

# THE FRIEND OF CHINA

## AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

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For ENGLAND, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, BOMBAY  
Also, en route to the above,  
SINGAPORE, PENANG, GALLE—MALTA, SUEZ, ALEX  
—COLOMBO, COCHIN, CALCUTTA, CANNANORE,  
MANGALORE, GOA, VINODIGALA.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY'S Steam Ship LADY MARY WOOD, will leave this for the above places on Tuesday the 25th of July.

CARGO will be received on board until Noon, and Berths until 4 P. M. of the 24th.

For further particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSAGE apply at the P. & O. S. N. Company's Office, Hongkong.

J. A. OLDING, Agent.  
Hongkong, 27th June, 1848.

NOTICE.  
THE P. & O. S. N. COMPANY'S will from this date undertake the conveyance of Specie from China, and the Straits, to Southampton, under the conditions specified in their customary Bill of Lading, at 2 1/2 per cent for Silver Bullion, and 9 per cent for Gold.

J. A. OLDING, Agent.  
P. & O. S. N. Company's Office  
Victoria, 18th May, 1848.

FOR FREIGHT OR CHARTER.  
THE A. I. British Barque HARBINGER, 297 Tons, N. M., Captain CANDLER.  
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.  
Victoria, 27th June, 1848.

FOR BATAVIA.  
THE Dutch Bark SUMATRA, Capt. VALKMAN, will have immediate despatch for the above Port. For freight apply to,  
BUSH & Co.  
Hongkong, June 22nd, 1848.

FOR SALE.  
THE Hull of the Barque PATH-FINDER, also her Spars, Sails, Cordage, Stores, &c., separately, on a day to be named in a future Advertisement. For particulars apply on Board to,  
JOHN MILLER, Commander.  
Hongkong, 19th June, 1848.

TO LET.  
THE DWELLING HOUSE in Stanley Street, next house West of the Asiatic Society's premises and formerly occupied by Colonel BRISTON, with either six or eight Rooms and Out-houses.  
Rent moderate. Apply at the VICTORIA DISPENSARY, Queen's Road.  
Victoria, 28th June, 1848.

FOR SALE.  
MARINE LOT No. 12, situated on the Queen's Road, Victoria, with the Buildings thereon, at present in possession of the undersigned.  
Also, the allotment of Land, and Buildings at Shanghai, known as the NINE-CKE Property.  
For Plans, and full particulars, apply to,  
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.  
Canton, 2nd February, 1848.

TO LET.  
THE BUNGALOW situated immediately behind the Malacca College, at present occupied by Captain YOUNG. Apply to,  
LINDSAY & Co.  
Victoria, 29th May, 1848.

TO LET.  
SPACIOUS Godowns and dwelling house, built of Granite and lately occupied by Messrs TROUS. RIPLEY & Co. The property is situated near the centre of the Town, (Victoria, Hongkong) and has a water frontage. Apply on the Premises, to,  
SYME, MUIR & Co.  
or to THOMAS RIPLEY & Co.,  
Shanghai.

TO LET.  
THE Building on the Queen's Road, known as the Keying House. Also a Bungalow in Aberdeen Street. Apply to,  
BUSH & Co.  
Hongkong, 21st January, 1847.

FOR SALE.  
THE HOUSE belonging to W. & T. GIBBS & Co. For particulars apply to the undersigned.  
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,  
W. F. BEVAN,  
Assignees of the Estate of W. & T. GIBBS & Co.  
Victoria, 20th June, 1848.

FOR SALE.  
A BUILDING adjacent to the Queen's Road. Apply at this office.  
Office "Friend of China"  
25th May, 1848.

NOTICE.  
MR. MARTIN WILHELMY, is authorized to Sign our Firm by Procreation.  
BOUSTEAD & Co.  
Canton, 20th May, 1848.

NOTICE.  
MR. FREDERICK H. BLOK is authorized to sign our Firm in China by Procreation.  
BURD, LANGE & Co.  
Hongkong, 23rd May, 1848.

NOTICE.  
IS hereby given that the Copartnership for some time past existing between the undersigned and ATTORNEYS SOLICITORS and PROCTORS under the Firm of "COLEY & GASKELL," was this day dissolved by mutual consent.  
Mr GASKELL will discharge and settle all debts due to and owing by the said Copartnership concern, and by whom the Business will in future be carried on at the premises in Queen's Road.  
Dated at Victoria, Hongkong, this 29th day of May, 1848.

