

THE FRIEND OF CHINA

AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

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FOR ENGLAND, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, CEYLON, AND INTERMEDIATE PORTS.

THE Peninsula and Oriental Company's Steam Ship BRAGANZA, will leave for the above places on Tuesday, the 26th of May.

Cargo will be received on board until Noon, and specie until 4 P. M., of Monday the 25th.

This Route affords an opportunity of visiting SINGAPORE and PENANG, remaining a short time at CEYLON, and thence proceeding to ENGLAND by Overland Conveyance through EGYPT in 54 days, to MADRAS in 30 days, and CALCUTTA in 34 days, from the date of leaving CHINA. Steamers belonging to the B. E. I. Company, and Bombay Steam Navigation Company, are also understood to ply, the former between COLOMBO and the latter between GALLE, and BOMBAY, thus affording Passengers a much more speedy means of reaching the latter place than is otherwise obtainable.

Arrangements are made in the Steamers throughout for the convenience of Native Merchants of India proceeding as Passengers; certain accommodations are also reserved in the Calcutta Steamers for Passengers from China joining the Suez line at GALLE, to secure which it is requisite that a Notice of at least Two Months be given to the Company's Agent here.

Cargo, Parcels, &c. may be forwarded to ENGLAND by the above Vessel with the same despatch as H. M. Mails; and Specie, Silk, or other Goods for CEYLON, MADRAS, and CALCUTTA, on Terms not less favourable than by sailing vessels, the rate of Insurance having been reduced by several Offices in favour of the Company's Steamers.

Until further notice the Rates of Freight will be:—

FOR MEASUREMENTS GOODS.

TO SOUTHAMPTON, per Ton of 40 Cubic Feet, \$120 Sp.

And for SPECIE.

TO MADRAS and CALCUTTA, 2 per cent.

CEYLON, 1 1/2 "

SINGAPORE and PENANG, 1 "

No Goods can be received for Overland Transit unless Packed in non-susceptible Coverings as Wood, Matting, Tarred Cloth &c. and the Contents and Value of each Package either marked on the outside, or declared in Writing at the time of Shipment.

Further particulars regarding the Rates of Freight and Passage may be obtained by application at the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong.

J. A. OLDING, Agent.

Hongkong, 29th April, 1846.

TO LET.

A House in Pottinger Street opposite the R. C. Church and next to Mr Shortt, apply to BUSH & Co.

Victoria, 6th March 1846.

TO LET.

A House in Gough Street. Apply to JOHN CARR.

TO LET.

A Bungalow in Queen's Road, opposite the Albany Godowns, consisting of Six Rooms well ventilated below, with detached Offices and Stables complete. Apply to TURNER & Co.

Hongkong, March 2nd, 1846.

TO LET.

THREE Houses situate in Wellington Street, commanding a fine view of the Bay. Early possession can be given. For further particulars apply to R. OSWALD.

Victoria, 27th February, 1846.

TO LET.

A HOUSE on Queen's Road, containing twelve rooms, with godowns. Apply to ARCH: MELVILLE.

Victoria, 14th April, 1846.

TO LET.

TWO Houses on the south side of Gough Street. Apply to GEO. STRACHAN.

TO LET.

SEVERAL convenient tenements situated in Wellington and Stanley Streets, at \$15 per month. Apply to BURD, LANGE & Co.

Queen's Road, March 27th, 1846.

TO LET.

THAT commodious House, lately occupied by Mr. Gabriel as the British Hotel, situate in Stanley and Graham Streets. For particulars apply to C. MARKWICK, Auctioneer.

TO LET.

TWO commodious Houses situated in Stanley Street, containing 3 Rooms each with yard and outhouses; rent moderate. For further particulars apply to D. LARKIN, 1 Wellington Terrace, D'Agular Street.

Victoria 5th May 1846.

TO LET.

THE Bungalow in Cairn's Road lately occupied by C. Hughson Esq. containing Drawing, Dining and Sitting Rooms; six Bed rooms with dressing and Bathing rooms attached. Servants out offices and Stabling complete. Rent only \$50 per month. Apply to F. SPRING, Ravensburg Cottage, Staunton Street.

TO LET.

THE spacious and convenient two storied House Corner of Wellington and D'Agular Streets, formerly occupied by the Supreme Court; has good dry godowns and convenient mercantile Offices. Rate extremely moderate. For further particulars apply to F. SPRING, Ravensburg Cottage, Staunton Street.

FOR SALE.

MARINE Lot No. 64 Situated between the lots of Messrs. MAOVICAR & Co. and FRAMER JAMESON 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.

NOTICE.

THE Commercial Business of the undersigned will from this date be continued, under the style of "Senn Van Basel & Co." M. J. SENN VAN BASEL. Canton, March 1st, 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 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.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned have been appointed Agents at Shanghai for the Imperial Fire Office of London. BLENKIN, RAWSON & Co. Victoria, 22d April 1846.

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

FOR SALE.

AT the Godowns of Messrs Blenkin, Rawson & Co. Allsops Pale Ale in bottle; Barclay's Porter in bottle, Superior Sherry, Madeira, and Port, in wood and bottle. Hongkong, 16th January, 1846.

FOR SALE.

THE undermentioned Wines from the House of Gledastanes, 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, Corsart & Co's superior Madeira, in Hhds, quarter and half quarter casks, and in cases. FLETCHER & Co. Hongkong, 1st March, 1845.

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

NOTICE.

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

FOR SALE.

BLANDY'S Madeira, in half pipes, hhd's, and D quarter casks. Apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co. Victoria, 10th April 1846.

NOTICE.

MR JOSEPH L. ROBERTS is a partner in our firm. AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co. Canton, 20th March, 1846.

FOR SALE.

MADEIRA in Pipes and Hhds. Also, Superior Malmsiey in quarter casks. Apply to BRYCE & Co. at Canton, or have to ARCH: MELVILLE Victoria, 29th April, 1846.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned have removed from Hongkong to Canton. REISS & Co. Canton, 1st May 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.

NOTICE.

THE Steamer CORSAIR having obtained a full supply of coals, will in future run regularly between Hongkong and Canton leaving on the following days. From Hongkong, Mondays and Fridays. From Canton, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Fares.—Saloon \$12. Fore cabin \$6; no charge for Servants. W. H. FRANKLYN, Agent.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

AT Mr. FRANKLYN'S rooms Queen's Road, on Thursday next the 14th instant at 11 A. M. A quantity of preserved provisions consisting of Soup and Bouilli, Fish, roast and boiled meats. Bacon and Cheddar Cheeses, English made Black's mops, Shovels, damaged Beer in bottles and a quantity of very superior Canvas, Paint Oil in tins, and a variety of sundries, without any reserve to close accounts. Terms of Sale; as per bills.

