

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 468.

The following Despatches and other Papers relating to the Extension of the Colony of Hongkong, which were laid before the Legislative Council, are published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 25th August, 1899.

(Governor to Secretary of State.)

No. 66.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 17th March, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that Mr. WONG Ts'UN-SHIN, who was deputed by the Viceroy of Canton to assist in the delimitation of the northern boundary of the Kowloon extension, arrived on the 10th instant, and on the 11th had an interview with Mr. STEWART LOCKHART. He returned to Canton on the 12th instant to consult the Viceroy and came back on the 14th instant when he again met Mr. STEWART LOCKHART with a proposal that the Sham Chun river should form the boundary. This was the extreme limit to which he was permitted to go.

2. He came here with Mr. STEWART LOCKHART and we discussed the matter for over two hours. I endeavoured to show him that it would be to the mutual advantage of China and this Government to have Sham Chun and Shat'aukok included in the leased territory, and pointed out to him that, if they were, they would still be open for the Chinese to as great an extent as at present, while if they are not ceded they will be closed to the Chinese inhabitants of this Colony who have been in the habit of resorting to them; but it was clear that he had orders not to grant them. I then thought it well to have the river boundary formally agreed to as a provisional measure, leaving our pressing demand for the boundary of the base of the hills to the North open for further consideration at Peking. I wrote an agreement* which was signed by the Chinese Commissioner and Mr. STEWART LOCKHART. I have explained the situation fully to Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD and sent him a copy of the map† of which I enclose a copy, being the only good survey of the boundary district that has yet been made. The provisional boundary is marked in red, the proposed boundary in blue. I have no doubt that it would be a great convenience to this Colony to have the two towns named included. But pending the further negotiations on the point the fixing of the boundary to the river will enable me to take over the territory which I shall do as soon as the necessary preparations are complete for having a police force and a magistrate there. I shall inform you by telegraph when I can fix the date.

3. I hear conflicting accounts of the feeling of the people. The inhabitants on the Deep Bay side do not bear a very good reputation, and it will be necessary to have a fair show of force when hoisting the flag.

4. I assume that all the public buildings belonging to the Chinese Government are to be handed over to this Government, and that all Chinese officials are to be removed from the leased territory and their powers and duties are to cease and determine from the moment that the flag is hoisted.

5. I enclose for your information copy of a letter‡ addressed to me by Mr. STEWART LOCKHART and of its enclosures relative to the progress of his negotiations with the delimitation Commissioner appointed by the Chinese Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.,

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

* Enclosure No. 1.

† Not printed.

‡ Enclosure No. 2.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

(Agreement referred to in the Governor's despatch of 17th March, 1899.)

It is agreed that for the present the river past Sham Chun to Shat'aukok shall be the boundary to its source North-West of Shat'aukok and thence to Mirs Bay immediately to the West of Shat'aukok; the North bank of the river referred to being the boundary. The question of including Sham Chun and Shat'aukok is to remain open for further reference to Peking.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

善 存 王

i.e., WONG TS'ÜN-SHIN.

14th March, 1899.

(Governor to Mr. Stewart Lockhart.)

No. 28/G.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 11th March, 1899.

SIR,

I hereby appoint you, under authority from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to be the representative of the Government of Great Britain for the purpose of fixing the exact boundaries of the extension of Hongkong in accordance with the terms of the Convention signed at Peking on the 9th June, 1898.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

The Honourable

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary,
&c., &c., &c.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

(Mr. Stewart Lockhart to Governor.)

No. 428.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
HONGKONG, 16th March, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the instrument signed by Your Excellency dated the 11th instant, appointing me, under instructions from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the representative of Great Britain for fixing the boundaries of the extension of the Colony of Hongkong.

2. Acting under that instrument I have held two interviews with the Commissioner appointed by the Government of China for the delimitation of the frontier of the extension of the Colony of Hongkong.

3. I am glad to be able to state that after considerable difficulty I have induced the Commissioner for China to agree to the North bank of the Sham Chun river to its source as the boundary between British and Chinese territory. It is gratifying to me to have succeeded in securing in the new extension complete control of that river, which on the map attached to the Convention is not included within the territory leased to Great Britain. It is scarcely necessary to point out that without such complete control the development of the territory would have been rendered very difficult.

4. In my report to the Colonial Office of the 8th October last, I strongly recommended that the town of Sham Chun should be included in the leased territory, and I stated at some length the reasons for my recommendation. I enclose a copy* of that portion of my report dealing with this matter. Nothing has occurred since that report was written to modify in any way my views on this subject, and I trust that in the interests of Great Britain the British Minister at Peking will be able by diplomatic representations to secure that not only the town of Sham Chun but also the town of Shat'aukok will be included within the British boundary.

5. I am about to proceed to-day to delimit with the Chinese Commissioner the boundary agreed upon between us, which is described in the Agreement signed before Your Excellency at Government House on the 14th instant, a copy of which is enclosed. I will in due course report the result of our mission.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency

Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,
§c., §c., §c.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

23rd March, 1899.

Commissioners appointed by British and Chinese Governments have agreed that the Northern boundary of the New Territory shall include the River. The question of including Sham Chun and the valley was reserved for reference to Peking. Public opinion here strongly opposes non-removal of Imperial Customs Stations. I hoped to assume jurisdiction in New Territory early in April, but in deference to the request of the Chinese Government, conveyed through Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, I have agreed to take no action till April 15th. Most important to have quarters ready for Executive Staff and Police before the wet weather, which begins next month.

BLAKE.

(Governor to Secretary of State.)

No. 73.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 24th March, 1899.

SIR,

In continuation of my despatch No. 66 of the 17th instant, I have the honour to transmit for your information copy of a further letter† from Mr. STEWART LOCKHART and of its enclosure relative to the completion of the delimitation of the Northern boundary of the new territory.

Credit is due to Mr. LOCKHART for having arranged a satisfactory provisional boundary line, but I am addressing Her Majesty's Minister at Peking with a view of obtaining an extension which will include the towns of Sham Chun and Shat'aukok.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.,
§c., §c., §c.

* Already printed. (See Sessional Paper No. 35.)

† Enclosure No. 1.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

(Mr. Stewart Lockhart to Governor.)

No. 16.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
HONGKONG, 20th March, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to report that, accompanied by Mr. ORMSBY, Director of Public Works, I left for Mirs Bay on Thursday last, the 16th, to delimit the boundary of the new territory leased to Great Britain by China.

2. I was met on the morning of the 17th instant at Starling Inlet by the Officer deputed by the Chinese Government to carry out the work of delimitation on behalf of China.

3. The delimitation was completed on the 18th instant on which day I returned to Hongkong.

On the 19th instant, I met the Officer deputed by the Chinese Government and we both signed the enclosed memorandum which clearly defines the boundaries of the new territory.

4. I attach a sketch map* on which the boundary defined in the memorandum referred to above is indicated. This map has been prepared by Mr. ORMSBY, Director of Public Works, who has been of great assistance to me in settling a satisfactory boundary.

5. I had a final interview with Mr. WONG, the Chinese representative, to-day.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient Servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency

Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of Hongkong.

MEMORANDUM

(Referred to in Mr. Stewart Lockhart's Letter of the 20th March, 1899.)

The Northern Boundary commences at the point of high water-mark in Mirs Bay where the meridian of 114° 30' East cuts the land and follows that high water-mark to the point marked with a peg immediately to the West of the market town locally known as Tung Wo Hü and sometimes called Shat'aukok. It then proceeds straight inland for a short distance till it meets a narrow path between fields on the right and a tidal flat on the left. A peg was driven in to the East of the path, and it was agreed that the whole of the path is within British territory but may be used by the inhabitants of both countries. The line follows this path until it reaches a corner of the market town of Tung Wo Hü where another peg was driven in and then proceeds until it comes to the bed of a wide stream which is at present dry. It was agreed that the boundary should follow the centre of this river bed. The land to the right of the river, that is, the land on the left bank being within Chinese territory; the land to the left of the river, that is, the land on the right bank being within British territory. This line along the middle of the river's bed continues until a road leading to the village Kang Hau is reached. A peg was driven in at the point where the boundary line leaves the river and follows this road. It was agreed that the whole of the road is within British territory but may be used by the inhabitants of both countries. This road leads up a steep ravine crossing and re-crossing the stream. It was agreed that the waters of this stream whether within the British or the Chinese boundary should be available for the inhabitants of both countries. This road passes through a gap about 500 feet above sea level forming the dividing ridge between the Shat'aukok and Sham Chun valleys. The boundary was marked at this point with a peg. It was agreed that the road from this gap should be the boundary and is within British territory but may be used by the inhabitants of both countries. This road passes

* Not printed.

down the right-hand side of the ravine and has a stream on the left running to Kang T'ó. At the foot of the ravine this road crosses a larger stream coming from the direction of Ng Tung Shán and re-crosses it within a distance of 100 yards. This road passes Kang T'ó village on the right and reaches the Sham Chun river at a distance of about a quarter of a mile below Kang T'ó. It was agreed that up to this point this road is within British territory but may be used by the inhabitants of both countries. It was also agreed that the waters of the stream running from Ng Tung Shán referred to above should be available for cultivators of land in both territories. A peg was driven in to mark the point where this road as a boundary ended. The boundary then follows the right or northern bank of the river generally known as the Sham Chun river down to Deep Bay, all the river and the land to the south being within British territory. The Western, Eastern, and Southern boundaries are as laid down in the Convention, the whole of the Island of Lantao being within British territory.

The waters of Mirs Bay and Deep Bay are included in the area leased to Great Britain.

Signed in the Council Chamber, Hongkong, this 19th day of March, 1899.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

王存善, *ie*, WONG TS'ÜN-SHIN.

In the presence of

TSOI YEUK-SHÁN.

祺威, *ie*, KI WAI.

(Secretary of State to Governor.)

HONGKONG.
No. 81.

DOWNING STREET,
9th May, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 73 of the 24th March and enclosures relative to the completion of the delimitation of the Northern boundary of the new territory, and I shall be glad if you will convey to Mr. STEWART LOCKHART my appreciation of the able manner in which he has conducted the negotiations with the representative of the Chinese Government on this occasion.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor

Sir H. A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,
sc., *sc.*, *sc.*

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

1st April, 1899.

Inclusion of Sham Chun refused by Chinese authorities. The people near the boundary decided upon have threatened our workmen employed in the erection of Police matsheds. An inflammatory placard which had been posted in the New Territory has been brought in to me. I propose to proceed this evening to interview the Viceroy at Canton, with a view to having Chinese troops sent to preserve order until we take over the territory—which will be as soon as the matsheds are ready.

BLAKE.

(Governor to Secretary of State.)

No. 82.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 1st April, 1899.

SIR,

I have this moment a quarter of an hour before the starting of the mail received a report that the party, sent by the Public Works Department to erect the posts on the boundaries settled upon by the Chinese Commissioners and Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, were stopped by the people who informed the party that if they attempted to erect a post they would kill them. The party returned. At the same time I received from Mr. WĒI YUK, a member of the Legislative Council, a copy of a placard that has been posted in the district to be taken over, the translation of which I enclose.*

2. It is of the utmost importance that this movement shall be nipped in the bud. I have determined to proceed to Canton to-day to see the Viceroy and induce him to send troops forthwith to secure and punish the ringleaders and to protect the parties sent in to erect the posts. If this be not done there may be serious trouble. Should I not be successful in having it done, I shall probably proceed to take over possession without delay.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,

Governor.

The Right Honourable
JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Translation.

We hate the English barbarians who are about to enter our boundaries and take our land, and will cause us endless evil. Day and night we fear the approaching danger. Certainly people are dissatisfied at this and have determined to resist the barbarians. If our fire-arms are not good, we shall be unable to oppose the enemy. So we have appointed an exercise-ground and gathered all together as patriots to drill with fire-arms. To encourage proficiency rewards will be given. On the one hand we shall be helping the Government; on the other we shall be saving ourselves from future trouble. Let all our friends and relatives bring their fire-arms to the ground and do what they can to extirpate the traitors. Our ancestors will be pleased, and so will our neighbours. This is our sincere wish. Practice takes place every day.

First prize:—One gauze coat. A packet of 1,000 crackers.

Second prize:—One pair of brown gauze trousers. A packet of 500 crackers.

Third prize:—One straw hat.

17th Day 2nd Moon. 25th Year of Kwong-sui (28th March, 1899).

A placard issued by the Yuk-on Hin ("Wish for Peace" library) of P'ing-shán.

Translated by A. W. BREWIN.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

3rd April, 1899.

Yesterday I interviewed the Viceroy at Canton. He promised, after some demur, to send soldiers to protect the Chinese building the Police matsheds and to keep order in the district. I told him that, provided this was done, I would not take over till the 17th, but that after our occupation the Chinese Customs cannot function. I told him I am preventing the export of arms into China.

BLAKE.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

4th April, 1899.

Yesterday Mr. MAY went to Taipó Hii with 5 Chinese soldiers to whom the matsheds there were to be handed over. I received a message from him at midnight last night that the villagers were threatening and that, while he would hold his position until morning, he urgently required immediate relief. I despatched, by Torpedo Boat Destroyer, 100 men of the Royal Welch Fusiliers with instructions to withdraw British subjects, but not, unless attacked, to adopt hostile attitude. The Force was accompanied by Mr. LOCKHART. He will warn the villagers of the danger of opposition and leave the Chinese soldiers in charge of the matshed until a sufficient Force has been sent to ensure sufficient protection of the workmen. 300 men were ordered to the district by the Viceroy on the 2nd instant, but they have not yet arrived. I do not apprehend serious trouble, but will not accept responsibility for preventing it until I take over the territory. This should be done on the 17th. In the meantime I have telegraphed this morning to the Viceroy, who, I believe, is acting in good faith, urging that men be sent without delay.

BLAKE.

(Telegram from Secretary of State.)

5th April, 1899.

I approve generally of actions taken by you. The British troops presumably are now withdrawn. Date of taking over is left to your discretion, but telegraph date you finally settle on that Her Majesty's Government may publish Order-in-Council here. Communications are being made to the Chinese Government with reference to the inability of the Customs Officials to function in British territory or waters.

CHAMBERLAIN.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

6th April, 1899.

No British troops in territory. Official publication of Order-in-Council April 8; I take over April 17.

BLAKE.

(Governor to Secretary of State.)

No. 87.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 7th April, 1899.

SIR,

With reference to my despatch No. 82 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to inform you that on the 2nd instant I proceeded at 5.30 a.m. to Canton in Her Majesty's ship *Fame* and arrived at 10 o'clock, the Viceroy having informed the Consul that he would receive me at 11 a.m. I was accompanied by Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary, and the members of my staff. On proceeding from the Consulate to the Viceroy's Yamên, I found that preparations had been made for my reception that I did not expect. The streets for the two miles or so be-

tween the Consulate and the Yamèn had been washed and cleaned, and were lined with troops throughout the entire distance. There were between 1,600 and 1,800 men, armed with muzzle loaders and rifles of various patterns, in addition to which a large proportion carried revolvers. I noticed that all the arms were quite clean and apparently well kept. The streets were decorated with flags on long poles and there were dense crowds who were perfectly respectful. I was received by the Viceroy with the usual ceremonies and at once entered upon the business of my visit, Mr. PIRZIOS, the Vice-Consul, interpreting most admirably.

After some preliminary observations he remarked that the friendship between England and China had been of long standing; on which I assured him that England was China's best friend, and it was with the most friendly feelings that I had done myself the honour of visiting him to request his immediate attention to certain acts of intimidation and attempts to lead the people of the leased territory astray by an inflammatory placard that had been posted in many villages, a copy of which I handed to him with the name of the person who had written it. Knowing the friendly feelings of His Excellency and feeling that he would take immediate action, I had determined to bring the matter personally to his notice rather than telegraph to London and Peking that disorder was threatened in his Province. I therefore requested that the writer of the placard should be made answerable and punished.

He answered that he could not possibly find the person who wrote the placard. To this I demurred. He said I did not know China or I would realize the difficulty. I answered that I knew China sufficiently to know that if His Excellency wanted to find any person in his province that person would be forthcoming. He said the name given might not be the real culprit. Whom did I want punished? I answered that I had not come to him to demand the punishment of any person other than the real culprit, but to insure that the territory leased in extension of Hongkong should not be allowed to become a prey to agitators pending the taking over of the territory by me; that I had postponed the taking over of the territory to the 17th instant for the purpose of having matsheds erected in which to house the officials and police who would be stationed there while proper houses and barracks were being built, and to give him time to arrange the stations for the Customs now that the boundary had been settled. On this His Excellency said that there was no occasion for erection of new Customs stations as the Customs would remain where they were. I answered that such a course was impossible. He said this country is only leased. It is China, and there is nothing about Customs in the Convention. I answered that whether leased, lent, or ceded, as soon as the British flag is hoisted it becomes for the time as effectually British territory as Government House, Hongkong, and the Chinese Customs flags must be hauled down. I pointed out that all the waters of Mirs Bay and Deep Bay as well as the coast line to the South becoming British under the Convention, it was impossible that the Chinese Customs authorities could act, as even if a vessel were found in these waters with contraband on board she could not be seized for having them in Chinese waters or territory, and if resistance were offered to search and life was lost the Customs officers would be put on their trial for murder in the Courts at Hongkong. He demurred at this, declaring in such a case that they would be tried in China; that if the Customs were to be moved the Convention was at an end; that the boundary question was not yet settled as he had not signed the delimitation, and other arguments. I pointed out to His Excellency that the provisional boundary had been settled by two officers regularly accredited and gazetted in Hongkong and Canton and was therefore in accordance with the Convention, and that if timely measures were not taken by him for the protection of that frontier China must suffer serious loss of revenue by smuggling.

His Excellency then said, "It is not in the Convention. I cannot remove them. If you insist on this then all is at an end. The Convention is at an end and there is no boundary."

"Your Excellency is mistaken," I answered. "The Convention has been made by the respective Imperial Governments. Neither you nor I can alter that." "Is it then agreed that the boundary is as delimited?" he asked. I said, "It is." (I had received the telegram from Peking that any further extension had been firmly declined.)

I then called His Excellency's attention categorically to my complaints. I said the people who were erecting the matsheds had been threatened and were obliged to cease working, and that this inflammatory placard handed to him was being extensively posted. I had no wish to use language that was not of the most

friendly character, but I felt it my duty to call upon him to take without delay the necessary steps, first, to have the placards removed and the person who wrote them brought to justice; second, to supply ample protection for the parties working on matsheds; third, to supply similar protection to parties surveying roads that we proposed to make for the benefit of the people. He said, "I will send a telegram to the San On Magistrate to do what you ask." I said, "I must demand something more definite from Your Excellency. As for the San On Magistrate I can expect no help from him. I am informed by Mr STEWART LOCKHART, our Commissioner for delimitation, that he has been only a hindrance and thrown difficulties in the way of delimitation on every occasion. I must beg that Your Excellency will yourself give the necessary orders, and I must also beg that I be informed that they have been obeyed by Tuesday next, otherwise I will proceed to hoist the British flag and take over the territory on Wednesday. At present I do not propose to do so until the 17th instant when the matsheds will be ready for occupation."

His Excellency, having consulted with several Mandarins at the table, said he did not think that all the men could be there before Wednesday. I said that I would not in that case make any move before Thursday, but while I knew how anxious His Excellency was to do everything in his power I was aware that in China orders are not always carried out with necessary promptitude. I would therefore impress upon His Excellency the necessity of my being informed on Wednesday that they had been carried out to prevent my acting on Thursday. I would also request that the San On Magistrate be ordered to personally visit the villages accompanied by other officials and issue a proclamation by order of His Excellency warning the people against disturbances or interference with any working parties or surveyors. This His Excellency promised to do. I said I had a more pleasing duty to perform in assuring His Excellency that the Government of Hongkong had determined to bring in an Ordinance the effect of which, I hoped, would render opium smuggling into China almost impossible, and also that I had issued a proclamation under the provisions of which I had prevented the export of arms to China. His Excellency expressed much pleasure at this information.

The interview, which had lasted over two-and-a-half hours, then ended. His Excellency apologised for being unable to return my visit as I informed him that I was returning to Hongkong forthwith. During the interview the Audience Hall was crowded, the place being apparently open to all-comers. Immediately after my return to the Consulate two mandarins arrived bearing the Viceroy's cards, who said that urgent telegrams had already been sent in accordance with my request. I left Canton at 4.45 p.m. and arrived at Hongkong at 10 p.m.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

(Governor to Secretary of State.)

No. 88.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 7th April, 1899.

SIR,

At midnight on the 3rd instant, I received a memorandum from Mr. MAY, the Captain Superintendent of Police, who had gone to Tái pó Hū in Mirs Bay to relieve two Police Constables whom he had left in charge of the matshed being built there for the accommodation of Police and Officials pending the erection of permanent buildings, saying that an attack had been made upon him by the inhabitants; that he would hold the matshed until morning, but that he required assistance. I may explain that matsheds are houses constructed of bamboo, the sides and roof being covered with palm leaves.

2. He was accompanied by five Chinese "braves" sent with him in accordance with the promise made by the Viceroy to me that protection would be afforded by the Chinese Authorities to all such buildings and working parties, and had gone to remove the Police as I disapproved of placing our Police in an equivocal position lest there should be any conflict before the taking over of the extended territory.

3. I arranged with the Major-General Commanding and the Commodore to send a relieving force of 100 men as soon as steam could be got on a Torpedo Destroyer. They were accompanied by the Colonial Secretary to whom I gave the instructions enclosed * and whose report I annex. † I enclose also the report ‡ furnished by Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G., who himself accompanied the troops, and Mr. MAY, Captain Superintendent of Police. §

4. I have considered in Executive Council the question whether it would be advisable, in consequence of the threatening attitude of the people, to hoist our flag at once, and the majority of the Members agree with me that it is better to wait until the 17th. Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, whose knowledge of the people is great, and who has means of obtaining special information, is of opinion that this attack is part of a general movement against our occupation on the part of the "literati" who have hitherto lived by irregular "squeezes" from the people, and of the gamblers and bad characters banished from Hongkong, and I am disposed to agree with him. But the heaviest punishment that we could inflict, even if we could define the offence of which the people have been guilty, remembering that we have so far no legal standing, would not equal the expense and discomfort of having to support the Chinese soldiers sent into the district to-day by the Viceroy in fulfilment of his undertaking. The probable result will be to welcome our appearance on the 17th instant with the disappearance of the Chinese troops. I know so little of the Chinese character and the possible action of their secret societies, that I find it difficult to judge of the probability of further disturbance, but the readiness with which the villages answered the signals to assemble render a reconsideration of the Police distribution necessary, as for the present it will be expedient to have fewer stations of parties so large that they will be able to repel any attack. It will also be advisable to have for a time a Military detachment in the district which can be arranged as the regiments can do their military training by companies there, and before the season is over we shall be in a better position to judge of the requirements of the extended territory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,

Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1 IN GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH OF THE 7TH APRIL, 1899.

(Governor's Instructions to Colonial Secretary of the 3rd April, 1899.)

Midnight, 3rd April, 1899.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY,

The interpreter who was with Mr. MAY has returned with a note saying that he and his party of Sikhs and Chinese were attacked by the villagers of Tái pó Hü and that he has retired to the matshed at Tái pó Hü which he will hold until morning. I have requested the General to send a Force of 200 men and the Commodore to have steam on two Torpedo Boats as soon as possible.

You will accompany the party and take immediate Civil charge of the expedition. So far as I can gather from the Interpreter who brought the note, there has been no actual attack, only a riot. About 40 to 50 men assembled with

* Enclosure No. 1.

† Enclosure No. 2.

‡ Enclosure No. 3.

