.

ALLIANCE FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF LONDON.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents in China, for the above Company, are prepared to accept Assurances at Hong-Kong, as under:—
1st.—On Buildings of Brick or Stone, covered with Tiles, Slates, Metal, or other incombustible material, together with their contents, when such Buildings are isolated from all others.
2nd.—On such Buildings and their contents, when not so isolated, at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum. Assurances for 6 months $\frac{1}{2}$ of the annual rate, will and for 3 months $\frac{1}{3}$ be charged.
 Of the 1st Class, Assurances, for the present, will be accepted to the extent of £10,000 only on one risk. And of the 2nd Class, to the extent of £8000.

A Building and its contents taken together, form one risk. Thus the above sums may be underwritten either on a Building alone, or the contents alone; or, part on the Building, and part on the contents.
 No Assurance is to be considered in force until the Premium be paid.
 Amongst other advantages of the Company, the Assured will be entitled to participate in the profits after five successive payments.
 Parties applying for Assurances will please send in full particulars of the risk to be taken; any deviation from which, without the consent of the Company, will vitiate the Policy.

JARDINE, MATHEWSON, & Co.,
 Agents in China.

Macao, 12th July, 1843.

The Copartnership existing between **DIROM, CARTER & Co.** at Bombay, **DIROM, RICHMOND & Co.** at Liverpool, and ourselves in China, having expired by its own limitation on the 31st July last, we beg leave to announce, that in future, our business will be carried on here, under the firm of **DIROM, GRAY & Co.**; at Bombay under the firm of **DIROM, HARRIS & Co.**; and at Liverpool under the firm of **DIROM, DAMPSON & Co.**

Macao, 1st August, 1843.

NOTICE.—The undersigned have established a House of Agency in China, under the firm of "Boustead & Co." in connexion with Messrs Butler, Sykes and Co. Manila, and Messrs Sykes, Schwabe and Co. Liverpool. The partners in our several establishments continue as before: Mr. Edward Boustead managing in China, Mr. Benjamin Butler at Manila, Mr. Gustav Christian Schwabe at Liverpool, and Mr. Adam Sykes at Singapore.

BOUSTEAD, SCHWABE & Co.
 Singapore, 11th August, 1843.

NOTICE.—Mr. John Mackenzie has been admitted a partner in our firm from 1st August last.

LECKIE & Co.

Bombay, 21th September, 1843.

NOTICE.—The undersigned beg to acquaint the Public, that he has taken the **ALBION HOTEL**, and will conduct it under his immediate superintendence, and hopes thereby to ensure the comfort of Families and others, and to meet the patronage which that Establishment has heretofore had.

A. H. FRYER

Macao, 31st August, 1843.

NOTICE.—Goods and merchandize of all descriptions received and carefully stored in spacious airy and secure Brick Godowns situated 18, and 56 Queens Road upon moderate terms.

Goods placed [except combustibles] in Godown 18, Queen's Road can be insured from risk of Fire.

apply to **N. DUUS.**

Goods received and sold on Commission 18 Queen's Road.

Victoria, November, 1st 1843.

NOTICE.—Mark Moss of Singapore, Merchant, having by Indenture, dated the 15th of October instant, assigned all his Property whatsoever to the Undersigned, in Trust to be realised and applied towards satisfaction of the Claims of such of his Creditors as should within six months from the date thereof consent to, or subscribe the said Indenture, by writing or letter addressed to the said Trustees or either of them, signifying their intention of so doing. The Creditors of the said Mark Moss are hereby requested to do so by themselves, or their Agents and at the same time to send in their claims. And notice is hereby given, that the Creditors who do not consent to, or subscribe the said Indenture within the said period, shall not participate in the benefit of the said assignment.

The Trustees also hereby require all persons indebted to the said Mark Moss to make payment to them on behalf of the said Trust Estate, without delay, of their respective debts.

JOHN MYRTLE
ROBERT MAC EWE Trustees
 Singapore 20th October 1843.

In reference to the above Notice the Undersigned is authorised by Power of Attorney, to act for the above named Trustees and requests immediate attention of all concerned to the foregoing notice.

ERSKINE DUNCAN.
 Victoria, Hong-Kong,
 27th November, 1843.