JUST landed ex Earl Powis from Liverpool, and on sale by the undersigned:— Superior Navy Canvas, Anchors of various sizes, Chain Cables from 1/4 inch to 1 1/2 inches, Sheathing Copper, fine rounds of Beef and Ox Tongues. W. H. FRANKLYN. Queen's Road, 17th April, 1846.

A QUANTITY of GUN POWDER, for sale. Apply to W. H. FRANKLYN.

FOR SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED.

ALLSOP'S Pale Ale, in wood and bottle. Port, Sherry and Madeira. Still and sparkling Moselle. A good cheap Claret for summer use. ALSO Twilled flannel and Orleans cloth of black, blue and other colours; an article expressly for summer Coats. A variety of fancy goods; and all kinds of Ships stores, as Canvas, Rope &c. Horse clothing, Saddle Bridles and fifty dozen superior half hose. W. H. FRANKLYN.

FOR SALE.

TWO Manila Porties, broken to saddle and harness. Also a Palanquin Ghurry, and a Set of double harness. Apply to BURD, LANGE & Co. Victoria, 27th March, 1846.

BILLIARDS.

HOLMES & BIGHAM beg respectfully to inform the Gentlemen of Hongkong that they have opened a Billiard Room with a first rate, "Harrison's" Slate Table on their premises 2 doors East of the House occupied by Gen. D'Agular. Gentlemen honoring them with their patronage will meet with every attention.

A N Invoice of lead piping ex "Earl Powis," for sale by the undersigned. HOLMES & BIGHAM. Victoria, 19th April, 1846.

FOR Sale by the undersigned: Allsop's Beer in bottle. Blyss's do. do. HOLMES & BIGHAM. Victoria, 22d April 1846.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned begs to inform parties indebted to him, to pay the same as early as possible; and 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 the nature and particulars; will be put up for sale by Public Auction, and sold off to the highest bidder. 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, 16th February, 1846.

FOR SALE.

AT the Store of Mr. John Smith in Macao from Dr. Huxham's Tonic Wine Manufacture there. Macao, 4th January, 1845.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned have formed a partnership, for the transaction of a general Agency and Commission business, under the respective Firms of RAWLE, DUDS & Co. at Victoria, and DUDS, RAWLE & Co. at Shanghai. S. B. RAWLE N. DUDS Victoria, Hongkong, 1st October, 1845.

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

FOR SALE.

SUPERIOR Sherry and Madeira in wood; also a few half pipes and quarter casks; Cape and Tenerife Wines, Sherry, Madeira, Port, Claret, Cognac, Cherry Brandy, in 1 & 2 & 3 dozen cases. RAWLE, DUDS & Co. Victoria, 25th October, 1845.

FOR SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED.

An assortment of Anchors and Chain Cables. A Europe Manila and Coir Rope, Hemp and Cotton Canvas, and several Spars for lower and topmasts. RAWLE, DUDS & Co. Victoria, 28th October, 1845.

FOR SALE.

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

SUMMER WINES.

FOR sale by the undersigned, Rhensish and French Wines at moderate prices. Gräfenberger Destourmel. Hockheimer Lartigue. Geissenheimer St. Julien. RAWLE, DUDS & Co. Victoria, 21st April 1846.

FOR SALE at the Store of the undersigned— Superior Sperm Candles. Leaf Sugar. Window Glasses, 16x11, 16x16, and 24x16. Dutch Battery. Gin, Cider and Porter. RAWLE, DUDS & Co. Queen's Road, 6th May 1846.

ZINC.

A N Invoice for sale by the undersigned. RAWLE, DUDS & Co.

FLOOR MATS.

FOR SALE by the undersigned, Shanghai Floor Mats (white) in rolls and single mats of 20 yards each. This matting is much superior to that manufactured in Canton. RAWLE, DUDS & Co. Queen's Road, 8th May, 1846.

FOR SALE a bay Pony. Apply to Mrs DUDS.

MESSERS HUNTER & BARTON, beg to announce that their Macao Establishment has been removed to No. 12 Danish Hong Canton. WHERE THE FOLLOWING ARE FOR SALE. Soda Water and Aerated Lemonade direct from the fountain. Patent Medicines, Perfumery, Ships Medicine chests sold and replenished. Canton 16th March, 1846.

FOR SALE.

SODA WATER and AERATED LEMONADE. OF superior quality at Messrs HUNTER & BARTON'S Dispensaries, Pottinger Street, Victoria Hongkong, and 12 Danish Hong, Canton.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

SODA WATER, AERATED LEMONADE, Aerated Chalybeate Water, (highly recommended, on account of its tonic properties). AGENT AT CANTON, ACHOOK, Comprodor, No. 3 Imperial Hong, Hongkong, 13th March, 1846.

DISPENSARY, CANTON.

THE FOLLOWING SELECT MEDICINES, &c. ARE ON SALE AT THE DISPENSARY, 4 PRINCE HOPE, CANTON. BUTLER'S Tasteless Seditive Powders; Concentrated Decoction of Serrapellata, of double strength, in astringent fermentation; Capsules Gelatinosae; Castor Oil Capsules; Concentrated Distilled Solution of Chloride of Lime; Domestic Bitters; Spirit of Castor; Castor Oil Superior Colic Water; Lister's Healing Lotion; Rose Water; Granville's Lotion; Prepared Chalk; Perfumed Chalk Pills; Hip Salve; Aromatic Syrup of Rhubarb; Tooth Powder; Hydrate of Potash; Carbonate of Soda in Bottles; Gregory's Powder; Chalybeate Salt; Quinine in Bottle and in Pills; Turkey Rhubarb; Balsamic Paste; Suspensory Bendaque; Herma Trusses; Ear Springs; Urtica Oil; Bone and Glass; Lavement Machine; Pain Expeller; Specific Solution of Hydrate of Potash; Serrapellata, &c., for Rheumatism and Chronic Catarrhs; Affections; Spirit of Wines; Brandy; Liquorice; Rowland's Tobacco; Drops; Bark; Matico; Anodyne; Fish Brandy; Soda Water; Medicine Chests, &c. &c.

EDWARD CULLEN, M. D. REG. L. L. L.

