

THE FRIEND OF CHINA

AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.

VOL. V. No 17.

VICTORIA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1846.

PRICE \$ 12 per annum.

Terms of Subscription to the "Friend of China and Hongkong Gazette," per annum \$12. Six months \$7. Three months \$4; all paid in advance. Credit prices, \$14, \$8. 50, and \$5, for the periods of twelve, six, and three months respectively: Single numbers to Subscribers 25 cts. each, to Non-Subscribers 1 Rupee. Partis calling or sending to the office for papers are requested to pay cash. Terms of Advertising.—Ten lines and under \$1; additional 10 cents per line. Repetitions one third of the first insertion. Ships: First insertion \$2; subsequent insertions 45 cent. Advertisements to have written on the face of them, the number of times they are required to appear, otherwise they will be published until countermanded. In all instances, those who are not Subscribers, must pay in advance.

FOR SALE OR CHARTER.

TO any part of the coast of China the Schooner, "STARLING," 109 Tons Register, G. Chape Commander, and now lying at the Cumsingmoon anchorage. For further particulars apply to D. LAPRAIK, 1 Wellington Terrace, Hongkong, or to the Commander on board. Victoria, 30th January, 1846.

FOR SINGAPORE AND BATAVIA.

THE Bally Brig "SIEWA," will be despatched as above on the 4th proximo. For freight or passage, apply to, BURD, LANGE & Co. Victoria, 24th February, 1846.

TO LET.

A HOUSE situated on the North Side of Gough Street. Apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

TO LET.

TWO Convenient Houses in Gough Street, with Verandahs, each containing nine Rooms, exclusive of outhouses, enquire of ROWLAND REES, Pottinger Street. Victoria, 6th December, 1845.

TO LET.

A House in Gough Street. Apply to JOHN CARR.

FOR SALE.

MARINE Lot No. 64 Situated between the lots of Messrs. MACVICAR & Co. and FRAMJEE JAMSETJEE Esq., measures 200 feet sea frontage, and altogether is a very desirable lot. For further particulars apply to FLETCHER & Co.—Hongkong, or DIROM, GRAY & Co.—Canton. Victoria, 1st July, 1845.

TO LET.

THE premises known as the office of the "Friend of China," three Houses, situate in Wellington Street, commanding a fine view of the bay; a Shop and Store situate on the Queen's Road, in a central part of the town. Early possession can be given. For further particulars apply to R. OSWALD. Victoria, 19th December, 1845.

TO LET.

THE upper part of a commodious and will built dwelling House containing seven rooms with servants rooms, and outhouses with stabling. For further particular apply to, D. LAPRAIK. No. 1 Wellington Terrace D'Aguiar Street. Victoria, 24th October, 1845.

TO LET.

THE HOUSE in Queen's Road lately occupied by Phillips Moore & Co. Apply to HUGHESDON & Co.

TO LET.

A spacious bungalow on Caine's Road. Apply to HUGHESDON & Co. Victoria, 30th January, 1846.

TO LET.

SEVERAL convenient tenements situated in Wellington and Stanley Streets. The terms which are very moderate, may be known by applying to BURD, LANGE & Co. Queen's Road, Jany, 30th, 1846.

TO BE LET.

THAT Commodious House, now occupied by Mr Gabriel; as the "British Hotel," situated in Stanley and Graham Streets. Possession can be given on the 4th of March, 1846. For further particulars apply to C. MARKWICK, Auctioneer. Pottinger Street, Victoria, 13th Feby. 1846.

NOTICE.

PARTIES receiving letters directed to the late C. LLOYD, Esq. are requested to forward the same to the office of the undersigned at Macao. All charges or postage on the same will be paid on delivery. M. T. SENN VAN BASEL, His Nethl's Majesty's Consul, Executor. Nethl's Consulate, Canton, 3rd October, 1845.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned has been appointed Agent at Macao for the India Insurance Company of Calcutta; and is ready to grant Policies, payable in London, Liverpool, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Penang, Singapore and China. J. J. REMEDIOS. Macao, 1st February, 1846.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY.

MESSE DENT, BEALE & Co. are authorized to issue Policies on behalf of the Society at Shanghai, payable in Hongkong, Calcutta, Bombay, and London. DENT, & Co. Secy. Union Insurance Society. Victoria, 1st January, 1846.

FOR SALE.

MADEIRA in Pipes, Hogsheads and quarter Casks from the well known House of Stoddart & Co. Port in Cases of 3 dozen each. Hodgson and Abbots Pale Ale in Hogsheads. Apply to DENT & Co.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. WILLIAM Thomson in our firm ceased on the 31st ultimo. TURNER & Co. Victoria, 23rd January, 1846.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned have received authority from the Directors of the Imperial Fire Insurance Office of London, to issue Policies on the New Buildings at Canton. MACVICAR & Co. Victoria, 23rd January, 1846.

FOR SALE.—AT the Godowns of Messrs Bienkin, Rawson & Co., Burton Ale in Hhds, from Worthington and Robinson. Hongkong, 15th January 1846.

FOR SALE.

AT the Godowns of Messrs Bienkin, Rawson & Co. Allsops Pale Ale in bottle; Barclay's Porter in bottle, Superior Sherry, Madeira, and Port, in wood and bottle. Hongkong, 15th January, 1846.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned have been appointed Agents at Canton for the "Globe Insurance Office" of Calcutta, and are prepared to grant Policies payable in London, Calcutta, Bombay, and Canton. MACLEAN, DEARIE & Co. Canton, 10th November, 1845.

FOR SALE.

THE undermentioned Wines from the House of Gledstones, King & Co. London. Port in cases of 3 dozen Madeira " " 3 " Champagne " " 1 " Apply to LINDSAY & Co. Victoria, 26th January, 1846.

FOR SALE.

WEBSTER, Gordon, Cossart & Co's. superior Madeira, in Hhds, quarter and half quarter casks, and in cases. FLETCHER & Co. Hongkong, 1st March, 1845.

NOTICE.

MR F. H. TIEDEMAN is authorized to sign for our firm by procuracy. VANDERBURG ROMSWINCKEL & Co. Canton and Macao, 31st January, 1846.

NOTICE.

THE business of the undersigned will from this date be conducted in the name of C. S. COMPTON & Co., his partners being as heretofore, EDWARD M. DANIELL, and WILLIAM DICKINSON of the firm of DANIELL, DICKINSON & Co. in London and Liverpool, C. S. COMPTON. Canton, 1st January, 1846.

MR. ROGER JACSON is authorized to sign our firm by procuracy. HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co. Victoria, 26th December, 1845.

NOTICE.

THE Firm of FEARON & SON, Macao, is this day dissolved; and the undersigned has removed to Nos. 2 & 3, Wellington Street, Victoria; where he will be happy to attend to the adjustment of average claims as usual. C. A. FEARON. Victoria, 1st February, 1846.

NOTICE.

MR WILLIAM WARD-BROWN is authorized to sign for our Firm by procuracy. HEGAN & Co. 1st January, 1846.

CIRCULAR.

MR. FRANKLYN, General Commission, Land and Shipping Agent, receives goods from alongside ships and stores them on the most moderate terms in dry and secure godowns, sells them by Public or private sale as required. A variety of goods on view at the show rooms. Queen's Road February, 17th 1846.

HOUSES.

FOR private sale that unfinisned house situate in Wellington Street and facing the one occupied by Mon's Dupuis, French Tailor. Apply to W. H. FRANKLYN, Land Agent &c. Queen's Road, February 3rd, 1846.

NOTICE.

MR. FRANKLYN begs to inform Shippers, that, in consequence of the danger of forwarding goods to Canton, he has made arrangements that one of his Lorcha's will leave in tow of the Steamer Contain every Monday and Thursday evening, thereby ensuring delivery of the same at Canton the following morning. Queen's Road, February 17th, 1846.

NOTICE.

THE Steamer CORSAIR, 120 horse-power, runs regularly between Hongkong and Canton, leaving the former place every Monday and Thursday evening at 9 o'clock, and the latter every Wednesday and Saturday morning. Passages, booked Parcels, and packages, received at the Steam office, Queen's Road, until 9 o'clock on the evening of her departure. RATES OF PASSAGE:—

Cabin \$ 12
Steerage 6
Freight of Treasure 1/2 Cent.
All Payable at the office.

W. H. FRANKLYN.
Queen's Road, February 17th, 1846.

VALUABLE ESTATE

PUBLIC AUCTION.

MR. FRANKLYN has been favored with Instructions to put up to the Public competition on the 25th proximo, the whole of the Valuable property in one lot comprising:

That commodious and well built Dwelling House now occupied by Messrs MURROW & Co. containing large and well lighted Offices and Godowns, Servants Rooms, Stables, and every other convenience with Granite Treasury on ground floor; on the first floor large Drawing room and Five Bed rooms, with Five Grates in excellent repair.

Those Two Houses immediately below the above occupied by J. POPE Esq., and R. RANGEL Esq. containing large Offices Godowns, Servants rooms, Treasuries, Stables etc. etc. on Ground floor, and on First Floor, Drawing rooms, Three Bed rooms, Dressing rooms, with large Verandahs to each; together with.