CONSULAT DE FRANCE EN CHINE.

AVIS.—Par sesdites dispositions, on donne à l'avenir d'un Mr. CHATELAIN, leveur central, un appartement au Consulat de France en Chine.

COMTE DE RATTLMENTON.

Macao, le 17 Aout, 1843.

AVIS.—Les Français qui se trouvent, ou se trouveront en Chine, sont prévénus qu'ils veulent s'approprier les propositions du Consulat de France et de l'Administration des Douanes de la Chine, ou en obtenir l'avis & l'assentiment, sur les traités, les lois ou ordonnances aux sujets de S. M. le Roi des Français, devront se faire inscrire sur le registre matricule du dit Consulat, ou se présenter eux-mêmes, ou, en cas d'impossibilité en adressant au Consulat une requête, où ils déclareront, sous serment, qu'ils n'ont encouru la perte de leur qualité de Français, par aucune des circonstances spécifiées dans l'art. 17 du code civil, tels que la naturalisation, l'acceptation d'un territoire par le Roi, de fonctions ou publications faites par un gouvernement étranger, et enfin, par tout établissement fait en pays étranger, sans esprit de retour.

Le Consul de France.
COMTE DE RATTLMENTON.

NOTICE.—The Partnership lately existing under the name or firm of **J. B. Pain & Co.** has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, all persons having claims against the firm are requested to prefer them on or before the 31st inst.—and all parties indebted to the same are required to make payment of their accounts within the same period to Mr. J. B. Pain in whose name the business from this date will be conducted.

J. B. PAIN & Co.

Victoria, January, 1st 1844.

NOTICE.

MESSRS. CARTER & Co. beg to advertise their having commenced business in Hongkong as Builders Contractors &c., and that from their long experience in England and their arrangements here they flatter themselves they will be able to complete any work with that punctuality, and in that workmanlike manner that will ensure satisfaction to those gentlemen who may honor them with their patronage.

Any communication addressed to Messrs. C. & Co., of the care of Mr. Welch, Chemist and Druggist Victoria will meet with prompt attention.

NOTICE.

The undersigned is authorized by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of H. Majesty's Land Forces in China, to receive all packages addressed to the Officers or Messes of any of the Regiments, employed during the late war.

N. DUUS.

Hongkong, 15th April, 1843.

NOTICE.

The following packages addressed to the Officers and Messes of H. M. and H. E. I. C's Regts serving during the late war are lying in the Godowns of the Undersigned.

Cap. F. Cotton Engineers	3 packages.
" Ilderton H. M. 98th Regt.	1 do.
Sir W. Mc Gregor Bart, 18 " R. I.	2 do.
Mess. 6 " N. I.	1 do.
Col. A. B. Dyce 41 " "	1 do.
Cap. Badwood Madras Engineers	1 do.
Lieut. Ramefett do	1 do.
" I. F. Erskin 2nd Regt. N. I.	1 do.
" F. S. Dewberrey H. M. 55th	1 do.
" I. C. Shaw Engineers	1 do.
" R. S. Dobbie 39th Regt.	1 do.
Sergt. Maj. Wards 2 " "	1 do.
F. Welch 55 " "	2 do.

The parties to whom the packages are addressed are requested to make application for them.

N. DUUS.

Victoria, January 1, 1844. Queen's Road.

JUST RECEIVED for sale by the undersigned, Beer in Cask, Oil Cloth Table Covers, Paints, and Paint Oil, Blankets, Hats, Butter, Varnish, Pitch, Vinegar, Spars, Coir Rope &c. &c.

Apply to **P. TOWNSEND.**

Victoria, 28th December, 1843.

FOR SALE.

The following Wines received ex Foam from Messrs. Sandeman Florsten and Co. London.

Fine old Pale and Brown Sherry } In wood and bottle.
 Fine old Madeira }
 Fine old Port }
 Sauterne, Moselle, Burgundy and Champagne.

Apply to **LINDSAY & Co.**

Macao, 1 January, 1844.

FOR SALE.

At the Godowns of the Undersigned
 Port Wine, in 3 and 6 doz. cases.
 Sherry do. do. do.
 Claret do. do. do.

HENRY, HUMPHREYS & Co.

Victoria, 22nd November, 1843.

FOR SALE.