[Signed] RICHARD COLEY.  
WILLIAM GASKELL.

NOTICE.  
THE Business hitherto conducted in China under the Firm of VANDERBURG ROZWICKER & Co. is this day dissolved.  
Messrs REYNVAAN & Co. are authorized to sign for the Liquidation.  
Canton, 1st February, 1848.

NOTICE.  
THE partnership heretofore existing under the style of TRENS, BOURNE & Co., expired this day by limitation; the affairs of the house will be wound up by ROBERT P. DE SILVER.  
ROBERT P. DE SILVER.  
H. F. BOURNE.  
Surviving Partners  
Canton, 1st September, 1847.

NOTICE.  
THE Copartnership heretofore existing between the Subscribers, under the style of DRINKER, HEYL & Co., is this day dissolved by mutual consent.  
S. DRINKER is authorized to settle all Accounts of the Firm.  
SANDWITH DRINKER.  
WILLIAM S. HEYL.  
Hongkong, 1st April, 1848.

NOTICE.  
THE Undersigned will continue the AGENCY and GENERAL COMMISSION BUSINESS, under the style of DRINKER, & Co., at the place of Business lately occupied by DRINKER, HEYL & Co.  
Goods taken on Storage at reasonable charges, landed and transhipped on account of parties absent.  
SANDWITH DRINKER.  
Hongkong, 1st April, 1848.

FOR SALE.  
BANCA TIN. Apply to,  
OLYPHANT & Co.,  
Canton.  
14th August, 1847.

JUST RECEIVED PER "JOHN O'GAUNT".  
A N assorted Invoice of Gentlemen's patent Leather or Summer Walking shoes; Brown Windsor soap; Nail and Tooth Brushes; Violet Powders; English made silk Umbrellas, &c., &c.  
A choice lot of small Cumberland Hams in first rate condition, and a few dozens of Real Devonshire Cider.  
HOLMES & BIGHAM.  
Queen's Road, 7th June, 1848.

JUST LANDED.  
CHEESES; fresh Pine Apple Jelly; and Indian Arrowroot, in tins of 10 lbs. and in bulk.  
FINE NEW HAY.  
FRANKLYN & MILNE.  
Victoria, 30th May, 1848.

GRAM.  
JUST landed a few Bags of fine Bengal Gram and Java Coffee.  
FRANKLYN & MILNE.  
Victoria, 5th May, 1848.

FOR SALE.  
A FEW Toilet Shower Baths; and some Bag A 1 1/2 Bushels No. 1 in 85 yds. Pieces, very cheap. Apply to,  
C. MARKWICK,  
Auctioneer.  
Queen's Road, 8th June, 1848.

FOR SALE.  
A NEW English House Water Closet complete with force Pump. Price moderate. Apply to,  
C. MARKWICK,  
Auctioneer.  
Victoria, 1st June, 1848.

SHIP CHANDLERS STORES.  
And supplies of every description required for Ships use, on sale by the undersigned.  
SAILS Made and Repaired.  
JUST RECEIVED.  
A large Assortment of Canvas, Bleached and Unbleached.  
Also,  
Real Edinburgh Ale, East India Pale Ale, &c.  
Good dry STORAGE with water frontage.  
CHARLES BUCKTON,  
Shipping and Commission Agent,  
Queen's Road, Victoria, 25th Jan., 1848.

NOTICE.  
ICE will not be delivered from the Ice House in less quantities than 5 lbs. Parties who take less than 100 lbs. per Month, will be charged at the rate of 4 Cents per lb.  
DRINKER & Co.  
Victoria, June 2nd, 1848.

SMITH & BRIMELOW have received a large supply of Dutch and American Butter, in 15 lbs. Kegs, of superior quality, and which they can highly recommend.  
No 1 & 2 Woomnam's Buildings,  
Victoria, 22nd April, 1848.

FOR SALE.  
PRIME Columbia River Beef in Casks, and Columbian River Salmon, or Trout.  
Also,  
Paint Oil in Demi-johns.  
SMITH & BRIMELOW.  
No. 1, Woomnam's Buildings,  
Victoria, 22nd February, 1848.