That highly valuable Piece of Ground adjoining, and fronting Aberdeen and Wellington Streets. The Above Houses were carefully built, regardless of Expense, under the Superintendence of Europeans, they are well drained, in excellent repair, and situated in one of the most healthy and respectable part of the Town being in and adjoining one of the most fashionable Streets.

They are formed for a refreshing coolness, not to be found in less elevated and more crowded localities. The whole are tenanted for this year certain, and produce a yearly Rental of about \$2,500, which will revert to the Purchasers from 1st proximo.

TO THE CAPITALIST.

This presents a safe and rare opportunity for investing money which will continue to yield a high rate of Interest, as the situation will always insure Tenants, and become more Valuable from year to year. To those requiring a residence an opportunity now offer itself of procuring one delightful situated, dry and well aired—no small consideration in this climate—and which will readily realize its Value at any future period.

The Piece of Ground fronting two of the leading thoroughfares, (dimensions of which will appear hereafter) is admirably calculated for a large Dwelling or House of Business, and is worthy the attention of Builders and others.

MR. FRANKLYN confidently invites Inspection of this Estate. Full particulars can be obtained on application at his Office, Queen's Road, Victoria, January 29th, 1846.

CURIOSITIES.

ON view and for sale at Mr FRANKLYN'S Show Rooms Queen's Road. A small but neat assortment of Chinese Curio's in carved Bamboo, Wood and Copper.

FOR SALE.

SAUNDERS Pale October brewed ale in Wood, Allsops Beer in Wood, Port and Sherry, Champagne and Charet. Apply to ROBERT STRACHAN. Victoria, 25th July, 1845.

FOR SALE.

MEDHURST'S Chinese & English Dictionary \$ 10.00
Ditto ditto in superior binding, " 11.00
Medhurst's Dictionary of the Hok-keen Dialect, " 10.00
Medhurst's Comparative Vocabulary of the Chinese, Korean and Japanese languages, " 2.00
Medhurst's Dictionary in the Favoring Dialect of the Formosan language, " 2.00
Medhurst's Dialogues in the Mandarin Dialect, " 2.50
Medhurst's Notice on Chinese Grammar, " 1.50
Medhurst's State and Prospects of China, " 2.00
Collie's Translation of the Four Books, " 3.00
Premare's Notion Linguae Sinice, " 3.00
Rambles of the Emperor Ching-Tai, a Chinese Tale, translated into English by Tsin-Shen, late of the Anglo Chinese College, Malacca, " 5.00
A Lexicogus of the English, Malay and Chinese Language, " 1.50
Apply at the London Missionary Society's Institution Holywell Road, Victoria, 29th January, 1846.

JUST IMPORTED.

EX - ALEX' Superfine Blue Cloth 1st quality; Gent's superior White and Colored Silk Gowns, a small Invoice of Shoes and a few Riding Whips. F. FUNCK. Victoria, 9th January, 1846.

JUST RECEIVED.

AND for Sale by the undersigned, a few pieces of superior Tartan umbrellas for Coats and Trowsers. F. FUNCK. Opposite the Commissariat, Victoria, 2nd January, 1846.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned have formed a partnership, for the transaction of a general Agency and Commission business, under the respective Firms of RAWLE, DUUS & Co. at Victoria, and DUUS, RAWLE & Co. at Shanghai.

S. B. RAWLE.
N. DUUS

Victoria, Hongkong, 1st October, 1845.

ROMAN CEMENT.

FOR sale at the Godown's of the undersigned a consignment of Roman Cement. RAWLE, DUUS & Co. Victoria, Queen's Road, 9th Feby. 1846.

JUST Received per late arrivals and for sale by the subscribers. Patent Salamander Safes of various sizes warranted secure in the hottest fire.

ALSO. Patent Weighing Machines from 700 a 2,300 pounds, which can be made to weigh peculs and cwt's. RAWLE, DUUS & Co. Victoria, 28th October, 1845.

FOR SALE.

SUPERIOR Sherry and Madeira in wood; also a few half pipes and quarter casks Claret and Tenerife Wines. Sherry, Madeira, Port, Cognac, Cherry Brandy, in 1 2 & 3 dozen cases. RAWLE, DUUS & Co. Victoria, 28th October, 1845.

FOR SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED.

AN assortment of Anchors and Chain Cables, Europe, Manila and Coir Rope, Hemp and Cotton Canvass, and several Spars for lower and topmasts. RAWLE, DUUS & Co. Victoria, 28th October, 1845.

FOR SALE.

100 Piculs Camphor; packed ready for shipment. RAWLE, DUUS & Co. Victoria, 25th February, 1846.

WAGHORN & Co's AGENCY.

THE undersigned has been appointed Agent for Messrs Waghorn & Co., and is prepared to forward parcels to England and India by the Peninsular and Oriental Company's Steam vessels which sail from this port on the 1st of every month. N. DUUS. Victoria, 23rd January, 1846.

CARD.

THE undersigned has established himself in this place as a Commission and General Agent in connection with Messrs FORTER BROTHERS & Co. (Speecher, Canton Appenrell) Switzerland carrying on business under this name and on account of this firm. L. EUYSTER. Manila, 13th July, 1845.

ON SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED.

LOOKING Glasses in gilt frames of various sizes
Toilet Bottles
Plated Epergnes
Gilt and Ormolu fourteen day clocks. PHILLIPS MOORE & Co. January 28th, 1846.

FOR SALE.

ANCHORS, Chains, Europe and Manila Rope, Navy and bleached Canvas, Navy Duck, Bunting, Paints, Oil, Salt Provisions, Bread, Flour and Marine Stores of all descriptions, Wines, Spirits, Beer and Porter in wood and bottle, Iron and Lead Water pipe, Sheet Lead, Solder, Oeres, Plaster of Paris and Stencelling Patterns, Stoves, Grates with Fenders &c. to match. Nautical Almanacks for 1846, and Manila Cheroots No. 3 and 4. HUMPHREYS & Co. 13 Queen's Road, Victoria, 1st December, 1845.

NOTICE.

JUST opened and for Sale at the stores of the undersigned. A large assortment of Carpeting all patterns, Hearth Rugs &c. &c. Tartan and Check Cloths, Drills and White Cotton and worsted Hoies, Ladies Musline De Laine and Printed Dresses, Lace and a large assortment of Perfumery, stationary Table linen and Oilman's Stores of all descriptions Candles &c. D. CHISHOLM. Queen's Road, Victoria, November 21st, 1845.

SODA WATER.

ON SALE.—At the Store of Mr. John Smith in Macao from Dr. Hunter's Soda Water Manufactory there. Macao, 11th January, 1846.

BRITISH HOTEL.

M. GABRIEL has taken a commodious house situated at the Corner of Graham Street, a short distance south of the Queen's Road, which he intends to conduct as a Hotel under the above title. Gentlemen favouring him with their patronage will find their comfort strictly attended to. All the articles supplied will be of the best rate description. A Thurston's Billiard Table ex the Primrose, Victoria, 14th March, 1845.

NOTICE.

New advertisements, will be received, until 4 O'Clock, on the evenings previous to publication, viz: TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS.

LATEST DATES.	
England	Dec. 24
United States	Dec. 1
Calcutta	Jan. 8
Bombay	Jan. 10
Madras	Jan. 13
Sydney	Dec. 28
Batavia	Jan. 31
Singapore	Feb. 9
Manila	Feb. 9
Chusan	Feb. 14
Shanghai	Feb. 14

THE FRIEND OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

VICTORIA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28th, 1846

The gratifying intelligence of a change in the Colonial Office induces us briefly to revert to the causes which appear for a time to have effected the ruin of this colony.

Hongkong, as a Colony, is essentially distinct from all others, and in legislating for it this distinctive character has been overlooked. It is not like our other tropical possessions, valuable for its productions, or as a commercial entrepot. Neither is it of importance to the Mother country, as a place to which immigration relieves her of a superabundant population. Hongkong is not, nor has it ever been, a place of much trade; nor is there any inducement for Merchants to support establishments there, other than the expectation, that by good management, a share of the trade of China might be drawn to the port. That the colony is of immense value to Great Britain is undeniable. She draws, at the most moderate calculation, a ninth part of her enormous revenue from the trade of China; and for the protection of her revenue, a naval station nearer than Singapore, was a desideratum. Such unquestionably was the inducement which led to the colonisation of this Island, and we submit that, as the benefits derived from it are common to every British subject, so the expense of the civil establishment ought to be borne by the country generally, and not by the few Merchants and others, who were led to invest money in building by hopes that have never been realised, and by promises that have never been fulfilled.

Before possession was taken of Hongkong, the British Merchants in China had most of them branches of their mercantile establishments in the Portuguese settlement of Macao. There, they had every reasonable facility for transacting what is called the "outside trade"—that is for despatching their ships, mails &c. On the representations of Captain Elliot, then the accredited representative of the Crown, most of the Merchants were induced to build expensive and permanent houses in Victoria, on the understanding that they would receive the fee simple of the land on paying a nominal quit rent. A further inducement to invest on the Island, was the reasonable expectation that under the protection of the British flag, Hongkong would become a place of traffic.