Table with columns: Date, Month, Year, and various numerical entries. Includes a 'NOTICE' section at the bottom.

len goods, which have been in greater request at Shanghai, though the northern market was glutted by the enormous purchases made at Canton in the early part of 1844. The nominal preponderance of exports over imports has been in some degree anticipated. The scarcity of silver among the purchasers of silk and opium has led to heavy barriers transacted for silk and opium, and consequently Chinese produce has been pressed upon the home market to a greater extent than prudence may warrant. Taking the entire imports, inclusive of opium and treasure (neither of which are entered in the Consular books, the first being sold outside the ports of trade and the second being free of duty) they have always greatly exceeded exports, and it is difficult to perceive how this evil is to be remedied, except by providing an outlet of consumption for a much larger quantity of the productions of China than is now available. The attention of those interested in commercial prosperity, is naturally directed to the tea duties, a modification of which will be a probable export to the British islands of Sugar, and a further extension of the silk duties, appear the most direct means of relieving the drain upon China for the precious metals. The difficulty does not arise in the paucity of production, it is in our inability to take a larger supply, and it is to be hoped that the results of the modifications in the duties upon other articles of large consumption, as it refers to revenue, will induce her Majesty's advisers ere long to propose a large reduction in the present oppressive duty upon tea. The British imports for 1844 and 1845 at the five ports are shortly given in the following table.

Table showing imports for 1844 and 1845 at five ports. Columns include 'Imports', '1844', and '1845' with various sub-totals.

In exports, we find tea has been well sold from the value of £2,979,580 to £3,895,718— increase on the year £1,236,745 showing an addition to what was considered the large shipments of 1844 of £399,670 in value. These two articles, with Sugar, nearly meet the entire increase of the year. Sugar and Sugar Candy has advanced from the value of £138,101 to £217,394, which is accounted for by the experimental shipments to England.

Table showing exports for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Exports', '1844', and '1845' with various sub-totals.

NOTICE. New advertisements will be received, until 4 O'Clock, on the evenings previous to publication, viz: Tuesdays and Fridays. LATEST DATES. England Feb. 24 Batavia April 10 United States July 31 Singapore April 10 Sicily May 19 Manila March 28 Bombay Mar. 12 Chusan May 2 Madras Mar. 14 Shanghai April 28 Sydney Aug. 24

THE FRIEND OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE. VICTORIA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 13th, 1846

On Monday afternoon the Mat houses, lately occupied by the Indian Soldiers, were burnt down. The fire did no farther damage; and as the houses were to be pulled down, the loss must be quite trifling.

PIRACY. We hear of another case of piracy in our neighbourhood. On Monday a fast boat, hired by a European Gentleman in Canton to carry him to Hong Kong, was boarded by three piratical boats above Lintin, and property to the value of \$350 belonging to the passenger carried away—the crew were also robbed of their clothes, and a Chinese passenger, whom they had smuggled on board unknown to the Gentleman who chartered the boat, was robbed, he says, of property to the value of \$1,000 belonging to some Chinese at Macao. After the pirates boarded they offered, no violence to those on board, further than an attempt to intimidate a Chinese servant into a confession that his Master had money. The pirates were well armed, and in number 100 to 120 men. Whilst coming up, one of the boats fired twice, but without doing any damage. At the time the piracy was committed it was calm, and after leaving the first boat they were seen to board several other boats. The Passenger had no arms with him, nor could they have been of the slightest use against such a force. Mr Lena will have some employment for his Gun-boats when ready, and in the meantime, those who have occasion to travel to and from Canton will probably avail themselves of the services of the Corsair, now making two trips a week.

FOREIGN TRADE OF CHINA FOR THE YEAR 1845.

The official returns of the foreign trade for the past year are only complete so far as British commerce is concerned. The Consular returns from Amoy, Ningpo, and Shanghai do not include the American trade, nor that of other foreign nations with the exception of Great Britain; it is therefore to the British trade for 1845, as contrasted with that of 1844, that we particularly make reference.

Taking the imports and exports at all the ports, it will be observed that the first have fallen off to the extent of £406,828; the latter having increased £1,343,761; thus showing an aggregate addition to our commerce in 1845 of £287,432. In imports the decrease has been chiefly confined to East India Cotton, and Woolen manufactured goods; of the first the imports as compared with 1844, have diminished in value £245,620, and of the latter £161,824. Cotton Yarn also shows a decline, though the aggregate amount of cotton fibres and cotton yarn exhibits an increase of £35,834.

The articles of which the import has been limited are those with which the market was glutted in 1844. Yarn, a year and a half ago still unsaleable, have gradually improved, and stock has been reduced at satisfactory prices. The observation may also partly apply to Wool-

A reference to the annual unit of traffic for the two years, in so far as the great staples are concerned, will show the change which has taken place since 1844. Shanghai now being the chief mart for manufactures, while Indian produce, cotton wool, and cotton yarn, continue to find purchasers in Canton. The following short statement will be readily understood.

Table showing imports for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Imports', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for Woollens and Cotton.

Table showing cotton goods for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Cotton Goods', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for Cotton Yarns.

Table showing exports for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Exports', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for Tea and Sugar.

Table showing foreign trade for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Foreign Trade', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for Tea, Sugar, and Cotton.

Table showing foreign trade for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Foreign Trade', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for Tea, Sugar, and Cotton.

Table showing foreign trade for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Foreign Trade', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for Tea, Sugar, and Cotton.

The decrease in the Indian cotton trade, has caused some diminution in British tonnage entering the ports of China during the past year. Such a bulky article as cotton requires a large amount of tonnage, and the fluctuations in cotton shipments cause greater apparent changes—we judge simply by the list of shipping—than really have taken place. For 1844 we have no correct returns of British shipping engaged in the China trade. In the Consular returns from Canton it was

given correctly and minutely; and as the Consuls at the other ports have now adopted Mr MacGregor's forms, as well with reference to tonnage as the classification of articles according to the tariff, we will for the future be furnished with very accurate and simple returns—embracing the entire trade, with the exception of opium and sugar, the former of which it is impossible to include, and for the latter the Consuls, if they obtain it all, must procure it from the Merchants. We give a table of the shipping upwards, which compared with that of a corresponding period of the previous year will show, so far as can be shown, with imperfect returns for one of the years, its condition in 1845. It will be observed, that the 228 ships entered at Canton in 1844 give a greater aggregate tonnage than 232 at all the ports in 1845. This is accounted for by the absence of many of the large cotton ships in the latter year, also, from the greater number of small vessels entered at the northern ports.

Table showing British tonnage for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'British Tonnage', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for various ports.

In our brief review of the trade of the past year, we have given values in sterling money without reference to quantities. In all the local papers the shipments of Silk and tea are brought down to a period four months later than the returns, as those at all interested in the trade have been informed upon the point months ago. We have therefore viewed the British trade with China as a whole, without attempting to sub-divide it by impractical calculations, to show how much came from or was sent to the various ports in the British empire—this is for the pen of the Merchant, who is cognisant of the details of shipments, and there it had better be allowed to rest. In our opinion the Consular returns are sufficiently explicit for all general purposes; and we would only suggest that they be published at an earlier period, and that bulletin be included if at all possible.