§ Enclosure No. 4.

stones and threatened Mr. MAY and his party. I desire to avoid any hostilities except as a defensive measure or so far as may be necessary to relieve Mr. MAY should you find him attacked. He has sent for the San On Magistrate. You should communicate with the Kowloon Authority and request him to send 200 men forthwith and protect the matshed. You will, so soon as an answer has been received, withdraw Mr. MAY's party, leaving the responsibility of protecting the matshed to the Chinese. I do not desire to assume any responsibility in the matter until I have taken over the territory.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

You can explain the position to the villagers and warn them of the danger of their proceedings.

ENCLOSURE NO. 2 IN GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH OF THE 7TH APRIL, 1899.

(Colonial Secretary's Report of the 5th April, 1899.)

HONGKONG, 5th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

In pursuance of the instructions from Your Excellency, a copy of which is attached, I started about 2.35 a.m. on the 4th instant from Government House and proceeded with Mr. Ts'oi on board a Police pinnace to Kowloon City which was reached about 3.30 a.m.

The Colonel-in-Command there was at once aroused from his slumbers and informed by me of the situation at Tái pó Hii (大埔墟). At my request he promised to telegraph to the Viceroy at Canton and to send special messengers to the San On Magistrate and to Major FONG, the Officer-in-Command of the 300 Chinese troops, to be despatched to various points in the newly leased territory. I left Kowloon City at 4 a.m. and went on board H.M.S. *Whiting* at 4.17 a.m. which was waiting in Kowloon Bay in accordance with an arrangement previously made with His Excellency the General Officer Commanding, Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G. As soon as we got on board, the *Whiting* started for Tái pó Hii and I read my instructions to His Excellency the General Officer Commanding.

We passed the Lyemoo Pass at 4.38 a.m. A dense fog came on at 5 a.m. and ten minutes later the *Whiting* had to stop to take soundings. After soundings had been taken she proceeded at a speed of about 20 knots.

At about 5.30 a.m. she ran against the rocks at Fung Head, south of the entrance of Mirs Bay.

Considering how dense the fog was and the speed at which the *Whiting* had to proceed, in view of the urgency of her mission, Commander KELLY showed great presence of mind under very difficult circumstances.

The *Whiting* reached Tolo Harbour at 9 a.m. and anchored at a distance of a little more than 2 miles from the point where the matsheds were situated.

The party had disembarked at 9.45 a.m. and marched at once along the north shore of Tolo Harbour for Tái pó Hii which was about 4 miles distant and which was reached at 10.45 a.m.

On seeing our approach many of the villagers took refuge in the hills, but some of the elders of the village and the custodian of the temple in the village were brought to the temple and questioned.*

It was ascertained that the villages of Ch'á Hang (蔡坑), Lam Ts'ün (林村), Ún Iu (碗陶), Shün Wan (船灣), Cheung Shü T'an (樟樹灘), Pan Ch'ung (滙涌), Nám Hang (南坑), and Fan Ling (分嶺) had taken part in the opposition offered to Mr. MAY and his party.

The custodian of the temple informed us that Mr. MAY and party returned early in the morning by boat to Sha T'in.

The temple-keeper at first professed ignorance of the whole affair, but when some of the personal effects of the Indian Constables and a sun helmet were found in the temple he became more communicative.

The other elders said they knew nothing of the matter.

* Names not printed.

Having left the elders and the custodian of the temple in the temple under the custody of a guard of soldiers, we made a visit to Pan Ch'ung (潘涌), the village adjacent to the spot where the matsheds were erected, but the door of every house in the village was locked from the outside and not a person could be found.

Even the female occupants of an isolated house not more than 200 yards away from where one of the matsheds had been burnt said they knew nothing of the affair.

The shed, where the workmen who built the sheds lived and to which Mr. MAY retreated when driven from the temple, had been burnt down and the remains were still smouldering when we arrived.

A post was found near the spot where the matsheds had been burnt down with the characters *Chung Fuk Shing Hó* (鍾福盛號) on one side and *Chung Fuk Shing Hó Wai* (鍾福盛號位) on the other, meaning that the site belongs to Chung Fuk Shing (鍾福盛), which shows that the man claimed the property as his own.

The elders who had been left in the temple were brought down to the point on the shore where the burnt shed had been erected.

On their arrival His Excellency the General Officer Commanding addressed them stating that soldiers despatched by the Viceroy would arrive shortly and deal with those who had been guilty of attacking Mr. MAY and his party and of burning the matshed, and that His Excellency the Governor would take over the territory on the 17th instant, when any disturbance would be promptly suppressed and the rioters punished.

The elders then retired.

H.M.S. *Fame* and two torpedo boats arrived after the troops had landed. The party re-embarked on board H.M.S. *Whiting* and *Fame* and, having started at 2.20 p.m., reached Hongkong at 4.40 p.m.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

ENCLOSURE NO. 3 IN GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH OF THE 7TH APRIL, 1899.

(From Major-General W. J. Gascoigne to His Excellency the Governor.)

HONGKONG, 5th April, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to report for Your Excellency's information that about midnight on 3rd and 4th April, 1899, I received a communication from Your Excellency informing me that Mr. MAY, Captain Superintendent of Police, was hemmed in by a crowd of unfriendly natives in the neighbourhood of Tái pó Hú and that he required to be at once released. I at once communicated with Lieutenant-Colonel MAINWARING, Commanding 2nd Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, who arrived at Head-Quarter House in a remarkably short time. Subsequently at about 1.50 a.m., I received from Your Excellency the attached order* to send troops to relieve Mr. MAY. I ordered out 100 men of the Royal Welch to be at Murray Pier in an hour's time to be ready to embark in any craft which could be prepared at so short a notice. At 2.30 a.m. the men were at Murray Pier ready for embarkation with food and ammunition. Owing to Your Excellency's forethought I found a number of police launches ready at the Pier, and having, by means of them, ascertained that H.M.S. *Whiting* was able to accommodate the whole party and that H.M.S. *Fame* could not be ready till 4.30 a.m., I ordered the troops to embark on H.M.S. *Whiting*, and H.M.S. *Fame* to follow later as a despatch boat. I, with my staff, accompanied the troops on the *Whiting*. The Colonial Secretary, Honourable Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, met me on the Pier and informed me that it was Your Excellency's desire that he should first proceed to Kowloon City to confer with the head man there; get an interpreter, and then proceed with me in the *Whiting* which was to wait for him at Kowloon City. Mr. STEWART LOCKHART accomplished his mission in a remarkably short time and came on board at 4.30 a.m., and we at once started. The night was exceedingly foggy; so thick

* Enclosure No. 1.

that it was a matter of the utmost difficulty to proceed at all. But as speed was of the utmost consequence, our information being that Mr. MAY was in extreme difficulty, Commander KELLY with my entire concurrence made all the speed possible. At about 6 a.m. he had the misfortune to strike a rock, twisting the bow plates, but not otherwise doing any serious damage. I can only say that in this accident no blame whatever in my opinion was attributable to Commander KELLY who had either the alternative of anchoring owing to the darkness (in which case Mr. MAY and his party might have been murdered) or else proceeding to their rescue at a certain amount of risk. Of the two evils the latter was the least, and I venture to emphasize to Your Excellency that, in my opinion, Commander KELLY was not to blame in the least, but on the contrary endeavoured to carry out the exigencies of the situation in the best possible way. Owing to the dense fog the troops did not arrive till 9 a.m., and there being but two small boats the landing of the whole party was not completed till 9.45 a.m. There was a distance of nearly 4 miles to be traversed in a very hot sun. An advance guard was formed, and at 10.45 a.m. the column arrived at Tái pó Hū City. Mr. STEWART LOCKHART on arrival asked me to halt the column at the Temple and with the aid of the troops but without the least violence some 9 or 10 of the leading inhabitants, shopkeepers, and others, were brought to the temple and there questioned separately as to what had become of Mr. MAY and his party. At first they denied all knowledge of him but gradually on being questioned separately they began to give detailed information with the result that we were satisfied that no positive injury had been inflicted on Mr. MAY's party; that he and all with him had made good their escape; but that the matshed in which he had been was burnt to the ground. Satisfied of this, I assembled these men and, having taken their names, I informed them through the interpreter that their own Viceroy would deal with any damage already done with the utmost severity, and that on and after the 17th, when it would become my duty under Your Excellency's orders to take over the District, any disturbance would be promptly quelled. I am satisfied that the prompt arrival of the troops has impressed the inhabitants, and I am convinced that no further trouble will arise in this particular place though I am averse for the present to small isolated unarmed parties proceeding about at their will.

I have to record my high sense of the tact and judgment displayed by Mr. STEWART LOCKHART in eliciting information most unwillingly given; and the interpreter whom he brought with him was simply invaluable owing to his proficiency in both English and Chinese and his knowledge of the system of dealing with the natives. Finding that it was unnecessary to remain longer, I ordered the re-embarkation of the troops and returned to Hongkong at about 5.30 p.m.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. J. GASCOIGNE,
Major-General,
Commanding in China and Hongkong.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1 IN REPORT OF GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING
TO GOVERNOR DATED 5TH APRIL, 1899.

(Governor to General Officer Commanding.)

MIDNIGHT, 3rd April, 1899.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

I think a Force of 200 men ought to go. The Colonial Secretary will accompany them. So far as I can learn the villagers did not attack. They, to the number of 40 or 50, assembled with stones. This is only an ordinary riot so far and I am anxious to avoid any bloodshed or interference involving responsibility until I take over the place. I shall therefore instruct the Colonial Secretary to bring back Mr. MAY and his force leaving the Chinese soldiers to guard the matshed, and telegraph to the Viceroy to have two hundred men sent at once for that purpose. It will be time enough for us to act when we have assumed responsi-

bility. I have requested the Commodore to get steam on the Torpedo Destroyers which will be the quickest means of getting there, and it is well to have a good show of force. But have a prudent Officer in Command, remembering that at present we are practically trespassing.

Sincerely yours,

H. A. BLAKE.

ENCLOSURE NO. 4 IN GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH OF THE 7TH APRIL, 1899.

(Report by Captain Superintendent of Police to Governor.)

POLICE OFFICE, 4th April, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to report that yesterday morning I proceeded to Tái pó via Kowloon City and Sha T'in where I hired a small junk and sailed to Tái pó, with an escort of 4 Sikh policemen, 5 Chinese soldiers from Kowloon City, and a Chinese interpreter. My object was to inspect the matshed under construction at Tái pó for the temporary accommodation of Police, to withdraw the Police guard, and exchange it for the Chinese soldiers, 5 more of whom were to follow the next day, and to interview the village elders regarding the site of the matshed.

I arrived at Tái pó at 3 p.m. and proceeded to the temple where the elders hold their meetings, and was met by them there.

The temple, in spite of the endeavours of Police and soldiers to the contrary, soon became filled with a noisy and turbulent crowd, so that it was almost impossible to hear oneself speaking. I gathered from the elders that they objected to the erection of the matshed on the ground that it would spoil the *Fung Shui* of the neighbourhood.

I pointed out to them that at first the inhabitants of Tái pó had not objected at all to the erection of the matshed, and that, in deference to the wishes of the neighbouring village of Pan Ch'ung—the nearest village to the hillock on which the matshed is built,—the site of the shed has been changed from that originally selected by me to one which the elders of Pan Ch'ung had themselves approved and marked out in my presence.

One of the elders then said that the hill was his private property—he being the third party that has now claimed the hill—and I told him, as I have told the other claimants, that if he could produce an official title deed of the hillock the Hongkong Government would purchase the property from him. He remarked that as it had been handed down to him by his ancestors he could not possibly consent to sell it.

After some further discussion, which was continually interrupted by the bystanders (some of whom became very offensive in their language and demeanour), the elders asked if I would remove the matshed to another site or not, to which I replied that the site it now stood on having been chosen by the representatives of the village nearest to it and declared free from objection on the ground of interference with *Fung Shui*, it would not be reasonable to again change it. I added that Government would pay the rightful owner for the property.

Thereupon most of the elders left the temple and I managed to induce most of the crowd to do the same. Some, however, refused to move, and presently a man from outside rushed in and hurled a brick on the pavement of the temple yard so that it broke into pieces. Then another came in and called on the bystanders to arrest my Chinese interpreter for being a traitor to his country in endeavouring to assist the foreigners in obtaining possession of it. After a little time the people seemed to have become more quiet, and I judged it expedient to try and get away from the village. Myself, the Sikh Police, and the Chinese who were with me stepped out of the temple into the street in a body and proceeded leisurely to the village. Thereupon a man in the crowd struck the interpreter a violent blow with his fist on the back, and another seized him by the queue and endeavoured to drag him from my party.

This a Sikh constable prevented, whereupon a brick was thrown from the crowd which struck him on the head. Bricks were now showered upon us by the crowd from a pile that unfortunately lay in the street, and nearly all of my party were

struck, one Sikh receiving a severe blow over the eye. We continued to retire slowly and the next moment some of the crowd seized wooden articles among which I noticed a chair, a wooden bucket, and a bamboo broom with which they attacked us. During this time the five Chinese soldiers, who had been standing outside the temple while we were inside, were separated from us by a portion of the crowd, and the use of wooden weapons rendering our position dangerous I ordered the Sikhs to draw their sword bayonets and charge.

This had the effect of driving the crowd back and the soldiers were thus enabled to join us. This they promptly did, and placing themselves between us and the crowd and keeping the latter at bay with the muzzles of their rifles enabled us to retreat to the outside of the village whither the crowd did not follow us.

We re-gained our boat at the landing-place close to the newly erected matshed which is about a quarter of a mile from the village.

From there I sent the Chinese interpreter, the two Chinese District Watchmen, who had been guarding the matshed during erection, and a Chinese detective I had with me back to Hongkong as the crowd seemed to have more animosity against the remainder of the party, and as I wished, if possible, to save the matshed from the destruction which would inevitably overtake it unless it were guarded, I determined to remain by it all night with the 6 Sikh policemen and 5 Chinese soldiers.

I sent a memorandum to His Excellency the Governor at the same time stating briefly what had occurred and what I had decided to do, and asking for assistance.

The Chinese party left at 4.45 p.m.

When darkness came on I disposed my party for the night on the hill where the matshed is, and I felt sanguine that the villagers would not attack it while my party were there. In this, however, I was disappointed, for, after some slight alarms evidently intended to frighten us, I noticed at 9 p.m. lights being exhibited in each of the five surrounding villages, and lights travelling along roads leading to the rear of our position. Soon afterwards two large bombs were exploded in the centre of the valley, and shortly after that, I could hear parties whistling and signalling to each other, and evidently concentrating on the matshed hill; and the numbers being evidently large, I recognised that it would be folly for me to resist.

I asked the Chinese soldiers, however, to try the effect of a few shots from their rifles in the air, but they objected to doing so. Thereupon I withdrew my party to a higher hill adjoining the matshed hill, from which I knew that I could get access to a road by which to retreat to Sha Tin. From this hill I watched the villagers, at a given signal, rush from all sides on to the matshed hill and heard them cry out—"They have gone!" I then saw them fire the matshed, and while they were engaged doing so I withdrew my party down the reverse slope of the hill upon which we were and concealed them in a dense thicket of rushes and cactus. After waiting some two hours, I heard parties of villagers passing close to where we were concealed, and after midnight when everything seemed quiet in my neighbourhood I gained the road to Sha Tin and took my party to a safe distance along it and awaited daylight.

I subsequently made my way to Sha Tin by boat, and as I saw no signs of the relieving Force I started for Hongkong at 7 a.m., as the Sikh Police had had nothing to eat for twenty-four hours, and the Chinese soldiers were thoroughly tired out.

What struck me most in the above incident was the evidently organized manner in which members from the surrounding villages concentrated to take part in the attack on the matshed. This is, no doubt, a method of the clans in which the leased territory abounds, adopted both for offence and defence.

It was difficult, owing to the darkness of the night, to estimate the numbers who took part in firing the matshed, but there must have been between 100 and 200 men.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. H. MAY.

The Honourable
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

11th April, 1899.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Canton, forwards despatch from Viceroy, in which he says, as Customs stations are to be removed, he refuses to hand over on 17th. I have already issued a proclamation in the New Territory to the effect that I will take over on that date and all other necessary arrangements have been completed. Our prestige would be seriously affected by any re-arrangement now and I shall therefore make no change in the course contemplated.

BLAKE.

(Telegram from Secretary of State.)

11th April, 1899.

I approve of the course contemplated in your telegram of to-day's date.

CHAMBERLAIN.

(Telegram from Secretary of State.)

Sent—11th April, 1899, (10.25 p.m.).

Received—12th April, 1899.

A request has been forwarded here from Sir R. HART that the officers of the Imperial Chinese Customs may be allowed to occupy the Ch'euung Chau, Capsui-moon and Fotouchow stations until October, by which time new quarters should be ready for them. If you concur in this, which I consider not unreasonable, you should inform Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking of your concurrence on the distinct understanding that occupation is not delayed beyond October and that only these three stations are retained.

CHAMBERLAIN.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

12th April, 1899.

In reply to your telegram of yesterday's date I agree that the three stations mentioned should be occupied by the Customs officials pending further arrangements. But the Attorney General advises me that no power can be given them to function in the territories or waters of the Colony; and the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce points out that such functioning would severely check the circulation of local trade within the Colony. Traffic to Deep Bay would be seriously interfered with by any station S.E. of Ling Tin Island or Chek Wan Bay and the same would apply to the trade on the E. side, with reference to a station in that Quarter. The Customs officials were warned of the impending change two months ago.

BLAKE.

(Telegram from Secretary of State.)

14th April, 1899.

Pending further arrangements, but in no case beyond October, the Customs Stations referred to in my telegram of the 11th instant must remain occupied. You should inform Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking of this arrangement, urging earliest possible withdrawal. Your proposal to assume possession on the 17th approved.

CHAMBERLAIN.

[*Note.*—Above telegram repeated to Peking, 14th April, 1899.]

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

14th April, 1899.

Have informed Peking. Am I to understand Customs Officers can function in the territorial waters of Colony pending removal?

BLAKE.

(Telegram from Secretary of State.)

16th April, 1899.

The Imperial Customs Officials will have no legal status. They will be in same position as those within Hongkong itself. Communicate this to Sir R. HART.

CHAMBERLAIN.

(Governor to Secretary of State.)

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 15th April, 1899.

No. 93.

SIR,

Referring to my despatch No. 88 of the 7th instant, I have the honour to inform you that, up to the 12th instant, everything appeared to proceed quietly in the neighbourhood of Tái pó Hii, where the erection of matsheds was being proceeded with presumably under the protection rendered by the Viceroy after his interview with me on the 2nd instant.

2. On the 10th instant, I received an intimation from the Secretary of Legation at Peking that he had, in accordance with instructions received from Her Majesty's Government, informed the Chinese Government that their Customs could not function in the territory or waters of the Colony.

3. On the 11th instant, I received from Her Majesty's Consul at Canton the despatch * addressed to him by the Viceroy, of which, with my reply, † I enclose a copy. A reference to my despatch No. 87 will show how extremely improbable it is that the Viceroy could have misunderstood my statement about the Customs.

4. On Wednesday, the 12th instant, nine of the elders of Tái pó Hii district came in to *lotow* to me and present a petition, ‡ a translation of which I enclose, praying for clemency. I said, in reply, that the property destroyed must be paid for, to which they agreed. I promised that, if that were done, I should accept their statement that the people had been led astray by some designing people and were sorry for what had occurred and that no further action would be taken in the matter. They expressed themselves as being satisfied with the cession of the territory to England, and I explained to them fully the system of local government that I proposed to adopt, which seemed to please them. I also informed them of the proposed arrangements for hoisting the flag at Tái pó Hii on the 17th, and expressed a hope that the elders and people of the district would attend and hear what I had to say to them.

5. The reports from the district were that everything was quiet, the people civil, and the work of erecting the matsheds was progressing rapidly so that they would be ready for occupation on Monday next.

6. I had arranged all the details of the Force to be stationed in the new territory for the present, Major-General GASCOIGNE co-operating most cordially. The twenty police who were to be stationed at Tái pó Hii were to proceed to-day and take up their quarters so as to be in readiness for Monday's ceremony, and a Company of the Hongkong Regiment was also to proceed to-day and remain under canvas, while on Monday half the Battalion will proceed and encamp in the neighbourhood on an excellent camping ground where they will go through their annual military training.

7. Yesterday morning the Director of Public Works had an intimation from one of the respectable inhabitants of the district that a number of rowdy characters had collected in the valley and, as there was no protection at all now given to the matsheds, he was afraid that, if left unprotected, they might be burnt before Mon-

* Enclosure No. 1.

† Enclosure No. 2.

‡ Enclosure No. 3.

day. On hearing this, I at once despatched Mr. MAY, the Captain Superintendent of Police, with the party who are to be stationed at Tái pó Hú to occupy the quarters, the Commodore kindly sending them to Mirs Bay by a torpedo destroyer. When they arrived they found but the smouldering remains of the matsheds, which some of the villagers declared were burnt during the morning by a number of bad characters from over the border. On the summit of the hills to the North Mr. MAY saw about 150 men with two flags, one of them apparently a Japanese flag, who exploded bombs and crackers. Mr. MAY and the party returned.

8. Having obtained from the General the loan of the necessary number of tents, I have sent Mr. MAY and his party back to-day with the Company of the Hongkong Regiment to encamp on the ground and have the flagstaff erected. I have directed the Director of Public Works to proceed without delay with the erection of the permanent buildings. I do not think there is any probability that this Force will be attacked. They will not take notice of any demonstration on the opposite hills except an attack be made, pending the formal assumption of jurisdiction on Monday. After that we shall make our jurisdiction respected.

9. The Viceroy having undertaken to protect those matsheds, I submit that the Chinese Government is responsible for the damage done and should be called upon to make good the amount. The district is well known in Canton to be turbulent, that to the N.E. of Mirs Bay being noted for piracy, and so ill-disposed that I am informed that no Customs official dares to land there except with the support of a revenue cruiser.

10. I regret this occurrence very much and I cannot help connecting it with the letter * of the 11th instant written by the Viceroy to Her Majesty's Consul at Canton. Up to that date the relations with the people were most friendly. I apprehend that with the large population of Sham Chun and its neighbourhood marching into our borders and unrestrained by the Chinese Officials, there may be difficulties ahead. We must only be patient and forbearing, at the same time suppressing at once any active opposition to our jurisdiction under the terms of the Convention of the 9th June, 1898.

I have the honour be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

P.S.—I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy and translation of a proclamation issued by me and circulated in the leased area. †

The Right Honourable
JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1. IN GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH NO. 93 OF THE 15TH APRIL, 1899.

(*Mr. Consul Mansfield to Colonial Secretary, Hongkong.*)

BRITISH CONSULATE,
CANTON, April 10, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose copy and translation of a despatch which I have this day received from the Viceroy and which he has requested me to bring to the notice of His Excellency the Governor.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

R. W. MANSFIELD,
Consul.

The Honourable
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Hongkong.

* See enclosure in Mr. Consul Mansfield's letter to Colonial Secretary, Hongkong, of the 10th April, 1899.

† Enclosure No. 4.

ENCLOSURE.

*(Viceroy T'an to Mr. Consul Mansfield.)**(Translation.)*

April 10, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your despatch stating that the Governor of Hongkong proposes to take over the New Territory on April 17.

The Kowloon Kuan is Chinese territory, but, on account of the friendship existing between England and China, it has been leased to England. On April 2, when the Governor of Hongkong came to Canton to see me, I firmly insisted that the Customs Stations could on no account be removed, to which the Governor of Hongkong personally agreed. Just as he was leaving, I again said that it was not necessary to allude to the question of the removal of the Customs. The Governor of Hongkong also said that it was not necessary to mention this again, and that he had only to ask me to send soldiers to the place to restore order. I forthwith sent 600 men take up their quarters at Kowloon, thus paying due regard to friendly relations.

Yesterday in a telegram (marked Yen) from the Tsung-li Yamên it was stated that a despatch had been received from the British Minister to the effect that the Chinese Customs could not be allowed to remain within the New Territory. Thus the agreement made between WANG WEI-YUAN and Mr. LOCKHART and the statements of the Governor of Hongkong, made at the interview of April 2, are insufficient as proof, and we will cease to discuss the proposition to take over the territory on the 17th.