The narrow and illiberal Policy of the local government, which is of course dictated by the head of the Colonial Office, has for a season annihilated every hope of the prosperity of the Colony. After building expensive houses, the Merchants and Landholders were told that the title to be granted was in the shape of a lease for 75 years, and that for that lease they were to pay an annual ground rent, which to each firm, averages from £50 to £300. Even this act of injustice would have been borne, had there been a disposition on the part of the Executive to encourage trade, and to promote the comfort of the inhabitants, but the opposite has characterised every measure of government, as we will show.

His Excellency, Sir John Davis, arrived at a very critical period. The obvious clauses in the Supplementary treaty had just been made public, and their malign influences placed prominently before government by the local Press. A deputation from the enterprising Merchants of Chin Chew was in the Colony, to ascertain whether they could obtain land upon which to build stores and houses. Had His Excellency possessed that degree of sagacity which is usually exhibited in the most ordinary transactions of every day life, he would have seen the necessity for obtaining the removal of the restrictions which his predecessor had unwittingly placed upon trade, and the vast advantages which the colony would derive from the permanent residence of about forty of the wealthy native Merchants of Chin Chew. Whatever his other qualifications may be, Sir John Davis is not a man fit under any circumstance to govern a British colony. Had he been all his life immured within the walls of the most intolerant and bigotted political institution, he could not have displayed more gross ignorance of the fundamental laws of England and of the feelings of Englishmen, than he has evinced by his measures in Hongkong. But we are anticipating our subject, and to return, we observe that the deputation of Chinese Merchants met with a cold reception and left the Island in disgust; a Junk which arrived about the same time (she proved to be a vessel of war) was seized and delivered to the Chinese Authorities in compliance with the clause of the supplementary treaty which had for its object the suppression of Piracy. Had the vessel in question been a trading vessel, the crew would have been executed. The native population were now getting alarmed, and the few vessels that were in the habit of visiting the Port decreased in number.

In the slight sketch we are giving, we have come to the most extraordinary specimen of legislation, and imbecility, which was exhibited in the "poll tax." An ordinance was made public—two months after passing Council—intimating that a "poll tax" was to be levied on all the inhabitants of the Colony, European as well as Chinese; and the only distinction between British merchants and the lowest Chinese paupers was the enactment that the former should pay five dollars per annum for his registration ticket, the latter one. All, however, were to be compelled to appear before a certain Registrar General, and have their names, ages, professions &c. duly entered in a book. They were further obliged to answer any questions put to them, as to birth, parentage &c. and if the answers were not satisfactory, they were to be deported. The reception of such an ordinance may be conceived. The European inhabitants met and hurriedly drew up a memorial to the Government,

praying that the ordinance be modified. This memorial was returned, as not being couched in language sufficiently respectful. The Chinese were confirmed in the bad opinion they had formed of the government by this "iniquitous" tax, and all the shopkeepers determined to leave the Island, labourers of every description ceasing to work. There are various ways of operating upon a government. In the present instance, fear was the grand cathartic. The concession, which with good grace might have been granted to the memorial of British Merchants, was forced from the Executive, by their abject fears of an unarmed mob of Chinese, who did not show the slightest disposition to riot. The ordinance was abrogated; the shops were re-opened; the labourers returned to their work. We look to the influences of the tyrannical, and at the same time irresolute measures of Government, as effecting the minds of the Chinese, who are yet strangers to our laws, and they are most lamentable. The desire to impose an iniquitous tax, was bad enough, but the timidity which led to its being cancelled was worse.

After the "poll tax" ordinance came what has been termed the "branding and mutilating act." Our readers will understand that among the Chinese, there are numerous secret societies of a political nature. Some of them are said to be dangerous and in the highest degree objectionable; but on this head nothing is known. That they are inimical to the Tartar dynasty now on the throne, is generally admitted; though even on this point it is uncertain whether more than one of such a character. The knowledge of the existence of these societies was enough for our legislators, and an ordinance was passed of the most cruel description, by which it was enacted, that the Chinese, being members of any secret association, were liable to be punished by branding on the cheek, and the still more horrid punishment of being landed on their own shore, where the indelible proof referred to, would be a warrant for their execution by the Mandarins. This ordinance was repudiated by the British government; but to the Chinese it appeared to be another proof of the tyranny, cruelty and rapacity of the Barbarians. Another ordinance, granting to the Executive the power of declaring the Island under martial law, without the concurrence of the legislative Council, also received the veto of the home government.

We mention these ordinances, that it may be clearly understood, that the abhorrence with which respectable Chinese look upon Hongkong, is not without a cause. While such laws are published, it is absurd to talk to them of the civilization of the West. It is true that the atrocities, which the poll tax, the branding act, and martial law, all provided for, have never been perpetrated; the spirit however is recorded, and it may require years of prudence, and liberality, to efface the remembrance of them.

From the attempted encroachments upon the personal rights of the Colonists, we turn to the actual and direct taxation, which is operating so unfavorably—which has destroyed the trifling trade that existed when the heads of the present government arrived—which is driving British merchants from the colony—which have rendered nugatory the advantages of a free port. At least a moiety of the foreign trade of China is in Opium. This article of commerce is as legal in Hongkong as brandy or wine in the port of London.—nor is it half so injurious to the consumer as the liquors we have named. It might have been supposed that Hongkong would have had a fair share of the Opium trade; and under prudent management such would have been the case. The attention of Government appears solely to have been directed towards the acquisition of a revenue to meet the expenses of the civil establishments, and for this every other consideration has been thrown aside. The trade in Opium is permitted by the Chinese even at the five ports, and was carried on to a large extent at Whampoa (the anchorage for the Canton shipping). Last summer, in consequence of some illegal traffic in Saltpetre—a government monopoly—complaints were made to the British Consul at Canton, and that Officer ordered all British ships at Whampoa to lodge their registers at the Consulate. Opium being nominally illegal, the vessels stationed at Whampoa with that article on board, were compelled to leave. They anchored within a few miles of this harbour, and were in all likelihood have come in, had their Chinese customers not been afraid of the Government; and from what we have already written, it will appear that they had cause to dread the laws of Hongkong. The anchorage then occupied by the shipping is safe in the S. W. monsoon, but dangerous when the wind makes its periodical change to the N.E. It was precisely at this time, that the Government offered to sell by public auction the privilege of retailing Opium in the Colony of Hongkong. The monopoly fell into the hands of a Chinaman; and the receiving ships removed to Cum sing-moon, an anchorage near Macao, belonging to China, whereto they carry on a large trade. This Opium farm, as it is termed, is injurious to the Colony in two ways. First, it has driven away the receiving ships, who to a certainty would have entered, and would have brought with them a large and profitable trade; and secondly, it has caused many of the Chinese shopkeepers to leave the Island, and house rent has accordingly been reduced; one fourth of the shops being to let, the proprietors of which are still paying an exorbitant ground rent. In explanation of this we must state, that a retail shop in China, is usually occupied by three or more individuals, who pay equal shares of the rent. Thus a dealer in Opium, a dealer in tobacco, a dealer in cotton goods, and it may be a dealer in lacquered ware, are the joint tenants of the same home. The parties who purchase opium are usually in request of the other commodities, and the one article helps the sale of the other. The Opium dealer is now driven out of the market by the monopoly—the dealer in Tobacco is about to be taxed heavily—the other two dealers, or at least the one who sells British cotton goods, loses his customers, and the shop is given up. Any member of this community who has opportunities of knowing, and who is not biased by government influence, will subscribe to these statements. Salt, Beet, Pawn, Pawn-brokers, Fabrics, Quarts &c &c are all under the system of licensing. It may appear too contemptible for any government, but in the return of the Revenue and Expenditure for 1845, statistics make a prominent figure, the amount being seven-teen millions and four pence.

We might refer to many other causes of distress

and annoyances—such as the illegal assessment upon house rent—but it is unnecessary. We think we have shown, that if the colony is retrograding, the causes are evident; we have also shown the injustice of forcing the inhabitants to bear all the expenses of the civil establishment, the colony having been formed chiefly for the protection of the British revenue, and not for the benefit of British merchants, who were cajoled into building houses, for which they are compelled to pay an oppressive rent. If the disease is plain, the remedy is simple. Abolish all the licenses, which throw the chief articles of traffic into the hands of a few monopolists. The revenue collected from this source does not even pay the Governor's salary; yet the system is so bad, that if persisted in, it will gradually depopulate the town. It is absolutely necessary that the natives have confidence in the Government; without this Hongkong will never prosper. Treat them liberally and fairly, and we predict, that in five years, we will have a respectable Chinese population, and a fair share of trade: but when we look back upon the oppressive acts of the last two years, it is not a matter of astonishment that Europeans and Chinese, are alike desirous to realise and abandon the Island. The rights of person and property have alike been set aside; an incipient trade has been ruined; and this by a system so pernicious that it almost leads to the belief that it is the fixed purpose of the Executive, to injure the colony as much as is possible.