MESSRS HUNTER & BARTON, Surgeons &c., beg to intimate that the VICTORIA DISPENSARY, is removed from their house in Pottinger street to the Rooms on the Queen's Road, adjoining those at present occupied by Mr GASKELL, Solicitor.  
Victoria, 18th June, 1848.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY,  
QUEEN'S ROAD.  
SODA WATER and LEMONADE of Superior Quality.  
MAEAO, at HINNAM'S, China Shopkeeper.  
Victoria, 11th June, 1847.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY,  
QUEEN'S ROAD, VICTORIA.  
SODA WATER, AERATED LEMONADE, SELTZER WATER, direct from HAMBURG.  
AGENT AT CANTON,  
ACHOOK, —Commander, No. 8, Imperial Hong.  
Hongkong, 4th November, 1847.

BILLS OF LADING FOR THE OVERLAND ROUTE.  
FOR sale at this office, four forms of bills of lading for goods or specie shipped by the P. & O. Company's Steam packets. 1st for goods deliverable at London; 2nd for goods deliverable at Southampton; 3rd for goods deliverable at Suez; 4th for goods deliverable at intermediate ports. They are printed after the Company's forms on Bank paper.  
Office "Friend of China"  
25th October, 1845.

FOR SALE.—At the Office of this paper. Compendious cheque books.  
Ships Articles, with an abstract of the merchants' names set endorsed on the back.  
Powers of Attorney, after forms by Chitty, Chancery, after forms by Chitty.  
Bills of Lading.  
Chinese Tariff of Imports, and Exports, for complete reference.

HOCK AND SELTZER WATER.  
BY a late arrival the undersigned have received from Germany a consignment of Hock (1832) in 1 and 4 dozen Cases. Also, Seltzer water in Baskets of 2 dozen pint-stone bottles. Prices moderate.  
RAWLE, DUUS & Co.  
Victoria, 4th April, 1848.

FOR SALE.  
SALT Provisional, Flour, Rum, Arrack, and Brandy in Wood; Whisky, Cognac, and all kinds of Wines in Bottles.  
RAWLE, DUUS & Co.  
4th November 1846.

FOR SALE.  
DOMAN Cement, and Window Glass of all sizes. Apply to,  
RAWLE, DUUS & Co.  
Victoria, 3rd August, 1847.

CLARET, &c., &c.  
A small Invoice of good Claret, Ditto of Light Champagne, Ditto American Beer in Kegs.  
For sale by  
RAWLE, DUUS Co.  
June 6th, 1848.

BIBLES, AND PRAYER BOOKS.  
A small invoice has just been received by the undersigned.  
ROB: RUTHERFORD.  
Queen's Road, 16th June, 1848.

OVERLAND ROUTE VIA TRIESTE.  
THE Directors of the AUSTRAL LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY have decided on reopening the direct line between Alexandria and Trieste on the 10th of May, 1848 so as to correspond with the Bombay Mail which leaves Alexandria about the 18th to 20th of each month. ... Going to the Mediterranean or Sea of the west under the necessity of stopping the Company's steamers later the laying on of the Second Monthly steamer, that intended to meet the arrival at Alexandria of the Passengers &c., by the Calcutta vessels.

No longer delay will be necessary on this account the Company fortunately having at this moment a third pair of Engines of the same power and construction in course of shipment from London.  
The first of these vessels is called the ITALIA, the second the GERMANIA, they are each of upward of 600 Tons burthen and 250 Horse power the number of Berths in each is as under viz:—  
88 first Class including 16 for Ladies.  
20 second " 4 for females.

THE FARES to BE for First Class, £12 for Second Class and £8 for Third Class, the latter on deck.  
The amount of Fare includes Table money and Servants fees.  
The voyage is expected to be made in 5 days to 5 1/2 days and as the Quarantine at Trieste from Alexandria is now reduced to 5 days (day of departure and arrival both counted) and on board the Company's Steamers there are health officers to make the days of passage count, it follows that with a clean bill of health, passengers will get practised immediately on arrival at Trieste.  
Couriers will be held in readiness to start for London with letters and despatches immediately on arrival of the Steamer.