I beg you to at once inform the Governor of Hongkong that it will be needless for him to proceed to Kowloon on the 17th.

I have, &c.,

[Seal of Viceroy.]

ENCLOSURE NO. 2 IN GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH NO. 93 OF THE 15TH APRIL, 1899.

(Colonial Secretary, Hongkong, to Mr. Consul Mansfield, Canton.)

No. 22.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
HONGKONG, 13th April, 1899.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant enclosing copy of a despatch addressed to you by the Viceroy on the subject of the removal of the Chinese Customs from the New Territory leased to Great Britain by the Chinese Government.

His Excellency the Governor regrets to find that the Viceroy has so entirely misunderstood the repeated statements made to him on the subject at the interview between their respective Excellencies on the 2nd instant, as nothing could have been more distinct than the Governor's emphatic statement to the Viceroy that the Customs' Stations could not be permitted to remain in the leased Territory.

Under authority received from Her Majesty's Government, His Excellency the Governor has made arrangements to take over the administration of the leased Territory on the 17th instant, and will hoist the British Flag at 1 p.m. on that date at Tái pó Hù.

His Excellency will, therefore, be glad if His Excellency the Viceroy will depute an Officer of suitable rank to be present at the ceremony as a mark of the cordial relations that exist between the two nations.

As the entire administration will be assumed by this Government on the 17th instant, the necessity for the presence of Chinese troops in the New Territory will cease on that date and their place will be taken by British troops and Police.

The functions of all Chinese Officials will, of course, cease at the same time, and no doubt arrangements will be made by the Viceroy for their withdrawal on the 17th instant.

In communicating the above to the Viceroy, I am to ask you to be good enough to again express to His Excellency an expression of the Governor's thanks for the promptitude with which His Excellency sent troops to maintain order in the New Territory pending His Excellency the Governor's assumption of the Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S CONSUL,
Canton.

ENCLOSURE NO. 3 IN GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH NO. 93 OF THE 15TH APRIL, 1899.

Translation of Petition.

We, the gentry of the 39 villages of the Tát Tak Community of the P'ing Shán District, beg to present this humble petition stating the cause of the recent trouble and begging for pardon.

Last month His Excellency the Governor of Hongkong issued instructions for the erection of a Police matshed in our district. At that time we had not received any proclamation from the British Government nor from the Chinese Government so that through want of information we became suspicious and unsettled in mind. A few lawless rascals spread wild reports which misled the villagers. They said that the *Fung Shui* of the district will be injuriously affected by the erection of a matshed and that when the territory is taken over by the English Government a Sanitary Board will be created; that a poll tax will be levied; that licences will be required for keeping domestic animals; that our marriage customs and funeral ceremonies will be altered; that the cutting and gathering of firewood will be prohibited. The ignorant villagers believed this to be true and the feeling of alarm became so general that the inhabitants of Kam T'in, Ün Long, Ha Ts'in, Shap Pát Héung, Castle Peak, and other villagers determined to make things difficult for the British Officers.

We, your humble petitioners, were at first misled but afterwards came forward to explain matters and give good advice to the inhabitants. But they not only would not listen to us but heaped much abuse on us and forced us to take the lead. We knew that if, on the one hand, we complied we should offend against those in authority; while if, on the other, we refused compliance we should be beaten to death by our fellow-villagers. Being in such a quandary, we were constrained to assent. Afterwards we received the proclamations issued by His Excellency the Governor and the Viceroy and numerous letters from our friend in Hongkong, Mr. NG SUI-SHANG, in which he vigorously refuted the false reports which had been spread. Your petitioners then at the risk of their lives undeceived the people by telling them the facts of the case and they became somewhat more settled.

Your petitioners know that their offence is such that they ought not to escape punishment, but the clemency of the Government of Her Majesty the Queen is so great that we hope that a leniency which the law does not allow may be mercifully extended to us.

Knowing that you, Sir, are ever ready to act as peace-maker and are willing to endeavour to save people from extreme danger, we come forward to state the cause of the recent trouble and beg you to transmit our petition to the Honourable Colonial Secretary so that he may submit it to His Excellency the Governor. We humbly pray that His Excellency may be pleased to examine it and mercifully grant us pardon so that when we return to our villages we may use every exertion to remove the doubts of the people.

12th April, 1899.

To the Honourable WEI YUK for transmission to the Colonial Secretary and submission to His Excellency the Governor.

Translated by J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

ENCLOSURE NO. 5 IN GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH NO. 93 OF THE 15TH APRIL, 1899.

*Translation of the Chinese Proclamation issued by His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake,
G.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong
and its Dependencies and Vice-Admiral of the same.*

Whereas His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China has leased to Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, as an extension of the Colony of Hongkong, certain territory situated in the district of San On, and certain Islands adjacent thereto, the boundaries of which are as hereunder stated, viz. :—

The Northern boundary commences at the point of high water mark in Mirs Bay where the meridian of $114^{\circ} 30'$ East bisects the land, and follows that high water mark to a point immediately to the West of Shat'aukok, and then follows the road along the Northern edge of this town till the middle of a stream becomes the boundary as far as the road to Kang Hau. From Kang Hau to about a quarter of a mile West of Kang Tó the Northern edge of the road is the boundary. From this point to the mouth of the Sham Chun river the Northern bank of the Sham Chun river forms the boundary. From the mouth of the Sham Chun river the boundary follows the high water mark along the coast of Deep Bay till the point where the meridian of $113^{\circ} 52'$ bisects the land.

The Eastern boundary is $114^{\circ} 30'$ East Longitude.

The Western boundary is $113^{\circ} 52'$ East Longitude.

The Southern boundary is $22^{\circ} 9'$ North Latitude.

All the islands situated within those boundaries are within the leased area as are all the waters of Mirs Bay and Deep Bay.

And whereas Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint me as Governor of the said territory, and whereas it is desirable that British and Chinese territory should be clearly defined so that the friendly relations now existing between the two nations may be always maintained.

Now, therefore, I have fixed the 17th day of April, 1899, as the date on which the British flag shall be hoisted and the administration of the territory be taken over by duly authorized British Officers.

To remove any cause for suspicion in your minds as to the good intentions of the British Government and to prevent you from being deceived and misled through ignorance by false reports disseminated by lawless persons who may seek to further their own interests by thus causing trouble, it is right for me to warn you against such persons and to assure you that all the inhabitants residing within the limits of British territory will be permitted to follow undisturbed their lawful occupations, whatever they may be.

I would also impress upon you that this territory having been leased by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China to Her Britannic Majesty the Queen, as subjects of Her Majesty's Empire, your commercial and landed interests will be safe-guarded, and that your usages and good customs will not in any way be interfered with.

It is the wish of Her Majesty the Queen that all her subjects in every part of the world shall be prosperous and happy, and it will be my duty to assist you to improve your position by every means in my power. The most respected of your elders will be chosen to assist in the management of your village affairs, to secure peace and good order and the punishment of evil-doers. I expect you to obey the laws that are made for your benefit and all persons who break the law will be punished severely.

It will be necessary for you to register without delay your titles for the land occupied by you, that the true owners may be known. Should any land be required for public purposes it will be paid for at its full value.

Remember that as subjects of the Great British Empire your perfect freedom from oppression is assured. Should you have any complaint to make the Governor will always be willing to hear it and to order what is right. There will be no injustice allowed, nor any laxity in the administration of justice. All must render implicit obedience.

(*Telegram to Secretary of State.*)

15th April, 1899, 6 p.m.

Some rowdies at Tái pó Hū have burnt the matsheds which the Viceroy promised to protect. Twenty police who are intended for the station there and a Company Hongkong Regiment have encamped there with a view to making arrangements for the hoisting of the flag on Monday. Mr. LOCKHART hears that the people are restive and that many rowdies from the districts immediately North of the leased area have come down with the intention of giving us trouble and opposing our taking possession. I hope this will not prove to be the case. I have instructed the troops to take no steps unless attacked, in which case they have orders to assert our authority.

BLAKE.

(*Telegram from Secretary of State.*)

15th April, 1899.

Take any steps you think necessary in dealing with the possibilities foreshadowed in your telegram of to-day's date.

CHAMBERLAIN.

(*Telegram to Secretary of State.*)

16th April, 1899, 1 a.m.

The Officer Commanding Troops at Tái pó informs me that on landing he was received with musketry fire from a force of 1,000 men (with guns) who had occupied the surrounding hills. Our men returned the fire. No casualty reported. I have sent out half a battalion of the Hongkong Regiment to re-inforce the Company there. A Chinese official whom the Viceroy sent here to-day assures me that the opposing forces are not Chinese troops, and I have further telegraphed to the Viceroy demanding a direct assurance to this effect. I have reason to believe that opposing forces consist of rowdies from the Districts immediately North of the boundary of the New Territory. After consultation with the Attorney General I have decided to hoist the flag on the 16th.

BLAKE.

(*Telegram to Secretary of State.*)

16th April, 1899, 6 p.m.

Further with reference to the skirmish at Tái pó mentioned in my previous telegram of to-day's date. Lieut. KEYES, R.N., landed a party from Her Majesty's Ship *Fame* and joined the Company Hongkong Regiment and the Police. After the *Fame* had shelled the enemy's position, Captain LONG, D.A.A.G., advanced against the enemy's shelter trenches, which had evidently been carefully prepared and cleared them out. No casualties; a Chinese flag was captured by the Hongkong Regiment. The Secret Societies, worked from their head-quarters at Sham Chun, are probably largely responsible for the present trouble, and the premature arrival of troops and police alone prevented a catastrophe through these people opening fire on the mixed company that would have attended the ceremony of hoisting the flag to-morrow.

BLAKE.

(*Telegram from Secretary of State.*)

17th April, 1899.

I approve of your measures to deal with the events mentioned in your two telegrams of yesterday's date.

CHAMBERLAIN.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

17th April, 1899.

I am informed that a large number of men lined the hills at Castle Peak yesterday and fired upon a pleasure party that had gone there from Hongkong. A number of strangers are said to be terrorizing the villages. Two silk flags were yesterday presented to me by village representatives—one for transmission to Her Majesty The Queen, and the other to be used at the ceremony of hoisting the flag here.

BLAKE.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

18th April, 1899.

A further attack was made yesterday by the rebels, which the British Forces successfully repulsed. Two guns were captured.

BLAKE.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

19th April, 1899.

The Army and Navy yesterday made a combined attack upon the rebels and successfully dispersed them. No casualties reported. I hope that trouble may now be practically over and have issued a reassuring proclamation. By Saturday, I hope to be able to report complete quiet.

BLAKE.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

21st April, 1899.

I have been able to make satisfactory local arrangements with reference to the Customs Question.

BLAKE.

(Telegram to Secretary of State.)

25th April, 1899.

Disturbances reported at an end—Villagers returning to work.

BLAKE.

(Secretary of State to Governor.)

HONGKONG.
No. 96.

DOWNING STREET,
26th May, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin having reference to recent occurrences in the newly-acquired Territory.

2. These matters have formed the subject of telegraphic correspondence, and you have already therefore received my instructions from time to time as to the action to be taken in each particular case.

3. I have been glad to learn from the latest telegraphic reports that matters are now generally quieting down, and that you do not anticipate much further difficulty in establishing and preserving order throughout the new Territory.

4. I need hardly say that I have followed the course of events with the utmost interest; and it has been a great satisfaction to me to learn that no lives have been lost on the British side during any of the operations. The complete success of these has, I cannot doubt, been largely owing to the promptness of action displayed by yourself and by all concerned. Both Mr. LOCKHART and Mr. MAY, the latter of whom must have at one time been in a somewhat perilous position, appear to have acted with much energy and intelligence; and you have been ably supported by the military and naval forces at your disposal. I have had pleasure in bringing to the notice of the Secretary of State for War and the Lords Commissioners of the

No. 66, 17th March.
No. 82, 1st April.
No. 87, 7th April.
No. 88, 7th April.
No. 93, 15th April.

Admiralty the prompt and efficient services rendered by Major-General GASCOIGNE and the troops under his command and by the Naval Officers entrusted with the transport of the troops.

5. I am in expectation of further despatches from you as to the progress of affairs in the New Territory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor,

Sir H. A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,
sc., *sc.*, *sc.*

(Governor to Secretary of State.)

No. 105.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
 HONGKONG, 27th April, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward for your information and consideration the enclosed copy of a letter* from the Secretary to the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce expressing the views of the Committee of that Body in relation to the recent armed resistance offered to British occupation of the New Territory.

I am addressing you in a separate despatch on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,

Governor, *sc.*

The Right Honourable

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.,
sc., *sc.*, *sc.*

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

(Secretary, Chamber of Commerce to Colonial Secretary, Hongkong.)

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
 HONGKONG, 21st April, 1899.

SIR,

In view of the disturbances now taking place in the New Territory, which there is good reason to believe have been engineered or assisted from Chinese territory, I am instructed to ask you to be good enough to lay before His Excellency the Governor the following opinions and suggestions of my Committee:—

1. That having regard to the fact that the New Territory is obviously liable to be overrun by banditti who are either not amenable to Chinese authority or whose acts the mandarins find it convenient to ignore or disavow, it is essential to the preservation of good order in the Colony, and to consolidate our position, that the northern boundary shall be clearly defined by natural features and include within it the town of Sham Chun.

2. That recent occurrences have convincingly demonstrated the inutility, if not the actual mischievousness, of mandarin influence, and furnish excellent reasons for the removal of the Chinese officials from Kowloon City, which otherwise will remain a focus of intrigue against the authority of the Hongkong Government.

3. The Committee would further suggest that, as the suppression of these disturbances will entail a heavy outlay, it would not be unreasonable for Her Majesty's Government to demand the extension of the lease of the New Territory for a longer period than 99 years, if not the complete cession thereof.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,

Secretary.

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G.,

Colonial Secretary.

(Governor to Secretary of State.)

No. 107.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 28th April, 1899.

SIR,

The late unfortunate disturbances in the leased area render it expedient that I should place you in possession of all the facts bearing upon the present situation.

2. It will be remembered that there has been considerable delay in arranging for the delimitation of the Northern boundary. In August last year the entire district was visited by Mr. STEWART LOCKHART whose able report has been considered by you. Immediately after his arrival from England on the 3rd February, I entered upon the consideration of the details of administration of the New Territory, while the question of the boundary was being discussed between Her Majesty's and the Chinese Governments. All the details of the additional establishments, number and location of police, necessary public works, &c. were determined by the time when the boundary was fixed on behalf of the two Governments by Deputy WANG and Mr. STEWART LOCKHART on the 14th March.

3. On the 24th March Mr. MAY, the Captain Superintendent of Police, proceeded to Tái pó Hii and selected a site for a station. On the 31st March he again visited the place and found the framework of a matshed erected by the contractor, who had, however, ceased to work as he was ordered to desist by the villagers. I may observe that matsheds are temporary structures of bamboo poles, rafters, and floors with sides and roof of palm leaves. They are put up without nails and very rapidly and are strong and watertight.

4. On being appealed to by the village to remove the matshed as its position would interfere with their "*Fung Shui*" or good luck, he declined to do so or consider the matter until they permitted the workmen to proceed, so work was resumed. On the next day he returned, and in deference to the objections of the villagers he asked them to point out another site, which they did, on which he ordered the frame to be taken down and removed to the new site. As soon as the workmen had well begun on the new shed they were resisted, upon which a message was sent to the Colonial Secretary, Mr. STEWART LOCKHART.

5. On that day Mr. STEWART LOCKHART came to me bringing with him an inflammatory placard that was, according to the information given to him, being posted in the villages of the leased area. A copy of this placard was transmitted with my despatch No. 82 of 1st instant. At the same time the information was given to me that the workmen erecting the matsheds were stopped by threats. Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, who has a long experience in China, said that the consequences of the issue of this placard and the stoppage of the work of erecting the matshed would be very serious. He suggested that I should send him to Canton to see the Viceroy, as not a moment should be lost. I concluded that if it was necessary to see the Viceroy I had better see him myself. I telegraphed to the Consul at Canton that I desired to see the Viceroy next day, and next morning started from here at 5 a.m., taking Mr. STEWART LOCKHART with me. Up to that time, although apparently everything was friendly in the New Territory, we were only on sufferance in erecting matsheds, and it became evident that if the Viceroy would not accept responsibility for their protection I must either defer any preparation for the accommodation of the police, or apply for authority to take over possession without further delay.

6. I have reported the circumstances of my visit to the Viceroy in my despatch No. 87 of 7th instant. He accepted all the responsibility for the protection of the matsheds which involved his permission to erect them, and, in accordance with his promise, telegraphed at once to the Colonel stationed at Kowloon to prepare for 300 men who were to proceed to any portion of the leased area desired by this Government, so as to afford protection to the matsheds being erected, and also to surveying parties, and generally to preserve order. These soldiers were sent down within three days, and the places to which we wished them to be sent were indicated by the Colonial Secretary. The Viceroy also issued a proclamation to be posted in various villages calling upon the people to be of good behaviour and stating that the area had been leased to Great Britain by the Emperor of China. Thus the entire responsibility for the peace and good order of the leased area was undertaken by the Viceroy, as I was determined not to send any armed men into the Territory until I was about to take possession.

7. On the evening of the 1st April, Mr. MAY returned and reported to me that the contractor's men had stopped work and come away, so he had left two Indian police and two Chinese in charge of the sheds in course of erection and the materials. I disapproved of leaving any armed men in Chinese territory and directed him to withdraw them. He said that he had promised the villagers to return, and would go himself and withdraw them, feeling that possibly an explanation with the people, when their tempers had time to cool, would settle matters without further trouble.

8. Accordingly, early on Monday morning, the 3rd instant, he proceeded to Tái pó Hü, calling at Kowloon *en route* and taking with him five Chinese soldiers to whom, under the instructions of the Viceroy, was to be handed over the protection of the matshed and the workmen. Additional soldiers were to be sent on as soon as they had arrived from Canton. Mr. MAY took with him six unarmed Sikh police, merely a formal escort as is usual in China. At 12 midnight I received a pencilled note in Mr. MAY's pocket book, brought by one of the Chinese who had been left at the matshed, in which he said that he was attacked by a mob and would hold the matshed until morning, but urgently required relief. I requested Major-General GASCOIGNE to send a Force to relieve him, and at 3.30 a.m. Major-General GASCOIGNE proceeded himself in Her Majesty's ship *Whiting*, accompanied by Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, and taking with him 100 men of the Royal Welch Fusiliers. Of the two matsheds partially erected they found one burnt, but the principal one was untouched. The people informed them that Mr. MAY and his party had left for Hongkong, so they returned. In the forenoon Mr. MAY returned and reported that he and his party had been assailed with stones and other missiles, and seeing, after 9 o'clock, that signals were being shown and drums beat indicating a general concentration of villagers, he retreated over the hill, and remained concealed until morning, seeing, as he thought, both matsheds on fire. He heard a general advance upon the hill, upon which he had first taken up his position. He reported that the Chinese soldiers sent in with him had behaved very well.

9. I immediately telegraphed to Her Majesty's Consul at Canton as follows:—

“Thank Viceroy for prompt orders to Kowloon. Inform His Excellency that British official and men with five Chinese soldiers were attacked this evening at Tái pó Hü. Am sending a Force to relieve them and remove them leaving protection of property to Chinese Government. Request Viceroy to order sufficient Force to be sent without delay to preserve order and fully protect workers. A considerable Force will be necessary. I have directed the relieving Force now proceeding in one of Her Majesty's ships not to do more than relieve British subjects, except they are attacked.”

I telegraphed again on the 5th as follows:—

“Inform Viceroy troops not yet arrived, neither has San On Magistrate issued Viceroy's proclamation. The names of ringleaders Monday's attack given Kowloon authority but instructions from Viceroy to San On Magistrate to arrest guilty parties necessary. Please request that instructions be given.”

10. In response to those telegrams, I was informed that 600 soldiers had been sent into the leased area to preserve order. Immediately after the occurrence I considered the position in Executive Council and decided not to take over the territory until the 17th as the occurrence seemed to be nothing more than a sudden affray, and as the Viceroy had accepted all the responsibility and undertaken to afford protection, the contractor could go on and re-construct the matsheds. The contractor resumed work and finished the matsheds on the 14th instant sufficiently to enable them to be occupied.

11. On the 7th instant, I issued a proclamation in Chinese* a copy of which I annex, and published a notice in the *Gazette* that I would take over the Territory in accordance with Her Majesty's Order-in-Council. On the 17th, I also informed the Viceroy through Her Majesty's Consul. By general desire the day was proclaimed a public holiday and large numbers of the inhabitants of Hongkong of all classes intended to be present.

12. All this time Mr. STEWART LOCKHART was assured by Chinese, to whom he looked for information, that the people were all anxious that we should take over the Territory, the gentry alone being antagonistic.

* Already printed.

13. On the 14th, Mr. STEWART LOCKHART received information from an inhabitant of Tái pó Hü that the matsheds were quite unprotected, and as there were rowdies about it would be well to have them occupied lest some mischievous person should burn them. As it was intended that the 25 police to be stationed there, with a Company of the Hongkong Regiment, should march over on Saturday, the 15th, to have things in readiness for the ceremony of hoisting the flag, I determined to send the police in at once by launch. When they arrived they found a heap of smouldering ruins. They returned and reported the matter, and, still under the impression that the burning of the matsheds was simply an act of wanton mischief, I directed the police to return next morning, taking tents, and also the Company of the Hongkong Regiment with instructions that they were to hire some coolies and have the débris cleared away. It was evident that the Viceroy had not afforded the protection in accordance with his undertaking; but the cost of the matshed was a comparatively unimportant matter.

14. On the arrival of the police and troops, they observed large numbers of apparently Chinese troops in uniform, who were in position on the hills to the north of Tái pó Hü village. There was also a battery of guns mounted in a regular emplacement. These people opened fire, which was sustained for a considerable time, until the arrival of Her Majesty's ship *Fame*, with Captain LONG, Deputy Assistant Adjutant General, who had gone round to arrange the position of the camp. The *Fame* landed a party of 16 men under Lieutenant KEYES, R.N., who joined the Forces engaged on the hill. The *Fame* then opened fire on the Chinese position and the troops and blue-jackets advanced, clearing away the assailants who were regularly entrenched, and capturing a flag which has on it an inscription showing it to be the flag of one of the local land Forces of China.

15. On receiving intelligence of the serious turn that events had taken, Major-General GASCOIGNE proceeded to the spot himself, with three Companies of the Hongkong Regiment and one Company of the Asiatic Artillery. He was accompanied by Mr. STEWART LOCKHART who was instructed by me to hoist the flag on arrival and to read Her Majesty's Order-in-Council and my proclamation so as to make our position regular. Early on the morning of the 16th, I telegraphed to the Consul at Canton requesting him to inform the Viceroy that the British flag had been hoisted, and to request that all Chinese soldiers and officials, except the Customs officials, might be removed from the leased area, to which request from the Consul His Excellency sent a verbal message that he declined to give any reply. A short time after the hoisting of the flag, the entire Force was again attacked, but the firing was from such a distance that no casualties occurred, and when the troops proceeded to attack in turn the Chinese dispersed. General GASCOIGNE returned on Sunday afternoon and reported that he apprehended no serious difficulty.

16. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday the troops were moving to the westward to search some village in which it was reported that nine men were imprisoned who had come in from P'ing Shán district to Hongkong on the 12th instant to present a petition to me praying for clemency on account of the first burning of the matsheds. On each day they were attacked. On Tuesday, the attacking Force consisted of 2,600 men who, in the neighbourhood of Kam Tin advanced across the open in excellent skirmishing order against two Companies of the Hongkong Regiment until they were within 300 yards, when they broke and fled. This was the last attack and was repulsed with some loss, which would have been much heavier had not the fire been humanely controlled when the assailants fled. Two guns were taken in Monday's pursuit, and six other guns were found thrown into a deep pond at P'ing Shán.