It is not alone that atonement has to be made for the past; provision has also to be made for the future. A change of government is called for—we hold it impossible that the men who have concerted the ordinances of 1844 and 1845, are ever fit to legislate for a British colony. The Ethiopian cannot change his skin; neither can man change his nature. We require a Government, in which the inhabitants repose confidence. We require a legislative Council willing and able to protect colonial interests; in that Council there will have to be an equal number of official and non official members. In this limited community, it would be unreasonable to ask for an elective Council; but surely we are entitled to representation, so far as it may be obtained, by the nomination of representatives by the Crown.

Though Hongkong may never be an important market, there could be no difficulty in drawing to it such a portion of the immense trade of China, as would warrant prudent Merchants in retaining branches of their establishments on the Island. Such would be the general wish; and those who have left, or are about to leave, would return to the colony were there any prospect of even a limited trade—enough to pay the expenses of an extra establishment. Two years ago, there was always a little doing. A chest or two of opium, or a few bales of shirtings, were moving off; and giving some encouragement to the Merchant; now there is nothing of this. There are houses that have not sold a bale of goods, or a chest of opium, for months, though they support an establishment at an expense of from \$5,000 to \$10,000 a year, and pay to government from £50 to £300 a year of land rent. We have said, though Hongkong may never be an important market, we think, however, that were it properly managed it will be a great mart. We must however be content with a small beginning. Only let the Colony be put in the way of recovering from the depression, which has been cast upon it, and we will contentedly wait the result. The channels of commerce are long of forming, and difficult to turn once they are formed. There is at present a trade to the amount of many millions annually carried on in the neighbouring waters, but having no fixed locality. We allude to the opium fleet, which moves to various anchorages. Draw that traffic into this port, where it is legalized, and then is formed the nucleus of Hongkong prosperity.

Silk, manufactured on the Island, would be admitted for British consumption at a differential duty of 20 per cent. This is certainly a great inducement for the introduction of Silk weaving; but under this government, people have not the heart to attempt anything. It has been objected to silk weaving, that His Excellency would tax the loom, and we fear that such would be the case.

Were England desirous of drawing to her new colony nearly all the trade of the south of China it might easily be done. A simple act of Parliament, declaring that for ten years, all teas shipped at Hongkong, would be protected in Great Britain, by a differential duty of one penny per pound upon low coigns and two pence upon the finer classes, and the death blow would be struck to the trade of Canton. Much might be said in favor of such an act. The insecurity of goods at the provincial city; and the indignities heaped upon foreign residents, would warrant any Act which could have a tendency to place the lives and property of British subjects in security.

Our limits will not admit of a further discussion of this subject. It is one of great importance and deeply concerns every man who has an interest in the colony. We express a hope, that it will not be lost sight of, by the several influential members of this community, who have lately gone, or who are about proceeding to England. It is clear that this is the time to make an appeal to the Colonial Office, and it is to be expected that the opportunity will not be allowed to pass.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

- ARRIVALS.
- FEBRUARY,
 - 24, *Mor*, Alsten, Bombay.
 - 24, *Corsair* (steam), Soames, Canton.
 - 24, *Praetor*, Martell, Canton.
 - 24, *Rosanna*, Crighton, Whampoa.
 - 25, *Sil* (Spanish), Espejo, Macao.
 - 25, *William Jardine*, Small, Whampoa.
 - 25, *Musden*, Chape, Cum sing-moon.
 - 25, *Siewa* (Balley), Knulsen, Macao.
 - 25, *Chatham*, Ilbery, Liverpool.
 - 25, *Gazelle* (Am), Chase, East Coast.
 - 25, *Syed Khan*, Smart, Cum sing-moon.
 - 25, *Aurora*, Morgan, Cum sing-moon.
 - 25, *Warlock*, Jauncey, Cum sing-moon.
 - 27, *Corsair* (steam), Soames, Canton.

- SAILED.
- None.
 - REPORTS.
 - Rosanna*, Crighton, London, today.
 - William Jardine*, Small, London, today.
 - Lady Mary Wood* (st-sh), Cooper, Ceylon, today.

Warlock, Jauncey, East Coast.
Sil (Spanish), Espejo, Manila.
Pantolon, Stone, Macao.
 The ship *Chatham* spoke the *Island Queen* and *Regina* in Chambers Straits, both from Bombay bound to China.

PASSENGERS.

Per *Lady Mary Wood* (st-sh)—For England: A. Matheron, Esq.; A. Fletcher, Esq.; R. Oswald, Esq.; — Gray, Esq.; M. W. Pitcher, Esq.; L. Routh, Esq.; S. W. Comstock, Esq.; W. Le Geyt, Esq. For Suez: Wetmore, Esq. For Calcutta: Montefiore, Esq. For Singapore: S. E. Patullo, Esq.

VESSELS IN VICTORIA HARBOUR.

H. M. S. *Agincourt*, Captain Johnstone, Flag of Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane.
 H. M. S. *Dadalus*, Captain McGuhae.
 H. M. S. *Vestal*, Captain Talbot.
 H. M. S. *Hox*, Commander Egerton.
 H. M. Str. *Vizen*, Commander Giffard.
 H. C. Str. *Pluto*, Commander Aitry.
 H. M. Tr. S. *Sapphire*, Commander Fittock.
 H. M. Tr. S. *Alligator*, Commander King.
 H. M. S. *Minden*, 2nd Master in charge Osmer, Hospital and Store Ship.

Anglona, Lane, Macvicar and Co
Anonyma, Thomas, J. Matheson and Co
Aurora, Morgan, Gilman and Co
Bomanjee Hornusjee, Coates, J. Matheson and Co
Calcutta, —, G. Duddell
Chatham, Ilbery, Jamieson, How and Co
Corsair (steam), Soames, J. Matheson and Co
Gazelle (Am), Chase, J. Matheson and Co
John Barry, Clarke, Dent and Co
Lady Mary Wood (st-sh), Cooper, J. A. Olding
Linnet (Am), —, Younghusband and Co
Lynx, Hely, Dent and Co
Musden, Chape, Bush and Co
Midas (Am. st-shr), Poor, James P. Sturgis
Mor, Alsten, J. Matheson and Co
Pantolon, Stone, Turner and Co
Pearl, Smardon, Bush and Co
Praetor, Martell, Bush and Co
Rosanna, Crighton, Turner and Co
Siewa (Balley), Knulsen, Burd, Lange and Co
Sil (Span), Espejo, —, Captain
Starling, Chape, —
Syed Khan, Smart, Gilman and Co
Theresa, —, William Lane
Warlock, Jauncey, J. Matheson and Co
W. Jardine, Small, Blenkin, Rawson and Co
Zephyr, Mann, Dent and Co

FOR MANILA.

THE Spanish Brig "SYL" will be despatched on Monday the 2nd proximo. For freight or passage, apply to, RAWLE, DUUS & Co. Victoria, 27th February 1846.

NOTICE.

THE next Meeting of the China Medical-Chirurgical Society will be held at Dr. Dill's Residence, on Tuesday next, March 3rd, at 7 o'clock p. m. GEO. K. BARTON, Secretary.

JUST received, a small Invoice of Prime new Bloom Muscatel Raisins in a small fancy Cartons; in excellent condition. SMITH & BRIMELOW. Woosnams Buildings, 27th February, 1846.

HOLMES & BIGHAM have for sale, Gold and Silver skeleton and plain lever Watches, Pistols in cases, Wiltshire Cheese and Cumberland Hams, Butter in kegs and jars, Beef, Pork, and Tongues in small and large barrels, English Paint Oil, best White Lead in 28lbs kegs, Sheet Lead, Beer, Porter, Brandy, Rum, Gin and Whiskey in bottles and cask, Champagne, Charet, Port, Sherry, Cordials &c., Blankets, Regatta Shirts, Chesterfield wrappers &c. &c. H. & B. have also a small family medicine chest ready fitted up, and a few tape lines on sale. Victoria, 29th February, 1846.

BY ORDER OF ROBT. DUNDAS CAY Esq. Registrar of the Supreme Court of Hongkong.

C. MARKWICK.

WILL sell by Public Auction at his Room Queen's Road. On Wednesday 4th March 1846 at 11 o'clock a. m. The undermentioned deceased persons Effects. Dr. Rd. Jones 6 pieces of Broadcloth. M. MacEwen, Wearing Apparel, Furniture &c. Wm. Wilson, 2 Kegs Tobacco & wearing apparel. Jessy Scott, Wearing Apparel &c. Terms of Sale.—Cash before any Lots are delivered, Rupees 227 to 100 0.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

MR W. H. FRANKLYN will sell by Public Auction on Monday next, the 2nd March, at 11 o'clock precisely, at his Rooms, Queen's Road. A quantity White and Brown Drills, Grey Long Cloth, Plain and figured Velvets, Iron Fenders, Sixty five Casks Navy Bread, and a variety of other articles. Terms.—Cash on delivery in Mexican Dollars, Rupees 229 per \$100 Mexican, and Spanish at Par. All lots to be cleared the day after the sale.

LOTTERY.

