

—A RETURN of the NUMBER and TONNAGE of MERCHANT VESSELS which Arrived at, and Departed from FOO-CHOW-FOO, during the Year ending 31st December, 1855, distinguishing the Countries to which they belong, viz:—

NATURE OF CARGO.	ARRIVED.			DEPARTED.		
	UNDER WHAT COLOURS.	NO. OF SHIPS.	TONNAGE.	UNDER WHAT COLOURS.	NO. OF SHIPS.	TONNAGE.
Sundries		83	20,270	British, ...	81	21,097
Timber		27	22,585	American, ...	27	22,585
Tea		14	3,525	Hamburgh, ...	14	3,525
Timber		6	3,243	Dutch, ...	6	3,243
Ballast		2	740	Bremen, ...	2	740
Re-exports		1	293	Swedish, ...	1	293
General		1	191	Peruvian, ...	1	191
Fruit						
Tea						
Ballast		134	50,847		132	51,674

FRED^c. HOWE HALE.

British Consulate, Foochow, 1st January, 1856.

EXPORT of TEA from FOOCHOW during the FIRST Six Months of the year 1855.

To Great Britain, ...	lbs 7,100,000
United States, ...	" 2,600,000
Continent, ...	" 300,000
Australia, ...	" 500,000
Total, ...	lbs 10,500,000

carried in about the following proportions:

By British Vessels, ...	lbs 4,500,000
American, ...	" 3,000,000
other Foreign Flags, ...	" 3,000,000
Total, ...	lbs 10,500,000

British Consulate, Foochow, 1st January, 1856.

EXPORT of TEA from FOOCHOW during the LAST Six Months of the year 1855.

To Great Britain, ...	lbs 15,600,000
United States, ...	" 9,300,000
Continent, ...	" 600,000
Australia, ...	" 500,000
Total, ...	lbs 26,000,000

carried in about the following proportions:

By British Vessels, ...	lbs 8,500,000
American, ...	" 15,500,000
other Foreign Flags, ...	" 2,000,000
Total, ...	lbs 26,000,000

FRED^c. HOWE HALE,
British Vice-Consul.

Diplomatic Department.
GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency the Chief Superintendent of Trade, &c., has received from Mr Consul Robertson the following Despatch from Commander Fortescue, of Her Majesty's Steamer *Barracouta*, reporting the destruction of Piratical Junks in the neighborhood of the Chusan and Volcano Islands, which SIR JOHN BOWRING has directed to be published for general information.

By Order,
G. W. CAINE,
in the absence of the Off^r. Secretary to H. B. M.'s Plenipotentiary.

Superintendency of Trade, Victoria,
Hongkong, 4th February, 1856.

H. M. STEAM-SLOOP "*Barracouta*,"
SHANGHAE, 25th January, 1856.

Sir,—I have the honor to inform you, that having received information that a number of Piratical Vessels were infesting the neighbouring Islands, I proceeded for a cruise in Her Majesty's Steam-Sloop *Barracouta*, during which every bay and creek in the Chusan Archipelago, which it was imagined could harbour any such vessels, has been searched. On the 16th, three Piratical Junks, armed with from 9 to 7 guns each and from 20 to 30 men, were taken and burnt on the South-east side of Chusan.

On the 22d, two large and heavily armed West-Coast Junks were taken and destroyed at the Volcano Islands. I discovered from a boat found on board one of those junks, that these vessels had been committing unheard-of depredations for the last 4 months in those parts, and that during his stay on board (which has only been a few days) they had taken and pillaged eight Junks.

I am convinced that the Coasting Trade must derive very great benefit by the destruction of the said Junks, and I think both from observation and information that those Islands are free from Piratical Vessels for the present.—I have, &c.

(Signed) **THOMAS FORTESCUE,**
Commander.

J. B. ROBERTSON, Esquire,
Her Majesty's Consul,
Shanghai.

True Copy,
G. W. CAINE.

PROCLAMATION.

SIR JOHN BOWRING.

By His Excellency SIR JOHN BOWRING, Knight, G.C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British Subjects in China.

Whereas the Commands of Her Most Gracious Majesty The Queen, conveyed through The Right Honorable HENRY LABOUCHERE, M.P., Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, have been received, approving of and confirming Ordinance No. 6 of 1855, entitled "An Ordinance for the Amendment of the Civil Administration of "Justice."

Now, therefore, it is hereby declared, that the said Ordinance has been so approved and confirmed as aforesaid.

By His Excellency's Command,
W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Given at Victoria, Hongkong,
this 4th Day of February, 1856.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

No. 18.
GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

In continuation of Government Notification No. 12, it is hereby further intimated, that the "Chinese Passengers Act 1855" has now been officially communicated to this Government; and His Excellency The Governor desires to point out, for general information, that, in consequence of an alteration made in the House of Lords, the "Note" to Schedule A has become inconsistent with the body of the Act, and that the Penalty for breach of the Regulations has been reduced from Forfeiture of the Ship and a Fine, to a Misdemeanour.

By Order,
W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria,
Hongkong, 4th February, 1856.

No. 19.
GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency The Governor, with the concurrence of the Executive Council, has granted 12 Months' Leave of Absence, on Medical Certificate, to CHARLES ST G. CLEVERLY, Esquire, Surveyor General.

Mr CLEVERLY's leave will date from the Departure of the Mail Steamer on the 15th instant; and during his absence, CAPTAIN COWPER, R.E., will, as Acting Surveyor General, conduct the duties of the Department.

By Order,
W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria,
Hongkong, 7th February, 1856.

NATURE OF CARGO.	AND EXP.	TOTAL.
Sundries	652,249	60,800
Drugs
Tea
Sundries
Tea
Hemp & Oil
Tea
Sundries
Tea
General
Tea
Olives
Wood
Tea
Ballast
Tea
Paper
Ballast

HOWE HALE,
Vice-Consul.

Port of

AND EXP.	TOTAL.
652,249	60,800
...	...
732,000	7,732
...	...
699,500	4,699
...	...
213,500	4,550
...	...
2,133,000	2,370
...	...
3,777,250	3,777
...	...
2,581,500	2,581
...	...
1,650,000	1,650
2,839,750	2,839
...	...
3,283,000	3,283
21,000	...
1,748,000	1,748
...	...
6,194,200	6,194
4,513,750	4,513
1,037,900	1,037

17.

HOWE HALE,
Vice-Consul.