Next to the English, ranks the American trade; but as there are no published returns, except those by the British Consul at Canton, we can only judge of the transactions at that port, which in value have increased very considerably.

The American imports are as follows:—

Table showing American imports for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Imports', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for various goods.

The American exports from Canton exhibit an increase in proportion to that of imports and tonnage.

Table showing American exports for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Exports', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for various goods.

The trade of other foreign countries with China is comparatively insignificant; but as several European nations have only opened a direct commerce with China since the late war, it is impossible to say to what extent it may be carried, or how far they may rival the commerce of those countries who have been longer in the trade. The entire foreign trade for 1844 and 1845 is comprised in two short tables, a reference to which shows at a glance what progress has been made during the past year at the port of Canton, and we believe that, with the exception of the English and Americans, foreigners have almost confined their operations to that port.

Table showing imports of Canton for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Imports of Canton', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for various countries.

Table showing exports of Canton for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Exports of Canton', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for various countries.

Table showing foreign trade of Canton for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Foreign Trade of Canton', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for various countries.

Table showing foreign trade of Canton for 1844 and 1845. Columns include 'Foreign Trade of Canton', '1844', and '1845' with sub-totals for various countries.

EXPEDITION TO BORNEO OF H. M. S. B.D.G. (Third Notice).

After Captain Keppell's return to England he received from Mr. Brooke his Journal of proceedings in Borneo up to the battle at Malacca Bay. We briefly notice, that in February 1845 Mr. Brooke and Captain Bethune arrived from England. Captain Bethune was the bearer of a letter from the Earl of Aberdeen appointing Mr. Brooke British agent at Borneo, and he—

Captain Bethune—was commissioned to report as to the best locality for a settlement on the N. W. coast. Previous to this, the Sultan had applied to Her Majesty's government for aid in suppressing piracy, and a favorable answer was received.

H.M. Steam vessel Driver was placed at Captain Bethune's disposal, and with Messrs. Brooke and Wise he proceeded to Borneo Proper to visit the Sultan. They were there informed that the notorious pirate chief Seriff Houseman had fortified himself at Maluda Bay, and had declared, that if the English did not come to attack him he would destroy the capital of Borneo, the Sultan being in league with the foreigners. It was proper that this information should be conveyed to Sir Thomas Cochrane, then at Singapore; but previous to their proceeding to the port, they visited Labuan of which island we have a short notice.

Labuan. An island of about fifty five leagues, twenty-five miles in circumference; woody timber, covered with wells and a few small streams, which, after a drought, are dry; natives say, water never fails. Abundant in the soil are sugar, rice, and other staples; but the nature of the soil is such, that it is not so fertile as the same soil in Borneo; soil, as far as we know, sandy and very much. Coal found near the extreme S. point; the nature of the soil is likewise to be found in many other parts of the island. The island is situated in a very favorable position for the purpose of refuge for shipwrecked vessels, of a windward port relative to China, for the suppression of piracy, and the safe anchorage for the coasting trade, and the absence of any other island, with good climate, wood, and water, would suit as well. Its powerful recommendation is its being in the neighbourhood of an unwarlike and friendly people. There is no other island so near as Malacca, and the island of Balambangan, to the northward of Borneo, is the only other place which could by possibility answer. The comparison between Balambangan and Labuan may be stated as follows:—Balambangan is a small island, situated in the Straits of Malacca, and it commands in time of war the inner passage to Manila, and the eastern passage to China by the Sulu Sea. It is a very fertile soil, and the climate is very hot, and it is the very nest of pirates, and surrounded by wild and hostile people; and that to render it secure and effective, at least double the force would be necessary there than at Labuan. If Labuan were taken, and the island of Balambangan, they might then take Balambangan; for the next best thing to a location on the main is to induce the people thereof by a success of insular establishments. Yesterday we made an excursion to the island of Labuan, and we found it a most picturesque, the cliffs are bold and overgrown with the trees hang over the cliffs, or encroach on the intermediate rocks, and the water is very clear. Near a small cavern we discovered a seam of coal, with fine fossils, and we found that Captain Bethune, and Mr. Wise walked to obtain a view of the southern coast of the island.

In August the Admiral and squadron arrived at Borneo, after some negotiations with the Sultan he sailed for Maluda, with the intention of coercing the pirate Houseman.

On the 19th August was fought the celebrated battle of Maluda. The boats, 24 in number, and containing 550 marines and soldiers, having led the previous afternoon. As I was not present, I can say only what I heard from others, and from what I know from subsequently viewing the position. A narrow river with two banks mounting to 100 feet high, and defended by from 200 to 1000 fighting men, protected by a strong and well-constructed wall, was the position of the enemy. Our boats took the hill, and the enemy was driven down, and fifteen severely wounded, on our side, was repaid by a very heavy loss of killed and wounded on theirs. Gallant Gibraltar, the British flag, and the British ensign, were planted at the boom, are in hand. In short, the engagement was severe and trying to our men from the fire they were exposed to. At two minutes to nine, about seven, we heard the report of the first heavy gun, and it was a time of anxiety and meanness till the first column of black smoke proclaimed that the village was fired.

As follows here appears, that before the first commenced, a flag of truce came from the enemy, and asked for a Capt. Talbot (in command) offered to meet Seriff Houseman, and he returned to the boom, provided his whole force was with him. Seriff Houseman declined; but offered (kind man) to admit two gigs to be hauled over the boom. No sooner was this offer declined, and the flag returned the second time, and the Seriff Houseman made place alive; for the Seriff and his followers had made themselves up to fight, and nothing but fight. Many chiefs were killed, two or three Seriffs in their large barges and floating rafts, many ill-fated in their dresses and golden ornaments; many Bajdjos; many slaves—amongst them a captive Chinaman; many were wounded; many carried away; and many lay on the ground dead or dying.

(Continued in last page.)

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

Table showing shipping intelligence for 1845. Columns include 'Shipping Intelligence', '1845', and '1844' with sub-totals for various ships and destinations.

ARRIVALS.

- 8, Maid of Judpa, Shilstone, Calcutta.
9, Dart, (Am.) Endicott, Shanghai.
9, Anglona, Line, Amoy.
9, David Hutton, Watson, New Zealand.
10, Lark, (Am.) Tibbitts, Red Bank.
10, Charles, (Sp.) Barrera, Manila.
11, Marian, Robson, Bombay, Feb. 6th.
12, Lanoheran, Coway, Singapore, 20th Feb.

SAILED.

