

...ertain Cotton Fabrics, named *Kwei-hwa-poo* and *Chay* or *Te-hwa-poo*, [Dyed Cottons,] have been brought to this Port; and it occurred, that the Merchants argue and dispute the point when the said Goods are being valued for Duty Assessment. Now, the question range in Value from Three to Five or Six Taels per Piece. I therefore propose to admit them at a fixed valuation, say per Piece, and collect on them an *ad valorem* Duty of Five per Cent. In this way we will be able to preserve uniformity and to avoid confusion and irregularity.

I send for your inspection specimens of the *Kwei-hwa-poo* and *Chay-hwa-poo*; and I request that you will consider my proposal favour me with a Reply. Further, the Handkerchiefs and Chintz, sent to me by you, will be retained as Specimens in my Office. You will bring these matters to the cognizance of the Merchants, in order that they may act in accordance therewith, as will be most expedient.

In conclusion, therefore, I send you this official Reply, and avail myself of the opportunity to wish you all the blessings of the season. A

Translated by,

(Signed,) ROBERT HART,  
Acting Interpreter.

True Copies,

H. F. HANCE.

**NOTICE.**

The Sittings of the SUPREME COURT, in its ORIGINAL JURISDICTION, will be held on the First day of April, A.D. 1859, at 10 o'clock Noon.

By Order of the Court,

NORMAN RAMSAY MASSON,  
Acting Registrar.

**POST-OFFICE NOTIFICATION.**

THE GENERAL MAILS per Steamer "ADEN," will close on TUESDAY, the 23rd inst at 6 o'clock P.M.

SUPPLEMENTARY MAILS will be made up every morning. LETTERS received from 6 A.M. for a late fee of 6d., and from 12 o'clock P.M., for a late fee of 1s. News papers posted between the 11th and Half-past 12 o'clock P.M., must be delivered to the Post-Office.

F. W. MITCHELL,  
Acting Post-Master.

Hongkong,  
23rd March, 1859.

Steam for  
PENANG, POINT DE GALLE,  
SUEZ, MALTA, MARSEILLES,  
& SOUTHAMPTON;

ALSO,

INDIAN, MADRAS, & CALCUTTA.  
PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steam-ship "ADEN," CAPTAIN BARNARD, with Her Majesty's Mails, Passengers, and Cargo, will leave this for the East, on WEDNESDAY, the 30th March,

Passengers will be received on board until 5 P.M. on the 29th, and until 2 P.M. on the 29th.

Particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSAGE, apply to the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Hongkong.

WEIGHTS AND VALUE OF PACKAGES ARE REQUIRED.

A Declaration of the Contents and Value of Packages for the Overland Route is required by the Government, and must be delivered to the Company's Agents with the Goods or with Parcels; and the Company do not become responsible for any Detention or Loss which may happen from incorrectness on the part of the Shipper.

MAXN. FISCHER,  
Superintendent.

Peninsular & Oriental  
Steam Navigation Company's Office,  
21st March, 1859.

**NOTICE.**

ROBERT SCOTT WALKER has joined the Firm, which will, from this day, be carried on under the title of WALKER, BORRADAILE & Co.

THOS. S. BORRADAILE & Co.  
25th November, 1858.

**IN THE COURT FOR THE RELIEF OF INSOLVENT DEBTORS AT CALCUTTA.**

In the Matter of the "ASIATIC MARINE INSURANCE OFFICE."

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN.—That by an Order of this Court, bearing date the Fourth day of December, One thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, the SHAREHOLDERS of the said "ASIATIC MARINE INSURANCE OFFICE," are required to pay the further Sum of COMPANY'S RUPEES TWO THOUSAND, assessed in respect of each SHARE held by them respectively, on or before the following dates: that is to say, the SHAREHOLDERS resident in CALCUTTA or the Suburbs thereof, on or before the First day of February next; the SHAREHOLDERS resident in HONGKONG and BOMBAY, on or before the Second day of May next; and the SHAREHOLDERS resident in GREAT BRITAIN, and all other Places not mentioned in the said Order, on or before the First day of August next; and that the Official Assignee will be at liberty to apply that the defaulting Shareholders be adjudged to have committed an Act of Insolvency according to the Provisions of the Indian Insolvent Act.