OF that unfinished House, and Ground attached, situated in *Wellington* and *Peel Street*, (opposite the premises of Mons. Dupuig) measuring on the North side 119 feet, on the South side 119 feet, on the East side 70 1/2 feet, and on the West side 70 1/2 feet, containing in the whole 8,980 square feet; and registered in the Land Office as Lot No. 72, at the yearly Crown Rent of £24. 11. Valued, Spanish Dollars Four thousand, and divided into forty chances, at \$100 each. Names of Subscribers will be received by the undersigned; and at Macao, by Mr John Smith. Due notice of the drawing will be given to Subscribers so soon as the scheme is filled up. W. H. FRANKLYN. Victoria, 23rd February, 1846.

WANTED.

A BAKER. One who understands his business in all its branches, and of steady habits. Apply to J. MILLER, No. 1 & 2 Oswald's Buildings, 11th Feby. 1846.

COMPOSITORS WANTED.—Apply at this Office. Office "Friend of China."

RAFFLE.

To be Ruffed for at Macray & Co's. Queen's Road, Hongkong, as soon as the shares are filled up, the following New Elegant and highly finished works, in 100 shares at \$10 each, in the following lots, each subscriber being sure of gaining a prize.

Subscriptions from Canton, Macao, or elsewhere, to be accompanied with an order on Parties resident in Hongkong.

Table with columns: No., NAME OF WORK, £ s. d. listing various books and their prices.

SMITH & BRIMELOW.

Ship Chandlers, Wholesale and Retail Wine and Spirit Merchants, and Commission Agents &c. No 1 & 2 WOODNAM'S BUILDINGS. HAVE for sale all kinds of Stores suitable for Ships; such as Canvas, Blocks, Rope, Twine, Beef, Pork, &c. &c.

DISPENSARY, 4 French Hong, CANTON. FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING SELECT MEDICINES &c. BUTLERS Tasteless Seidlitz Powders. Concentrated Decoction of Sarsaparilla, of double strength, to obviate fermentation.

SODA WATER AND AERATED LEMONADE. TO be obtained at the manufactory of the undersigned. SMITH & BRIMELOW. No 1 and 2 Woodnam's Buildings, corner of Pottinger Street.

NOTICE. I hereby certify that I am not aware of any dissolution of partnership between JOHN QUE and myself. And I hereby caution any party or parties not to pay money into the firm of KENNARD & QUE, without my signature; and the said THOMAS KENNARD, further states that he will not be answerable for any debt or debts contracted by the aforesaid JOHN QUE. THOMAS KENNARD. Victoria, Dated 19th February, 1846.

NOTICE. MRS HUME, MILLINER & DRESS MAKER, BEGS to inform the Ladies of Hongkong, that she having been enabled through the kindness of friends to resume business, she has this day opened a Shop in Stanley Street, where she trusts by strict attention, and punctuality in the execution of any orders with which she may be favoured, to merit a share of patronage. No. 3 Stanley Street, Hongkong, February, 26th 1846.

L. E. CHRISTOPHER begs to inform the Ladies of Hongkong that he has just received by the "Braganza" a splendid assortment of ladies French Silk and Gauze dresses, Barege cachemire, Glacé broché, Barege satin, Labrador. Veloutine fleurie, and other robes; Ladies plaid Silk shawls and Scarfs, Cravates gougiffres, and Mille raies, of the latest style, which he offers with confidence as being the newest and most distinguished lot of goods that has yet been received in Hongkong. Also gentlemen's Black Silk and Satin Cravats and Waistcoatings of superior quality.

NOTICE. The undersigned begs to inform parties indebted to him, to pay the same as early as possible; claims on those residing in China, not paid, or arrangements made to do so, up to the end of next May, and those in Europe, &c., up to the end of next August, (after giving due notice in the Newspapers of Names and particulars); will be put up for sale by Public Auction, and sold off to the highest bidders. Those who have established on the East Coast of China, or elsewhere, or have left China, since 1839, are requested to send their address, and their accounts will be forwarded to them without delay. JNO: SMITH. Macao, 18th February, 1846.

FOR SALE.—By the undersigned. Champagne, Hock, Beer, and Stout, all of the first quality. EDWARD NEWMAN. Victoria 7th October, 1845.

McEWEN & Co. GENERAL Commission and Shipping Agents Wine Beer and Spirit Merchants. And Auctioneers Queen's Road & Chinams Hong. Supply Ships, Families, and foreign residents at the consular ports, with all descriptions of Stores, Salt provisions, Wine, Beer and Spirits upon moderate terms. Also dry and convenient storage for goods. Victoria, 1st January, 1846.

FOR SALE. JUST landed a few Hogheads Superior Dark Colored Brandy. Also, Dark and Pale Colored Cognac in bottle, of first quality. McEWEN & Co. Victoria, 20th Jan., 1846.

GOLD PENS. JUST Received, and for sale, a few superior Gold Pens, in Silver Cases.

ALSO. An Invoice of Stationery, consisting of Plain and Ruled Letter Paper, Plain and Ruled Foolscap, Account Current, Account Sales, Office, Envelope, and Blotting Paper, Quills Lead Pencils, Parallel Rulers, Office Inkstands, &c. &c. W. S. HEYL. Victoria, 16th February, 1846.

BOOTS! BOOTS!! BOOTS!!! THE Subscriber has just received and offers for Sale, a large assortment of highly finished Dress and Waterproof Boots, Half Boots, Shoes and Gaiter Boots. W. S. HEYL. Victoria, 16th February, 1846.

NOTICE. WM. S. HEYL, offers for sale, at his Stores, superior Port, Sherry, Madeira, and Claret Wines, Peppermint, and Cherry Cordials, Beer and Porter in wood and bottles, Wine Bitters, Choice Butter in Kegs, Neats Tongues, Tobacco, Cigars, Old No. 3 and 4 Manila Cheroots, Paint Oil, and Turpentine in cans, Bright Varnish, Ravens Duck, &c. &c. Victoria, 16th February, 1846.

JUST IMPORTED, AND For Sale by C. MARKWICK, Auctioneer, Pottinger Street. A few Hogheads of Abbotts' Pale Ale. Victoria, February 4th, 1846.

FOR SALE. BY the undersigned a few Jars of superior English Paint Oil. C. MARKWICK. Auctioneer. Pottinger Street. Victoria, 19th November, 1845.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

NAVAL. In pursuance of the regulations issued during the last season, for the voluntary examination of Masters and Mates in the merchant service, the following names of those who have received certificates have been published:—Masters, first-class, T. W. Pixley, W. Pigot, W. Gray, W. R. Probert, J. Paterson, J. Napier, J. Harrison, J. H. Smith, E. G. Dent, W. L. M'Leod, S. Scott, and S. S. Jeffery. Second Class: A. Alock and J. Jones. Third class: A. Davidson. Mate, second class, J. Gray.

The Bittern, 16, Com. T. Hopo, having completed her fittings in a most hurried manner, is now at Spithead, from whence she takes despatches to Ascension. It is understood that the Bittern will ultimately go to the East Indies.

The result of the trials between the different vessels composing the Experimental Squadron has been published, and, remarking thereupon, the Naval and Military Gazette says:—"Taking an impartial review of the whole of the foregoing facts, it would appear that the Vanguard and Superb have nearly reversed their positions, in comparison with the places they held during the former experimental cruise. They were then decidedly the two last in the fleet, under almost all varieties of weather and under all conditions of trial, whereas they have now generally had rather the advantage of Canopus, and greatly the advantage of Rodney and Albion. At the same time, when we look at the behaviour of the Canopus in that decisive trial, in heavy weather, on the 12th of November, and again on the 17th, under close-reefed maintop sail and storm staysail—on which latter occasion the rolling was denoted by signal—we must admit the superiority of the Canopus as a man-of-war. It should not be forgotten that just before these last series of trials the Vanguard and Superb were both sent to Portsmouth to be newly coppered, and to be re-stowed and trimmed in a particular manner, for this especial service (or sailing match), taking on board only three months' salt provisions, and four months' provisions of other kinds. This, of course improved their speed; and that the Canopus would also have been improved in sailing by new copper, cannot, we think, be questioned. It is therefore thought that she had hardly fair play."

The Experimental Squadron will not be paid off. The Vanguard, 80, Capt. Wilkes, will be stationed at Cove, taking the flag of Rear Admiral Sir H. Pigot, K.C.B., the commander-in-chief. Thus she will be available for any emergency in such an advanced position. The Albion, 90, Capt. Lockyer and the Canopus, 81, Capt. F. Mordaunt, are to remain at Devonport, where, with the Queen, 110, flag-ship of Adm. Sir J. West, the Port Admiral, and the Caladonia, 120, Capt. M. H. Dixon, with the flag of Rear Admiral Superintendent Sir S. Pym, they will form the main body of a powerful fleet. The Rodney, 92, Capt. Collier, and the Superb, 80, Capt. Corry, will be stationed at Portsmouth, with the St. Vincent, 120, Capt. Sir R. Grant, flag-ship of Admiral Sir Charles Ogle, East, the commander-in-chief. By this distribution we shall have 10 out of the line at our home ports, four of them three-deckers, with about 7,000 men, viz.—At Sheerness—The Trafalgar, 120, Capt. Nott, flag of Vice Admiral Sir E. D. King, the commander-in-chief. The Ocean, 80, Capt. Superintendent Arthur, K.C.B. At Portsmouth—The St. Vincent, 120, Rodney, 92, Superb, 80. At Devonport—The Caladonia, 120; Queen, 110; Albion, 90; Canopus, 81. At Cove—Vanguard, 80.

