

- Read Letter, of the 19th July last, from Mr Parsons to His Excellency the Governor, calling in question the accuracy of the Minutes of Council of the 6th July, respecting the reprimand which he received from the Governor, and the order to withdraw from the Bar,—as read and approved at the Meeting of the 12th July, and since published in the *Government Gazette* of the 17th July,
- Mr Dent here observed, that it was perfectly within his recollection that Mr Parsons did present himself at the Bar of this Council on the 6th July; which was confirmed by other Members.
- Read Letter, of the 21st July last, from Mr Woods to His Excellency the Governor in Council, calling attention to two Letters, in which his name appears, in the *Daily Press* of the previous day, signed severally by Mr Parsons and Mr Gaskell, and stating “that the remark he made to Mr Gaskell was to the effect, ‘that the number of intelligent gentlemen who put their names to the Petition would not have done so without good and sufficient reasons, and that he did not think the ‘amalgamation’ would injure ‘fair dealing’ and respectable Attornies.” That “this remark Mr Parsons has wrested into quite another form, to suit his *own purposes*, and he (Mr Woods) again emphatically denies that Mr Parsons ever asked him any question on the subject.”
- His Excellency the Governor stated, that the Votes and Proceedings of each Meeting of the Council will be published in the *Government Gazette* next after their approval in Council; and such delayed publication was unanimously agreed to.
- The Governor read Despatch No. 128, of 10th November, 1856, from the Secretary of State, conveying the sanction of Her Majesty’s Government to the construction of the Bowring Praya,—“provided it is ascertained that the available balance to the Credit of the Colonial Treasury will fully suffice to defray the requisite Expenditure, together with that of the other Public Works already sanctioned.” His Excellency then called upon the Acting Colonial Secretary for a Statement of the Funds at present available for such Public Works; when that Officer reported, that the Sum of £19,741.12.3 was in the Banks at Interest to the Credit of the Public Works, exclusive of the Parliamentary Vote towards the erection of a Gaol and Civil Hospital, amounting to £7,000.
- The Governor stated, that the recent exodus of the Chinese Population, and the flight of the Opium Monopolists from the Colony, necessitated several alterations in the Colonial Estimates for 1859, as originally prepared in July last; that they were now under revision, and would, at no distant period, be submitted to the Council. But that at the next Meeting, he proposed to bring forward a *Supplementary Estimate*, to be charged upon the surplus Revenue of the current Year.
- His Excellency stated that, in consequence of the illness and subsequent death of Mr Day, who had been appointed Acting Attorney General, the preparation of an Ordinance to correct “the careless manner” in which, as pointed out by the Secretary of State, some of the Imperial Acts were extended to this Colony by Ordinance No. 5 of 1858, had been delayed; but that the present Acting Attorney General was actually engaged in drawing up the needful Ordinance for submission to the Council.
- The Governor reported, that the Secretary of State had recently required his opinion upon the proposal for the transfer to the local Government of the control of the Post-office in Hongkong; and that the necessary enquiries were being made, in order to enable him to come to a decision upon the subject.
- Read a first time a *Draft Ordinance* for the Regulation of Chinese Passenger Ships.
- Ordered, that the said Ordinance be published in the *Government Gazette*, inviting Observations thereon; and that it be read a second time, on Friday, the 15th instant.
- Resolved, that this Council do adjourn to Friday next, the 8th instant, at 12 o’clock precisely.

JOHN BOWRING,
Governor.

Read and approved, this 8th Day of October, 1858.

L. D’ALMADA E CASTRO,
Clerk of Councils.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The subjoined *Draft Ordinance*, which was read a first time at a Meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 4th instant, is published for general information; and it is hereby requested, that any Observations thereon may be sent in to the Undersigned, on or before the 12th instant.

By Order,

L. D’ALMADA E CASTRO,
Clerk of Councils.

Council Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 6th October, 1858.

HONGKONG.

ANNO VIGESIMO SECUNDO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. of 1858.

By His Excellency SIR JOHN BOWRING, Knight, LL.D., 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, with the Advice of the Legislative Council of Hongkong.

An Ordinance for the continuance of the heretofore existing Regulations respecting Chinese Passenger Ships; and in the case of British Ships, respecting the Treatment of the Passengers therein while at Sea, and for making Regulations in addition thereto.

[October, 1858.]

Whereas it is desirable to make further Provision, in addition to that made by the *Chinese Passengers Act*, 1855, for the Regulation of Chinese Passengers’ Ships, and in the case of British Ships, for the Treatment of the Passengers therein while at Sea, with a view to the better securing the Health of Passengers in such Ships: Be it enacted and ordained, by His Excellency the Governor of Hongkong, with the Advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

I. No Chinese Passenger Ship shall clear out or proceed to Sea on any Voyage of more than Seven Days' duration, without strictly conforming in every respect with the Regulations contained in Schedule (A) annexed to the *Chinese Passengers' Act*, 1855, and heretofore in force under the Second Section of the said Act. Existing Regulations to continue in force.