Arrangements have been made with the Post-Master and Railway Companies over the Continent to the effect, that if it so happens, their couriers will accomplish the distance between Trieste and London in 90 hours; add to this the 5 or 2 1/2 days for the sea voyage, and the distance between Alexandria and London will thus be accomplished under 104 1/2 days.  
The charge for a single letter say over sea postage from Alexandria to Trieste is 18 francs (about 7s) that for overland to London is not yet settled but it is assumed that it will be on the whole less than the postage via Cyprus. Letters from India may be prepaid as far as Alexandria and if required to go by the Trieste Route not only for England but also for Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland and the north of Europe it is necessary to write on the post the words Via Trieste, Passengers for Europe or any part of Europe, or the least should be addressed to the agent's name person in Suez, in the P. & O. Company to get stamps to deliver anything not intended for England but more than that landing, per vessel or other means, may be paid, and to ensure a smooth passage as possible a Bill of Lading with particulars of rates should be sent to the undersigned at once.

For further particulars apply to the undersigned at the Office of this paper.  
C. MARKWICK,  
Auctioneer.  
Queen's Road, 8th June, 1848.



authorize an expenditure of £1,000, and yet be permitted, any sanctioned by Royal grant, to turn round and inform the creditor that he does not mean, as he cannot be compelled, to pay £200 of £1,000. This is a privilege which we should have thought persons professing such exalted intentions would not only be ashamed to avail themselves of, but would deem it an affront to have offered to them. In the ordinary transactions of life in civilized countries, traders have no such privileges accorded to them, and it would be highly dangerous that a Company which must necessarily carry on its operations at a distance, and remote from such general observation, should be exempted from them. The check ought rather to be the other way, considering the importance of affording to those with whom it will deal, the natives especially, examples of prudence and punctual fulfilment of engagements. Then, in regard to the private trader, such a privilege conferred on a Company of this kind, exposes him to the most unfair and disadvantageous competition. The private trader is left to answer to his last farthing the weight of the responsibility, and the responsibility of the partners in the Company is limited to a trifling amount. Will not the consequence of this be, in the one case to cause caution and prudence in the conduct of affairs, and in the other comparative recklessness and wilfulness of operations, the effect of which is that although the Company is ultimately done up, yet in the meantime the private trader is driven from the field, and much injury is caused in various ways which it takes many a year to repair. This privilege appears to be a remnant of those powers exercised by the Crown, of granting monopolies of particular branches of trade &c., powers so odious and utterly opposed to all right principles of commerce that they have been nearly all swept away; it is time that this power of limiting responsibility should also follow, as it is as great a nuisance and promoter of monopolies as the other.

From the Prospectus it appears to be the wish of the projectors of this scheme to convey the impression that the Government will not give its sanction or probabation of the Government, and that it will receive their particular countenance and support. This is clearly an attempt at creating a monopoly with the aid of Government, that it must be viewed with apprehension by all private persons who are already engaged in the trade with Borneo, or who propose entering into it when a British Government shall be organized in the vicinity. Any such exclusive and peculiar patronage is most unjust and unconstitutional on the part of Government, and it will have the effect of destroying private trade wherever the Company extends its operations, a result which surely could not be intended by Government when they so unadvisedly gave their sanction to this scheme. Let us examine a little what will really be the effects. The Company propose to engage in trade, that is, to sell and buy. We may also fairly infer that they wish to make this trade profitable—that is to say, to sell their articles for the best price, and to make the best use of the produce at the cheapest rate. How are they to effect this? Most undoubtedly by excluding competition and monopolizing as much as possible the whole trade in their own hands. The power and prestige of a Company sanctioned and protected by the Crown, will therefore be exercised in excluding private trade, which would otherwise, by competing with them, have the effect of reducing the prices of the goods offered to the natives; and as the most profitable revenue to the natives is not in the sale of their produce, but in the purchase of goods in return, by multiplying the competitors for it. The influence of the Company would therefore require to be exercised on the natives to induce them to give a preference to the Company, by setting forth its connection with the Government and the favor to be found by dealing with it. Now that such would be the effect of the trading of such a Company, no one, we should think, will be bold enough to deny, and it is desirable just that this should be taken notice of, not only by the natives, but by the British subject, to give equal support and protection at the hands of Government, and that no one should be more favoured than another. The Government exists for the benefit of all, nor for the advantage of a few; and wherever it exercises the power which has been committed to it for the common welfare, in exclusively promoting the views of particular individuals, or associations, it fails in its duty, and commits an injustice. If it is really desired to promote and foster the connection of British commerce and civilization in such places as Borneo, all who desire to engage in its must find equal success and protection at the hands of Government, as it may be evident that the native trader will only assist those who have the support of Government;—and therefore for Government to give particular countenance and protection to any Company or Association more than to others, is to confer such special advantages which will be denied to others who may wish to engage in the same operations.