King of the French has caused a notification to be made to her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, that the French squadron to be sent to the coast of Africa, in pursuance of the convention between their said Majesties, signed at London on 29th May, 1845, will be ready to commence operations on that coast by the 15th of the present month of December: the undersigned, her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and the Charge d'Affaires of his Majesty the King of the French at the Court of London, being furnished with the necessary powers, do, in conformity with the provisions of the 11th article of the said convention, by this joint declaration made known, that the measures to be adopted in virtue of the said convention are about to be carried into execution at the time mentioned in the said notification: and that, in consequence thereof, on the 6th day of March, 1846, being three months from the date of this joint declaration, the warrants that have been issued in pursuance of the convention of 1831 and 1833 to the cruisers of the two nations, for the mutual exercise of the right of search, are to be respectively delivered up.

"In witness whereof, the undersigned have signed the present joint declaration, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms. Done in duplicate, at London, the 6th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1845. (Signed) "ABERDEEN" (L.S.)

ROYAL MARINE ARTILLERY.—It is contemplated to increase the Marine Artillery corps from 730 to 1,000 men, as a considerable extra number will be required for the large steamers and steam block ships bringing forward for commission. The Marine Artillery are also very short of officers, not having one to embark in her Majesty's steamer, Samson, without withdrawing him from the force in Ireland. The whole number of officers allotted to the corps consists of six captains (one a supernumerary for laboratory, and other scientific service), and twenty Lieutenants (one acting an adjutant). Of the latter there are eight short of complement.

Engineers are busily employed strengthening the land and sea fortifications of both Portsmouth and Portsea. All the embrasures which have at different times been stopped up along the lines and ramparts of these towns have been now re-opened and where guns can be placed with advantage new ones made. On the ravelin in advance of the King's bastion, on the Portsmouth lines, six new embrasures are now being formed, and six guns of heavy calibre (32 and 68 pounders) are to be mounted forthwith. As this ravelin commands obliquely the entrance of the harbour, it will add considerably to the sea defence, and will likewise strengthen the town fortifications. The works at Blockhouse Fort are progressing rapidly, the Barrack for the Artillery being nearly finished.

PROMOTIONS.—Commanders.—Hon. W. B. Devereux. Commanders.—C. J. Postic; H. C. Harston. Lieutenants.—F. O'Reilly; D. Aird; F. K. Hawkins; C. T. Leckie; H. Bayley; W. E. Fishor; J. C. Clark; A. D. Gordon; C. O. Wood; C. M. Aynsley; G. A. Brine; J. C. W. N. Taylor; F. G. Simpkinson, and T. L. Gausson. Surgeon.—E. Heath, of Dwarf (who was ordered to attend the sick of Eclair, at Standgate Creek.) (Monthly Mail, Dec-24)

PROMOTIONS.—Commanders.—Henry Lyster (1841), acting captain of the Agincourt, and Edward Genny Fanshawe (1841) of the Cruiser (for their services with the boats in the attack on the 19th August, on the Borneo pirates), to the rank of Captain. (It is presumed that Commander Clifford, of the Wolverine, son of captain Sir Augustus Clifford, R. N., C. B., Usher of the Black Rod, will also be promoted on his completing his sea service time.)

Lieutenant.—George Morritt (1837), first of the Wolverine, for the above services, to the rank of Commander.

Mates.—Marcus Lowther (1838) acting Lieut. Philip W. May (1839), and Charles Henry Young (1839) of the Agincourt; Charles Noloth (1839) of the Dardanelles (also for the above services); Wm. George Herbert (1841) late of the Formidable; Wm. C. Forsyth (1833), of the Volcano; Robert Hussey Mombay (1839), of the Hazard; Henry H. M. Roden Page (1839) late of the Forret; Oswald Borland (1840), of the Queen; Edmund Hempstead (1833), of the America; and William Cashman (1839), of the Hermes, to the rank of Lieutenant.

Assistant Surgeons.—W. G. Parmeter (1839), late of the Devastation; Wm. Wool, M.D. (1839), late of the Ardent; and John Smart Peddie (1836), of the Terror, to the rank of Surgeon. Clerks.—Augustus Gilbert (1827), in the charge of the Bonetta; and Robert Kelland (1831), acting purser of the Heroine, to the rank of Paymaster and Purser.

PROMOTIONS.—Lieutenant.—H. C. Hanston to the rank of Commander.

Mates.—H. Bayley (1838), of the Volcano; W. R. Fisher (1838), of the Crocodile; J. C. Clark (1839), of the Ratler; A. D. Gordon (1840), late of the Illustration; C. O. Wood (1838), of the Queen; C. M. Aynsley (1841), late of the Scout; G. A. Brine (1840), of the Curagon; J. C. W. N. Taylor (1839), late of the Ardent; F. G. Simpkinson (1838); T. L. Gausson (1838), of the Rodney; and C. T. Leckie (1841), of the Liberator, to the rank of Lieutenant; F. K. Hawkins (1841), of the Eagle; and A. E. Davies (1838), of the Coast Guard, to the rank of Lieutenants.—Monthly Times, December 24.

MILITARY.

The Duke of Wellington, under any circumstances, will not retain the command of the Army. Gen. the Hon. Sir Edward Paget, K.C.B., Gov. Gen. of Chelsea College, and Colonel of the 25th Regt., is dangerously ill. Gen. Hodgson, Colonel of the 4th Foot, is also in a bad state of health. Col. Yarker, Assist. Quartermaster General, proceeds to Manchester to relieve Maj. Mundy and is succeeded at Cork by Col. J. Spink, K.C.B., Assist. Quartermaster General Dublin district. Col. Sir J. A. Clarke, K.C.B., Col. on the Staff at Tulse, Lanierich district, has been appointed Acting Assist. Quarter Gen. at the Royal Barracks, Dublin, in place of Col. J. Spink, K.C.B., ordered to Cork as pursuant to a Vice Quartermaster Gen. of the Cork district.

A new system of drill is about to be issued to the Army.

Several judicious and economical changes in the dress and equipment of the Army have been officially announced; they consist of an elastic leather stock in place of the present stiff one, thick cotton shirts instead of linen, and the substitution of light worsted trousers in place of white linen or duck.

The petition to Her Majesty from the veterans of the late war, and to which is appended a list of many thousand signatures, has been placed in the hands of the Duke of Richmond, and His Grace will take the most favourable opportunity of presenting it to our Most gracious Queen.

The Naval and Military Gazette says—"We believe that arrangements have at last been made to relieve two Regiments annually from India, by sending one direct from England and another from Australia; to effect which the Regiments which in future are to proceed to Australia will furnish Convict Guards during one year, and at its expiration the remainder will embark from Chatham. In like manner, as soon as the last Convict Guard of the year has arrived in Australia, the Regiment next for India will embark from that country. If this arrangement can be adhered to, which we doubt, the early relief of Regiments from India will be effected—a measure we have long long and anxiously advocated.

Orders have been issued by Col. Sir T. Willshire commandant of Chatham, for the corps of the line in Garrison to be exercised in heavy marching order one day in each week. The provisional Batt, consisting of eight companies, numbering nearly 500 men, are marched out into the country for about three miles, and return to Barracks after two hours' marching, under command of Lieut.-Col. T. G. Kelly.

At the recent examination of Cadets at the Royal Military Academy, the following passed for commissions in the Engineers and Artillery:—C. B. P. N. H. Nugent, E. Belfied, Hon. G. Wellesley, St. Andrew St. John, Edward C. A. Gordon, Whitworth Porter, John J. Wilson, William E. M. Reilly, George F. Dawson, William B. Saunders, Gustavus St. John Crofton, Charles H. Smith, Henry T. Fitzhugh, Wilmot H. Moody, Whaley N. Hardy, John L. Bolton, James R. Lugg, Henry Phillips, George H. J. A. Fraser, Thomas Lambert.

It is intended, so soon as parliament shall have passed a measure authorising such a proceeding, to call out a certain number of militia regiments for twenty-eight days' practice, the English corps to be drilled in Ireland, and the Irish corps in England. In order to facilitate the organisation and efficiency of these regiments, certain officers being appointed principal instructors in Her Majesty's service. The following officers have been appointed to the enrolment of the militia has been addressed by the War-office to the Colonels of the different regiments in Great Britain:

GREAT BRITAIN.

Circular, No.— War-office, Dec., 1845. Her Majesty having been graciously pleased to signify her commands that the permanent staff of the several regiments, battalions, or corps of the militia of Great Britain, shall be completed to the numbers limited by the act of the 5th and 6th William IV. cap. 37, I have the honour to acquaint you, that the establishment of the staff of the regiment under your command should be completed as soon as practicable, so as to consist of the numbers specified in the margin,—1 adjutant, 1 sergeant-major, and 7 sergeants.