- 9, Torrington, Nell, Cumingwood.
9, (Dart, Am.) Endicott, Whampoa.
9, Maid of Judpa, Shilstone, Whampoa.
11, Pappy, Cole, Macao and Calcutta.
11, Susan, (Sp.) Barrera, Macao.

REPORTS.

Charles Grant, Robson, Whampoa.
Mary, Suwercok, Macao.
VESSELS IN VICTORIA HARBOUR.
H.M.S. Herald, Captain Talbot.
H.M.S. Dolphin, Captain MacQuhrie.
Leonard Gibbard made his first trip to sea under the charge in 1834, when I commanded the Children in the Mediterranean, and at that early age promised what he afterwards proved to be a gallant officer and thorough seaman. Poor fellow—he was always a general favourite wherever he went.—H. K.

H. M. Str. Vulture, Captain Macdougall.
H. M. Tr. S. Alligator, Master Commanding King.
H. M. Tr. S. Sapphire, Master Commanding Puck.
H. M. S. Minden, 2nd Master in charge Osmer, Hospital and Store Ship.

Angloana, Lane, Macvicar and Co
Bananyee, Hornumier, Coates, J. Matheson and Co
Charles Grant, Robson, Bush and Co
Corcoran, Soames, W. H. Franklyn
David Watson, Watson, Lindsay and Co
John Barry, Clarke, Dent and Co
Lamberton, Conway, Gilman and Co
Lark, (Am.) Tibbitts, Bush and Co
Mary, Suwerkrup, Captain
Linet, Youngusband and Co
Preston, Martell, Turner and Co
Queen, Hutton, J. Matheson and Co
Red Rover, Sullivan, J. Matheson and Co
Warlock, Jauncey,

SHIPPING AT WHAMPOA.
Albon (Swa.), Luedgah, Bush and Co
Anvia, King, Dent and Co
Dhar, Cumberland, Lindsay and Co
Drell, Farley, Hansen
Governor, Poberly, Wilson, P. F. Cama and Co
Hickies, Melville, J. Matheson and Co
Jana Coria, D & M Rustomjee and Co
Maid of Japha, Shilstone, Gibb, Livingston and Co
Meloe (Fr.) Durand, Reynvaan and Co
Mussela, Chaps, C. G. Lungnung
Prince of Waterloo, Birch, Order
Sarah, Wan, Gilman and Co
Sir John Byng, Forbes, J. Matheson and Co
Wild Irish Girl, Buckton, Captain

VESELS AT MACAO.
Anelia (Fr.), J. A. Durran, Jr
Falcon, Balamy, J. Matheson and Co
Harriet, C. Sposioje Lungnah
Isabella Robertson, Kelly, P. J. de Paiva
Lady Hayes, Langley, J. Matheson and Co
Lyra, J. A. Durran
Poppy, Cole, Dent and Co
Simp, Baylis, A. Heard and Co
Sullivan, (Sp.) Barrera,
Union (Sp.)
Velo (Sp.), Bordenove, J. Salado
Vizen, Milne, J. Matheson and Co

AMERICAN AT WHAMPOA AND MACAO.
Dart, (Am.) Endicott, A. Heard and Co
U. S. S. Columbus, Commodore Biddle.
U. S. S. Vancouver, Captain Paulding.
John G. Coster (Am.), Benjamin, Olyphant and Co
New Lanta, Chase, Russell and Co

FOR SALE.
THE New Brig MAID OF JULIA PHA, Capt. SHILSTONE, now on her first Voyage, 180 tons Register, Sails well and carries a large cargo. For particulars apply to,
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
Hongkong, 11th May 1846

TO LET ON LEASE.
A GODOWN on Marine Lot No. 13 with sea frontage, at present in the occupation of Messrs Humphries & Co. Apply to the Office "Friend of China,"
Victoria, 12th May, 1846.

FOR SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED,
Quantity of Sheet Zinc.
A Window Glass of different sizes &c. &c.
PHILLIPS, MOORE & Co.
13th May 1846.

FOR SALE.
FOUR WHEELED English built carriages nearly new; also a double set of Pony Harness. Apply to,
SMITH & BRIMELOW,
Woosnam's Buildings,
Victoria, May, 12th 1846.

FOR SALE.
AN INDIAN Palangina nearly new. Apply to,
SMITH & BRIMELOW,
Woosnam's Buildings,
Victoria, 12th May, 1846.

FOR SALE.
A FEW boxes of cold pressed Sperm Candles, at the Stores of,
SMITH & BRIMELOW,
Woosnam's Buildings,
Victoria, 12th May, 1846.

CHARLES BUCKTON,
DEGS leave to intimate that he has this day opened a house in the Queen's road, at the foot of Oswald's hill, in connection with his establishment at Whampoa, for the purpose of supplying ships &c. with stores of every description, viz:
Cavass, Twine, Cordage, Blocks, Bunting, Ducks, Paints, Paint Oil, Turpentine, Tar, Pitch, Vermish, Ship and Cabin Boards, Flows, Provisional, Sperm Candles, Manila Cheests, Tobacco, Gilman's Stores, Guns, Shot, Spars, Oars, Hackspeices &c.
Brandy, Rum, Whisky, Cebets, Port, Sherry, Champagne, Claret &c.
Indian and London bottled Pale Ale, Barclay's Porter and various other stores.
Surplus Stores purchased or exchanged.
Hongkong, 1st May 1846.

NOTICE.
MR. NIMAN CRAWFORD is authorised to sign for me by proccuration at Hongkong from this date.
CHARLES BUCKTON:
2d April 1846.

FOR SALE.
EX Nicolas Cazard:
FRENCH Plums in tins, in first order.
EX Hebride:
A Invoice of Pannus Corium (or Leather Cloth) Boots and Shoes, strongly recommended to persons with tender feet.
EX Wanderer:
A number of Memel Red Pine Planks 14 R x 10 in. by 3 in.
EX Monarch:
Allsop's Beer in bottle.

CHARLES BUCKTON,
Queen's Road and Whampoa Reach.
1st May 1846.

SMOKED WILTSHIRE BACON.
JUST received a few Tins of the above, in excellent condition; also Mock Turtle, Green Pea, Ox Tail, Vegetable and Mulligatawney Soups, Pine apple Cheeses &c. &c. for sale at,
McMURRAY & Co's.
Victoria, 12th May 1846.

