

THE FRIEND OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.

VOL. V. No. 96.

VICTORIA, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24th, 1846.

PRICE 6 1/2 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 25 cts. each, to Non-Subscribers 1 Rupee. Parties calling or sending to the office for papers are requested to pay cash. Terms of Advertising.—Ten lines and under \$1 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 ENGLAND, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, CEYLON AND INTERMEDIATE PORTS.
THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY'S STEAM SHIP LADY MARY WOOD will leave this for the above places on Tuesday the 29th of December.

Cargo will be received on board until Noon, and Specific until 4 P.M., on Monday the 28th. 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 H. E. I. Company, from Singapore to ply, between COLOMBO and BOMBAY, thus affording Passengers a much more speedy means of reaching the latter place than is otherwise obtainable.

CARGO, PACKETS, &c. may be forwarded to ENGLAND by the above Vessel with the same despatch as H. M. Mails; and SPECIE, SILK, or other GOODS to CEYLON, MADRAS, and CALCUTTA, on Terms nearly the same as by sailing vessels, the rate of Insurance having been reduced by several Offices in favour of the Company's Steamers. 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 FREIGHT and PASSAGE may be obtained by application at the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong.
J. A. OLDING, Agent.
 Hongkong, 1st December 1846.

FOR LONDON.
THE fine A 1 Ship DARTMOUTH, 738 Tons, has superior accommodation for Passengers, and will be despatched from Hongkong about the 27th of October. For Passage, apply to Captain **SMYTH**, on board, or to **TURNER & Co.,** Hongkong or Canton.
 Hongkong, 26th September 1846.

FOR FREIGHT OR CHARTER.
THE fine Dutch Bark HONGKONG, of 274 Tons Register, loads about 370 Tons of heavy Goods, was built in Holland in 1845, is completely found and is a fast sailer. She is a desirable vessel for the Coast trade. Apply to **RUSSELL & Co.—Canton,** or **BUSH & Co.—Hongkong.**
 Hongkong, 23rd November 1846.

TO LET.
A House in Gough Street. Apply to **JOHN CARR**

TO LET.
A House 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.
THE building on the Queen's Road, occupied at present by J. A. Olding Esq., as the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's Office. Possession given early in November. Apply to **BUSH & Co.**
 Hongkong, 27th October 1846.

TO LET.
THE dwelling House on the Hollywood Road, lately occupied by the Honourable W. CARR Esq. Apply to **BUSH & Co.**
 Hongkong, 6th November 1846.

TO LET.
THOSE large and convenient Premises at present occupied by R. A. Brown Esq., consisting of Dwelling House, with Garden and outbuildings, may be viewed by applying at our premises adjoining. Possession can be given on December 5th.
BURD, LANGE & Co.
 Victoria, 27th November 1846.

TO LET.
THE Bungalow in Aberdeen Street, lately occupied by the Royal Sussex Lodge. Apply to **BUSH & Co.**
 Hongkong, 9th November 1846.

TO BE LET.
A Single and a double bedded Godown. Apply to **GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.**
 Victoria, 6th June 1846.

TO BE LET.
FROM the 10th December next, the House at the corner of Wellington Street and Salisbury Street, at present occupied by Mr. Carr, containing six Rooms. Apply to **HUNTER, STARRON & Co.**
 Victoria, 26th November 1846.

TO LET ON LEASE.
A House on Colborne Road, near the Office of Mr. C. W. BARRER, apply to the Office of the Public Works.

TO LET.
THE godown, and first floor of the premises on Queen's Road, adjoining Messrs Smith and Brimicombe. Apply to **GEO. STRACMAN,** Victoria, 1st June 1846.

TO LET.
SPACIOUS Godowns and dwelling houses, built of Granite and lately occupied, by Messrs THOS. RIPLEY & Co. The property is situated near the centre of the Town, (Victoria, Hongkong), and has a water frontage. Apply on the Premises, or to **THOMAS RIPLEY & Co.,** Hongkong, 31st July 1846. Shanghai

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, 24th April 1846.

FOR SALE.
AT the Godowns of Messrs BLENKIN, RAWSON & Co. superior Sherry, Madeira, and Port, in wood and bottle; Champagne from the house of Mumm & Co. Rheims.
 Hongkong, 1st June 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, 1846.

NOTICE.
MR. ROBERT JACOBSON is this day admitted a Partner in our Firm.
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
 Hongkong, 1st August, 1846.

FOR SALE.
THE following Wines *ex Cannata.*
 Port, Sherry, Sauterne, Hock, Claret, Stouling Champagne, Hermitage, Pale Cognac Brandy, in do. do. do. Scheiden Brand, in do. do. do. Superior Italian Sella Oil. Apply to **HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.**
 Victoria, 15th July 1846.