A communication will be addressed to you respecting the adjutants by the Lord-Lieutenant of the county. As it appears that there are several vacancies in the rank of sergeant, and, it being highly essential that those vacancies should be filled by active and efficient non-commissioned officers whose former services in the regular army have rendered them particularly qualified for the duty of drilling recruits in the modern and improved principle of military instruction, I have caused to be prepared a list of non-commissioned officers (pensioners of Chelsea Hospital) whose efficiency and excellent character combine to render them eligible to supply the existing vacancies; and I beg leave to state that, upon the expression of your wish to avail yourself of the facility offered by this arrangement, I shall be enabled to recommend to you from among the pensioners residing in your district the number of sergeants requisite to complete the staff.

Adverting to the recent inspection of the staff of your regiment, I have to observe, that although the inspecting officers have reported that several of the sergeants are unfit for the performance of duties in the event of the militia being embodied for active service, yet that they are not wholly incapacitated from the performance of local duties incidental to the ballot, enrolment, as well as the exercise of the militia, and would be able to afford valuable information on the first training. Upon these grounds it is not deemed expedient at present to discharge all such sergeants and replace them by others; but as there may be some who, from their great age, long service, and infirmities, are no longer competent to the performance of any duties whatever, it would be very desirable that these sergeants should be discharged, and recommended to the Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital for the grant of a pension; but before any definitive measures are adopted upon that point, I should be glad to receive a statement upon the inclosed form, showing the names and services in all ranks of the sergeants whom you may desire to select for discharge upon this occasion, preparatory to the adoption of ulterior measures respecting them.

I have the honour to be your most obedient humble servant. SIDNEY HERBERT.

To the Colonel of the Regiment of Militia. INFANTRY. 18th—Lieut. Woodright is appointed to the recruiting service at Kendal, vice Lieut. Marsden. ADMIRALTY Dec. 16. Corps of Royal Marines.—P. M. C. Croker and J. C. Giles to be Sec. Lieuts.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE. EASTERN IMPORTS. PRODUCE MARKET.

There have been some considerable purchases recently, chiefly on American account, and supplies in hand of importers that have not yet found purchasers from want of tonnage. Betelnut.—A few prows have arrived with about 2000 piculs, for which the ask is \$2.53 per picul, but we do not learn whether it is has yet changed hands. Charcoal.—Plentifully supplied at present. Grain.—Rice Arracan, has been looking up during the last month. The Bark "Eria" called in here from Arracan with a full cargo; but being offered only 843 per coyan, she proceeded on to Singapore in hopes of doing better. Opium.—We could not name Benares over \$200, and demand very languid.

Pepper.—A stock in the place of about 2 to 3000 piculs Delli, that could readily be secured at \$4 10 per picul.

Sugar.—The "Lady East" for London has taken a small export. The production is rapidly increasing in the province, where new Estates are still being opened up.

Tin.—Imports from Junk Ceylon, and we would name it with \$164 per picul.

Miscellaneous.—The only article we have to notice under this head is Coir rope, a sale of which ex "William" has been made at \$34 per picul. That vessel has imported upwards of 1,200 piculs, by far too great a supply by one ship.

Freights.—Several vessels have been taken up to load rice as Arracan for this port, and the expected arrivals of sail will now be considerable. The "Lady East" sailed for London via Singapore to fill up. The "Eucles" and "Iron Queen", are the vessels next expected direct from England.—Pinang Gazette January 24.

EASTERN ARTICLES.

Alum.—The Junks have imported 3,350 piculs during the month which will probably sell at \$1.70 per picul.

Aniseed, Star.—None and seldom wanted; last sale at \$74 per picul. Antimony Ore.—Imports of 2,200 piculs from Borneo but being a monopoly no sales have taken place.

Arracan, Batavia.—Imports of about 300 casks which are moving off slowly. 126 casks sold at \$7 per half Leag.

Bees Wax.—The supplies have been under 80 piculs during the month. The demand continues good at \$38 a 39 per picul.

Betelnut.—The market is cleared and the article is wanted at \$2 per picul for shipment to Calcutta.

Camphor, China.—Nominal at \$16 per picul. The Junks with large supplies have been expected for some weeks but up to this period no importations have taken place.

Coffee.—The market supplied with little or none, for sale. Imports would command quotations 230 bags of Java, old wormy, sold at \$4.85 a 490 and 34 bags at \$3.60 per picul.

Cotton.—Prices nominal. The demand being good in the Northern Ports in China it is expected that the Junks will buy largely this season.

Cotton Goods Bengal & Madras Piece Goods.—No export demand and only trifling sales made during the month.

Cassia.—None; last sale at \$11 per picul.

Cutch, Pegu.—Inquired for and no imports for sometime past.

Ebony.—No supplies from the Mauritius and Ceylon which is attributed to the low price ruling here for the last few years. The quality brought from Ceylon in demand for the Junks.

Gambier.—On the departure of the last Mail prices were on the advance and sales were made at \$7.75, since which the absence of tonnage for England has caused a decline and considerable transactions have taken place at \$170 a 1.75, and it is now offered at \$150 par picul.

Gamboge.—Continues to be sought after and sales of the limited imports have been made at quotations.

Gold Dust.—Scarce and much wanted for shipment to Calcutta.

Gum Benjamin.—Limited supplies. This article, of good quality, is in demand for shipment to Europe and India. Gum Copal in no demand.

Hides & Horns, Buffalo.—Small supplies which readily find purchasers at \$4 a 44 for the former; of the latter, sales have been made at \$5 70 p. cl.

Mace & Nutmegs.—The small quantity taken by most of the Junks last season has been favorably reported upon and purchases on a larger scale are likely to be made this year.

Mother o' Pearl Shells.—Supplies readily find purchasers at fair rates.

An import of 250 piculs from Sooloo has been sold at \$134 per picul.

Opium.—The market has been very dull throughout the month. No Patna for sale and the demand for Benares has been confined to the immediate wants of Native traders. 10 chests offered at Auction averaged \$632 and \$640 a 650 are now being given. The arrival of the New Drug is hourly expected when sales to some extent may be looked for. In Malwa no demand exists. Imports of Turkey remain in first hands.

Pepper, Black.—Imports have been on a large scale this month. One lot of 1,000 piculs, clean and dry, was sold at \$4.10 and several other lots of Rhio and Singapore at a few cents per picul higher. White.—About 1,000 picul sold at \$7, 64, 64 and \$6,30 and long at \$3.35 per picul.

Rice.—Fine continues to be much wanted and supplies would command \$75 a 80 per coyan. Considerably imports from Arracan, the greater part of which is being shipped to China. Sales of new Arracan at \$15 and old at \$12 per coyan.

Rattans & Canes.—Imports of the former 23,000 piculs, as of the latter 25,039 in No, but no sales of consequence have taken place.

Sago Pearl and Sago Flour.—Continue at the high rate of \$34 a 34 for the former and \$34 for the latter. If tonnage were available these prices might be maintained but for want of it they are likely to go lower.

Sugar.—Of good quality scarce—and of inferior the market is supplied to a limited extent. No sales to notice during the month.

Sapin Wood, Manila.—Sales have been made of 3,000 piculs at \$1.73 per picul.

Segara, Manila.—Considerable imports and sales at various rates. At the early part of the month 2,000 boxes No. 3 sold at \$104 and 1,030 boxes at \$84 since which the price has been gradually declining. Sales made of No. 3 at \$94 a 10 No. 4 at \$74 a 9 and by Auction, \$9.70 a 95 per 1,000 No. 3 and \$7.70 a 7.80 per 1,000 for No. 4.

Silk Raw, Canton No. 3.—Very dull of sale at \$250 a 255. Sale of 15 piculs Yellow Silk imported by Hylam Junks at \$240 per picul.

Tin.—About 10,000 piculs have been imported by the Junks but the only transactions to notice are small shipments to India of good quality at \$6 a 6.50 per box of 20 caddies.

Tin, Straits.—The demand continues good. Supplies of about 1000 piculs have been sold at \$17.20 a 17.40 per picul and these rates are likely to be maintained.

Tortoise shell.—None for sale and wanted.

EXCHANGES.

On England.—Sales to some extent have been made of Bills at 6 Months sight at 4s 3d a 4s 34d, and to a limited amount in Navy and Banks of Australia Bills at 4s 2d.

On Calcutta.—Transactions have been on a limited scale at 221 a 222.

On Madras & Bombay.—Seldom wanted; nominal rate 225.

On China.—Generally saleable at par.

To England continues scarce and much wanted. The Lady Howden and Lancheater are loading for China with Rice at 40 cents per picul. The Lady East is the only vessel now loading for England.

GANTON PRICES CURRENT.

26TH FEBRUARY, 1846.

IMPORTS.—DUTY PAID.

Ale (best brands) \$20 0 to \$25 0 per hhd. Quite nominal no sales having been made for several months and no enquiry. Amber 10 50 to 11 0 per catty. Betel Nut 3 60 to 0 0 per picul. Canvas—Eng. and } 8 50 to 10 0 per bolt. Scotch } Cochineal 220 0 to 0 0 per picul. Copper, sheathing 34 0 to 36 0 do. Stock very light and much wanted. S.A.M. 25 0 to 0 0 do. Cordage, European 8 0 to 9 0 do.