17. Since then the villagers acknowledge that in their resistance they were hopelessly beaten, and Mr. STEWART LOCKHART reports that they are now returning to work. I have instructed him to make every effort to beget confidence and to remove the idea that we have come to change their customs or to confiscate their land.

18. This is a narrative of the events of the 19 days in the New Territory. But there are other facts that have a direct bearing upon the whole matter. It will be remembered that there was a difficulty about the question of the retention of the Customs stations in the leased area, as I pointed out that by the automatic action of the Convention the Chinese Customs officials could not continue to exercise their functions while the leased area remained under British jurisdiction, to which the Viceroy demurred. On the 10th instant, the Viceroy informed the Consul that there was no use in my proceeding to hoist the flag on the 17th instant as he declined

to hand it over, because the Chinese Customs were not to be allowed to remain within the New Territory. To that despatch, after receiving your approval, I replied that under instructions from Her Majesty's Government I would proceed at 1 p.m. on the 17th to hoist the British flag, and invited His Excellency to name an Official of suitable rank to be present at the ceremony. On the 15th, I was informed that Deputy WANG, who had been the Chinese Commissioner for the delimitation of the boundary, had been sent down by the Viceroy with 300 soldiers to Kowloon. On receipt of the message from Captain BERGER, of the Hongkong Regiment, that he was opposed by the Chinese troops with guns, I sent for Deputy WANG, and demanded to know if these men were Chinese troops. He said "No," adding that the Viceroy had sent him down to see that 300 men should be placed in the New Territory to "protect it" until I took it over. I told him that I had determined to hoist the flag next morning and that all Chinese soldiers and officials must leave the leased area. On the 17th, the Commissioner of Imperial Customs conveyed to me that Deputy WANG wished to see me, and shortly after he waited upon me accompanied by Mr. HILLIER, the Chinese Commissioner of Customs. Deputy WANG was anxious to discuss the Customs question about which he had evidently been sent down, but I declined to enter upon the subject. I told him that I could not permit Chinese troops to remain in the Territory and at Kowloon, and could not understand why the Viceroy should have considered it necessary to send to Kowloon an additional force of 300 men two days before the date on which I announced that the New Territory would be taken over. He pressed the question for some time, and in the course of his remarks said something which the Chinese Customs Commissioner did not translate saying it was mere folly, but Mr. MANSFIELD, Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, who was present, at once interpreted it as a statement that the 300 soldiers had been sent down to protect the Customs. I told him that it was necessary that these men should be withdrawn; he promised to telegraph to the Viceroy, and, if no answer was returned, to go to Canton himself, although from the known state of the Viceroy's feelings he had little hope of obtaining the necessary authority to move. I made it clear that it would be necessary for the soldiers to withdraw whatever the state of the Viceroy's feelings. Deputy WANG stated that there were several parties of soldiers stationed all through the Territory which he would order to come to Kowloon. I said that those should be ordered to retire to Sham Chun rather than to Kowloon, to reach which place they would be obliged to march across the Territory and over the hills.

19. I have stated that my proclamation was posted in different parts of the leased area on and after the 7th instant. In the absence of Mr STEWART LOCKHART, who is in the New Territory, I cannot say what arrangement was made for posting it, but I presume that some native of the district was employed to post them in the usual manner. On the 20th instant, I received a petition from a wife of a man named CHEUNG-TSOI who was, it appears, employed to post those notices. He had posted, or distributed some, for evidence since forthcoming shows that when the leaders were declaring for resistance they said that this man must be killed if he returned to his village from Hongkong, where he then was, with any more proclamations. The evidence goes to show that early on the morning of the 18th he left Hongkong for Castle Peak Bay *en route* for his village of Ha-Ts'ün. At the time a large number of the people, who had been called to arms, were assembled at Castle Peak Bay. It is not clear if the man carried any of my proclamations with him, but he was seized at Castle Peak Bay and sent as a prisoner to his village where he was confined in the meeting-house. After the defeat at Kan-Tin the leader, whose name is known, with others, came to Ha-Ts'ün, beat the man, and then shot him; put the body in a pig basket and flung it into the river. The body was subsequently found with a chain tightly fastened round the neck, and several shot wounds. Apart from the attack upon the troops this is the only outrage that has taken place during the week after the 15th instant.

20. In searching this meeting-house Mr. STEWART LOCKHART has discovered several letters,* which show the course of events previous to the outbreak of violence. And he has further obtained the statements* of two of the leaders in the movement, who have submitted and expressed contrition. The statements and the letters show a state of clan feeling and power of combination not unlike that of the Scottish highlands two centuries ago, and it is evident that there was no secrecy whatever in the clan meetings and public discussions on the question of resistance. Nor there was any secrecy in the manner in which help was asked for and given by affiliated societies in the turbulent district north of the border. They could

* See Enclosures in Colonial Secretary's Minute to Governor dated 24th April, 1899.

not have come down as they did in considerable numbers, without the knowledge of the Viceroy's officials at Sham Chun, where they had to cross the river by a ferry. Nor could the warlike preparations have been made without the knowledge and connivance of the 600 troops which the Viceroy acknowledges that he placed in the leased area "to preserve order." The emplacement for guns and the entrenchments at Tái pó Hii were never made by peasants without some direction from a person having military training of some sort.

21. Two of the letters found in the meeting-house mention Major FONG, who was one of the Viceroy's officers, in charge of the Forces for the "preservation of order." One letter would appear to show that the Viceroy wished to warn the people, but the other contains the significant hint that Major FONG "will not in any way use force but will freely allow all the villages to carry out their own settled plans."

22. During the entire proceedings I have been careful to treat the Viceroy and his authorities with a scrupulous regard for international obligations. The result has shown an utter disregard of the responsibility assumed by the Viceroy of Canton, and a serious loss of life; for it is idle to ignore the fact that the assailants have suffered serious losses in their four days' hopeless contest against disciplined Forces. Nor can I look upon such needless loss of life with equanimity. The statements of NG KI CHUNG and TANG KOK LAM and the letters found in the meeting-house show that those people possess some of the qualities that make good subjects, and, foolish as their opposition may have been, with exception of the murder of CHEUNG TSOI after the fight at Kam T'in, their action displayed no moral turpitude. With Her Majesty's Government rests the decision whether any, or what notice, shall be taken of violated promises involving grave loss of life, serious expense, and inevitable feelings of acerbity on the part of the people of the New Territory, with whom it was my most earnest desire to establish relations of friendship and confidence from the moment of my assumption of the Government.

23. I attach the documents mentioned in the enclosed list relating to the subject of this despatch.

24. I venture to hope that you will convey to the Naval and Military Authorities my warm acknowledgments of the cordial co-operation of Major-General GASCOIGNE and Commodore POWELL but for whose instant and effective action matters might have been much more serious. Lieutenant-Colonel THE O'GORMAN, Deputy Assistant Adjutant General, Captain LONG, Deputy Assistant Adjutant General, and Captain BERGER have had arduous duties which have been cheerfully and readily performed; and Lieutenant GOODENOUGH, R.N., Lieutenant KEYES, R.N., and Lieutenant KELLY, R.N., have performed the duties entrusted to them with conspicuous zeal. The active and judicious assistance of the *Fame* on the evening of the 15th bore a large share in the repulse of the attacking Chinese.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.

LIST ABOVE REFERRED TO.

Colonial Secretary's Minute,	16th	April, 1899.
"	16th	"
"	17th	"
"	17th	"
"	17th	"
"	18th	"
"	18th	"
"	18th	"
"	18th	"
"	19th	"
"	19th	"

Colonial Secretary's Minute,	20th	April, 1899.
"	20th	"
"	21st	"
"	23rd	"
"	24th	"
"	25th	"
"	26th	"
Messages (6)	17th to 20th	April, 1899.
Governor's Minute.		
"	Instructions	21st April, 1899.

(*Colonial Secretary to Governor.*)

15th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I am informed that the disturbance in the neighbourhood of Tái pó Hü has assumed a more serious aspect and that there are about 2,000 men collected in the neighbourhood of Tái pó Hü for the purpose of resisting the British.

The 2,000 men come from districts north of Sham Chun and are supposed to be the remnants of the followers of CHUNG SUI-YEUNG and SÜN YAT-SEN, who tried to create a rebellion in the Kwangtung province. In addition to the 2,000 men at Tái pó Hü, there are at least 1,000 men scattered throughout the New Territory, who are said to belong to the Triad Society. A large number of people from the neighbourhood of Sham Chun have also crossed into the Territory under the pretence of looking on, but are ready to take a hand in the fight if the insurgents are successful at the beginning. It is the intention of the people collected at Tái pó Hü to fire from the hills on our troops. The villagers are on the whole favourably disposed towards us, but the superior force of the rowdies has compelled them to join the movement against their own inclination and to subscribe in money and kind towards the support of those ready to resist. Should any success attend those who wish to resist, they will be joined by all the villages in the New Territory and by the inhabitants of the neighbouring districts of Tung Kun and Kwai Shin. Two of the men sent to post the Governor's proclamation in Chinese have been seized and detained at Kam Tin Hü and in the Sháp Pát Heung District. The Chinese who *kotowed* at Government House have been, it is alleged, locked up in their own village and have been forced to give supplies of fowls, pigs, &c. to the insurgents. My informant predicts that there will be trouble as soon as the troops arrive and that the insurgents will try to "snipe" our soldiers from the hillsides.

The above information has been given to me by Mr. NG SUI-SHANG, who is well acquainted with the New Territory and its inhabitants, and has given me great assistance at various times.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

(*Captain Superintendent of Police to Governor.*)

16th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Yesterday at 4.30 p.m. I landed with my party of Police expecting to find the Hongkong Regiment Company on the ground which I had described to Captain BERGER. Immediately on landing we were fired on, and the fire being heavy and missiles flying overhead, I sent back Mr. MUDIE and his party, who had the flagstaff, and took up a position to cover the retreat of that party.

The Chinese then began to advance, and as some bullets fell close to us I had to return the fire. The Hongkong Regiment then came up and the rest has been reported, I believe, by Captain LONG. Late in the evening the Hongkong Regiment captured a standard which may help to identify the persons who were opposing us. There was at least one casualty on the Chinese side.

I shall get the flagstaff up to-day and hope to get tents fixed for my men, but much time has been lost with the difficulties of landing.

F. H. MAY.

(Governor to Colonial Secretary.)

HONGKONG, 16th April, 1899.

HONOURABLE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

You will please proceed to-day to Tái pó Hū, and there hoist the British flag. When you have done so you will read aloud the Convention of 9th June, 1898, and Her Majesty's Order-in-Council of 20th October, 1898.

On your arrival you will report on the situation and keep me regularly informed. The machinery of the Executive should be got into working order as soon as possible.

H. A. BLAKE.

(Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 16th April, 1899.)

TÁI PÓ HŪ, 16th April, 1899, 3 p.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have just hoisted the British Flag in the presence of the General Officer Commanding and Staff, the Commodore, and the Colonel, Officers and 500 men of the Hongkong Regiment, and a Battery of Asiatic Artillery. Salutes were fired by H.M.S. *Brisk* and *Fame* and by the Battery of Artillery. I read the Order-in-Council and Convention after the flag had been hoisted.

All is quiet here at present.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(Colonial Secretary's Second Minute of the 16th April, 1899.)

TÁI PÓ HŪ, 16th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I scribbled a short pencil note to you immediately after I had hoisted the flag. The ceremony passed off very successfully considering how rapidly all arrangements had to be made. Salutes were fired from the shore and afloat by H.M.S. *Brisk* and H.M.S. *Fame* which were dressed. I have arranged that the British ensign is to be hoisted every day at sunrise and lowered at sunset. The troops here and the police are in good health and excellent spirits. Mr. MAY is staying on board the *Wing Fu* with me as are also two European members of the Police Force—a Sergeant and a Constable—and Mr. Ts'oi and my Chinese writer. I propose to keep the *Wing Fu* here until our tents on shore have been erected. It is anticipated that they will be in position to-morrow. I also propose to keep the *Praya* here for the present and to retain Mr. MUDIE at Tái pó so that he may superintend the construction of a bamboo jetty which is essential in order to facilitate landing arrangements. The Director of Public Works should know this. The General Officer Commanding is remaining behind and we will together concert a plan of travelling throughout the territory without delay. So far as I can gather, the General Officer Commanding wishes the troops to rest to-morrow, but I will report later on what is decided. It is impossible to ascertain whether there were any casualties last night. There are many rumours, but without further examination, it would be unwise to rely upon them. Everything is quiet at present. I am sending this by the launch *Lee On*, which will start from here at 5.30 p.m. Commander KEYES has taken my pencil note written *in situ*, directly after I had hoisted the flag, which is now flying to the breeze.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 17th April, 1899.)

TÁI PÓ HŪ, 17th April, 1899, 6.30 a.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Everything passed off quietly last night. We fancied we heard the sound of firing in the distance, but the Military have not made any movement, so we may have been mistaken in thinking the sound we heard was firing. I hope we shall be able to get our tents erected to-day. The *Wing Fu* is not altogether adapted for the accommodation of so many Europeans and Chinese as have now to live on board of her. I will meet the General Officer Commanding early this morning when we will arrange a plan of action. I think the General Officer Commanding wants the Troops to rest to-day. A flag has been captured by the Hongkong Regiment with Chinese characters on it. They are of importance and I will deal with this matter in a further memo. to-day. I am sending this to Sha Tin by a Police launch. It will be taken over the Kowloon hills by a messenger.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

(Colonial Secretary's Second Minute of the 17th April, 1899.)

TÁI PÓ HŪ, 17th April, 1899, 8.30 a.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I attach herewith a sketch of the flag captured by the Hongkong Regiment in the trenches on the hills to the North of Tái pó HŪ on the evening of the 15th instant.

The flag has a red border and a white centre on which are seven Chinese characters, meaning:—

“Trainband sanctioned by the Government: Tai K'ai (Village):
surname Man.”

The village referred to which is also known by the name of T'ai Háng (太坑) is situated in the Lam Ts'un (林村) Valléy, N. W. of Tái pó HŪ, from which place the village in question is distant about 2 miles.

The village is inhabited by the Man clan.

It is important to note that “the trainband” is established by Government sanction. This clearly shows that “the trainband” should have been controlled by the officials of the Government.

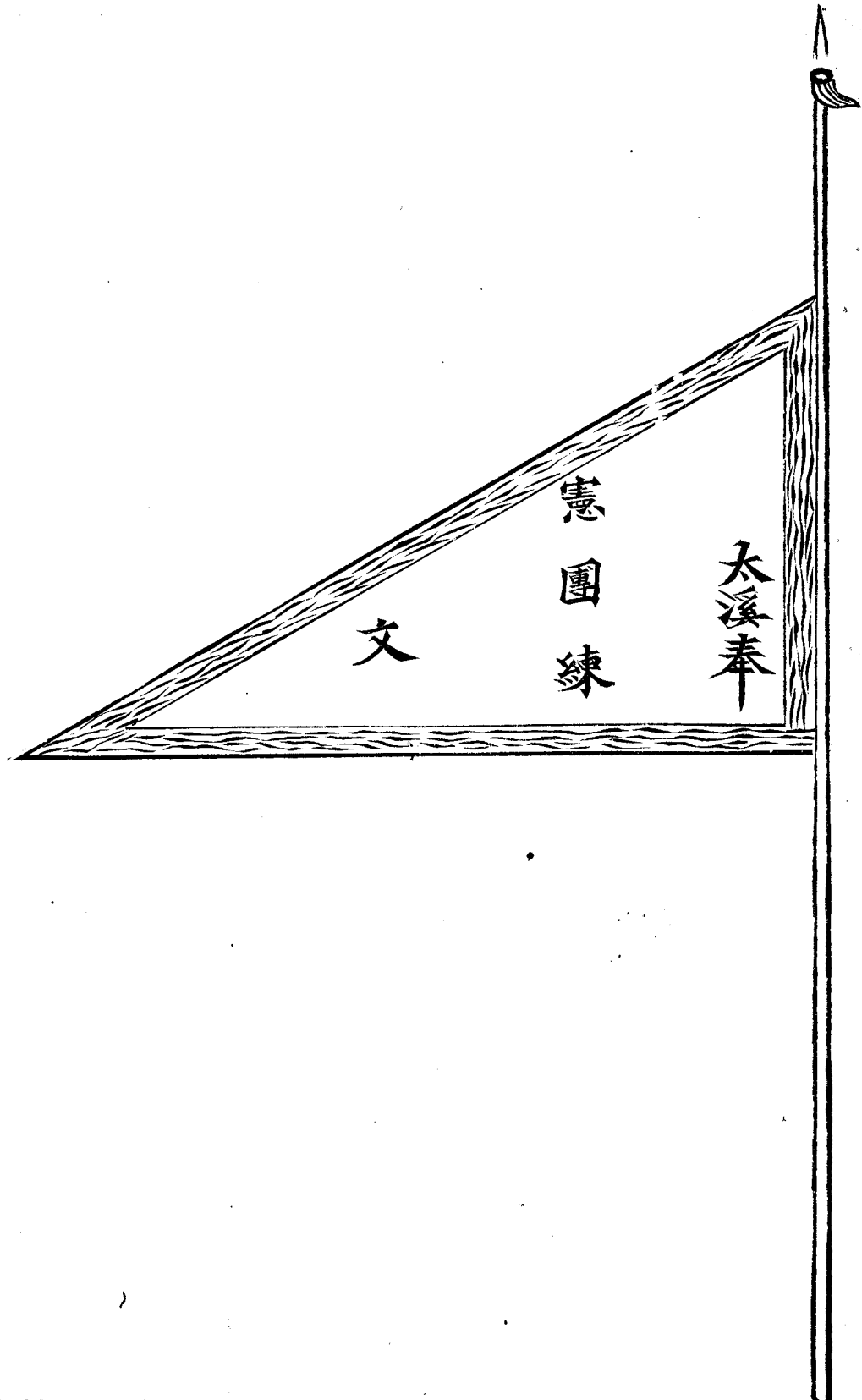
It is, of course, possible that the flag may have been used without authority, but I have reason to believe that the head of this *Man* clan has been actively supporting the insurgents with money and food. He promised to come to Hongkong to beg for pardon, but never appeared on the plea of old age.

I recommend that the Government of China be called upon for an explanation.

I am sending this by special messenger who will proceed by launch to Sha Tin and walk over the hills to Kowloon. I will take steps to discover the whereabouts of the head of the Man clan.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

ENCLOSURE IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S SECOND MINUTE OF THE
17TH APRIL, 1899.



SKETCH OF THE FLAG CAPTURED BY THE HONGKONG REGIMENT
IN THE CHINESE TRENCHES ON THE HILLS TO THE NORTH
OF TÁI PÓ HŪ ON THE EVENING OF THE
15TH APRIL, 1899.

(Colonial Secretary's Third Minute of the 17th April, 1899.)

THE CAMP, TÁI PÓ HÜ,
17th April, 1899, 10.20 a.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The villages in the neighbourhood of Tái pó Hü are practically deserted and difficulty is being experienced in obtaining coolies. I have landed and am now waiting in the Camp for the General who has gone to Fong Ma Pó to inspect a site for a Camp there. Mr. MAY and Mr. Ts'oi are here with me, and H.M.S. *Humber* is just coming to anchor at about a distance of 1½ miles from the Camp.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(Colonial Secretary's Fourth Minute of the 17th April, 1899.)

THE CAMP, TÁI PÓ HÜ,
12.25 p.m.

I have just had an interview with His Excellency the General Officer Commanding. He has decided to establish a permanent Camp at Fong Ma Pó in the Lam Ts'ün valley. He hopes to have the permanent Camp established by to-morrow evening, and to have the troops ready for movement on Wednesday next.

As regards the labour question, His Excellency the General Officer Commanding will explain the position. If force has to be used to obtain labour, I presume such force must be exercised by the Military, but, of course, only after every effort has been made to persuade coolies to work willingly. I have received Your Excellency's message instructing me to return to the meeting of Legislative Council to-morrow, if possible. I have consulted the General Officer Commanding, who thinks it very desirable for many reasons that I should remain here. I am of the same opinion, so propose to remain. I am endeavouring to get as much information as I can in this neighbourhood, which I do not propose to leave until Wednesday when the troops can be moved from the permanent Camp. On that day I will proceed to Ün Long.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(Colonial Secretary's Fifth Minute of the 17th April, 1899.)

THE FLAGSTAFF HILL, TÁI PÓ HÜ,
17th April, 1899, 2.50 p.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Since writing my first letter, there has been further firing on the part of the Chinese. His Excellency the General Officer Commanding is returning to Hong-kong and will give full particulars. I have had a further conference with the General Officer Commanding and he will explain what his wishes are. Will you kindly cause the Director of Public Works to be informed that our bells have not reached us? As the troops are engaged to-day, I fear our tents will not be erected by this evening, in which case it will be necessary to retain the *Wing Fu*. The Harbour Master should know this.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(Colonial Secretary's Sixth Minute of the 17th April, 1899.)

TÁI PÓ CAMP, 17th April, 1899, 11.15 p.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The engagement to-day has ended by BERGER reaching Sheung Ts'ün in the Pát Heung Valley and by SIMMONDS being stationed at San Uk-tsai, four miles from here. Major BROWNE, R.A.M.C., has returned and his account of the action is that the Chinese had chosen their positions well and that if they had only fired well, the British troops would have fared very badly. BROWNE is wounded slightly and so is a private. No other casualties on our side. The casualties on the Chinese side cannot be ascertained, but some men have been killed. SIMMONDS is stationed at San Uk-tsai in a position commanding both valleys. BERGER wishes to advance to-morrow. I am strongly of opinion that the most effective manner of dealing with the situation is for troops to be landed from Hongkong at Castle Peak and for them and BERGER to advance simultaneously, whilst the *Fame* could co-operate from Deep Bay. The leading villages which have been chiefly instrumental in creating the disturbance are Kam T'in, Ha Ts'ün, Ün Long, and Ping Shán. My information is that these villages are determined to resist. I think they should be brought to reason, especially Kam T'in, which is an old offender. So far as I can ascertain, the Chinese soldiers who engaged our troops are not regulars, but some more flags have been captured by BERGER which I will examine carefully when they are brought into camp. MAY went with a body of Police and a detachment of the Hongkong Regiment to take ammunition to BERGER. Major BROWNE reports that MAY had just arrived at Sheung Ts'ün before he left. A body of blue-jackets and marines has landed from the *Humber* and is now encamped on Flagstaff Hill. The *Peacock* is anchored in Tolo Harbour. I have been on shore all day and will remain with Colonel THE O'GORMAN in camp all night, so as to know what messages are sent from Hongkong before daybreak. I hope troops will be sent to co-operate with BERGER. Dr. THOMSON and Mr. MESSER arrived by the *Humber*, and are sleeping on board the *Wing Fu*.

Pending the present trouble it will be impossible to make any progress with our administrative arrangements, and if the trouble continues I see no reason why the two Officers referred to should remain here.

It is raining slightly which will not tend to make life here any more pleasant than it has already been.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(Governor's Minute of 17th April, 1899.)

HONOURABLE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Under the circumstance explained by General GASCOIGNE I approve of your not coming in. You will remember in the operations that the New Territory comes within the terms of the Arms Ordinance and no person in that territory is entitled to have or possess arms. It will therefore be your duty to discover any arms and confiscate them. The troops acting in support of the Civil Power will have authority to search and disarm. As to the movement of the troops, in the suppression of active opposition and armed attacks upon Her Majesty's Forces, you will be guided entirely by the General Officer Commanding who returns to Tái pó Hú this evening. I am informed by Deputy WANG that there are some Chinese soldiers stationed in the district, who have not yet received orders to remove. I shall ask for information as to the towns and villages to which they have been ordered. If you find them in those villages in the number stated you will direct them to proceed forthwith to Sham Chun except that you find them participating in any movement against our authority, in which case they should be made prisoners. In the event of prisoners being taken with arms in their hands they should be forwarded to Hongkong.