The prejudice which is likely to result to the general trade from the manner in which Government has been led to patronize this Company, shows that it must have been very imperfectly informed in the matter, and indicates the absolute necessity which there exists that Governments should have in these parts a trustworthy Agent on whose intelligence and information they can rely. Had this scheme been reported upon by such a person, we are very sure Government would never have sanctioned it in its present shape.

We have thus examined the general principles on which this Company is founded, and will now look a little into the nature of some of the operations in which it proposes to engage.

It intends to carry on Mining, agricultural, and trading operations in the Eastern Archipelago, and the acquiring and disposing of Lands in the Island of Labuan, and the parts adjacent.

The working of the Coal Mines of Borneo, belonging to Mr. W. W. of the Government of the Company appears to be the principal mining operation proposed. It is not stated on what terms the Company are to acquire Mr. W.'s mines, and whether they are such at, with the uncertainty which is at present existing as to whether labour &c. will be obtained cheap enough to give the Borneo coal an advantage over that of England, Australia and elsewhere, to hold out a prospect of remunera-

tative return to the Company. Some information of this kind would, we should think, be desired by parties before, as shareholders, they give their sanction to the Scheme. The chief contractors of the Company will probably be the P. & O. Company, the Straits Company which takes up the Assam branch line. Only a part of the supply for the New South Wales Coals are to be had on the spot and at such cheaper prices than they can be delivered from Borneo. The supplies for H. M. vessels will, we presume, be derived from Labuan. It is not stated that the Company has acquired this coal, and should Government deem it inexpedient itself to work it, it will probably dispose of it to those who may offer to work it on the most favourable terms, after due notice being given to such intention. This would all conduce to the public interest. We do not at present understand very clearly the way in which Mr. Wise has become possessed of the Borneo Coal. We had understood that the Coal at Bruni was ceded by the Sultan to the English Government for its exclusive use, and being under the impression that stipulations were made for a concession, the Sultan is not in the habit of making such a grant without an adequate consideration. We know of one case in which a party some years ago obtained a grant of the minerals of a district in Bruni from the Sultan, for which he was to pay a considerable sum and actually did pay to account the sum of 3,000 dollars. This grant was afterwards cancelled by the Sultan, at the instance, we are told, of Mr. Brooke, the probably thought that it might involve the British Government in embarrasments with the Sultan, as at that time our relations with Bruni had not assumed the shape they now bear. This however shows that the Sultan is fully alive to the value of his possessions, and that he would not have conceded this Coal to a private individual without an adequate return. Government probably proposes to repay in this way the service of Mr. Wise in promoting the establishment of a Coal mine at Labuan, and thus opening up of relations with Borneo. We are sorry to recognize the value of Mr. Wise's efforts, but could have wished some less objectionable means had been taken of rewarding them.

Agricultural operations come next. We do not know on what data the estimates of the successful engagement in agricultural operations are founded, but we should be inclined to question their accuracy in regard to number of the acres mentioned. For instance Cotton and Coffee have been tried in Singapore, which is in about the same latitude as the scene of the proposed operations on Borneo, and possesses a soil very similar, and both have miserably failed. Neither of the two localities afford sufficient change of season, which these two plants seem to require for profitable production. Pepper was cultivated in the Straits by Europeans as long as it was profitable, but ceasing to be remunerative, the cultivation was abandoned. The Chinese planters in Singapore, who cultivate it entirely cheaper than Europeans can do, still rear this plant, and produce about forty or fifty thousand piculs annually, but it is well known that their profits are the minimum, and hardly suffice for their bare subsistence. We do not think that Europeans could grow pepper cheaper in Borneo than the Chinese do in Singapore. Nutmegs are also a highly remunerative article. The plant for which this thing like an adequate return before it attains its twelfth or fifteenth year while its cultivation all along is expensive. The plantations in the Straits at present yield more than enough to supply the whole demand of Great Britain and India, and there is not much prospect of that demand increasing. The Dutch Government is about to throw open the Moluccas, and in the hands of enterprising cultivators there, the Nutmeg will be produced cheaper than in any possibly any other place. The acquisition and disposing of lands in the Island of Labuan and the parts adjacent, we look upon as an operation not calculated at all to advance the extension of commerce in the China seas, and promote the civilization of Borneo. Land jobbing we consider it to be the duty of Government to discontinue. Settlers ought to be encouraged by receiving their grants on the most favourable terms possible, and we should be sorry that their interests should be in the hands of Government than in those of a Company whose sole concern in the transaction will be the profit they can derive from it. In the Straits so anxious is the East India Company to discourage land jobbing that in Province Wellesley where many persons have settled as Sugar planters, the Government refused to sell more than 250 acres to one person, although it might be desired to engage in much larger operations than such a limited grant would allow of. In this case the feeling against land jobbing was carried to an injurious excess, but nevertheless shows what were the views of Government in the matter.