FIVE SUPERIOR London built Carriages with Harness &c. complete; also a complete set of Rosewood Drawing Room Furniture just arrived.

Apply to

HENRY HUMPHREYS & Co.

Victoria, 22nd November, 1843.

FOR LIVERPOOL.



THE QUEEN MAB, R. Ainley Commander, having the greater part of her cargo shipped and will have immediate despatch.

Apply to **GIBB LIVINGSTON & Co.**
 Hongkong or Canton.

Victoria, 16th January 1844.

FOR SALE.



The new and superior built Iron Barque "JOHN LAIRD" 270 Tons N.M.—Sails well carries a large Cargo and is an excellent Sea boat. Masts and Yards fitted in the best style for light working, Standing and running rigging of bolt rope yarn, best London made Sails; One suit and a half quite new, one half worn of best Navy canvas, Anchors and Gables complete, Patent Windlass, Iron Tanks and Buis, Two new quarter boats with awning and Sails, Launch and Xawl 30 Tons new small sized Kedge, Guns, arms and ammunition complete in Patent barrels; 2 Pitch pine spars 50 ft. by 14 ins. and others. Is well adapted for a Coaster or for short voyages. Could be navigated with a very limited crew, and is ready to start at a days notice.

Apply personally or by letter to the Commanding Officer on board at Whampoa.

FOR LONDON DIRECT.



THE Barque HASHEMY, Captain William Buckle having greater part of her cargo engaged, will have quick despatch. For freight or passage apply to Captain Buckle on board, or

BENJAMIN SEARE.

Canton.

FOR SALE.—Bally Rice, ditto Coffee, Copenhagen Cherry Cordials in Pints, Manila Cordage, Okum, Corks, Singapore Planks, Anchors and Chains, Ar rack, Bengal Chitney, Butter in Kegs, Candles, Bengal Rice, Ditto Droll, Coal Tar, Swedish Ditto, and Pitch; a variety of other articles.

At the Godowns of **JOHN BURD & Co.**

FOR SALE.—Ghee, Paints and Paint Oil. Beer in Hhds.

At the godowns of **JOHN BURD & Co.**

Victoria, 20th September, 1843.

TO LET.

THE Bungalow & out Offices belonging to Franjee Jemsetjee Esq. situate on the Queen's Road near to Messrs. Maevicir & Co's premises. For particulars apply to Franjee Jemsetjee, Macao, or

HOLLIDAY WISE & Co.

Victoria, December 16th, 1843.

FOR SALE.

SYCEE SILVER in large Ingots.

HUGHESDON, CALDER & Co.

FOR SALE.

THE well-known Lorcha DODGE.

Apply to **ERSKINE DUNCAN.**

Victoria, 26th December, 1843.

TO LET.

TWO GODOWNS in that range of buildings called the Albany Godowns, capable of containing about 2000 Bales of Cotton. Rent \$50 per month each.

Apply to **A. McCULLOCH.**

46 Queen's Road.

Victoria, Hong-Kong, 12th December, 1843.

FOR SALE.—Superior Port and Sherry; Lisbon; Madeira; Claret; Champagne; Sauterne; Chablis; Cortaillod; Cider; pale and dark Cognac in wood and bottle; Geneva; Spum Candles; Blacking; Table covers; Sauces; Oil; Mustard; Pins; Patent Hat guards; Nails and Tacks of sizes; best French corks; Cheese; Pocket compasses; Carpenter's tools &c. &c.

apply to **J. C. POWER.**

Victoria, 13th January, 1844.

FOR SALE STOVES of various kinds, and soap piping. Apply at the Godowns of Holliday Wise & Co. 15.

JOHN RITSON.

Victoria, 9th November, 1843.

The following are the sole Agents for recieving Subscriptions to the Friend of China and Hongkong Gazette.

BATAVIA. A. Von Schrepsberg Esq.
SINGAPORE. B. Little Esq.
CALCUTTA. Messrs. T. Hyde Gardiner & Co.
LONDON. Messrs. Woodward & Castle, Newgate St.

From the 1st January, 1844, The Friend of China and Hongkong Gazette, will be published every Tuesday and Saturday.

Price Twelve Dollars per annum payable in advance. Victoria, 21st December, 1843.