PORTO NOVO IRON WORKS.
THE INDIA IRON and STEEL COMPANY, have again blown in their Furnaces, and are now ready to execute orders for Pig Iron and Iron Castings of every description.
From improvements in the Manufacture of their Iron, they are now capable of making Castings of the softest description and malleability, and of great strength which can be filed, turned and bored with ease.
The uniform and excellent strong quality of their Pig together with the superiority of their Castings, give them confidence in the perfect certainty of executing any orders they may receive to the entire satisfaction of those who may employ them.
The arrangements to complete their Forge are nearly finished, and they hope by the beginning of the year to supply Bar Iron of all sizes, uniform in quality and equal to the best European Marks.
Castings of the following description may be procured:
Large Castings:—Columns or Pillars, Beams and Pipes for Buildings, &c.
Small Castings:—Plain and Ornamental Brackets, for Wall Sheds, Lamps, Shelves, &c.
Do. Do.—Railways and Balusters.
Do. Do.—Bedsteads with and without Posts.
Hinges and Bolts for large Gates and Doors
Castors for Beds, or for Tables or Boxes.
Pestles and Mortars of large and small sizes, and many other Castings of the like description too numerous to mention.
Order or Letters of enquiry addressed to their Agents:—
Messrs. BAINBRIDGE & Co, Madras.
TULLOCH & Co., Calcutta.
REMINGTON & Co, Bombay, or to the Managing Director at Porto Novo, shall be immediately attended to.

WANTED by the undersigned two assistants competent of dispensing Medicine.
WELCH & STOCKER.
Victoria, 7th May, 1846.

NOTICE.
ANY Parties to whom the undersigned are indebted, are requested to send in their accounts, and those who are indebted to them are also requested to pay their accounts as early as practicable. Dated the 8th day of May, 1846.
WELCH & STOCKER,
Chemists & Druggists,
Victoria.

FOR SALE.
MR. R. RUTHERFURD, has just received a few Hogheads of Bass's India Pale Ale, in excellent order.
ALSO,
A lot of very fine Teas for Family use.
Queen's Road, 7th May, 1846.

FOR SALE.
ONE Bay Manila Pony, suitable for a Lady or Gentleman; applied to G. DEWAR, at Mr Mac KNIGHT'S Brook Cottage,
West Point, 9th April 1846.

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

VICTORIA HOTEL,
REMANUAL.
D. F. RICHARDS, begs to inform the Foreign community resident in China, that his new house being now nearly completed, will be opened (under the above title) for the accommodation of the Public on or about the 15th day of June next ensuing, when he trusts by strict attention to the comfort of his guests, and moderate charges, to render it worthy of their patronage.
P. F. R. having made arrangements for a constant supply of the very best Wines, Foreign and British Spirits, Ale, Porter, Beer, Soda Water, Lemonade &c. &c. and having spared no expense in the building and furnishing of his house, feels confident the accommodation and entertainment at the Victoria Hotel, cannot be surpassed by those of any other house of public resort in China.
N.B.—Shipping supplied with Fresh Provisions of every description, and of the very best quality on the most moderate terms.
Shanghai, 16th April 1846.

BRITISH HOTEL,
KEYING HOUSE,
Queen's Road, Victoria.
MICHAEL GABRIEL has the honour to announce to his friends and the public, that he has taken those spacious and commodious premises known as Keying House, where he intends to carry on the business of a Hotel keeper, and he begs to assure those parties who may be pleased to patronize his new establishment, that nothing shall be wanting of his part to insure to them the greatest comfort and attention.
Billiards can be engaged in airy and spacious rooms with a water frontage, at the following rates, viz:—
Day Games 1 Rupee.
Night do 1 do.

A CARD.
R. A. BRINE.
Shipping General and Commission Agent and Auctioneer,
CHUSAN.

DEGS to acquaint the MERCHANTS and others of D. China &c. &c. that he has commenced business in the above capacity; and in soliciting their patronage, assures them, that his best endeavours on all occasions shall be to promote their interest. From his long experience in mercantile houses, his having been two and a half years on the island, and doing business on moderate charges, he trusts to insure success.
Respectable references can be given if required.
Chusan, 3rd April 1846.

FOR SALE.
SUPERIOR selection of goods from Messrs Deronport & Co. daily expected per "Mirzapore," consisting of
Enamelled Dinner services, ditto and Japan Dessert services, ditto and ditto Breakfast services, ditto and ditto Tea services, Chamber Sets, Embossed Jugs of all sizes, with, and without covers.
Seventy dozen Tea tasters and Cups, Eight and twelve light Chandeliers, with richly-ent pal glasses, and fittings to match.
9, 10 & 12 inch Vase Lamps, with shades &c.
Quart and Pint Decanters; water bottles, Tumblers; Wine, Claret, Champagne and Liqueur Glasses.
Taper Green Cocks; Butter, Tubs and Stands; Sails; Crust stands, night Lamps &c. &c.
CHARLES BUCKTON.
Queen's Road and Whampoa Reach.
Victoria, 1st May, 1846.

SODA WATER
AND
AERATED LEMONADE.
TO be obtained at the manufactory of the undersigned.
SMITH & BRIMELOW.
No 1 and 2 Woosnam's Buildings, corner of Pottinger Street.
SMITH & BRIMELOW have received ex Preceira, a quantity of Zebu Chocolate in suitable packages which they offer for sale.
1 & 2 Woosnam's Buildings,
Queen's Road, 31st March 1846.

NOTICE.
SMITH & BRIMELOW, beg respectfully to intimate to the Merchants of Victoria, that they have taken those dry and commodious Godowns in Keying House, where they shall be most happy to receive Goods on Storage upon moderate terms.
Victoria, 6th May 1846.

OILMAN'S STORES.
JUST received from Hesketh, Davis & Co. per "Queen," viz
Assorted Pickles and Tart Fruits, assorted Sauces, Mustard, Cherry Juice, Jams, Jellies, Zante Currans, Bloom Raisins, Macaroni, Vermicelli, Isinglass, Pearl Barley, Preserved and Pickled Salmon, Herrings in Tins, Wilshire and Cheddar Cheeses, English Pickled Ox-Tongues and Lendsham market Beef; also very fine York Hams and sundry other stores; all of first rate quality and for sale at,
McMURRAY & Co's.
Victoria, 7th May, 1846.

SUMMER COATING.
JUST received a few pieces of Brown Holland Linen, a very superior article for Summer Coats or Jackets; for sale at moderate prices. Apply to,
McMURRAY & Co.
Victoria, 4th May, 1846.

L. E. CHRISTOPHER begs to inform the Ladies of Hongkong that he has just received by the "Brigitana" a splendid assortment of ladies French Silk and Gains dresses, Baregees, chemise, Gilet broche, Barage satin, Lingerie, Valenciennes flours, &c. of other robes: Ladies plain Silk, Shawls and Scarfs, Cravates guifettes, and Millinery, of the latest style, which he offers with confidence as being the newest and most distinguished lot of goods that has been received in Hongkong.
Also gentlemen's Black Silk and Satin Cravats and Waistcoats of superior quality.