COTTON.

Bombay, Ts.5 8 to Ts.6 7 do. Madras, 7 8 to 8 2 do. Bengal, 8 6 to 9 0 do. Corron.—Bombay dull at quotations; some enquiry for Bengal at advanced rates.

COTTON GOODS.

White Shirtings, \$2 50 to \$3 10 per piece. Grey ditto, 2 10 to 2 75 do. Corron Goods.—A few sales have been made subsequent to the Chinese holidays, chiefly of the common descriptions at very low rates; but there is more enquiry for heavy goods at slightly advanced prices.

Yarn, Nos. 16 a 24 31 50 to 32 50 per picul. Nos. 25 a 42 40 0 to 41 0 do. YARN.—Continues in request the stock being very light.

Chintz, Furniture 2 30 to 3 0 per piece.

METALS.

Tin, Banca 19 0 to 18 50 per picul. Straits 15 50 to 16 0 do. Iron, Nail 3 0 to 0 0 do. Hoop 2 80 to 0 0 do. Bar 2 70 to 0 0 do. Steel 4 50 to 5 0 do. Tin plates 6 50 to 0 0 per box. Lead Pig 5 80 to 0 0 per picul. Quicksilver 123 0 to 0 0 do. OPIUM—Patna, 680 0 to 685 0 per chest. Benares, 660 0 to 665 0 do. Malwa, new, good 740 0 to 745 0 do. Turkey 4 80 to 0 0 per picul. Opium.—In old Patna very little doing, contracts have been made for the new deliverable in 3 weeks at 620\$.

Pepper 5 80 to 0 0 do. Rice, Bengal 1 80 to 2 0 do. Rattans, Banjar-massan 3 80 to 3 90 do. Sandalwood, Malabar 8 40 to 13 80 do. Timor, & S.S. Isl. 4 0 to 7 0 do. Saltpetre 6 50 to 7 0 do. In little demand at quotations.

WOOLLENS.

Spanish Stripes 1 05 to 1 25 per yard. Long Ells, scarlet 8 40 to 8 60 per piece. Well assorted 8 30 to 8 45 do. Camlets, English 20 0 to 21 0 do. For best assortments, but little enquiry. Dutch 26 0 to 29 0 do. Medium Cloth 1 60 to 2 10 per yard. Stock large. Ladies 1 25 to 1 40 do. Stock large.

EXPORTS.—ON BOARD.

Alum at Hongkong \$1.20 to 1.25 on board. Camphor 14 0 to 15 0 do. Cassia 10 0 to 11 0 do. Buds 16 0 to 19 0 do. China Roots 2 50 to 3 0 do. Musk 85 0 to 90 0 per catty. Rhubarb 25 0 to 50 0 per picul. SILK. Tsatlee 465 0 to 0 0 do. Taysam 365 0 to 0 0 do. Canton 310 0 to 0 0 do. SILK.—These quotations are quite nominal in the absence of transactions.

TEA.

Congou, Ts. 12 0 to Ts. 27 0 do. Caper plain market cleared do. scented 20 0 to 30 0 do. Orange Pekoe 15 0 to 30 0 do. scented 25 0 to 43 0 do. Souchong 15 0 to 28 0 do. Twankay 13 0 to 33 0 do. Hyson Skin 15 0 to 20 0 do. common 30 0 to 66 0 do. Hyson 20 0 to 60 0 do. Imperial 35 0 to 56 0 do. Gunpowder 40 0 to 60 0 do. Tea.—The great quantity of tonnage prevents operations to any extent, and Green of all classes are again lower. Congous are still held at the prices current for a month ago.

Export of Tea from China to Great Britain.

1st July 1845, to 26th February, 1846.

Congou 27,940,733. Caper 1,293,913. Souchong 1,471,819. Pouchong 1,104. Sorts 759,564. Flowery Pekoe 525,414. Orange Pekoe 2,662,182. 34,113,712 lbs. Black. Twankay 1,551,069. Hyson Skin 92,560. Hyson 545,547. Young Hyson 2,125,591. Imperial 527,700. Gunpowder 1,379,194. 6,122,603 Green. Total 40,236,315 lbs.

EXPORT OF TEA TO THE UNITED STATES IN 50 VESSELS, for Year ending June 30th, 1845.

Total Green, 12,082,000 lbs. Total Black, 6,959,159 lbs. Total Green and Black, 19,041,159 lbs.

EXPORT OF TEAS TO THE UNITED STATES IN 23 VESSELS from June 30th, 1845, to February 8th, 1846, including the "Geneva," and "Ann Maria,"

Young Hyson, 5,124,293 lbs. Hyson, 482,833. Hyson Skin and Twankay, 1,125,092. Imperial, 517,823. Gunpowder, 740,363. Total Green, 7,990,409 lbs. Souchong and Congou, 1,281,590 lbs. Pouchong, 432,673. Orange Pekoe, 23,702. Oulooing, 162,436. Total Black, 1,905,400. Total Green, and Black, 9,895,809 lbs.

SILK EXPORT.

The Export of Raw Silk to the United Kingdom, from Canton and Shanghai, from 1st July to date. Amounts to about 13,000 Bales; of which about 10,300 have been shipped at Shanghai direct to England.

COTTON REPORT.

Canton, February 25th 1846.

Bales Deliveries. Stock Cotton Twist do. 797 795. Bombay do. 12,599 45,515. Bengal do. 1,184 4,369. Madras do. 1,535 8,206. American do. 37 2,574. Total, Bales, 15,345 60,694.

Good Success included.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Sycee Silver, large, 7 per cent premium. Spanish Dollars, Ferdinand, par. Carolus, 12 per cent premium. Republican ditto, to 2 per cent discount.

EXCHANGE ON ENGLAND, 6 m. s. The transactions in Exchange have been very limited. There are very few Bills offering. Some enquiry has been made for Bills at 4s. 5d. but there are no English Houses drawing, Baring's credits have been sold at 4s. 44d. and 4s. 5d. Oriental Bank Bills at 6 month sight 4s 4 p. Sp. dol. 30 days 4s 24.

ON INDIA.—Company's accepted bills on Calcutta 223 Rupees per 100 Sp. dollars. Oriental Bank bills on Calcutta at 60 days' sight 224 p. 100 Sp. dls. at 30 days sight (223 p. 100 Sp. dls. Do. on Bombay at 60 days' sight 225 p. 100 Sp. dls. at 30 " 224 p. 100 "

PREIGHTS. To London or Liverpool, No available ships here at present; 5 ves els have been engaged during the month at £ 8. To Amoy, \$6 per ton of 40 feet. To ports north of Amoy, 7 a 8.

SHANGHAI.

IMPORTS.

Per "Annie," Br. Brig, from Liverpool, arrived 26th January, 1846. PLATT & Co. 20,500 pieces Grey Shirtings. 250 White Twills. 2 casks Hardware.

Per "Glentanner," Br. Ship, from Liverpool, arrived 23th January, 1846. PLATT & Co. 700 tons Salt.

Per "Marmion," Br. Ship, from Liverpool, arrived January, 1846. TURNER & Co. 67,910 pieces Grey Shirtings. 2,538 White. 98 Woollens.

Per "Mary Ann Webb," Br. Barque, from Liverpool, arrived 30th January, 1847. THOS. RIPLEY & Co. 48,541 pieces Grey Shirtings. 7,309 White. 3,033 Grey Twills. 760 Cotton. 842 Woollens. 420 Deals for building purposes. 20 Logs wood. 1 box Drugs, private use.

Per "Matilda," Br. Barque, from Liverpool, arrived 30th January, 1846. JARDINE & Co. 9,145 pieces White Shirtings. 60,331 Grey.

Per "Bleng," Br. Barque, from Liverpool, arrived January, 1846. SANDS, TURNER & Co. 33,220 pieces Grey Shirtings. 1,499 White. 198 Woollens. 250 Cremonas, value 500 dollars. 30 pkgs. Coomons unknown. 51 Personal Stores.

Per "Farrington," Br. Sc. from Hongkong, arrived 5th Feb'y, 1846. K. R. MACKENZIE. 45 pieces Camlets. 60 Dutch Camlets. 750 Woollens. 2,213 Grey Shirtings. 1,083 White. 1,083 dozens Handkerchiefs. 172 pieces Long Ells. 30 kegs Butter. Personal and private stores.

EXPORTS.

Per "Kelpie," Br. Barque, for Hongkong, sailed 24th January, 1846. BOUSTEAD & Co. Tea Hyson Skin, 5,542 lbs. Twankay, 10,597. Hyson, 13,457. Young Hyson, 20,412. Imperial, 4,018. Gunpowder, 11,544. 74,260 lbs.

112 bales Raw Silk. 4,000 pieces White Shirtings. 1,500 Grey. 43 pkgs. Manufactured Copper.

Edited, Printed and Published by JOHN CHAN, At the Friend of China and Hongkong Gazette, Printing Office, Cross Street, Victoria, Hongkong, 1846.