We could extend our observations, but we think we have said enough to show that this Company requires to remodel its constitution and scheme of operations in many respects, if it is really anxious to be of use in promoting commerce and the extension of civilization. We have made our observations upon it with reluctance, as we should be sorry to be thought to have any measure calculated to injure the interests in Borneo, but the various objectionable parts we have noticed are so essentially involved in the scheme, that it will assuredly operate injuriously to the general interest if carried out, and we are therefore compelled to protest against it.

Elsewhere we give a Memorial which has been addressed by the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce to the Board of Trade touching this Company. The merchants, ship owners, manufacturers, and coal masters have no right to complain against the legitimate efforts to extend to Borneo, and it can be furnished resolutely to exporters in the East from Borneo than from the Clyde why they must just look upon it as one of the chances of fortune, against which they have no rightful remedy. What they may complain of, is that they or any other persons who may be desirous of trading at Borneo or of working the mines, should find themselves excluded by the operations of a Company establishing monopolies, and that they should be excluded from a field

where they might find compensation for the losses which the superior advantages of Borneo threaten to draw from them. We are very sure that on another point, the Glasgow memorialists are entirely right; viz. in supposing that Mr. Brooke has the slightest interest, direct or indirect, in the Company. The idea of such a thing is absurd, and not entertained, for a moment. The British Government would never give its sanction that the Governor of a Colony should be a partner in the Company. The Glasgow memorialists are also right in their supposition that Mr. Brooke's Majesty's Commissioner and Consul General in an individual state like Borneo, should be a partner in a Company carrying on extensive operations in such state, and from its very nature coming into active competition with others engaged in the same pursuits, and therefore having a decided interest in securing exclusive advantages. The character of Mr. Brooke is too honorable and just to allow of his placing himself in such a position, even were the Government to sanction it. Great as have been, through Mr. Labouchere, his denials that Mr. Brooke is connected with the Company.

If this Company is to go on at all it ought to be put on a different footing altogether. The Royal charter, if such a thing is necessary, ought to contain no other privilege than that of suing and being sued through one or two officers, a matter absolutely requisite when there are many shareholders. All other privileges we look upon as unjust to others not so favored, and injurious to the public interests.

MERCATOR ON THE TENTH OF APRIL.

(From the Home News, April 24.)

The most stirring event which has occurred since the 1st of the 7th inst. has been the meeting of the Chartists, the advent and result of which is worth remembering, particularly by residents abroad. During the last few years, an insignificant and low sort of politicians have assumed the name of Chartists—the public read this, "republicans" and "democrats" it suits them, or for persons of education, but not of standing in society, headed the zeal, which on various pretences collected from time to time subscriptions from the ignorant dupes who joined them, and Mr. Feargus O'Connor, M. P. for Nottingham, has for some time been the public acknowledged leader and chairman of the Chartists.

Reports of late course have been made from time to time by the committees of the rapid accession of strength to the society, as stimulants for further subscriptions; and the recent events which have taken place in France and on the continent decided the "Executive Council," as it was called, to make a "monster" demonstration of the power and sentiments of the Chartists; meetings of the delegates were held in London, open to the reporters of the press, and thus publicity was given to the somewhat bombastic arrangements that were announced as being made for the monster meeting (on the 10th inst.), the numbers declared to be from two to three hundred thousand persons, all united Chartists; monster trains were said to be engaged to bring up the members from Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, and other large places in the manufacturing districts; it was openly discussed whether the meeting should be arranged at sunrise, but the definitive vote was recorded on that point; places for assembling were agreed upon, and the line of march through London to Kennington Common, the place of meeting, was made public. The professed object of the meeting was to accompany in procession to the door of the House of Commons the monster petition, declared to be signed by upwards of five million and a half of men in favour of the Charter; the petition was to be carried by a train of four horses, was to convey it to the House, and it was not concealed that the exhibition of physical force was relied upon for a favourable answer, and the three hundred thousand men were to remain assembled to receive that answer.