FOR SALE.
AN Invoice of superior Scotch Muslin goods, consisting of
Embroid, Tucked, and Sewed Jaconet and Book Muslin Robes,
Embroidered with fine
Embroidered Turlingtons ditto,
Childrens Braided and Sewed Brocks,
ditto Embroidered long ditto,
Scotch Cambré Handkerchiefs,
Striped and Book Muslin Handkerchiefs,
ditto ditto ditto Bagging.
Apply to,
P. FUNCK.
Victoria, 5th May, 1846.

JUST landed ex "Earl Powis" and for sale by P. FUNCK.
Allsop's Pale India Ale in three dozen cases.
A few sets of Parkside and other Jugs. Blue and black Cachemets for summer clothing, and an invoice of fine Smyrna sponges.
Opposite the Commissariat,
April 9th 1846.

CIGARS !!!
FOR SALE.—By the undersigned a few boxes of superior No. 3 and 4 Manilla Cigars; 1, 2 and 3 years old.
F. FUNCK.
MGRA!
JUST landed, and for sale by the undersigned, a few bags of Bengal Gam in good condition.
F. FUNCK.

SADDLERY.
JUST landed ex "Earl Powia," and for sale by the undersigned, an Invoice of Saddlery, consisting of
Saddle and Weymouth Bridles, Double and single Head Reins, Head Stalls, Stirrups and Stirrup Leathers.
The above are from one of the first London houses, of a superior quality, and will be sold at very moderate prices.
F. FUNCK.
Victoria, 9th April, 1846.

NOTICE.
WE the undersigned have formed a Partnership for the transaction of a General Agency, Auction and Commission business, at Victoria Hongkong, under the Firm of DRINKER & HEYL. S. DRINKER. Wm. S. HEYL.
Victoria, March 2nd 1846.

JUST received and for sale, a few cases of superior Pale Ale, (Bass's).
DRINKER & HEYL.
Victoria, May 1st, 1846.

NOTICE.
DRINKER & HEYL, offer for sale, at their Stores, superior Port, Sherry, Madeira, and Claret Wines, Peppermint, and Cherry Cordials, Beer and Porter in wood and bottles. Wine Bitters, Choice Brandy in Kegs, Neat's Tongues, Tobacco, Cigars, Old No. 3 and 4 Manilla Cigaretts, Paint Oil, and Turpentine in cans, Bright Vermish, Ravens Duck, &c. &c.
Victoria, 16th February, 1846.

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

MACEWEN & CO.
NOTICE.—The undersigned ALEXANDER WILSON, hereby informs the Public and his friends, that the advertisement by ROBERT DUNDAS CAY, Esq. Registrar of the Supreme Court and inserted in the "China Mail" of yesterday's date respecting the above firm is incorrect and wholly at variance with arrangements made and concluded by me with Mr Robert Wallace my late Partner on the first day of May instant, by which I am now solely interested in the said business, which will still be carried on under the name and style of MCEWEN & Co.
ALEX : WILSON.
Dated the 8th day of May, 1846.

GENERAL Commission and Shipping Agents of Wine Beer and Spirit Merchants.
And Auctioneers Queen's Road & Chitnams 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.

NOTICE.
THE interest and responsibility of Mr ROBERT WALLACE in our firm ceased on the 1st Inst. by mutual consent.
MACEWEN & Co.
Victoria, Hongkong, 6th May 1846.

BILLS OF LADING FOR THE OVERLAND ROUTE.
FOR sale at this office, four forms of bills of lading for goods on specie shipped by the P. & O. Company's Steam packets. Let for goods deliverable at London; and for goods deliverable at Southampton; and for goods deliverable at Suez; and for goods deliverable at intermediate ports. Bills are printed after the Company's forms on Office "Friend of China" }
25th October, 1845. }

SHIPPING ARTICLES, according to the receipt act (Victoria 7 & 8) for sale at this office.
Office "Friend of China," }
Victoria, 10th October, 1845. }

LINGUISTS Interpreters and Narr Books or sale at this Office.
Office Friend of China, 29th Decr, 1844.

FOR SALE.—At the office of this paper,
Compendious choise books.
Ships Articles, with an abstract of the mercantile accounts not endorsed on the back.
Charterparties, after form by Chitty.
Breves of Attorney, after form by Chitty.
Bills of Lading.
Chinese Tariff of imports, and exports, for portending houses.

Continued from second page.

On the evening of the 19th, a detachment of British and Chinese troops, under the command of Major-General Sir Robert B. ...

We close our somewhat lengthened extracts from Captain Kappell's valuable book, with the opinion of Mr. Crawford, formerly Governor of Singapore, on the expediency of forming a settlement in the China sea between Singapore and Borneo.

I am of opinion (Mr. Crawford writes) that a settlement on the northern shore of the China Sea, would be highly advantageous to this country, as a coadjutor for steam navigation, as a means of supplying the Malay Archipelago with a harbor of refuge for ships disabled in the China Sea, and finally, as a commanding position during a naval war.

The island of Labuan has been pointed out for this purpose, and as far as our present limited knowledge of it will allow me to judge, it appears to possess all the necessary qualities for such a purpose.

The climate is healthy, the soil fertile, the water good, the position in the track of steam navigation, the convenience of position for the purpose of supplying the Malay Archipelago with a harbor of refuge for ships disabled in the China Sea, and finally, as a commanding position during a naval war.

Labuan lies nearly in the direct track both of steam and sailing navigation from India to China, during the north-east, the worst and severest of the two monsoons; and its position is so situated between Singapore and Hongkong as to be found, being 700 miles from the former and 1600 from the latter.

The insular character and narrow limits of Labuan will make it easily and completely defensible. The extreme length of the island appears to be about six miles, its greatest breadth about four and a half, and probably its whole area will not exceed thirty square miles.

From the rule tribes of the immediate vicinity no hostile attack is to be apprehended that would make the present erection of fortifications necessary. No Asiatic enemy is at any time to be feared that would require such defences requisite. In five-and-twenty years it has been found imperative to have recourse to them to Singapore. It is only in case of war with a naval power that fortifications would be required; but I am not informed what local advantages Labuan possesses for their erection.

A practical objection of considerable weight is the defence of the shipping in the harbour from the inroads of an enemy's cruisers. At one point the soundings, as given to the Admiralty, are only three fathoms, and at another, three quarters of a mile of the shore; and I presume that batteries within this distance would afford protection to the largest class of merchantmen. In Singapore Roads no less of shipping could more safely anchor, and nearer than two miles of the shore; so that in a war with a European naval power, the merchant shipping there can only be defended by Her Majesty's navy.