I send copies of last two letters* from the Viceroy. As the troops advance it may be well to pitch on the best site for the police station near Kam T'in without regard to the local objection.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

* Enclosures Nos. 1 and 2.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1 IN GOVERNOR'S MINUTE OF THE 17TH APRIL, 1899.

(*Viceroy T'an to Mr. Consul Mansfield.*)

15th April, 1899.

SIR,

I am in receipt of your despatch stating that the Governor of Hongkong had written to the effect that I had altogether misunderstood him with regard to the question of the Customs Stations discussed at our interview.

During our interview on April 2, the Governor of Hongkong first said that the Customs must be removed. I strongly insisted that they could on no account be removed. When the Governor was leaving, I asked if the delimitation was to be regarded as settled. His Excellency replied that it was. I again said that it was not necessary to again refer to the question of the removal of the Customs. The Governor replied that it was not necessary to again refer to it. I regarded this as conclusive. The words are still in my ears and I did not misunderstand.

I am again sending Taot'ai WONG TS'ÜN-SHIN to Hongkong to personally confer and take action, and I shall feel obliged if you will inform His Excellency the Governor of this.

I have, etc.,

[Seal of the Viceroy.]

ENCLOSURE NO. 2 IN GOVERNOR'S MINUTE OF THE 17TH APRIL, 1899.

(*From Viceroy T'an.*)

17th April, 1899.

(*Translation.*)

SIR,

I have received your Note informing me that you had received a telegram from the Governor of Hongkong requesting me, after the flag had been hoisted, to remove every Chinese official and soldier from the New Territory.

It is set forth in the Convention made with the Tsung-li Yamên that "the Chinese officials stationed in Kowloon City shall continue to perform their duties as heretofore." Therefore there can be no question of removing them. As regards the soldiers, the Governor himself requested that they should be sent to keep order, so I sent 300 men of the *Chien* (建) Battalion to take up their quarters at Kowloon and 300 men of the *Fang Yen* (方沿) Battalion to Shin Chow (深州) to be at hand to preserve order. At the present time the *Fang Yen* detachment are still at Shin Chow, while the *Chien* detachment have been moved to Sha T'ou Chio (沙頭角). I have telegraphed to Deputy WANG to inform the Governor of Hongkong.

[Card of Viceroy T'AN.]

(*Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 18th April, 1899.*)

THE CAMP,
T'AI PÓ, 18th April, 1899, 10 a.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Captain BERGER and a portion of his men with Mr. MAY and his police returned here at 8 a.m. They have brought with them 4 prisoners. I request instructions as to whether these prisoners are to be dealt with by the Civil or by the Military Authorities. Pending instructions the prisoners will be detained under a Military guard. I am proceeding to Sheung Ts'ün with Colonel THE O'GORMAN, Mr. MAY, Captain BERGER and Mr. TS'OL. Captain BERGER has left Lieutenant BARRERT behind at Sheung Ts'ün.

I wish to urge once more the importance of dealing with Ün Loong, Kam Tin and Ha Ts'ün in a drastic manner.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(*Colonial Secretary's Second Minute of 18th April, 1899.*)

SHEUNG TS'ÜN VILLAGE,
PÁT HEUNG VALLEY, 18th April, 1899, 3 p.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We left Táipó Camp at 10.30 a.m. and reached here at 12.30, pressing forward as rapidly as possible in order to come to the relief of Lieut. BARRETT, who had remained here. We passed through the Lam Ts'ün Valley over the Gap into the Pát Heung Valley, at the head of which the village of Sheung Ts'ün is situated. Lieut. BARRETT reports that there is a force of about 400 men lodged on a hill 4 miles distant. Colonel THE O'GORMAN does not propose to move the troops to-day unless the Chinese invite an engagement. If the men are not moved to-day, it is proposed to make a movement to-morrow on the villages which are reported to be ready for attacking us. A leading man from Kam Tin has come in to ask for pardon, but he does not appear to be representing the villagers but himself. I am detaining him here pending further developments. If the troops had landed at Castle Peak Bay early this morning and advanced towards this point, the insurgents would have been caught in a trap and the *Fame* could have dealt with the runaways in the direction of Deep Bay. The villages through which we passed to-day were practically deserted, a few old women only appearing in each village as we went through. MAY and Ts'or are here with me. THOMSON and MESSER have remained behind at Táipó. We are living in a temple, which makes a fairly comfortable abode, but the flies and mosquitoes are showing too much appreciation of our presence. There is no doubt now, I regret to say, that many of the leading villages have taken part in resisting our troops. I am gathering what information I can on this point, but as you may imagine under present circumstances it is no easy matter to induce the natives to speak. I hope, however, to get at the bottom of the whole affair shortly. After we have dealt with this valley, in which are situated the villages of greatest importance and size, I anticipate the trouble will be practically ended and the civil administration will be able to proceed.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(*Colonial Secretary's Message of the 18th April, 1899.*)

18th April, 1899, 10 p.m.

THE GOVERNOR,

Since I sent my last message Chinese attacked our troops, who swept down the valley to a point 2 miles from Kam Tin. Casualties on our side *nil*; on side of Chinese not known. I was present throughout engagement, after which we proceeded to Kam Tin and blew down two gates of walled villages. We returned to Sheung Ts'ün where we will remain to-night. To-morrow we proceed to Ün Long and P'ing Shán, where we will stay for the night. SIMMONDS has arrived from Fan Ling: reports all quiet there. We are well though tired.

LOCKHART.

(*Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 19th April, 1899.*)

SHEUNG TS'ÜN VILLAGE, 19th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I enclose copy of message which I am sending to the Camp from here. We are just about to start for Ün Long, where we will stay for the night. I hope we will also reach P'ing Shán and release any of the villagers detained on account of having come to Hongkong to *kot no*. I anticipate that after to-day the villages will have had enough of their resistance. Over a thousand men offered resistance yesterday, and, if their weapons had been of a modern type, would have given our troops a warmer time of it. Even as it was they showed great courage by the manner in which they fired their primitive weapons, several of which have been captured. The villagers have voluntarily surrendered their arms. SIMMONDS reached here last night. He met with no resistance in the Fan Ling Valley. He blew open the gate of a walled village.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

[Telephone Message.]

19th April, 1899.

GOVERNOR,

Arrived P'ing Shán 1 p.m. to-day; no resistance of any kind offered either here or at Ha Ts'ün or at Ūn Long which we visited. Rumoured that a British Force landed Deep Bay proceeded Castle Peak. We have neither seen it or been informed regarding it.

LOCKHART.

(Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 19th April, 1899.)

P'ING SHÁN, 19th April, 1899, 6.30 p.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We left Sheung Ts'ün at 8.15 a.m. to-day. On reaching Kam T'in, sounds of what appeared to be Maxim gun firing in the direction of Ts'ün Wán were heard, so it was decided that Mr. MAY and Captain BERGER with a body of men belonging to the Hongkong Regiment should go in the direction where the sounds of firing were heard, whilst the remainder of the party should proceed to P'ing Shán. We reached here about 1 p.m.; after a very hot and tiring march. We visited Ūn Long on our way. No resistance was offered either there or by any of the villages we passed before we arrived there. Nearly all the villages, including Ūn Long, fired crackers and had a white flag flying, as a sign of submission. I made the leading traders in Ūn Long appear before me and told them their action in taking part in the resistance to British authority would certainly involve them in trouble. The two main conspirators of Ūn Long had fled and the inhabitants professed to have no arms. This may be true as no doubt all their arms have been busily employed during the last few days. On arrival at P'ing Shán we were met by a band of gongs and drums and many crackers were fired. I sent for the elders and about six of them appeared before me. Among them the four men from P'ing Shán, who *kotowed* to Your Excellency and who were reported to be under restraint. They informed me that they were not imprisoned, but threatened with their lives. I have found here distinct traces of this village having been mixed up in the disturbance. Powder, bullets, &c. were discovered in their ancestral temple. I called upon them to produce the large guns used by them to salute me when I paid a visit here last August, but they are not forthcoming, which is strong presumptive evidence that they have been used to resist our troops. At 1.30 p.m. we proceeded to the village of Ha Ts'ün, about a mile distant from here. We were met with a salvo of crackers, and two of the elders came out to receive us. One of them was among the party that *kotowed* at Government House. He said he had not been imprisoned, but had been unable to restrain the villagers. I demanded the production of the ringleaders. He said they had fled—one to Nam Tau and one to Canton. I asked him to surrender any arms there might be in the village, but none were produced. Some may be surrendered this evening. A villager of Ha Ts'ün informs me that British troops were at his village this morning, having landed from Deep Bay. This is the first intelligence we have received of the landing of additional troops. To-morrow it is proposed to allow the troops to have a rest which they much require and in the hope that we may receive definite information regarding the other body of troops. All of us are well.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(Colonial Secretary's Second Minute of the 19th April, 1899.)

7 p.m.

Captain BERGER and Mr. MAY have just found us here. They went to the top of the Ma On Kong Pass, overlooking Ts'ün Wán, which could not be seen on account of the fog. They sent a party to the top of the Tái Mó Shán Pass between Ts'ün Wán and Pát Heung. This party has returned to Sheung Ts'ün, where there are 150 men of the Hongkong Regiment. We have 250 men here. The present position therefore, so far as I know, is:—

20 men at Tái pó Hū.

140 men at Sheung Ts'ün.

250 men at P'ing Shán.

Your letter of the 17th inst. has just arrived. We have not been to Castle Peak and, as we are informed by the villager referred to above, troops went there to-day, it would seem better for us to wait until we know exactly how matters stand. The villages we have passed through are sparsely inhabited at present, which shows that many of the villagers have not returned from the fight. Three cannons and three cannonades have just been found in a pond here. They were discovered accidentally by Lieutenant BARRETT whilst bathing. Mr. MAY and Captain BERGER report that they saw two British flags (locally made) hoisted in a Chinese village to-day.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(*Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 20th April, 1899.*)

P'ING SHÁN, 20th April, 1899, 5.30 a.m.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have just received your despatch of the 17th instant, with its two enclosures. We have been careful to search for arms and have found some. Most of the villagers, however, have not yet returned to their villages, but are still in the hills, no doubt carrying arms. Mr. MAY leaves this morning at 6 a.m. and will reach Tái pó Hū about 11 a.m. He will then proceed to Hongkong and give you full details of our operations. I am instructing him to take back with him Dr. THOMSON and Mr. MESSER, for whose services there is no need at present. Mr. MESSER might be placed in the Land Office to learn the routine. I think the Police might also be withdrawn for the present. Mr. MAY will explain his views to you orally. Colonel THE O'GORMAN and I work together splendidly, so I trust we may be allowed to continue to co-operate. Though active resistance on the part of the Chinese may cease, it will be some little time before the territory can be settled. In view of the part taken by the villages of Ūn Long and P'ing Shán (where I now am), I have told the elders, Police Stations *must* be built on whatever site is considered most suitable. I mention this, as you refer to this point in your despatch of the 16th instant. Mr. MAY hopes to be able to communicate with us to-morrow and I shall be glad to know whether Your Excellency has any farther news or instructions. We are in very good quarters here: the officers are occupying a private house and the men two ancestral temples. We are all in good health, though our food supply has not been regular nor plentiful. We have had but very little, but are all the better perhaps for that. I have had no kit but that in which I stood until to-day. There is no interpreter with the troops, so my knowledge of the language and Ts'oi's presence have been of assistance. The latter has been most useful.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(*Governor to Colonial Secretary.*)

HONGKONG, 19th April, 1899.

HONOURABLE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

General GASCOIGNE has just returned having landed at Deep Bay at daybreak, and marched through to Castle Peak Bay. He saw no person, so the people at Castle Peak Bay must have retired. I agree with him that now that opposition has been broken up 100 men are sufficient to leave in support of the civil power. Mr. MAY had better get the Force necessary for the New Territory together and place the men not required at Tái pó Hū under canvas at the point near Kam T'in where he proposes to build the station. Having regard to the attitude of Kam T'in I think it will be well to build the station in the position most suitable for securing the control of that and the other Valley.

The police patrol duty should be commenced at once. The people will soon get accustomed to seeing them.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

(*Colonial Secretary's Second Minute of the 20th April, 1899.*)

P'ING SHÁN, 20th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We have remained here all day. There has been no sign of resistance. On the contrary the villagers are returning to their villages. There has been heavy

rain here to-day which may have helped this movement. I have availed myself of the halt to write up my diary of events since the hoisting of the Flag. Major MORRIS has sent a note to Colonel THE O'GORMAN saying he is stationed at Kam T'in and has completed the work of demolition, by which I presume he means that he has blown down the gates of all the walled villages in that district. Mr. MAY left here at 6 a.m. and has, I suppose, seen Your Excellency by this time. We have succeeded in obtaining most of the supplies required by the troops from Ün Long. We are all well.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(Governor's Instructions to Honourable Colonial Secretary as to present administration of Kowloon Extension.)

21st April, 1899.

I have received your reports of the 18th, 19th, and 20th instant. The situation appears to have cleared for the present, and it will be very important that the villagers shall be induced to return to their cultivations. I have arranged that the troops shall be withdrawn for the present with the exception of 200 men who will be left by the General Officer Commanding at Tái pó Hü as Head-Quarters with instructions to afford assistance to the Civil Power when requisitioned. I propose that the stations at Tái pó Hü and in the neighbourhood of Ün Long be proceeded with at once, and that 25 or 30 policemen be stationed at each place. A Military party will be supplied at the station at Ün Long in support of the police during its construction. It will now be your duty to endeavour to carry out the general policy for the administration of the district, leaving nothing undone to beget confidence. Distribute copies of the remarks in Chinese that have been prepared for distribution, and let it be known that persons who resume their occupations will not be interfered with. If you can establish communication with the elders and leaders of districts it will be well, as it will be necessary to proceed as soon as possible with the task of determining the districts and sub-districts under the Ordinance passed on the 18th instant. It ought to be made clear to the people that when title to land cannot be produced occupation will be accepted as proof of ownership after due notice has been given in the village or district.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

P'ING SHÁN, 21st April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We passed a good night here last evening. Everything is quiet and the villagers appear to be returning to the villages in this neighbourhood. Colonel THE O'GORMAN has just received orders from the General Officer Commanding to have some of the troops withdrawn. 300 men are to be left. I have had no letter from Your Excellency since your communication of the 17th instant enclosing copies of despatches from the Viceroy, with the exception of your minute on the Opium Papers. I am enclosing copies of the messages forwarded by me to Tái pó in case they may not have reached you. I have not kept copies of the letters I have sent to you everyday since the hoisting of the flag. I should like to have copies if Your Excellency has no objection. I think it is important now the villagers are returning that I should remain on the spot. The co-operation between Colonel THE O'GORMAN and myself has been most cordial and could not have been more satisfactory. The rapid and immediate action, which I recommended from the first, as the General Officer Commanding no doubt informed you, has had the desired effect. Procrastination would most certainly have increased the trouble and caused much bloodshed. The General Officer Commanding reports that his expedition met no resistance. This was due to the defeat of the Chinese at Sheung Ts'in on the 18th instant. The Chinese state 2,600 Chinese took part in that fight, the majority of them being from districts north of Sham Chun and around Sham Chun. This defeat has filled the Chinese with terror.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

P.S.—Captain BERGER, Lieutenant BARRETT and the men of the Hongkong Regiment have done splendidly, and if it had not been for their rapid movement, the disturbance would have increased.

J. H. S. L.

P'ING SHÁN, 21st April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Mr. MAY says you wish me to stay here, so I will remain. I had already written to you to say that I thought I ought to be on the spot. Troops without anyone of authority who knows the language would produce much unnecessary trouble. Everything is quiet here. The villagers are returning. Excuse a hurried note, which Inspector HANSON will deliver to Mr. MAY.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

P'ING SHÁN, 23rd April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have been using every endeavour to induce the people to return to their usual avocations. On the 20th instant I issued a notification of which I enclose a copy and which has had a very good effect.

Yesterday I received five (5) petitions which are all couched in the same terms. I attach a translation. The petitions are from —

(1.) The Kam Tin District including	11	villages.
(2.) The Pát Heung „ „	8	„
(3.) The Há Ts'ün „ „	9	„
The Shap Pát Heung District „	22	„
The Castle Peak District „	8	„
(4.) The P'ing Shán „ „	13	„
(5.) The Lam Ts'ün „ „	20	„
Total.....	91	„

These villages represent the most important section of the new territory.

You will observe that Petitioners request that the Government may select such sites as it may require for offices, Police Stations, &c.

These petitions were brought by the elders of the various districts mentioned and were presented in the presence of over 100 people, who had assembled in front of our quarters here. I availed myself of the opportunity to impress upon those present that there was no reason why they should not return to their villages and pursue their lawful occupations; that good people would receive every protection, but that bad characters would be punished without leniency.

The villagers in this neighbourhood are returning in large numbers to their villages and most of the male population is at work as usual in the fields.

A quantity of arms has been surrendered by the different villages, which I will have removed to Tái pó later on.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

P.S.—The Captain Superintendent of Police informs me that some of the villagers from the territory have gone to Hongkong and tried to make people believe that they knew nothing about the cession of the territory to Great Britain. You will observe that Petitioners make no such plea and you will, of course, remember that I sent Mr. Ts'oi round with the proclamation of the San On District Magistrate, which Mr. Ts'oi himself posted in all the chief villages. Your Excellency's proclamation would also have been more widely distributed had not the person sent to distribute them been murdered.

J. H. S. L.

(Translation.)

NOTIFICATION.

All good villagers should return to their villages and carry on their work as usual. If bad characters attempt to interfere with them, an immediate report should be made and they will be dealt with without mercy.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

THE CAMP, P'ING SHÁN, 20th April, 1899.

Translation of Petitions presented by the inhabitants of (1) Kam T'in, (2) Shap Pát Heung, Ha Ts'ün and Castle Peak, (3) Pát Heung, (4) Ping Shán, (5) Lam Ts'ün.

The Humble Petition of Tang and others shewing that rowdies from other districts have incited and misled the people into the folly of offering armed resistance and praying that Your Excellency may be mercifully pleased to pardon the ignorant country people and allow them to carry on their avocations in peace. Your Petitioners have always observed the law and were fully aware of the condition in the Convention that Chinese will be well treated, which is a matter of great rejoicing to all. But, unfortunately, rowdies from other places spread false rumours saying that the laws and customs of the British and Chinese are different, which would result in endless trouble and difficulty, and they made use of this pretext to incite and mislead the people. They first coerced the elders and gentry and then offered armed resistance to the British troops. Having gained over to their side the majority, your Petitioners were coerced into joining them. TANG TS'ING-SZ then let it be known that rewards would be issued for information regarding and the arresting of traitors to their cause.

Now that the Imperial troops have come to restore order in the territory, your Petitioners offer their submission with true feelings of gladness. But as the people have wandered from their homes—a spectacle which causes great pain—your Petitioners are constrained to humbly approach your tribunal praying that you will be graciously pleased to authorise the withdrawal of the troops, and that hereafter such sites as it may please the Government to select may be used for the erection of Public Offices, Police Stations, or other buildings, for which kindness all our villages would be forever grateful.

Dated 21st April, 1899.

Translated by J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

(Messages from Colonial Secretary to Governor.)

I.

TÁI PÓ, 17th April, 1899.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

I strongly recommend despatching troops to neighbourhood Castle Peak co-operate with BERGER now at Sheung Ts'ün and sending *Fame* to Deep Bay. Am informed that Chinese are strongly entrenched Castle Peak, and that Kam T'in is the chief offender in the disturbance. The removal of its walls would have a good effect.

LOCKHART.

II.

TÁI PÓ, 18th April, 1899.

My message above could not be sent on account of rain. Colonel THE O'GORMAN has decided to proceed to Sheung Ts'ün to join BERGER, meeting SIMMONDS on the way. I am going with him, accompanied by Ts'oi, to show the way and give what assistance I can. I hope troops have landed Castle Peak, and *Fame* has proceeded Deep Bay.

LOCKHART.

III.

SHEUNG TS'ÜN, Tuesday, 18th April, 1899,
3 p.m.

GOVERNOR.

Reached Sheung Ts'ün 12.30. Chinese have fired on troops who are now returning the fire.

LOCKHART.

IV.

18th April, 1899, 10 p.m.

THE GOVERNOR,

Since I sent my last message Chinese attacked our troops, who swept down the valley to a point 2 miles from Kam T'in. Casualties on our side *nil*; on side of Chinese not known. I was present throughout engagement, after which we proceeded to Kam T'in and blew down two gates of walled villages. We returned to Sheung Ts'ün where we will remain to-night. To-morrow we proceed to Ün Long and P'ing Shán, where we will stay for the night. SIMMONDS has arrived from Fan Ling; reports all quiet there. We are well though tired.

LOCKHART.

V.

SHEUNG TS'ÜN, WEDNESDAY, 19th April, 1899.

GOVERNOR,

Passed the night at Sheung Ts'ün. No trouble. All had a good night. Start for Ün Long at 7.30 a.m. and will stay in that neighbourhood to-night.

LOCKHART.

VI.

P'ING SHÁN, WEDNESDAY, 19th April, 1899.

GOVERNOR,

Arrived P'ing Shán at 1 p.m. No resistance of any kind offered either here or at Ha Ts'ün or at Ün Long, which we visited. Rumoured that a British Force landed Deep Bay proceeded Castle Peak. We have neither seen nor received information regarding it.

LOCKHART.

VII.

P'ING SHÁN, THURSDAY, 20th April, 1899.

GOVERNOR,

Remained here all day. Major MORRIS has reported to Colonel THE O'GORMAN that he is stationed at Kam T'in Hü and has completed the work of demolition there. All well. No signs of resistance. The villagers in this neighbourhood are returning to their villages.

LOCKHART.

(Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 24th April, 1899.)

P'ING SHÁN, 24th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

When we visited the meeting-house at Ün Long on the 22nd instant, I carefully searched the house for documents, being aided in the search by Mr. TS'OL. We found several documents which I have translated. I forward the translation herewith.* I also forward statements made by NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG,† one of the gentry of the Ün Long district, and by TANG LÓ-PAN‡ one of the gentry of Kam T'in.

These documents and statements show clearly that there was a combined movement among the various districts in the territory for the purpose of offering resistance to the British. The movement seems to have started at P'ing Shán, where we now are, and to have been taken up by the Ha Ts'ün district, in which resided TANG I-SHEK, TANG TS'ING-SZ and TANG CHIK-T'ING, who seem to have been chiefly instrumental in inducing the gentry and the elders of the other districts to join the movement. The villagers do not seem to have shown any desire to resist, but having been incited by the gentry and elders, it was impossible to restrain them.

I attach a list of the gentry and elders§ whose names appear in the documents found at Ün Long and in the statements of NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG and TANG LÓ-PAN.

* Enclosures IV to IX inclusive.

† Enclosure No. 1.

‡ Enclosure No. 2.

§ Enclosure No. 3.

Nearly all the persons mentioned in the list have fled. Not having yet visited Fan Ling and neighbourhood, I do not know whether the persons from that district whose names are mentioned have fled, but all the persons in the list from this neighbourhood have disappeared with the exception of TANG TS'ING-WAN, NG K'I-CH'UENG, and TANG LÓ-PAN, who are here at present. I propose to make them find security that they will appear or be produced whenever called upon.

A regulation should be passed by the Governor-in-Council at once giving the Colonial Secretary power to summon people before him and to fine those who do not appear when summoned, and another regulation should also be passed without delay conferring upon the Colonial Secretary power to make people find security when called upon to do so. It is important that there should be no delay in having these regulations made forthwith. I have been compelled, in the absence of the necessary legal power, to act on my own responsibility.