II. In every Chinese Passenger Ship there shall be a sufficient Space properly divided off to the satisfaction of the Emigration Officer at the Port of Clearance, to be used exclusively as a Hospital or Hospitals for the Passengers; this Space shall be under the Poop, or in the Round-house, or in any Deck-house which shall be properly built and secured to the satisfaction of such Emigration Officer, or on the upper Passenger Deck, and not elsewhere, and shall in no case be less than Eighteen clear superficial Feet for every Fifty Passengers which the Ship shall carry. Such Hospitals shall be fitted with Bed Places, and supplied with proper Beds, Bedding, and Utensils, to the satisfaction of the Emigration Officer at the Port of Clearance, and throughout the Voyage kept so fitted and supplied. Hospital accommodation to be provided.

III. In the Measurement of the Passenger Decks, Poop, Round-house, or Deck-house, for the purpose of determining the Number of Passengers to be carried in any Chinese Passenger Ship, the Space for the Hospital shall be included. Space for Hospital to be included in Measurement of capacity for Passengers.

IV. No Chinese Passenger Ship shall clear out or proceed to Sea on any Voyage as aforesaid, until some Medical Practitioner, to be appointed by the Emigration Officer at the Port of Clearance if other than Hongkong, and if Hongkong be the Port of Clearance, then until the Colonial Surgeon shall have certified to the said Emigration Officer, and the said Emigration Officer shall be satisfied that none of the Passengers or Crew appear, by reason of any bodily or mental disease, unfit to proceed, or likely to endanger the Health or safety of other Persons about to proceed, in such Vessel: such Medical Inspection of the Passengers shall take place either on board the Vessel, or, at the discretion of the said Emigration Officer, at such convenient place on Shore, before embarkation, as he may appoint; and the Master, Owner, or Charterer of the Ship, shall pay to such Emigration Officer a Sum at the rate of Mexican Dollars, for every Hundred Persons so examined: Provided also, that in case the Emigration Officer on any particular occasion shall be unable to obtain the attendance of a Medical Practitioner within a reasonable time, or without payment of an Inspection Fee at a higher rate than that hereby ordained, then it shall be lawful for the said Emigration Officer to dispense with such Medical Inspection as aforesaid, and to satisfy himself by his own personal examination, (for which he shall receive the Fee hereinbefore ordained to be paid) of the fit sanitary state of the Crew and Passengers: Provided also, that all Fees received under this Section by the Emigration Officer or Colonial Surgeon of Hongkong, shall be within Three Days after the receipt thereof paid over by the Officer receiving them into the Treasury, to the use of the Crown. Passengers and Crew to be examined before sailing by some Medical Practitioner.

V. No Emigration Officer shall give the Certificate required by the *Chinese Passengers' Act*, 1855, in respect of any Chinese Passenger Ship, unless he be satisfied as aforesaid with the Hospital Accommodation therein provided, and with the sanitary state of the Crew and Passengers. Certificate not to be granted unless sanitary Regulations are complied with.

VI. This Ordinance shall not come into operation until Her Majesty's confirmation thereof shall have been proclaimed in this Colony by His Excellency The Governor. Suspended Clause.

No. 92.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

FREDERICK WILLIAM GREEN, Esquire, having been appointed Member of the Legislative Council, during the suspension of THOMAS CHISHOLM ANSTAY, Esquire, and pending reference to Her Majesty, the needful Oaths were administered to Mr GREEN, at the Sitting of the said Council on the 4th instant; and the Honourable Member took his Seat accordingly.

By Order,

FRED. FORTH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 5th October, 1858.

No. 93.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Return of Notes in Circulation and Specie in Reserve at the Bank of the Oriental Bank Corporation in Hongkong, is published for general information.

By Order,

FRED. FORTH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 6th October, 1858.

Account of the average Amount of Notes in Circulation at the Bank of the Oriental Bank Corporation in Hongkong, for the Month ending 30th September, 1858, rendered in accordance with the Terms of Her Majesty's Royal Charter of Incorporation.

NOTES ISSUED,	\$527,062.
SPECIE IN RESERVE,	\$200,000.

P. CAMPBELL,
Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation, Hongkong, 1st October, 1858.

I inspected this day the Books and Treasure Vault of the Oriental Bank Corporation, and hereby certify, that the Amount of Specie shown is in accordance with the Terms of the Royal Charter.

HENRY O. LEWIS,
*Deputy Assistant Commissary General,
For the Colonial Treasurer.*

J. A. CARVALHO,
Accountant.

Victoria, Hongkong, 6th October, 1858.