That the Government and the country should be anxious about this demonstration, which was obviously intended to be a revolutionary movement, was natural at the present time, as mob law has become the fashion in France and other neighbouring states, and no means existed by which the actual number of the Chartists could be obtained, so that a great degree of uncertainty prevailed up to the last moment. About three days previous to the meeting, a proclamation was issued that the meeting would be illegal, and would be prevented; the Government officials replied that the "meeting would take place," and upon this issue was joined, as the lawyers say. Questions were asked of the ministers in the House, which showed that anxiety was increasing,—the answers were that every precaution would be taken to protect the law; a spontaneous movement instantly sprang up, and men of every grade, from the peer to the porter, in and around the metropolis, were to be seen in the streets, as if they were a revolutionary party, and were under the direction of the proper authorities to aid and assist the civil power (the police force), and it is calculated that about 150,000 were sworn in; this demonstration was invaluable; it showed that the middle classes and reputable artisans had no sympathy with Chartism, and that all classes comprehended under the name of John Bull were sound as ever at the core, and that revolutionary principles were foreign to its nature.

Government having wisely resolved that the meeting should be allowed to assemble, the Duke of Wellington, as commander-in-chief, decided that there should be "no mistake" as to the army being prepared for every contingency; he largely reinforced the household troops, had a park of Artillery from Woolwich, and openly placed a portion in the front of the police.

At six o'clock on the morning of the meeting, every public office of importance was put in a position to guard against a surprise; the main body of the troops was judiciously placed by the river side to command every bridge at a minute's notice, and kept out of sight, and not a soldier was seen in the streets, but the police were great in number, and in every public place, presented themselves in full view, and in many instances openly undertake the defence of the meeting.

The Chartists were allowed to meet at their several places of rendezvous, and to march over the bridges in their processions, with banners and

music, without hindrance; being merely watched by the police to prevent the rabble which accompanied them from committing thefts. At noon, all had arrived on Kennington Common, competent persons ascertained the numbers, and reported there were about 15,000 Chartists, and about 5,000 other persons, chiefly consisting of friends, who attend every meeting for the chance of a plunder. Colonel Rowan, the commander of the police, was in a house contiguous to the Common, and sent to Mr. O'Connor to say he wished to make a communication. Mr. O'Connor waited on him to receive it, which was simply to the effect that the procession would be allowed to pass into London, and that the bridges were all defended; the chairman immediately decided that discretion was the better part of valor, and promised to prevent a procession; he returned, mounted the car (not a triumphal one), made a rambling speech, called the meeting a glorious demonstration of 250,000 Chartists, that he loved them as a father does his children, and counselled them to disperse quietly, and not risk their lives by a march of ten or twelve miles, but to put the petition in them with some of the Committee, dissolved the meeting, and the petition got to the House by a circuitous route of some few miles, passing over Battersea Bridge, &c. A crowd returned, a few broken heads, as on Lord Mayor's day, were given, and in an hour all the bridges were open as usual. This you will say is the latest edition of the title of the Mountain and the Mouse, and so it is; but to complete my narrative, I must tell you what became of the mouse. Mr. O'Connor read a copy of the petition to the House, and, as agreed, was to bring it under discussion on Friday the 14th. The parchment monster was sent to the Committee on Petitions for examination; to accomplish this, some twenty extra clerks were engaged to analyze it; the result was, that not quite 500,000 signatures, there were no more than 250,000, a large portion of which were in the same hand-writing, very many slang terms, and many forgeries of the names of public characters, the Duke of Wellington and others; and in order to test the veracity of the presenter, it was actually weighed, and found to be five hundred weight instead of five tons.

On the 13th, the Committee reported this great imposture to the House in its true colours, which was received by every member present, but one, with derisive cheers. Poor Mr. O'Connor rose amidst laughter, and stood like the animal in the fable that was deprived of the lion's skin; he said he thought there must be some mistake, and so forth; he alluded to the 250,000 who attended the meeting, when he was quietly reminded that the Common had been measured, and that it would not contain more than 90,000 persons; this was too much for him, and he said, as the report was so much against the petition, he should not bring it before the House. The notable Convention is dissolved.