The leaders in the movement should be dealt with severely. Any leniency shown would be misunderstood. Their property should be confiscated and the proceeds applied to public purposes. As NG K'I-CH'UENG, TANG LÓ-PAN, and TANG TS'ING-WAN have not run away, but remained behind, and given us important assistance, I think it would be sufficient in their case if they are made to find security for their future good behaviour. I have already obtained bonds (which are not legal) for the production of TANG LÓ-PAN and NG K'I-CH'UENG whenever demanded.

From NG K'I-CH'UENG's statement it appears that men from the following places in Chinese territory took part in the resistance :—

Sha T'au at the head of Deep Bay.
Sham Chun.
Wai Tak } Tung Kun District.
Ngán T'in }

It is difficult to ascertain exactly how many men came from those places, but I have every reason to believe that there must have been over one thousand. It is quite impossible for the officers of the Chinese Government not to have known of the movements of so many men into our territory, and I trust the Viceroy will be brought to book. His attitude of hostility in the matter of the Customs and his failure to give any warning of the movement in the territory under his jurisdiction, should not be allowed to pass unpunished.

Among the documents found in the Ün Long meeting-house is a letter addressed by one of the underlings of Major FONG to NG K'I-CH'UENG [No. IX]. I would especially call attention to the following sentence in that letter :—“All other particulars you will know fully when you see Major FONG, who will not in any way use force, but will freely allow all the villages to carry out their own settled plans.” NG K'I-CH'UENG informs me that by the sentence in italics he understood that the villages could do what they liked. He says he never saw Major FONG, but that TANG I-SHEK went to see him at Sham Chun. TANG I-SHEK has been one of the ringleaders in the movement and NG K'I-CH'UENG informs me that TANG I-SHEK left this territory for Nam T'an on the 14th April and on the same day went to Sham Chun to see Major FONG. Next day he went to Canton to petition the Viceroy and Governor. If he did present a petition, it would be interesting to obtain a copy of that document.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE
OF THE 24TH APRIL, 1899.

I.

(Translation of Written Statement of Ng K'i-ch'ung, dated 21st April, 1899.)

On the 17th day of the 2nd moon (28th March), Mr. MAY, Captain Superintendent of Police, came to P'ing Shán to look for a site to erect a building and wished to construct a Police Station on Po Kau Hill (*i.e.*, the hill immediately behind the village of P'ing Shán). The inhabitants of P'ing Shán made a fuss saying that the building would affect the *Fung Shui* of the place. Crowds of people gathered at the house of TANG YING-SHANG and abused him. On the morning of the 18th, *i.e.*, 29th March, the elders of the clan TANG CH'U-I, TANG FONG-HING, TANG TS'ING-WAN, TANG KW'AN-SHAN, TANG LUI-SHANG and TANG A-LAN assembled at Ha Ts'ün. When they met in the ancestral temple there the following

inhabitants of Ha Ts'ün, TANG KWOK-LAM, TANG TS'ING-SZ, TANG CHIK-T'ING plotted together to resist (*i.e.*, the British). On the 19th day (30th March) a meeting was held at Ün Long in the meeting-house to discuss matters. The following were present:--From the Pát Heung district, TSE HEUNG-PÓ, LAI CH'UN, LI A-FONG, TANG A-TUNG. From Kam T'in, TANG CHUK-LAM, TANG LO-PAN, TANG YAT-HIN, TANG KI-YAN; from Sháp Pat Heung, TANG YING-CHEUNG, CHU KI-WAN, NG FUNG-CH'ÉUNG, NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG; from P'ing Shán, A LEUNG, son of TANG CH'IU-I, TANG FONG-HING, TANG TS'ING-WAN, TANG KW'AN-SHAN, TANG LUI-SHANG, TANG A-LAM; from Ha Ts'ün, TANG I-SHEK, TANG KWOK-LAM, TANG CHIK-T'ING; from Castle Peak, T'Ó TONG-TSO. All those present said the Company (formed several years ago to buy land in the territory) had cunningly conspired (to induce the British to get the territory); that they feared that the difference between British and Chinese law and customs would lead to no end of difficulties. All thought that armed resistance should be made. But (the writer) NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG said, "The Emperor of China having sealed the Convention ceding the territory, we ought certainly not dare to resist. Even if we were foolish enough to do this rash act we should find difficulty in the matter of men, money, and arms. Success in battle can only be secured by a correct estimate of one's own (power) and that of one's enemy." The others had nothing to say in reply, and the meeting dispersed.

On the 21st (1st April) TANG TS'ING-SZ wrote a letter requesting the elders of the Sheung Ü Tung division to meet at Ün Long. The following were present; from Sheung Shui, LIU WAN-KUK; from Fan Ling, P'ANG SHIU-ÜN; from Tái pó T'au, TANG MAN; from Ping Koung, HAU HON-KAI; from San T'in, MAN LAI-T'ONG who had with him a number of able-bodied men. At the meeting all were strongly bent on fighting. They also wanted to issue a notice forbidding the villagers from taking employment (under the British) and called upon (the writer) NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG to make a draft, but he refused and the matter dropped.

TANG TS'ING-SZ took the lead in proposing resistance. (The writer) NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG said, "Great Britain is the richest and most important nation in the world. If an insignificant place like ours should resist the troops of such a great Power, it is easy to see where victory and defeat would lie."

All present said the cession of the territory is the work of the Company. Great Britain does not know the circumstances.

(The writer) NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG said, "Mr. STEWART LOCKHART was sent as Commissioner by the Imperial Government. We have received the proclamation of the Viceroy T'AN. How can it be said that Great Britain does not know the circumstances? Truly nothing can be more unreasonable." All then dispersed.

On the 24th day (4th April), some drunken men at Tái pó took a crowd to burn the matshed. Men from Fan Ling took the card of MAN CHAM-TS'ÜN to various villages asking for assistance.

On the morning of the 26th (6th April), the Ha Ts'ün district was the first to render aid. TANG HUNG-TS'OI went with 60 men under his command who were provided with provisions and arms.

On the 27th (7th April) they returned.

On the 28th (8th April), TANG TS'ING-SZ went to Kam T'in to incite the people there.

On the 29th (9th April), TANG KWOK-LAM and TANG TS'ING-SZ went to Ün Long and stayed at TANG SHING-ÜN's place. They sent for the writer NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG three times, but he refused to come. TANG TS'ING-SZ then went in person to his house and saw the writer and recapitulated his previous plans (of resistance). (The writer) NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG informed him of recent political events. The writer said, "The natural defences of the Ün Long and Sheung Ü divisions are not equal to those of Formosa; our generalship is not equal to that of LAU WING-FUK (the Chinese General who was defeated by the Japanese in Formosa). Our resources are not like those of LAM WAI-ÜN [the millionaire of Northern Formosa who contributed over a \$1,000,000 towards the defence of Formosa against Japan, *Translator's note*]; we have no outside supporter like CHANG CHIH-TUNG, [Viceroy of Nankin during the China-Japan war, *Translator's note*] yet the Chinese were beaten by the Japanese. How much less are our chances against a rich country like Great Britain with strong forces, powerful ships and effective weapons?"

TANG TS'ING-SZ and the others then falsely accused the writer of having been bribed by the Company and having been granted a spirit monopoly.

On the first day the T'ai P'ing Kung Kuk (*lit.* Great-Peace-Public -Meeting House) was established, the intention of those who established it being to create a scare by empty bluster; but pretence became reality (*i.e.*, at first they did not intend to offer active resistance but only to pretend to do so).

On the 3rd (12th April), (Major) FONG UX arrived in a gunboat. The people at Castle Peak stubbornly resisted him with force. The inhabitants of the Sháp Pát Heung district refused to send out men. The three large villages (*i.e.*, Kam T'in, Ha Ts'ün and P'ing Shán) inhabited by the Tang clan used coercion saying that if men were not sent the villages refusing would be attacked first, so that the small villages in the Sháp Pát Heung district inhabited by those who are not of the Tang clan were forced to comply.

On the 5th (14th April). TANG I-SHEK went to Nam T'au.

On the 6th (15th April), he went to Canton. Each village district subscribed 15 taels. (The writer) NG K'I-CH'UNG said, "It is useless to present petitions to the Viceroy and Governor. Their only answer would be that the demarcation is in accordance with the Tsung-li Yamén map."

All the other villages agreed with the proposal of TANG I-SHEK and the Sháp Pát Heung district was compelled to contribute its proportionate share.

TANG I-SHEK took with him 60 taels and has not returned since.

On the 5th (14th April), when the matshed was burnt at Tái pó the men present were from Fan Ling and Lam Ts'ün. The men from Kam T'in and Pát Heung arrived after the shed had been burnt.

On the 6th (15th April) when resistance was offered to the Police at Tái pó the men present were from the Lam Ts'ün, Sheung Ú and Pát Heung and Kam T'in divisions.

On the 8th (17th April) those who offered resistance were from Kam T'in, Sháp Pát Heung, and Pát Heung.

On the 9th (18th April), those present were from P'ing Shán, Ha Ts'ün, Castle Peak, Wang Chau, and the following places outside (the territory):—Sham Chun, Sha T'au and Wái Tak and Ngán T'in in the Tung Kan district. Many were killed and wounded.

On the 4th (13th April), P'ing Shán supplied pigs (for the fighters).

On the 6th (15th April) Ha Ts'ün.

On the 7th (16th April) Wang Chau.

This is a true account of the whole matter from beginning to end.

With regard to TANG CHEUNG-TSAI, TANG TS'ING-SZ and TANG A-NIN of the Ha Ts'ün district pointed him out as a traitor. They also said that TANG CHEUNG-TSAI had taken the iron armour belonging to this district to Hongkong and that they would not rest until he had been killed. They took the card of TANG KWOK-LAM to P'ing Shán and applied for some able-bodied men to search CHEUNG TSAI'S house, but TANG PÓ-WAN being a near relation of CHEUNG TSAI flared up at once, so they desisted.

On the 8th (17th April), he was arrested at Kap Shui Mun and brought back to the meeting-house at Ün Long.

The gentry of Ha Ts'ün said CHEUNG TSAI belongs to the Ha Ts'ün district: let Ha Ts'ün deal with the matter. All the other villages raised no objection.

TANG TS'ING-SZ and TANG CHIK-T'ING took many of those who came to fight from Ngán T'in and went to Ün Long to get back CHEUNG TSAI. This was after the defeat and every one had fled and there was no one in the meeting-house. As to what order TANG TS'ING-SZ gave regarding the murder of TANG CHEUNG-TSAI (the writer) really does not know the facts.

(Sd.) NG K'I CH'UNG.

II.

ENCLOSURE NO. 2 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE OF THE 24TH APRIL, 1899.

(Statement of Tang Kok-lam, Graduate of the 3rd Degree, elder of Kam T'in district.)

On the 17th of the 2nd moon (28th March.) Mr. MAY wished to erect a police station on the hill behind P'ing Shán, the inhabitants of which became excited and appeared to be dissatisfied.

On the 18th (29th March) in the morning a meeting was held in the ancestral temple. After the morning meal the gentry went to Ha Ts'ün to meet and discuss the matter.

On the 19th (30th March) a meeting was held in the meeting-house at Ūn Long at which the elders from the five districts were present. A very heated discussion took place, but the writer and NG K'í-CH'ÉUNG never said a word.

On the 21st (1st April) the gentry of Sheung Ū division went to Ūn Long and agreed to join the general movement.

On the 22nd (2nd April) in the early morning the writer went home. All the gentry deliberated until the afternoon but without having arrived at any definite decision.

Unfortunately the incident of the burning of the matshed at Tái pó by some drunken men occurred. MAN CHÁM-TS'ŪN wrote applying for help. Ha Ts'ün alone replied to the call.

TANG TS'ING-SZ went in person to my house. On the one hand he moved me by appealing to justice, and on the other hand he worked on my fears by dwelling upon the calamities that would overtake me hereafter. My ancestors having been occupiers of the soil for generations, how could I bear this change? Moreover, I was afraid that the laws and customs of the West and China not being the same many difficulties would arise, and false reports were also spread that cattle and swine would be taxed; that women would be violated; that fishing and wood cutting would be prohibited. The writer was misled by these rumours, which he believed.

Another deliberation was held and the matter was finally settled. TANG A-TUNG, of Wang Toi Shun, of the Pát Heung district, proposed that a reward should be issued for the arrest of traitors. I strenuously tried to prevent this; but I was not present at the meeting.

I have always avoided trouble and looked after my own affairs.

But having seen what I thought was the right course to adopt, I boldly followed it, and many followed my example.

Further, being a graduate of many years' standing my name appears in the correspondence which has taken place, though the matter in question did not pass through my hands.

The trouble having once begun it was impossible to stop it, and being coerced by the majority the gentry became powerless. Fighting began and ended in a disastrous defeat on the 8th (17th April).

On the 9th (18th April) I came to the camp at Sheung Ts'ün to yield submission when I was treated with clemency far beyond my deserts.

Unfortunately, the men from the P'ing Shán and Ha Ts'ün districts again made resistance (18th April). I did all I could to dissuade them, but not only did they refuse to follow my advice but they abused me and called me a traitor.

This is a true statement of the facts from beginning to end.

(Sd.) TANG KOK-LAM.

III.

(A.)

(Letter handed over by Ng K'í-ch'ung.)

Now that the English barbarians are about to cross our borders and take possession of our territory, the inhabitants of the various districts are filled with public indignation and are anxious to find a means of defending themselves.

We would therefore trouble you to prepare a place to-morrow for receiving our friends and relations from the different villages so that we may discuss matters with a view to our future security. Please do not delay. We are waiting with anxiety.

Hoping you are well,

To our dear friend,

SHING CHI,

[Another name for NG K'í-CH'ÉUNG].

Dated 2nd Moon, 18th day (29th March).

TANG I-YAU.

TANG CHÁK-SHIN.

TANG FONG-HING.

TANG CHIK-T'ING.

Seal
of

善積

TANG CHÁK-SHIN.

III.

(B.)

(Letter handed over by Ng K'i-ch'ung.)

To-day I and my clansmen of Ha Ts'ün met and decided to have a general meeting to-morrow with the object of devising means for our protection. I have already sent a letter to inform you which, no doubt, you have received. I therefore now specially request you and the others to be good enough to select and prepare a place for the meeting so as to facilitate the discussion of matters by the elders and gentry of the various villages.

Thanking you in anticipation,

TANG FONG-HING.

To our dear friend,

SHING CHI,

(i.e., NG K'I-CH'UNG).

III.

(C.)

(Letter handed over by Ng K'i-ch'ung.)

To our dear friend SHING CHI, *(i.e., NG K'I-CH'UNG).*

With regard to your boastful utterances at the two meetings respecting the wealth and power of the British by which big talk you tried to scare people, everybody is full of wrath which cannot be allayed. All said that you have been bribed by the Company and have received a licence from the British Government. But we said that in dealing with the affair you are acting with that caution which the sage Confucius recommended. We have not said that we have repeatedly asked you to come and you have strenuously refused. Can it be that you will have nothing to do with the matter? The majority have said that if your district does not join the movement they will attack you with their combined force. You are a man of intelligence and we request you to come to an early decision.

TANG LÓ-PAN.

TANG TS'ING-SZ.

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENTS FOUND IN THE MEETING-HOUSE
AT ÜN LONG.

IV.

The English barbarians are about to enter our territory and ruin will come upon our villages and hamlets. All we villagers must enthusiastically come forward to offer armed resistance and act in unison. When the drum sounds to the fight we must all respond to the call for assistance. Should any one hesitate to take part or to hinder or obstruct our military plans, he will most certainly be severely punished and no leniency will be shown. This is issued as a forewarning.

Issued by the Council of this Division *(i.e., Ün Long Division).*

V.

(A.)

We hereby inform you that the battle will commence at 7 o'clock on the morning of the 8th (17th April). We beg that the armed men from your worthy district will take rice in the Fourth Watch *(i.e., about 3-4 a.m.)* and proceed direct to Ha Ts'ün to be ready for the fight. Do not wait for the signal drum.

To our dear friends in the Sháp Pat Heung District.

Dated 18th April, 1899.

From Tang Yau King Tong *(i.e., the ancestral temple in the Ha Ts'ün district).*

V.
(B.)

We hereby inform you that 7 o'clock of the morning of the 8th, has been fixed as the date for the commencement of the battle. The armed men of your worthy district should have their early meal at the Fourth Watch and proceed at daybreak direct to Castle Peak to join battle. You need not wait for the signal drum.

To our clansmen of the P'ing Shán district.
Dated 16th April, 1899.

V.
(C.)

A letter to the same effect as No. V. (B) only addressed to the villagers of Shán Ha and Hang Ha in the P'ing Shán district.

Dated same as No. V. (B).

VI.

This note is to inform you that YAT HIN (Military Sau Ts'oi (Graduate) named TANG SÁM-WÁI 鄧三槐 of 吉慶圍 Kat Hing Wai) has just been to the meeting-house and says that it is not necessary to send troops to-day and that we can delay a day or two and have a further consultation. Be careful not to make any rash movement. This is most important.

To CHIK T'ING,
CHÁK TSAN
(CHÁK SHIN)
I SHEK.

From the Great Peace Meeting-house (Ün Long).

VII.

Your letter received and contents noted. A strong force must be posted at Tái pó in order to resist with our full force. The two posts at Castle Peak and Sha Kong should have many flags flying in order to mislead the enemy. A force of the stronger men of your district should be detached to take part in the engagement. Sixty per cent. should be retained for self-protection. If troops arrive from Ngan T'in they should all be sent to Tái pó. Let there be no indecision in the matter. To these points (Castle Peak and Sha Kong) none of the enemy will ever go. We must devote our undivided attention to Tái pó.

VIII.

To SING CHI (*i.e.*, NG K'I-CH'ÉUNG).

I beg to inform you that Major FONG LEUNG-TS'OI, of the left wing, has received instructions from the Viceroy and Governor (at Canton) to make a special visit to your district in order to orally explain to the gentry and elders the particulars regarding the leased area so that they may inform the villagers in order to prevent misunderstanding. He is also bringing the Viceroy's proclamation to be posted in the villages. I am sending a special messenger to go ahead to inform you. Other particulars I will tell you when we meet.

I take this opportunity to send you my regards.

P.S.—Please at once inform your clansmen that Major FONG will arrive in the afternoon to prevent suspicion and anxiety.

Written from the Transmitting Order Department of the Major's Yamên at Nam Tau.

IX.

The gunboat by which I have been towed here is only General Ho's. Not a single foreigner has come in it.

All other particulars you will know fully when you see Major FONG who will not in any way use force but will freely allow all the villagers to carry out their own settled plans.

I would also beg you, as being more satisfactory, to inform the other gentlemen beforehand.

(Governor to Colonial Secretary.)

HONGKONG, 26th April, 1899.

HONOURABLE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

I have read carefully the statements of NG K'Y-CH'UNG and TANG KOK-LAM and the various documents translated by you. I have decided to frame a regulation giving power to any Police Magistrate, or any Justice of the Peace, to summon before them any person for examination in reference to any offence committed, and, on sufficient grounds being shown, to call upon the person so summoned to enter into security to be of the peace and good behaviour. If a summons be not obeyed a warrant may be issued to compel attendance. I do not consider it advisable that any land should be confiscated in connection with the recent troubles.

It seems evident from the statements made that the working of the Company alluded to more than once has had something to do with the general uneasiness. It has been stated to me by a Member of the Executive Council that he has been informed that a Company or Syndicate was formed some time ago to buy land in the leased area and that the Syndicate bought land at a rate much below its value by representing to the villagers and elders that when the territory was taken over the land would become the property of this Government who would not acknowledge any land titles. This, if true, would account for the great uneasiness displayed and for the ultimate determination to combine and offer resistance to our occupation of the territory. It may not be true, but should be inquired into. I consider it of great importance that the people should be fully informed as to our intention not to interfere with their holding of land, and the fact that this Government issued a notice that sales of land effected since the date of the Convention would not necessarily be acknowledged should also be freely circulated. Should it come to your knowledge that land was purchased under its value by false representations, such sales should be declared null and void if the seller so wishes and is prepared to return the consideration paid.

Having regard to all the circumstances preceding the combined opposition, I do not consider it just or expedient that a vindictive retribution should be exacted. Doubtless, clemency may be misunderstood; but the fault has been sharply punished, and the evidence is before the eyes of the people that swift punishment will follow any similar attempt, while the power to impose a special police tax upon a district in the event of crime, for which no person has been made amenable, will, I expect, act as a salutary deterrent.

I am glad that your proceedings up to the present have resulted in the return of the villagers to their work. I hope that the work of the arrangement of the Districts may soon be actively pursued.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

(Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 1st May, 1899.)

TAI PÓ, 1st May, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Among the Petitioners who came to see me to-day was a man named MA ON-KI belonging to the Un Iu village. I had information in my possession to the effect that he had sold land to the Company, and there was a rumour that he had been compelled to sell it. I accordingly availed myself of his presence to question him. I enclose a copy of the statement* he made before me. If the transaction took place in the 8th moon of last year it cannot be recognised by the Government in view of the proclamation issued informing the people that no sales of land would be recognised if made after the date of the Convention. But you will notice that the seller states he sold the land of his own free will and no threats were made to induce him to sell it. He also states that the price he received was a fair price and that he does not wish to buy back the land again. When the land question is being investigated it will be necessary to have some rule laid down as to how cases like the present are to be dealt with. The Acting Registrar General might make further enquiries regarding the transaction in question in Hongkong from the Chairman of the Land Company.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

* Enclosure No. 1.

ENCLOSURE No. 1 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE OF THE 1ST MAY, 1899.

MA ON-KI states :—

I am a native of Ún Iu. I have some land there. Last year I sold a piece of land to the Company. I sold it in the 8th moon of last year. I gave a deed. I was paid 205 dollars. The price was a fair one. I sold the land willingly. No one brought any pressure to bear on me. The transaction has not been registered in the San On Magistrate's office. The piece of land is in Tái pó t'au. I do not wish to buy the land back. I sold the land because I wanted the money. No one told me that if I did not sell the land it would be confiscated by the British Authorities. The transaction was a perfectly voluntary one.

馬 MA
安 ON
基 KI

Statement made before me this 1st day of May, 1899.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

(Governor to Colonial Secretary.)

3rd May, 1899.

HONOURABLE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

I do not see why there should be any interference in such a case as this. Two men of their own free will make a bargain. The only grounds for interference would be a fraudulent statement by the purchaser to induce the seller to part with his property under its value. Our proclamation was intended primarily to apply to land sold by the Chinese Government after date of Convention.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

(Colonial Secretary to Governor.)

TÁI PÓ, 5th May, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The reason why I forwarded this statement was that there was a rumour here that the man had sold his land compulsorily and under threats and that the purchaser had induced the seller to part with his property under its value by a fraudulent statement. The man's evidence shows the rumour is without foundation.

I understood that the proclamation was issued to prevent all transactions in land. On this point I should be glad to receive definite instructions.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

(Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 3rd May, 1899.)

TÁI PÓ, 3rd May, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

With regard to the alleged doings of the Land Company to which attention has been drawn, I would submit that it would be best, in the first instance, for the Land Officer here to investigate this matter. He could call upon the landholders in each district to forward to him any complaints they have to make and he could inquire into them on the spot. If after his investigation a Commission is considered desirable, it could be appointed. I think the truth would be more easily arrived at in this manner than by a Commission composed of members who live far away from the territory and who would have to summon witnesses to appear before them in Hongkong. The summoning of such witnesses would become known and it is not unlikely that they would be got at.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

(Governor to Colonial Secretary.)

5th May, 1899.

I concur.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

ENCLOSURE NO. 3 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE OF THE 24TH APRIL, 1899.

List of the Gentry and Elders whose names appear in the documents and statements.

ÜN LONG DIVISION.