FOR SALE.
BLANDY'S Madeira, in half pipes, hds, and quarter casks. Apply to **GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.**
 Victoria, 10th April 1846.

FOR SALE.
SHEATHING COPPER, 16 to 32 oz. Apply to **GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.**
 Hongkong, 14th September, 1846.

NOTICE.
THE Firming hereby gives notice, that their Firm consists of **WILLIAM DALLAS** and **GEORGE COLES**, of the Firm of DALLAS & COLES of London, and **STEPHEN POOLMAN**, resident in China.
DALLAS & Co.
 Canton, 20th November 1846.

INDIA AND CHINA MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.
THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above named Company, and are prepared to grant Policies payable in London, Glasgow, Calcutta, Bombay, and Canton. This Office returns a Bonus of 10 per cent. (Ten per Cent.) on all Premiums.
WILLIAM COLEMAN
 Canton, 1st October 1846.

NOTICE.
MR. FRANCIS BARRER is authorized to sign for our Firm in China, by Procuration.
HEGAN & Co.
 Hongkong, 20th October 1846.

FOR SALE.
AT the Godown of the undersigned, in One Do. Case, containing a quantity of the following Goods, to-wit:—
 1000 lbs. of No. 1 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 2 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 3 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 4 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 5 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 6 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 7 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 8 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 9 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 10 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 11 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 12 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 13 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 14 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 15 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 16 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 17 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 18 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 19 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 20 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 21 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 22 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 23 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 24 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 25 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 26 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 27 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 28 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 29 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 30 Java Coffee, 1000 lbs. of No. 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NOTICE.

Free advertisements will be received, until 4 P.M. on the evenings previous to publication, viz: Tuesdays and Fridays.

Table with columns: LATEST DATES, Sept. 7, Oct. 31, Nov. 30, Dec. 31, Jan. 31, Feb. 29, Mar. 31, Apr. 30, May 31, Jun. 30, Jul. 31, Aug. 31, Sept. 30, Oct. 31, Nov. 30, Dec. 31.

THE FRIEND OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

VICTORIA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27th, 1846.

NOTICE.—The Journal of the Colonies is published on Wednesdays at 10 A.M. and on Thursdays at 6 P.M.

VINCENT STANTON, Colonial Chaplain.

NOTICE.—The Journal of the Colonies will be open for Public Works at 11 O'clock A.M. on Wednesdays at 10 O'clock P.M., during the present month, beginning with the 31st November 1846.

The Committee who conducted the public subscription for "The Times Testimonial," gave a dinner to Mr. Walter and other proprietors, at the London Tavern, on Wednesday, the 27th inst.

Mr. Walter acknowledged the compliment at some length; modestly allowing merit to other journals, and gratefully acknowledging the superior value of the "Times."

"You have not undertaken the invidious task of deciding between the political merits, the independence, the ability, the eloquence of the daily papers. (On those points the public are the judges.) With them your memoirs and this day's festivities have nothing to do."

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bankers, merchants, and public companies; and 129 individuals and anonymous. The subscriptions from foreign bankers, merchants, and public companies, were from Alexandria, Antwerp, Cadix, Calcutta, Cologne, Danzig, Florence, Genoa, Hamburg, Leguayna in South America, Macao, Malacca, Messina, Naples, Newfoundland, Osnaburg, Paris, Vera Cruz, Veray, and Weisbaden—thus literally embracing the commercial representatives of different languages and blood from Antwerp to Cadix.

THE REAL EFFECTS OF FOREIGN COMPETITION. OUR SUGAR COLONIES.

It is gratifying to see so many unquestionable evidences of the efforts which are being made in our Sugar-producing colonies to meet the new competition to which the policy of the country has exposed the British planter.

There never was a branch of industry in respect to which it appeared, at first sight, that England laboured under greater disadvantages, compared with the rival manufactures of other countries, than the silk trade.

The interest which has taken place during the same period of British silk manufactures may be measured by the quantity of raw material used. This quantity was, in 1826, 2,665,225 lbs. and, in 1845, independent of "waste and knots" was 4,553,512 lbs.

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quantity rose to 74,914 tons. But has this measure annihilated the market of British iron? In 1838 the highest estimate of the annual produce of British iron was 800,000 tons.

Table with columns: Iron imported, Estimated yield of British mines, Tons. 1824: 14,478; 1846: 74,914. Tons: 1824: 300,000; 1846: 1,800,000.

With respect to sheep's wool, the entire absence of agricultural statistics renders it difficult to institute any accurate comparison of the quantity of wool produced at home prior to the reduction of the duty in 1824, and at the present time.

We therefore hold it as a general and well established rule, that the introduction of Free Trade, and the open competition to which it lends, has a much greater tendency to increase the quantity of such commodities as it affects which is produced at home than that which is imported.

