

... what the amount of the Fee should be, but without the knowledge or sanction of Dr Bridges; that when Dr Bridges accepted the Office of Acting Colonial Secretary in February, 1857, it was on an express understanding with the Governor that he should be allowed to practice as a Barrister, and that his time should be his own; and that it did not occur to Dr Bridges at the time he accepted the Retainer from the Monopolist, that there might on future and various occasions be questions connected with the Opium Monopoly in which his duty to the Government as a Member of the Executive Council would seriously clash with his duty as Counsel to the Monopolist. It further appeared to your Committee—though the Monopolist now denies it, and the evidence is conflicting—that the Monopolist did say to Mr Hoey, "Dr Bridges is a very clever man; he can do what he likes with the Governor, and can make a Law and tear it to pieces again the next day."

44. These proceedings in the opinion of your Committee shew the want of a due appreciation by Dr Bridges of the demands of his high and important offices as Acting Colonial Secretary, Member of the Legislative Council, and Member of the Executive Council; and denote an absence of that proper sensitiveness which should have made him, above all other persons, foresee and avoid all positions of possible conflict between his Public and Private Duties, which, in the case of the Opium Monopoly, were sufficiently obvious.

That Dr Bridges should hold the offices mentioned, and at the same time retain the privilege of practicing as a Barrister, however undesirable a state of things, is one for which he cannot be blamed; but the limits within which he would avail himself of this privilege were under his own control. He fixed the limit that he would not act against the Government, and the place in which he informed his client of this fact was most unhappily chosen. Further, he should have seen that any one, more particularly a Chinaman, must think that he would greatly gain by employing as his Counsel a high officer of Government, through whose means changes so beneficial to himself had been made at the last moment in a public Ordinance, and that the Monopolist and the Chinese community generally would conclude, however erroneously, that the official so retained, and the Government of which he was a Member, were open to private influence. That such must be the effect of Dr Bridges's conduct on the minds of the Chinese, there cannot be any doubt. Viewed in this light therefore, your Committee regret to say, that they consider Dr Bridges's conduct in reference to the Opium Grant blameable, though, as they have before stated, they consider his honesty and honour quite unimpeached.

H. TUDOR DAVIES, *Chairman.*
JOHN DENT.

Council Chamber, 31st May, 1858.

In pursuance of notice, it was moved by Mr Lyall, and seconded by Mr Jardine, "That His Excellency The Governor be requested to instruct the Attorney General to prepare an Ordinance in accordance with the spirit of the Memorial addressed by the Community to the Attorney General, dated the 10th instant."

Resolution put and passed.

The Council adjourned till Thursday, the 10th June, at 12 o'clock.

By Order of His Excellency The Governor,

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

No. 50.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The subjoined Statement showing the Number of Chinese Coolies introduced into the Island of Cuba up to the 31st December, 1857, and also showing the Number of Deaths that have taken place on the Voyage, is published for general information.

By Order,

W. T. BRIDGES,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 4th June, 1858.

LIST OF CHINESE LABOURERS IMPORTED AT HAVANA, UP TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1857.

NATIONALITY OF VESSEL.	NO. OF VESSELS.	TONNAGE.	CHINESE EMBARKED.	CHINESE LANDED.	DEATHS ON THE VOYAGE.	PERCENTAGE OF MORTALITY.	REMARKS.
British	26	18,549	9,606	8,215	1,391	14.4	Many of the Chinese jumped overboard.
American	9	7,832	3,910	3,539	372	9.4	
French	8	6,003	2,773	2,463	310	11.1	{ Screw Steamer of 1,600 Tons, brought 842, and lost besides 58 Chinese.
Spanish	6	4,453	2,825	2,478	347	12.2	
Portuguese	5	2,033	1,779	1,489	290	11.1	Cora, lost 117 out of 292. Cause: Bad water.
Italian	3	1,246	1,049	1,021	28	2.3	
German	3	2,481	1,314	812	502	38.1	
Danish	1	560	219	236	13	5.3	
Norwegian	1	470	221	179	42	19.0	
Swedish	1	250	202	155	47	23.1	
Total	63	42,930	23,928	20,586	3,342	14 per Cent	From 31 June, 1847, to 31st December, 1857.

Havana, 31st December, 1857.

J. T. CRAWFORD,
Consul General in Cuba.

No. 51.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

On the 1st instant, a highway Robbery was committed by several Chinese at the Stanley Road, on the Person of F. I. HAZELAND, Esquire. His Excellency The Governor is pleased to offer]

A REWARD OF ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS

to any Person giving such information as shall lead to the apprehension and conviction of the Robbers.

His Excellency The Governor is also pleased to offer Her Majesty's Free Pardon to any one of those engaged in the commission of the said highway Robbery—excepting only the Person or Persons who inflicted the said violence—who shall give information of his accomplices, and furnish evidence leading to their conviction.

By Order,

W. T. BRIDGES
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 4th June, 1858.