元 期 洞

P'ING SHÁN 屏山

Tang Ch'iu-i	鄧朝儀	鄧朝儀
Tang Fong-hing	鄧芳卿	鄧芳卿
Tang Ts'ing-wan.....	鄧青雲	鄧青雲
Tang Kw'an-shan	鄧衮臣	鄧衮臣
Tang Lai-shang.....	鄧礪生	鄧礪生
Tang Lam	鄧林	鄧林

HA TS'ÜN 厦村

Tang I-shek.....	鄧儀石	鄧儀石
Tang Ts'ing-sz	鄧青士	鄧青士
Tang Kwok-lam	鄧國林	鄧國林
Tang Chik-t'ing	鄧植亭	鄧植亭
Tang Hung-ts'oi.....	鄧雄才	鄧雄才
Tang Ün-tsó	鄧煥藻	鄧煥藻

P'AT HEUNG 八鄉

Tse Heung-pó	謝香圃	謝香圃
Lai Ch'un	黎春	黎春
Li Pong	李邦	李邦
Tang T'ung.....	鄧同	鄧同

KAM T'IN 錦田

Tang Chuk-sám.....	鄧祝三	鄧祝三
Tang Ló-pan	鄧鷺賓	鄧鷺賓
Tang Yat-hin	鄧逸軒	鄧逸軒
Tang Ki-yau	鄧已有	鄧已有
Tang Sám-wái	鄧三槐	鄧三槐

SHEUNG Ü DIVISION.

雙 魚 洞

SHEUNG SHUI 上水

Liu Wan-kuk	廖雲谷	廖雲谷
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FAN LING 分嶺

P'áng Shiu-ün.....	彭少垣	彭少垣
--------------------	-----	-----

PING KONG 丙光

Hau Hon-kái.....	侯翰階	侯翰階
------------------	-----	-----

SAN TIN 新田

Man Lai-t'ong.....	文禮堂	文禮堂
--------------------	-----	-----

CH'Á HANG 蔡坑

Man Chám-ts'ün	文湛全	文湛全
----------------------	-----	-----

TÁI PÓ T'AU 大埔頭

Fang Mau	鄧茂	鄧茂
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(*Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 24th April, 1899.*)

P'ING SHÁN, 24th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

This afternoon a messenger arrived at this village with a bundle of notifications in the name of the Viceroy of the Two Kwong and of the Governor of the Kwong Tung Province. I immediately had him detained and on examining him found that he had been sent by the Magistrate of the San On District to post notifications of the Viceroy and Governor at 12 places in our territory. I attach a copy of the statement made by the man before me: a copy of the order issued by the San On District Magistrate with a translation*; and one of the notifications with a translation.†

It is a curious coincidence that the date of the notification is the 19th April, when the rebels had been defeated. It is also peculiar that all the places, where the notices were to be posted, are places which took part in resisting the British Troops, with the exception of Kap Shui Mun.

The Viceroy had no right to send notices issued by him into our territory, and both he and the San On District Magistrate should be called to account.

I will detain the man pending further instructions. I will, of course, see that he is properly cared for.

As you will observe from the man's statement he had not posted any of the notices before being detained.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE OF THE 24TH APRIL, 1899.

*Translation of the Order issued by Chiu, Magistrate
(of the San On District).*

This messenger will at once take 14 copies of the Proclamation issued by the Viceroy and Governor and proceed with all despatch to the villages and market towns enumerated in the attached list and there post the proclamations for general information. The said messenger must be careful to have the Proclamations wrapped up so as to prevent them being damaged by the wet. Any delay will be punished. Proceed with all haste.

List of Villages :

Ün Long Hü.	Lam Ts'ün.
Kam T'in Hü.	Tái Wo Shi.
P'ing Shán Hü.	P'ing Kong.
Tái Pó Hü.	Fan Ling.
Shek T'au Wai.	Sha Lo Tung.
Lin Fa Ti.	Kap Shui Mun.
Lung Yeuk T'au.	Castle Peak.

Messenger, a Ch'iu Chau Brave.

Dated 14th day of the 3rd Moon (23rd April). This order will be cancelled on the day of the messenger's return.

Translated by J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

* Enclosure No. 1.
† Enclosure No. 2.

ENCLOSURE NO. 2 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE OF THE 24TH APRIL, 1899.

Statement of the Messenger of the San On Magistrate.

LÓ ÚN (盧煥) states :—

“I am a native of Nam T'au. The San On Magistrate issued the order to one of the Ch'iu Chau 'Braves' who hired me to do his work. His name is “Small-pox Ng.” There were 14 notices; 2 were taken to be posted at Castle Peak and Kap Shui Mun. I have handed in all the notices I have got. I do not know who took those for Kap Shui Mui and Castle Peak. I have not posted a single notice. I was going to begin at P'ing Shán when I was stopped. I came here from Nam T'au to-day by the Ún Long pass-boat. I landed at Sha Kong and came direct here. I have not been anywhere else.”

This is the order regarding the notice. (Order handed in attached: See translation above).

LÓ ÚN,
[His X Mark.]

Statement made before me this 24th day of April, 1899.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

A second Proclamation for general information issued by Tam, Viceroy of the Two Kwongs, and Luk, Governor of the Kwong Tung Province.

We have already issued a Proclamation for general information regarding the Kau Lung boundary. We have also on two occasions despatched troops to keep order and have issued stringent orders to Colonel LI SZ-KING and Major FONG ÚN to co-operate with the Magistrate of the San On district in earnestly explaining matters to the inhabitants so that they may all live together in peace without suspicion.

We have just heard that on the 7th day (16th April) over a thousand natives fought with the British troops at Tái pó Hii; but as to the cause, as to whether any one was injured, as to whether they were bad people within the leased territory, or as to whether they were the remnants of the faction of CHUNG SHUI-YEUNG and came from Chinese territory, we have received no report from the Military Commanders or the District Magistrate.

Now that the Militia has been organized and each district has its gentry and elders, the Military and Civil Officers referred to ought to summon the gentry and earnestly explain to them that this leasing of territory has received Imperial sanction; that it is clearly laid down in the Convention that the people will not be compelled to remove; that private property will not be expropriated; and that there will be no harsh treatment.

With regard to those outside the leased territory this matter does not affect them in any way. Why should they in disobedience of the Imperial commands create disturbance regardless of their property and their lives? If the people of any other district arm themselves and assist in the fight, their conduct is a still more serious disregard of the Law.

We, therefore, think it is right to circulate this second Proclamation to urge you people to reform the error of your ways and to strive to be good and loyal subjects and so avoid involving yourselves in the meshes of the law.

Let all tremble and obey.

Kwong Sū, 25th year, 3rd Moon, 10th day. (19th April, 1899.)

Sealed with the Seal of the Viceroy and Governor.
Notice to be posted at P'ing Shán.

*Translated by J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.*

(Governor to Colonial Secretary.)

HONGKONG, 26th April, 1899.

HONOURABLE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

With reference to the Viceroy's messenger, release him. He has committed no offence. You were quite right to prevent the posting of notices. Those, if any, posted in Castle Peak District should be removed. The Attorney General has prepared the draft of an Ordinance giving to any Magistrate or Justice of the Peace power on information laid to summon before him any person and, after hearing evidence, to order him to find sureties to be of the peace and good behaviour for a given term or in default to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months. I fancy that you are a Justice of the Peace either by Commission or in virtue of your office. If not, I shall gazette you and antedate your Commission.

I agree with you that a fair rent should be paid for the house occupied by the police. I am glad to learn that you find matters settling down. If the Chinese doctor has returned he might be found useful. There must be many wounded men in the hill villages requiring medical assistance.

I regret very much to hear of the serious injury to Major WATSON, R.A.M.C., from an attack by a buffalo.

I have carefully considered all the circumstances of the murder. With the evidence that you have obtained it appears to me that there will be grounds upon which to offer a large reward for such evidence as will lead to the arrest and conviction of any of the offenders. You have the names of several, for whose arrest warrants can be obtained. This will mark very clearly that the law is not dead. The clan or village can always be reached under the system of enforcing payment for special police force. I see it stated that the murdered man was sent in by Government. I did not know this; but even had he been so sent, there was nothing to show you that there was the slightest danger to be apprehended. On the contrary, the reports received were to the effect that the people were ready to receive the British rule gladly. The police stations will be proceeded with as quickly as possible. I hope that the arrangements for the administration will soon be begun.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

(Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 25th April, 1899.)

P'ING SHÁN, 25th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We are just about to start for Fan Ling, having been here since Wednesday, the 19th instant. The result of our stay has been most satisfactory as I am able to report that the inhabitants of the most important and of the most rowdy districts in the new territory are now peacefully pursuing their usual avocations. The districts to which I refer are the Castle Peak District, Ha Ts'ün District, P'ing Shán District, Sháp Pát Heung District with Ün Long at its head, Kam T'in District, and Pát Heung District.

Two sets of iron gates, belonging to the Kam T'in District, have been carried by the inhabitants of that district to Flagstaff Hill. This has had an excellent effect. The walls of the villages at Kam T'in have not been pulled down; only the entrances to two of the villages having iron gates have been blown up. Lieutenant BARRETT or Mr. MAY will be able to explain exactly what has been done.

NG K'í-CH'ÉUNG and TANG LÓ-PAN, two of the ringleaders in the recent movement, whose statements I forwarded to you yesterday, have returned to their villages after having found security in \$2,000 each to appear whenever called upon. I attach a translation of the Bond* signed by them and their 5 securities. As I informed you yesterday, it is absolutely necessary that a rule should be passed giving power to demand security.

* Enclosure No. 1.

All the arms, &c. surrendered, amounting to 97 pieces, were forwarded to Tái pó yesterday. That number is made up as follows :—

40 Spears.
23 Small Guns.
6 Large Guns.
28 Muskets.

—
97
—

It will not be possible to start the executive machinery of Government until I have visited all the important parts of the territory in the same manner as these districts here. This will take some time. I am, of course, making enquiries at each place with a view to dividing the territory into Districts, and consulting the elders on certain points. I will push on as quickly as I can, but there are many things to consider. I trust, however, that we may have a somewhat easier time at other places than we have had here, and I have no doubt we shall, as the people are returning to their usual occupations.

The members of the Police living here are fairly comfortably housed in the same house we have been occupying. They might remain on here, the owner of the house being paid a fair rent. He is quite willing to lend his house, but does not want rent. That is a matter that can be arranged later on, but I think rent should be paid. We have been careful to pay for all supplies, &c. obtained here.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE OF THE 25TH APRIL, 1899.

Translation of Bond.

We, TANG CHÁK-HING, TANG TS'ING-WAN, T'ÁN KWONG-HO, CHÁN ÜT-HIN, and TANG CHAN-ÜN, hereby agree to act as sureties for NG K'I-CH'EUING and undertake that he will return to his home and live as a law-abiding and peaceful subject, and that he will appear whenever called upon to do so. In the event of his failing to appear we, as sureties, are willing to forfeit the sum of Two thousand Dollars (\$2,000). This is a true and genuine agreement.

(Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 26th April, 1899.)

SHEUNG SHUI (NEAR FAN LING),
26th April, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We left P'ing Shán yesterday morning at 8.30 a.m. and reached Sheung Shui at 3 p.m.

All the villages along the route received us with crackers and had the white flag of submission flying in front of their villages. The elders in each village came out to receive us, and I told them in each instance that all good people would be protected and should return to their work as usual and that disturbers of the peace would be severely dealt with. I requested them to co-operate with the Government Authorities in bringing bad characters to justice.

The elders of the small villages expressed a hope that they would be specially protected from the bullying they have been experiencing from large villages, and I informed them that protection would be afforded to all, whether strong or weak.

The following are the villages through which we passed and at which we were received by the elders :—

1. Sha Pò in the Kam T'in District.
2. Pok Wai in the " "
3. Chuk Ün in the " "
4. Mai Pò in the " "

5. San Tin in the Sheung Ū Division (including the villages of Tsò T'au and Lok Ma Chau).
6. Ho Sheung in the Sheung Ū Division.
7. Sheung Shui " " "
8. Shek Ū " " "
9. Fan Ling " " "

The two last places were visited after we had reached Sheung Shui.

Petitions have been presented by—

1. San Tin (including Tsò T'au and Lok Ma Chau). This is one of the largest villages in the territory and has a population of over 2,000 people.
2. Wo Sheung Heung.
3. Sheung Shui.
4. Kam Ts'in and In Kong.
5. Fan Ling (including Sò Kon Pò and Fan Ling Lau).

San Tin, Sheung Shui, and Fan Ling are the largest villages in this part of the territory. The inhabitants of the two latter were very insolent to Mr. MAY when he visited them last month to select a site for a Police Station.

All the Petitions are couched in terms exactly identical with those presented at P'ing Shán, translations of which have been already forwarded.

I have informed the Petitioners that they should carry on their various occupations as usual, and tell the villagers, as I have already done, that well-behaved people will be protected and disturbers of the peace punished. I have also told them that the Government expects the gentry, elders, and villagers to co-operate in the maintenance of peace and good order.

I handed to the Petitioners copies of Your Excellency's Chinese proclamation and Chinese translations of the Local Communities Ordinance with the request that they would take steps to explain the contents of the latter to the inhabitants within their District.

I also called upon the Petitioners to surrender all arms in their possession and they have just gone off to bring them. I am afraid they will not be back before Major KOE, who came here last night, has to leave for Tái pó to catch the launch which will take this to Hongkong.

I attach a sketch of the Flag* hoisted in front of the larger villages we passed, with a translation of the characters on it. The flags in front of the smaller villages are plain white with no characters on them.

I regret to say that Major WATSON, R.A.M.C., was attacked yesterday by a buffalo and severely hurt, but he is still able to discharge his duties and is all the better this morning for a good night's rest.

In the country through which we passed yesterday—we marched about 15 miles from P'ing Shán to Fan Ling—we saw men and women carrying on their farming operations as usual and all the inhabitants—men, women, and children—have returned to their villages through which we passed, and to Sheung Shui, where we are now staying, and to Fan Ling, which we visited last night.

I met Mr. BADELEY, Deputy Superintendent of Police, at Fan Ling, and he is coming on with me to-day to Wo Hang where we intend to stay to-night. Tomorrow we will return to Tái pó, unless anything unforeseen occurs to stop us. There are rumours here that resistance may be offered in the neighbourhood of Starling Inlet, which we will reach to-morrow.

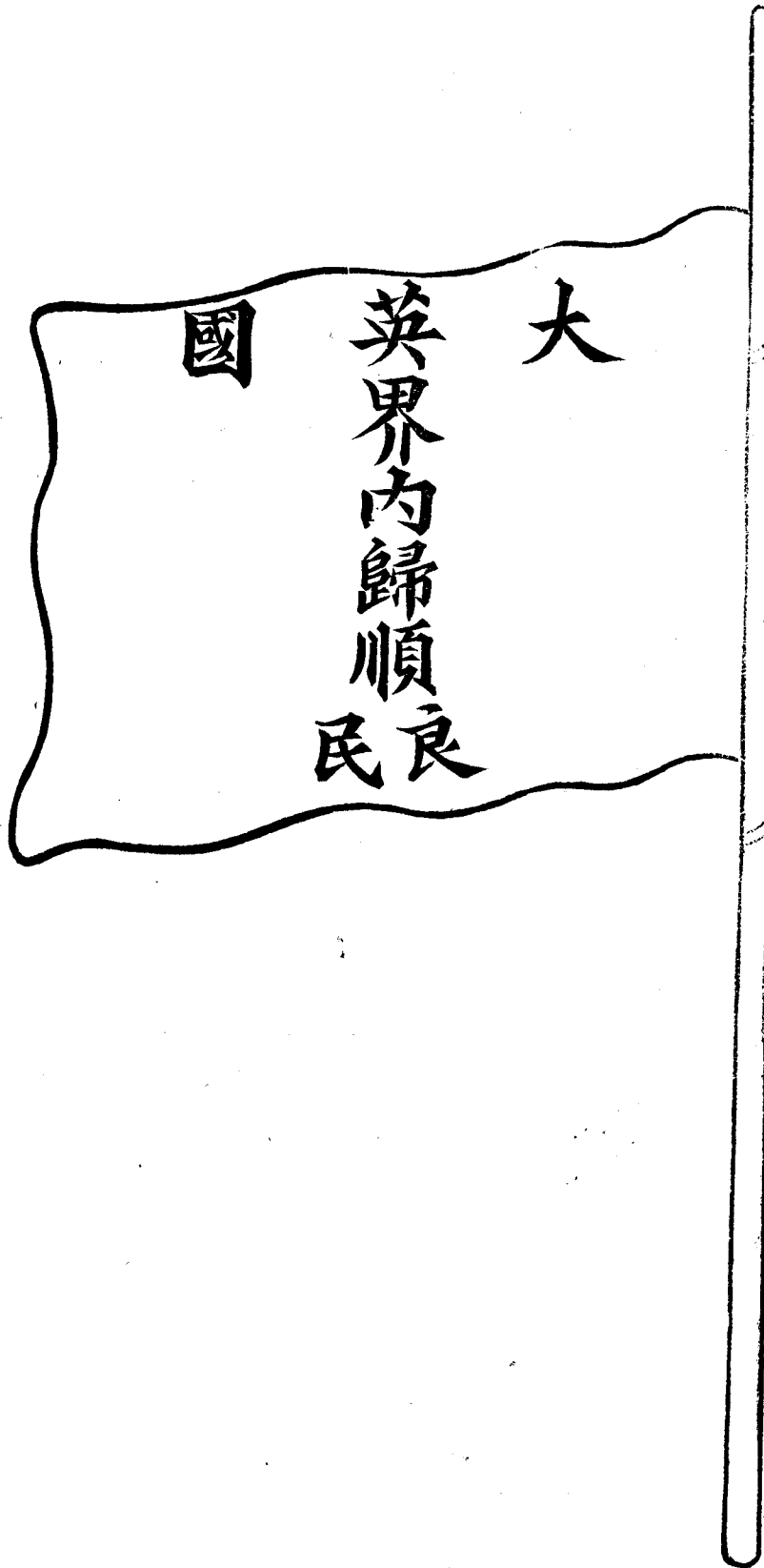
I am giving Mr. BADELEY all the information I already have and can gather regarding the murder.

I examined, in company with Mr. BADELEY and Colonel THE O'GORMAN, yesterday evening a site for a Police Station near the village at Fu Ti Au. One of the leading villagers accompanied us and stated that there would be no real objection to the site we think best, which is admirably situated on a hill, commanding a view of the valley in which we now are and the valley which runs right up to the Sham Chun River.

As regards Police Stations, I think they should be put in hand at once as any delay may only lead to further trouble.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

ENCLOSURE No. 1 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE OF THE 26TH APRIL, 1899.



“SUBMISSIVE AND LOYAL PEOPLE RESIDING WITHIN BRITISH TERRITORY.”

REPORT BY LIEUT.-COLONEL THE O'GORMAN ON THE MILITARY
OPERATIONS IN THE CHINESE HINTERLAND.

TÁIPÓ, 6th May, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit to you my report upon the operations connected with the taking over of the newly leased Territory, briefly alluding to circumstances preceding the date when hostilities actually commenced.

1. Your Excellency remembers the first incident at Táipó Hii when the Hon. F. H. MAY, Captain Superintendent of Police, (with 9 Sikhs) was attacked by the villagers on erecting some matsheds, and narrowly escaped being murdered. You, with staff, proceeded to the scene of the outrage in Her Majesty's Ship *Whiting* on the night of the 3rd of April, arriving at 9 a.m. to find the matshed in ashes and that Mr. MAY had left. The measures then taken by you and the Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary, to pacify the villagers and inspire them with confidence in British justice and protection, must be fresh in your memory.

Notwithstanding the clemency shown by you on this occasion, the Táipó people, later on, absolutely refused to allow matsheds or barracks for police to be erected near their villages, and when Mr. MAY again landed, on the 14th ultimo, he found the remaining matshed burnt to the ground, and the people assuming such a threatening attitude that it was necessary to re-embark at once. Finally the situation in the Hinterland became so serious that it was evident that the presence of troops at or in the neighbourhood of Táipó would be necessary a day or two before the date fixed for taking the country under British rule; no active Military resistance was anticipated, but it seemed probable that riots would occur.

2. On the 15th ultimo Captain BERGER, with three Jemadars and 122 Rank and File of the Hongkong Regiment, marched, under your orders, to Táipó for the purpose of forming a camp and making suitable arrangements for the ceremony of the 17th ultimo, the date which His Excellency the Governor had fixed upon for hoisting the British Flag, on our acquisition of the Kowloon Hinterland.

Captain BERGER, on arrival, within about a mile of Táipó, saw that the hills in the neighbourhood were crowned by Chinese, evidently bent on opposing his advance; he reconnoitred and made suitable dispositions to protect his troops. He states that he counted 6 or 7 banners and estimated the enemy's numbers at 1,200 men; he then steadily advanced towards Táipó, where he meant to occupy a small hill in a good tactical position.

Captain BERGER had very strict orders to avoid a conflict with the Chinese, if at all possible, because the Hinterland had not actually been taken over; he therefore stood on the defensive until the Chinamen had opened Artillery fire upon him at 1,200 yards range and were seen to be approaching with rifles, when he fired some long range volleys which had the effect of inducing them to adopt a more cautious attitude though they still poured in Mortar fire which fortunately fell either short or high overhead. One N.C.O. of the Hongkong Regiment was hit in the foot but not seriously hurt; there was no other casualty on our side.

3. At 6 p.m. H.M.S. *Fame* came into Tolo Harbour. Captain BERGER signalled to the Commander to land a supply of ammunition. Captain LONG, D.A.A.G. (B) came ashore with it and, being the senior Military Officer, assumed command of the troops. Lieut. KEYES, R.N., Commander of the *Fame*, brought ashore an armed party of Blue Jackets.

About this time it became evident that offensive action must be taken because darkness was approaching and the enemy were closing in and threatening an attack on our camp and might possibly make a rush during the night.

The dispositions, under Captain LONG's orders, appear to have been admirably conceived and carried out, the result being that the camp was left in peace during the night.

4. Arrangements had been made to establish signalling communications between Head Quarters and the Kowloon Pass, and at about 8 p.m. a message reached you from Captain BERGER, communicating the circumstances of the situation, and asking for re-inforcements. Shortly afterwards I, as your Chief Staff Officer, proceeded to Kowloon to order out 300 soldiers of the Hongkong Regiment under command of Lieut.-Colonel RETALLICK, with directions to be at Sha Tin by daybreak on the 16th and expeditiously to push on to Táipó.

RETALLICK started at 2 a.m., arriving there at mid-day on the 16th. The route over the Kowloon Pass was bad marching and thence to Sha Tin also bad, but it was known to Colonel RETALLICK and his officers so that no serious difficulty was to be anticipated.

5. Captain SIMMONDS, R.A., with his Company of the Hongkong-Singapore Battalion R.A., arrived about the same time, his guns having been sent round by sea under escort.

6. His Excellency the Governor on the night of the 15th ultimo determined to antedate by a day the hoisting of the British Flag and the taking over the Kowloon Territory in order that he might be in a position to at once assume the power of administering the Hinterland and promptly quell disturbances under the authority of the Queen's Government. The ceremony was performed at 3 p.m. on the 16th April, 1899, under Your Excellency's Military Command.

Before leaving Hongkong on this mission Your Excellency most kindly intimated to me your desire to entrust me with the Command of the Kowloon Field Force whenever you might decide upon leaving Táipó on return to Hongkong, and at 3 p.m. on the 17th ultimo you handed over to me this command. I have already orally expressed to Your Excellency my gratitude for this mark of confidence in me and beg to reiterate my thanks.

7. I now have the honour to report in detail on the operations that took place after my assumption of Command.

On the 17th ultimo at 4 p.m. very heavy hostile Artillery fire was heard from the direction of Chung Uk Ts'un. Captain BERGER, with 250 men of the Hongkong Regiment, had already gone to Shelter Trench Hill (the Chinese had constructed here a very creditable two hour shelter trench made on orthodox principles evidently under Military supervision) to dislodge the enemy who had taken up a position with guns on the crest of Wa Mi Hill and who had been firing at our camp, at 2,500 yards range, for some time. He swung to the left, entered the village of Fong Ma Po, closely followed by Lieut. BARRETT with a reserve comprising soldiers of the Hongkong Regiment.