DENMAN & HATCH,  
Attorneys for the Official Assignee.

SMITH & BRIMELOW,  
Government Auctioneers, Ship Chandlers, Auctioneers, and Commission Agents.  
ESTABLISHED 1844.

Auctioneers to H. M. Naval and Victualling Department.

Nos. 1 & 2 WOODSMAN'S BUILDINGS,  
HONGKONG.

**NOTICE.**

MR JOHN ROBERTS, JUN., will act as Auctioneer during the absence of Mr BRIMELOW from the Colony; and is authorized to sign our Firm per *procurator* from this date.

SMITH & BRIMELOW.  
Hongkong, 24th March, 1859.

**NOTICE.**

THE undersigned have this day entered into Co-partnership under the style of HESSE, EHLERS & Co., for the transaction of a GENERAL COMMISSION BUSINESS.

THEODOR HESSE.  
PAUL EHLERS.

Canton, 3d January, 1859.

WITH reference to the foregoing Notice, the Business hitherto carried on by the undersigned, ceases to exist from this date.

All outstanding accounts will be settled by the undersigned.

PAUL EHLERS.

Canton, 3d January, 1859.

**NOTICE.**

MR HENRY COHEN, is authorized to Sign our Firm per *procurator*.

PHILLIPS, MOORE & Co.  
Hongkong, 1st March, 1859.

**NOTICE.**

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY is desirous of receiving any information concerning one

MATTHEW CARSWELL DREW,

a CIVIL ENGINEER & SURVEYOR, who is supposed to have been temporarily resident in this Colony sometime during the last four years. Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 19th January, 1859.

**NOTICE.**

A DISSOLUTION of the partnership hitherto existing between the former Members of the Firm ADAM & Co., Batavia and Sourabaya, having taken place on the 31st ultimo, the undersigned begs to intimate, that he will continue the Business, as heretofore, at both places, and under the same style as formerly.

Notice is at the same time given, that, from this date, Mr D. T. BRYCE has been admitted as Partner at Batavia and Sourabaya; and that Mr W. W. COOK has been admitted as partner of the Sourabaya Firm.

J. H. ADAM.

Batavia, 1st January, 1859.

**NOTICE.**

THE Business heretofore conducted in China under the Style of BLENKIN, RAWSON & Co., was closed on the 31st ultimo.

Mr JAMES DOW will sign the name of the Firm in Liquidation.

(Signed) T. S. RAWSON,  
S. RAWSON,  
WILLIAM KAY,  
by their Attorney, W. BLENKIN.  
JAMES DOW.  
W. THORBURN  
W. M. C. NORTON.

China, 1st January, 1859.

**NOTICE.**

WE have established a BRANCH of our House at Hongkong.

Mr ROWLAND HAMILTON, and Mr HUBERT MARSHALL MURRAY GRAY, are admitted Partners in our Firm.

Mr ROBERT RICHARD WESTALL will sign for us in China per *Procurator*.

SMITH, KENNEDY & Co.  
Shanghai, 18th November, 1858.

Offices in the House occupied by the late Mr EDGER, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

**COPPER-PLATE PRINTING.**

PERSONS having ENGRAVED PLATES may have VISITING CARDS (Enamelled or Plain) printed from them at the Office of the "China Mail."

Printed at the Office of the China Mail, Hongkong.—Price, \$12 per Annum. Single Copies, Thirty-six Cents.

TERMS OF ADVERTISEMENTS.—Five Lines and under, One Dollar; each Additional Line, Twenty Cents—One-half of these charges for each Repetition.