It will be seen by the map that Borneo is, of all the great islands of the western portion of the Archipelago, the nearest to China, and Labuan and its neighborhood are the point of this island.

Philippines and China, it would have the advantages of Singapore of a voyage by 700 miles shorter; a matter of most material consequence to native commerce.

With all the countries of the Archipelago, being west of Labuan, a communication across the Malay Peninsula might be maintained throughout the year. This would include a portion of the east coast of the Malay Peninsula, and a moderate but competent civil establishment.

Labuan belongs to that portion of the island of Borneo which is the Malay Peninsula, and is situated on the north-west coast of the island. The people from the interior dig out the iron, tin, copper, and other minerals, and trade with the Chinese and other nations.

From this people we are not to expect any valuable produce, or any article of commerce, excepting the pepper, which, however, produced in considerable quantity, and the products of the forests are very various, as beeswax, gum-benzoin, fine camphor, camellia oil, excellent sago-wine, and various other articles, which used to form the staple articles of Borneo imported into Singapore.

The Borneo territory opposite to Labuan abounds also, I believe, in the palm which yields sugar, and indeed the chief of the manufactured articles was thirty years ago brought from China. The Chinese settlers would, no doubt, as in Singapore and Malacca, establish factories for the purpose of selling to the improved process which they now practice at those places.

There may be reason to expect, however, that the timber of the island referred to may be found of value for ship-building; for Mr Dalrymple states that in his time, about twenty years ago, Chinese junks of 500 tons burden used to be built in the river of Borneo.

From the cultivation of the land I should not be disposed to expect any thing beyond the production of fresh fruits and excellent vegetables, and when the land is cleared of grass for pasture. The sea, in that part of the island, is healthy, although it stands, and has good excellence; and the Chinese settlers are found every where skillful and industrious in taking them.

Some difficulty will in the beginning, be experienced with respect to milk, butter, and fresh meat; this was the case at first in Singapore, but the difficulty has since been overcome. The country of the Archipelago are generally not suited to pasture, and it is only in a few of them that the ox and buffalo are abundant.

The mines of Borneo are 300 miles to the south-west of Labuan, and these of gold on the west and the south coasts; and I am not aware that any mineral wealth has been discovered in the portion of Borneo immediately connected with Labuan, except that of iron, which is not so important a metal.

Nearly as soon as the British flag is erected, and at such events, as early as it is permanently known to be, the island may be frequented upon with a large number of settlers. The best and most numerous of these will be the Chinese. They were settled on the Borneo river when the Borneo government, never good or otherwise than comparatively violent and disorderly, was most endurable.

It will be seen by the map that Borneo is, of all the great islands of the western portion of the Archipelago, the nearest to China, and Labuan and its neighborhood are the point of this island. The distance of Hongkong is about 900 miles, and that of the island of Hainan, a great place for emigration, not above 800; distances which to the Chinese junks—fast sailers before the strong and favourable winds of the monsoons—do not make voyages exceeding four or five days.

I do not mean to anticipate the same amount of rapid advancement in population, commerce, or financial resources for Labuan, that has distinguished the history of Singapore, but there is always a demand in the market of China for the products of the Archipelago, and it is probable that Labuan will soon become the seat of a large trade with China, which the river of Borneo never possessed.

Labuan ought, like Singapore, to be a free port, and as a port of refuge for ships disabled in the China Sea, and as a commanding position during a naval war, it would be highly advantageous to this country, as a coadjutor for steam navigation, as a means of supplying the Malay Archipelago with a harbor of refuge for ships disabled in the China Sea, and finally, as a commanding position during a naval war.

should not be desired from customs, but as in this settlement, from excise duties; upon the nature of these, it is well known, it is unnecessary to enlarge. They covered during my time, near twenty years ago, and within five years of the establishment of the settlement, the whole charges of a small but sufficient garrison (100 Sepoys), and a moderate but competent civil establishment.

The military and civil establishments have been greatly increased of late years; but the revenue, still in its nature the same, has kept pace with them. During my administration of Singapore, the municipal charges fell on the general fund; but they are at present provided for from a distinct source, chiefly an assessment on house-property.

If the military and civil charge of Labuan are kept within moderate bounds, I make no doubt but that a similar expite revenue will be adequate at least to defray the cost of the establishment of the settlement, on its account; while during a naval war, if the state make any expenditure, it will be fully compensated by the additional security which the settlement will afford to British commerce, and the annoyance it will cause to the enemy.

As to the disposal of the land, always a difficult question in a new and unoccupied colony, the result of my own inquiries and personal experience lead me to offer it as my decided conviction, that the most expedient plan—that which is least troublesome to the government, most satisfactory to the settler, and ultimately most conducive to the public prosperity—is to dispose of it for a term of years, that is, on long leases of 1000 years, or virtually in perpetuity; the object in this case of adopting the leasehold tenure being by making the land a chattel interest, to get rid of the difficulties in the matter of inheritance and transfer, which under the administration of English law, and in reference more particularly to the Asiatic people who will be the principal landowners, are incident to real property.

Town allotments might be sold subject to a considerable ground rent, but allotments in the country are best not called on to make any disbursement on their account; while during a naval war, if the state make any expenditure, it will be fully compensated by the additional security which the settlement will afford to British commerce, and the annoyance it will cause to the enemy.

(From the China Mail, May 7.)

No. 11. Diplomatic Department. GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of British Trade, &c. &c. is pleased to direct that the annexed Returns of British and Foreign Trade at the Ports of SHANGHAI and FOO-CHOW-FOO, during the Year ending 31st December, 1845, be published for general information.

By Order, A. R. JOHNSTON. Victoria, Hongkong, 28th April 1846.

A RETURN of the Quantities and Value of Merchandise Imported into the Port of SHANGHAI in 62 British Vessels of 15,971 tons, from the Countries and Places undermentioned, during the Year ending 31st December, 1845.

Table with columns: No. of Tons, Denomination of Articles, Quantities, From what Countries and Places Imported, Reported or Estimated Value in Sterling at 42 p. c. s. d.

NOTE.—A very considerable quantity of Treasure has been imported from Wosung but the amount unknown.

G. BALFOUR, H. B. M. Consul at Shanghai. Shanghai, 31st December, 1845.

A RETURN of the Quantities and value of Merchandise Exported from the Port of SHANGHAI in 68 British Vessels of 16,730 tons, to the Countries and places undermentioned, during the Year ending the 31st December, 1845.

Table with columns: No. of Tons, Denomination of Articles, Quantities, From what Countries and Places Imported, Reported or Estimated Value in Sterling at 42 p. c. s. d.

G. BALFOUR, H. B. M. Consul at Shanghai. Shanghai, 31st December, 1845.

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