It has been chiefly the confidence produced by the facts to which we have now referred that has induced us to look forward to the effects of Free Trade upon the interests of the land at home, and those of the planters in the colonies.

Nowhere has we been so struck with the evidence of rapid advancement and the spirit of improvement, than in perusing the files of papers received from our West India colonies for some time past.

The Jamaica Royal Agricultural Society's Reporter (being supplements to the Jamaica Times) of the 25th of June, contains a striking evidence of the spirit with which the planters of that island are meeting the new state of things.

A man within the last few months, the Royal Mail Company's steamer "Teesel" carried from Southampton to Jamaica, six intelligent and industrious farmers, engaged to superintend the improvements of cultivation which are about to be introduced in many of the estates, and to settle upon these, as permanent managers, to introduce the improved ploughs and other implements of husbandry.

It is very difficult to see that such a social question as which is selected amongst those measures to which a change of course is to be adopted, is not, in itself, at least, as important as those insubstantial relations to which we now extend the same attention.

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the cheapest producers of sugar in the world, and which, we are satisfied, will do more to put an end to slavery than if the whole British fleet were stationed on the coast of Africa.

THE CONDITION OF THE SOLDIER. (From the "Times.")

We are enabled to inform our readers that immediate measures are now contemplated by Government for improving the condition of the soldier, and it is not without some satisfaction that the recollection of our own efforts in the cause, as well as with some gratification at the practical earnestness of her Majesty's ministers, that we record this projected reform.

For some weeks past a strict examination has been taken place of the candidates for the different masterships in the normal and model schools, and it is calculated that in an even month, the latest of this new machinery may be in full operation in the asylum at Chelsea, which is to be extensively altered for the purpose.

The arrangements of progress in progress include the immediate departure of the Chaplain General for the Continent, where he will be employed in investigating the systems of education, at Amsterdam, Holland, Prussia, and France; and the results of his mission will be embodied in a report to the Secretary at War, which will probably introduce some material plan to the construction of Parliament. The soldier's cause, we are sure, could not be in better hands than in those of the gentleman to whom it is thus far committed.

Some difficulty will doubtless be experienced in the prosecution of a scheme which must involve so great, though not insurmountable, an alteration in the habits and manners of 100,000 men; but no more judicious expedient could possibly be resorted to than a comparative survey of the institutions of those nations who have the credit of having preceded us in this particular path of civilisation.

The English soldier is at least as capable as the troops of other countries of being raised to his just place in the social scale, no reflecting person will for a moment deny; and we expect, with complete confidence, that our national talent for perfecting the organisations of this most important, and most useful, and most noble, will be applied with the usual success to improve what we borrow, and retain what we advance to our neighbours with very liberal allowances on the loan.

The several measures now projected for the relief of the soldier must, as far as practically, go hand in hand. His education, his moral discipline, and his domestic accommodation, all bear very closely upon each other. An improvement in the latter points, if unaccompanied with a reform in the former, would leave him in a worse state than before, by allowing his perceptions of wrong, and removing that brutal callousness which now, in some degree protects even while it deadens him.

Abolitions are generally more desirable than improvements, and produce a more immediate effect. The worst abolition of all is now virtually done, and a little education will now teach the soldier to see that with himself rests the speedy and the certain extinction of a punishment which nothing but the sternest compulsion can now induce, which can no longer be inflicted in the circumstances of a military instance of which will be better registered to the credit of the corps.

With such an emancipation from his heaviest liability, he may be led to the cheerful task of his own improvement. The regulation barracks, the barrack square, and the stupefying solace of the canteen, will be necessarily varied by the contemplated system of education, which would be invaluable even if it provided nothing more than an innocent and fruitless occupation.

When, however, its first-fruits are considered, it is difficult to over-estimate its influence on the army. The soldier may not, it is true, be instructed in those elementary branches of education which the stern necessities of the birthright of all, but his tastes and aptitudes may be cultivated with the greatest advantage to his present and future services.

Without pausing upon the superiority which such an omni-potent skill in handicraft must confer upon an army through a laborious campaign, or upon the attractions which would be thus raised against the rival elements of the gipsy shanty, it is clear that such practice must supply the soldier with the means of better serving himself and society under the circumstances of a distant retirement or a premature discharge.

We should then no longer witness the anomaly of one of the most useful members of the state being transformed into one of the most useless by a simple loss of employment; or of a man being drilled exclusively for duties which are essentially only incidental to his profession, and which will only appear more so as civilisation advances.

The condition of a soldier whose broken health has acquired his services before his services have matured him into a position, is one of the most miserable imaginable. He has been taught nothing but duties for which he was liable every moment to be disabled. He has been trained as if he were never to be incapacitated for a profession whose characteristic of which is exposure to the elements of contempt of the world, without deriving the slightest benefit, but rather a positive detriment from the state, which assumes the exclusive care of his actions and his character.