BERGER soon became hotly engaged; his force with the Reserve was amply sufficient to meet all eventualities, and I left him full control of the Infantry. He carried out the work in a most praiseworthy, soldierly manner.

I now ascertained that the enemy was retiring slowly in a S.W. direction through the Lam Ts'un Valley keeping up a hot Artillery and Rifle fire. I sent word to Captain SIMMONDS to co-operate with BERGER with his guns. SIMMONDS unfortunately took a wrong turn moving East towards Fan Ling instead of to the S.W. He afterwards explained that he had got his guns to Fong Ma Pó; that his coolies were weary; that night was coming on, and that finding that he could not keep pace with the Infantry over the broken ground and believing that his presence in the Fan Ling Valley would lend effectual aid to the Camp and cover BERGER's retirement; if necessary, he took up the best available position and bivouacked for the night. He had a Company of the Hongkong-Singapore Battalion R.A. and a strong escort from the Hongkong Regiment, so his safety was assured.

In a tactical sense it was unfortunate that SIMMONDS had not kept touch with BERGER. His guns would have been very effective in dislodging the enemy from some very strong positions they took up on crests of hills in the Lam Ts'un Valley. As events, however, turned out, the guns were not required, for the Hongkong Regiment Soldiers drove back the enemy from hill to hill and working admirably, like true Indian Frontier fighting men, they took full advantage of cover while continuing hotly the pursuit of the foe.

Had this advance not been conducted with great care the loss to our troops must have been heavy.

The Chinese fired almost incessantly for 1½ hours, pouring in round shot 3½ inches in diameter from muzzle loaders and dropping musketry fire all about our men. Fortunately the configuration of the country favoured cover and our casualties were few. I regret to say that Major BROWN, R.A.M.C., was slightly wounded in the right upper arm by a spent bullet. He returned to camp at Táipó at 11 p.m. making light of his wound, which rendered his return to Hongkong necessary, and which I now hear has been very painful.

Captain BERGER's Force captured 3 guns and utterly routed the Chinese who fled over the Lam Ts'un Pass and on to Sheung Ts'un at the head of the Pát Heung Valley, where BERGER, still pursuing, lost touch with them and bivouacked for the night.

8. At 8 p.m. Captain SIMMONDS sent me a messenger asking for food for 3 British Officers and 120 Indian soldiers, also for one blanket per man. I sent these things by coolies under a fairly strong escort. At 8.30 p.m. BERGER applied for ammunition by signal message. I saw that he must have ammunition at all costs as he was in the heart of the enemy's country, so I got 40 soldiers of the Hongkong Regiment, 11 Sikh policemen and all the coolies I could muster and despatched the lot under Mr. MAY, Captain Superintendent of Police, who had very kindly volunteered to proceed in charge.

9. My camp had now only 16 soldiers left in it, so I signalled to Commander DAVISON, R.N., of Her Majesty's Ship *Humber* in the Harbour, to land an armed party for its protection. This request was promptly acceded to and I felt that "Flagstaff Hill" and the Queen's Standard were safe.

10. At about 10 p.m. firing ceased. I sent an order to BERGER that he must not move beyond his bivouac unless he could co-operate with a force that I thought might possibly be sent out to Castle Peak at daybreak on the 18th ultimo. I sent Your Excellency a signal message reporting particulars up to date. I also wrote in detail the particulars of the previous evening's action so far as they were known to me, and despatched the letter next morning.

11. At daybreak on the 18th April, after consultation with Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary, I determined to push on to Sheung Ts'un to join BERGER, for I knew that the Insurgent Forces had all gone West and that the scene of action, having shifted from Táipó to the Pát Heung Valley, my place should be with the advance at Sheung Ts'un. I informed Commander DAVISON, R.N., of my intention and nominated Major KOE, A.S.C., as the Officer in Military Command at the Base.

12. At 7 a.m. a portion of BERGER's troops were seen returning to camp, he having left BARRETT with a detachment at Sheung Ts'un. He had come in to get food and blankets for his men and ammunition. The men had a square meal after which we started, accompanied by STEWART LOCKHART, and pushing on rapidly reached Sheung Ts'un where we found BARRETT all safe. A few rounds from guns had been fired at his men in the early morning but no attack had been made on his position. On the march we passed through the Lam Ts'un Valley where Captain BERGER pointed out to me the details of the previous evening's engagement; he explained the absence of many casualties to our force by the fact that the Chinese kept firing in the direction of the mountain path, believing that troops would not be able to move over the steep hill sides.

They little knew the soldiers of the Hongkong Regiment. When they found out their mistake they became so disconcerted that their fire was wild and practically harmless.

13. On my way to Sheung Ts'un I sent a message to SIMMONDS to join me with two guns at that place. The other two guns were at Táipó Camp.

14. Reviewing this little action, I desire to bring to Your Excellency's notice the admirable manner in which Captain BERGER of the Hongkong Regiment handled the Infantry Force. I had at first believed that he had pushed on too far from his base and rather feared that the Chinese might have drawn him into an ambush; but reflection and a review of the situation convinced me that he was quite right. Some seven years' acquaintance with the Chinese character and the poor efforts that the enemy had made on the previous day, together with the knowledge that they were not well armed, must have shown him that the true tactics in dealing with a Chinese foe were to attack and pursue till their flight had made immediate concentration for concerted action impossible.

15. Lieutenant BARRETT also fulfilled his duties with ability and courage.

16. As for the Indian Officers and soldiers of the Hongkong Regiment, their courage and Military bearing under a heavy fire deserve the highest praise; and their natural qualities as hillmen have made them admirable soldiers for frontier warfare in this mountainous region.

17. Captain SIMMONDS' force of 4 guns with escort unfortunately took no part in the evening's action, having gone to Fan Ling under a mistaken appreciation of the enemy's intention; his guns replied to the enemy's in the early part of the day when close to Táipó Camp, and compelled the enemy to move his Artillery from the Wa Mi Hills. I append Captain SIMMONDS' report * for Your Excellency's information.

18. It is impossible to render even an approximate estimate of the enemy's casualties, for Chinamen always carry away their wounded and dead.

19. I wish to add that in the march to Sheung Ts'ün we found the country quiet, but the people showed us no civility, and we found it impossible to obtain coolies or supplies on payment. A sullen acquiescence in our proceedings was evinced.

20. Arrived at Sheung Ts'ün I found that the Hongkong Regiment had taken possession of a court-yard capacious enough to hold 400 soldiers in which they had put dry straw and had made themselves very fairly comfortable. Some had been without much food for nearly a day but speedily made up for lost time on our bringing up their rations.

Action of Sheung Ts'ün.
18.4.99.

21. At about 2.30 p.m. a report was made to me that a large force of Chinese was seen approaching. On examining the situation I saw a goodly number in the far distance evidently intent on attacking us; I ordered Captain BERGER to make preparations to receive these people, directing that only fresh troops should be sent out, the tired ones being left in reserve in quarters. At 3 p.m. BERGER had posted his men in their allotted positions and we awaited the enemy's advance. He came on in three lines and in fairly regular formation over a perfectly level plain on dry ploughed land, waving banners and shouting loudly. It was distinctly a determined advance for Chinamen. They commenced firing at long ranges, the 3½-inch diameter shot falling close around us; some rifle bullets were heard but these were few; jingall fire was almost continuous. When within 500 yards BERGER had a couple of rounds fired to make sure of the distance and to see what their effect would be; the Chinamen evidently did not like them. BERGER then advanced, got his men into a water course well under cover and went straight for the enemy who, on seeing our men, turned and bolted without firing another shot. We made a general advance, keeping up a heavy fire until the active Chinamen had got away out of range. The Hongkong Regiment fired individually and very deliberately. A few of the enemy fell but were carried away by their friends. In my opinion not many of them were hit. Seven men were observed to fall and we saw two corpses in another part of the field later on. I know it is not easy to hit running men at distances beyond 600 yards, but considering the number of rounds fired the enemy's casualties were, I believe, slight. No man was hit on our side though several had narrow escapes, shot falling within a few feet of them. SIMMONDS' guns had not arrived from Fan Ling and therefore did not take any part in to-day's action.

We pursued the flying enemy for some distance and then halted and collected the arms they left on the plain. Some seven pieces of small calibre Artillery, a quantity of jingalls and a few old fashioned rifles were picked up.

22. I cannot claim any merit for having inflicted only, as I believe, small loss upon our enemy in this action, but I am heartily glad that not many of them were killed or even hit; these rebels were mostly misguided creatures, badly armed and untrained to war, a foe utterly unworthy of a soldier's steel.

23. I believe the enemy's force was pretty considerable on this occasion and that they staked their all on the issue. Their intention was to press home and crush us believing in the vast superiority of their numbers and in a certain victory. The Chinaman had no idea of the power of the modern rifle and no heart to come to close quarters; he made no attempt at a stand.

This defeat shattered their confidence in their warlike attempts and I then felt sure they would not again assume the offensive or openly resist our arms. Subsequent information revealed the fact that 2,600 men took part in this action, and there is good reason to believe that, at least, one-third were men who came from beyond the British boundary.

* Not printed.

The Viceroy of Canton might well be called upon to explain the presence of these men. If he did not send them he certainly must have connived at their assistance in the revolt.

24. I now consulted Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, who had been present at the action, about the advisability of blowing down some walls of the Kam T'in Villages, situated about 2 miles from the scene of the action. He entirely concurred in the desirability of blowing up the gates of the Fui Sha Wai village. We marched there at once, warned all women and children to leave the village, which they did in considerable numbers; a few old men also came out and "kotowed," but no young ones; they were probably among those who had been defeated at the action and were still on the run and far away over the hills.

Our two sappers applied some slabs of gun cotton to the walls and so effectually that the explosion made a large breach of crumbled bricks and mortar, bringing down the iron gates. We tried a like effect upon another wall, but its thickness, 5 feet, was more than our supply of gun cotton was equal to tackling and that, combined, perhaps, with haste necessitated by advancing night rendered the demolition less effective.

After this we returned to quarters, some 5 miles distant, arriving at 9.15 p.m. and finding there SIMMONDS and his guns. He reported having blown down the gates of Sheung Wai.

25. Lieut. HILLMAN and 37 men R.N. had arrived with a convoy of provisions for our men, but nothing for officers.

26. After consultation with STEWART LOCKHART we started early, marching through the Pát Heung Valley (the scene of the previous afternoon's encounter). I left 45 soldiers at Sheung Ts'ün, to be joined in a couple of hours later by 35 men from Táipó; detached a hundred under BERGER to reconnoitre the hills in the direction of Ts'un Wan; and with 2 guns and 200 rank and file of the Hongkong Regiment and the R.N. detachment (who by the way were terribly sore at missing the little engagement at Sheung Ts'ün and were pining for a "go" at the enemy) we advanced through Kam T'in to Ün Long, where a few old men came to "kotow." We entered the village, got hold of some of the elders, and Mr. STEWART LOCKHART addressed them, endeavouring to remove the feeling of disquietude evidently prevalent among them. All this neighbourhood was full of rowdies who stirred up revolt throughout the district, terrorizing the peaceful inhabitants and compelling them, under pain of death, to take up arms against the British. Plausible arguments were used by them that under British rule heavy taxes would be levied, their civil and religious liberties destroyed, etc., etc. Many of the villagers had lost friends and felt they had been duped, but their passions had been roused and a couple of days were insufficient to allay their anger.

19.4.99.

Thence we marched to P'ing Shán where we rested awhile, found an excellent house for the men, another for officers, capital drinking water and some very good flour for the troops. The officers also got a meal which was truly acceptable after a day and a half with practically nothing but rice and a little Chinese sugar. STEWART LOCKHART and I pushed on to Ha Ts'ün village 2 miles off, taking 20 men and resting the remainder at P'ing Shán to which place we returned after dark.

27. The affair at Sheung Ts'ün ended the Military Campaign, but sullen resentment was depicted in the faces of the people and, though they grovelled, I knew that the embers of revolt only smouldered and that the presence of a Military Force was essential to restore order.

The elders who "kotowed" to us declared that "there were no arms in the village, those which were seen there last year, having been taken off by the insurgents." Lieut. BARRETT, however, when bathing in a stream hit off 6 small pieces of ordnance, which had evidently been thrown there on our approach, and STEWART LOCKHART found powder and newly made bullets in one of the temples.

28. I gave the men a day's rest—well deserved; they had ample food, were well housed and declared themselves quite comfortable.

20.4.99.

29. Late in the evening I heard that Major MORRIS, R.A., with some guns and an escort of the Hongkong Regiment had arrived at Kam T'in and had proceeded thence to Táipó, where I sent him Your Excellency's orders to embark and return to Hongkong.

30. The Naval detachment returned to-day and I intimated to DAVISON that his assistance could now be dispensed with, thanking him for the aid he had so promptly rendered in a time of need.

21.4.99.

31. At about 2 p.m. Mr. STEWART LOCKHART received a petition from a woman and her son praying for redress on account of the murder of her husband and the boy's father. Her statements were that TANG A CHEUNG, her husband, had been sent from Hongkong about the middle of the month, with the Governor's Proclamation with instructions to distribute copies in the villages in the P'ing Shan, Ün Long, and Kam Tin Districts. On arrival near Ün Long he was seized and kept a prisoner for a day and a half. In the meantime certain ringleaders sat in council at the Ün Long Meeting-house and, after deliberation, they hired a man to murder him. The unfortunate creature was cruelly beaten, shot (3 wounds in the body), tied in a pig basket and thrown into a creek.

22.4.99.

32. By 10 a.m. a large number of elders of many villages assembled to present petitions praying for mercy and forgiveness. They assured us that they had been led away by bad characters, that they sincerely repented of their errors, and promised future good behaviour. All day long petitions kept pouring in and men gave voluntary evidence betraying the origin of the revolt, the names of the ringleaders, and the measures taken by them to stir up a rising.

33. We proceeded to Ün Long in the afternoon. We found some damning documentary evidence in the Meeting-house. We returned to camp about dark.

23.4.99.

34. Proclamations were issued by Mr. STEWART LOCKHART assuring the people of our desire to protect them and directing all the villagers to return to their houses and resume the cultivation of their lands. By every possible means we endeavoured to restore order and confidence and with success far beyond our hopes.

35. It now became evident that a large force in the Hinterland had become unnecessary, and when Your Excellency ordered me to reduce my numbers to 200 men, "unless grave and urgent reasons to the contrary should exist," I felt that, in complying, the reduction would not imperil the safety of our position.

36. A few days later I recommended a still further reduction to 100 men, a measure which Your Excellency approved.

37. It seems unnecessary to chronicle in detail the unimportant events that succeeded my return to Taipó on the 27th ultimo. Peace had been restored in the Western portion of the district, and with judicious treatment it was fair to assume that a like confidence would soon be felt in British good government in the Northern portion of the Territory. These anticipations are being realized to the full. Petitions have been presented from some 200 villages in the New Territory.

38. To the Honourable J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, is due the admirable results that have been attained in the Civil administration of this Territory during this brief state of turmoil; his measures have been taken with great energy and ability and in a manner that, long experience has shown him, were suitable to the occasion. The result has been a most complete success.

Only those on the spot can realize the amount of labour and care he has devoted from early morning till late at night to the discharge of these trying duties.

A most hearty co-operation has existed throughout between us and no difference of opinion on any one point has arisen.

39. In conclusion, I wish to say that great care has been taken to keep the Troops in good health and that the Medical Officer with me, Major WATSON, R.A.M.C., has assisted most efficiently to this end.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

N. V. O'GORMAN.

To His Excellency

THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING,

China and Hongkong.

(Colonial Secretary's Minute of the 11th May, 1899:)

TÁI PÓ HŪ, 11th May, 1899.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

On arrival at Sheung Shui on the 25th April last, I caused the house of LIU WAN-KUK, who was absent from the village, to be searched, as I had reason to believe he had taken a leading part in organising the resistance against the British in the Sheung Ū District.

In his house were found the following documents of which I attach copies and a translation* :—

Book B gives a list of the villages which subscribed towards the purchase of arms.

Book C shows what grain, &c., was sent to the Temple at Shek Ū near Sheung Shui.

Book D gives an entry of moneys received.

Book E contains entries of payments made.

Book F contains an account of payments made for carrying letters, and among the payments are those for letters conveyed to Wong Pui Ling: Ū Pui: Lo Ū: Heung Sai: Ts'oi Uk-wai: Sheung Pó: Shat'aukok: Wong Kong: and Shat'au, which places are outside our boundary, as will be seen on reference to the Sketch Map,* which I attach.

From Sheung Shui I proceeded to Fan Ling, where I met LIU WAN-KUK. He made a statement of which I attach a translation.†

From Fan Ling I returned to Sheung Shui and on my way caused the "Governor's Temple" at Shek Ū to be searched. That temple is used as a meeting-house. A heap of papers was found in an incense burner, the papers having been torn into small pieces. I had the pieces collected and carefully put together. The result is the correspondence‡ (Nos. 1-10) of which I attach a translation. The correspondence is in the handwriting of LIU WAN-KUK.

Letter No. 8 in this correspondence is interesting as showing that Sham Chun in Chinese territory was a centre of organisation. This must have been known to the Chinese officials there.

The translation of the accounts, No. 10,§ corroborates Book F and shows that active communication was being maintained between Sheung Shui in our territory and the places shown in the sketch map,* in Chinese territory, which are underlined in the translation.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

ENCLOSURE NO. 2 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE
OF THE 11TH MAY, 1899.

1.

A PUBLIC NOTICE.

The following regulation was decided upon at the meeting held this day in the temple dedicated to a former Governor of the Kwong Tung province in the Sheung Ū Division :—

"No village in our Division is allowed to export grain. If any one secretly attempts to export grain he will be arrested and the grain so seized will be handed over to and stored in the Governor's temple and used hereafter for commissariat purposes. The trade in live-stock, pawnbroking, etc. will be allowed to proceed as usual."

This notice is issued from the Governor's temple by the Committee of the Sheung Ū Division.

* Not printed.

† Enclosure No. 1.

‡ Enclosure No. 2.

§ Not printed.

2.

Our Division, the Sheung Ü Tung, and your Division, the Ün Long, have been disturbed by the barbarians in a most insolent manner. You say that on the 8th day (17 April) there will be a great battle when our forces will collect at three points. I presume this is true. I am afraid we will not be able to resist them. Your District and ours are adjacent and united by bonds of kinship. We must help one another and render mutual support so as to avoid endless disaster.

Excuse my suggesting that you should not stand by with folded arms.

3.

I have received your letter and noted its contents. The villages in our Division have not decided on any plan of warlike operations and our commissariat and arms are insufficient [not prepared]. I think that it will be very difficult to determine a plan of resistance. But we look up to your Division and whatever regulations you may make we will follow.

4.

I have received your letter and noted its contents. The villages in our Division have no plans. Moreover, our commissariat and arms being insufficient, how can we offer effective resistance? We request your Division to decide on the plan of campaign and we will follow your instructions.

5.

The Sheung Ü Division has spent 14 dollars for the conveyance of letters which expense should be defrayed by the 4 clans—Liu, Tang, Hau, and P'áng. Very little now remains of the Committee's funds. The subscription of \$3.50 which is to be paid by each clan please draw from the Man Shek-tong's public fund and hand the amount to A PING to bring here to meet current expenses. The Hau, Tang, and P'áng clans have already paid their subscriptions, but the Liu clan has not yet done so and I anticipate there will be difficulty about it.

To my eldest nephew.

Dated 8th day (17th April).

SHI TAI (*i.e.*, LIU WAN-KUK).

6.

NOTICE.

Now that the various villages in our Division have resisted the English and as their weapons are most effective, it is feared some will not be able to escape them. If any one is even slightly wounded he will be medically treated until he has completely recovered.

7.

On receipt of this pay 30 cents to A PING for wages for work done.

To my nephew A TIM.

Dated 7th (16th April?)

SHI TAI (*i.e.*, LIU WAN-KUK).

8.

The clans of our Division have met and decided to proceed to-morrow to the (Tung Ping Kuk at) Sham (Chun) to ascertain what plans have been decided on by the various clans. We therefore specially write to inform you and to request that the gentry of your Division will come to-morrow to our Division, so that we may all proceed together by which the sentiments of our two Divisions may be manifested. We trust that you will make a point of coming. We shall be very much obliged.

9.

The Ün Long Division states that there are 3,000 fighting men coming to our territory to unite with the villages in our territory in offering armed resistance. If this is true I entreat you to remove the flag of submission which I understand you have hoisted so as to prevent the men of the lower part of our Division from

availing themselves of this as a pretext to again create trouble which would be awkward for us. You young people should reflect before you act.

[You know whom this is from, so I do not sign my name.]

10.*

ENCLOSURE No. 2 IN COLONIAL SECRETARY'S MINUTE OF 11th May, 1899.

The Statement of Liu Wan-kuk.

On the 1st of the 2nd moon (12th March), I returned from Canton to my home (in Sheung Shui). On the 20th (31st March) a letter from TANG TS'ING-SZ, of the Ün Long Division, arrived for my nephew (LIU) IN-Ü summoning the gentry of the villages in the Sheung Ü Division to meet on the 21st day (1st April) in the Ün Long Division to discuss matters. My nephew (LIU) IN-Ü therefore specially told me to proceed thither in a chair to see what was intended. I went to the meeting-house in the Ün Long Division with HAU FUNG-KAI, P'ANG TAK-MAU, MAN LAI-TONG and TANG A-FUK. There were also present in the meeting-house the gentry of P'ing Shan, Kam Tin, Ha Ts'ün and Shap Pát Heung who took part in the discussion. They said, "What regulations have you made as regards the Sheung Ü Division?" We replied, "The Sheung Ü Division has made no regulations of any kind. If you say you are going to resist we will most certainly refuse to comply. Great Britain and the Emperor of China have decided regarding the leased area and a boundary has been delimited, the territory within which is to be under British jurisdiction. We therefore could not on any account presume to offer resistance."

On the 22nd day (2nd April) we took our leave, and I and the others who came with me returned to our homes.

On the 1st of the 3rd moon (10th April), the Ün Long Division made a great show of force, and stated in a most peremptory manner that if we refused to join in the resistance of the British thousands of men from the Ün Long Division with arms would proceed to level to the ground the villages belonging to the Liu, Tang, and P'ang families. The Sheung Ü Division was therefore compelled on the 3rd day (11th April) to request the Hau, Liu, P'ang, Tang, Man clans to meet in the temple dedicated to a former Governor of the Kwong Tung province. There it was decided to raise a small public subscription so as on the one hand to prevent our Division from being disturbed and destroyed by the Ün Long Division, and on the other hand to prevent rowdies from other places availing themselves of the opportunity to create trouble and to plunder. It was also decided that the various villages in our division should have their trainbands (or militia) in readiness so that we should not be unprepared, should occasion arise, and be powerless to check disorder. Our Division was the victim of circumstances which we could not prevent. Our trainband (or militia) was intended solely for the protection of the old and young in our Division.

This is a true statement of the facts of the case and I dare to swear before heaven: "If I have stated anything false may the gods of heaven and earth visit me with such punishment as I may deserve."

A true statement by LIU WAN-KUK.

Appended is a list of the leaders of the Ün Long gentry:—

1. TANG TS'ING-SZ.
2. NG K'I-CH'EUNG.
3. TANG WAI-LUN.

Dated the 26th April, 1899.

(Secretary of State to Governor.)

HONGKONG
No. 118.

DOWNING STREET,
23rd June, 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 107 of the 28th April and its enclosures, in which you have given me some further details of the recent disturbances in connection with the taking over of the new Territory.

* Statement of Accounts not printed.