I have only space to say, that on the following day the public Funds advanced one per cent., and a marked improvement in confidence appeared in every branch of trade in this country. The Continent prohibits anything like a general improvement in prices. Sugar of good quality, however, has advanced 1s. to 1s. 6d. from the lowest point, chiefly from the good home consumption. In other articles no material alteration.

City 24th April. MERCATOR.

GERMANY.

(From the Times)

The colours of a standard, the movement of a crowd, the eloquence of a popular assembly will no doubt gratify the vanity of the man who is to govern the principal question in all the states which have been thus rehellously perturbed will be, how are the people to be fed? How are the habits of industry to be restored? The wounds already inflicted on political institutions are deep enough, but it is the wounds which paralyze the industry and life of society itself that are the most slowly healed.

Let any one who is desirous of a reliable picture of "The Manufacturers of the Rhine" recently published by Mr. Banfield and compare the exuberant condition of the ironworks, the cloth-mills, the cotton-factories of that country a few weeks ago with their present condition. From Leipzig we hear the same account—never since the penes has the great fair been so ill-attended by buyers. The importation of raw material has been enormously diminished, and every branch of trade is unprofitably paralyzed. The misfortune is that there is no reasonable probability that these are accidental or transient privations to the Germans. It must be long before firm Governments are re-established and the fears of foreign war or invasion dispelled. In the meantime large manufacturing instruments of capital in the midst of anarchy and pillages are like vineyards upon the sides of a volcano. Peace and security are the first conditions for the protection of machinery, the discipline of industry and the exchange of products.

It had been agreed by the German States that a National Assembly or Parliament for all Germany should meet in Frankfurt, on the 3rd of May, to confer with the Diet on the reform of the Confederation. But no sooner had this promise been given, than a selected club, from which they had excluded the men of the nation were to be excluded, assembled in Frankfurt to anticipate the deliberations of the legal representatives of the country; and these persons, though increased with no sort of authority beyond that which they had conferred upon themselves, passed resolutions of their own, virtually set aside the actual Diet of Germany, and might have changed the destiny of the nation. They had, however, no good reason for their unparliamentary action, and though their usurpation was arbitrary, we are bound to add that they have disavowed their meeting without any permanent abuse of their power. Frankfurt, however, is become a scene of great political excitement. No deliberative body can meet there in independence and security; and as the existing Diet has sanctioned with various stipulations all the resolutions of the usurping assembly, the Government are bound to acquiesce in the usurpation of the King of Denmark, who has, however, no good reason for his unparliamentary action, and though their usurpation was arbitrary, we are bound to add that they have disavowed their meeting without any permanent abuse of their power. Frankfurt, however, is become a scene of great political excitement. No deliberative body can meet there in independence and security; and as the existing Diet has sanctioned with various stipulations all the resolutions of the usurping assembly, the Government are bound to acquiesce in the usurpation of the King of Denmark, who has, however, no good reason for his unparliamentary action. It is, of course, vain to look for a permanent body for political responsibility.

MODRIR POUR LA PATRIE.

Par la voix du canon d'alarme,
La France appelle ses enfants,
Allons, dit le soldat, aux armes!

With arms for the strife—flood and gory,
His mistress the lover supplies;
If he fall, the bright halo of glory
Shall beam o'er his brow as he dies!

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.
The business transacted during the past eight or ten days although not very considerable has somewhat served to cheer holders of stocks; the latter are becoming as it were insensibly diminished, while the importations continue to be made on the most moderate scale.

Wool.—None in the market and wanted.
Cotton.—Raw cotton is now in little request scarcely a Chinese junk remains. Further importations of Bombay and Bengal staple are daily expected.

Opium.—Painé—none; Bonares \$435 per chest; Malva none; Turkey \$415 per 400 lbs.
Pepper.—Black \$3.50 to \$3.75 per picul; White \$6 to \$5.50.
Rattans.—Straits \$1.50 to \$2 per picul; Banjarmasin \$2 to \$2.35.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE "LADY MARY WOOD," leaving Hongkong on the 25th of July, and following Steamers, will proceed through to BOMBAY and be prepared to receive Cargo and Passengers for that place as heretofore.

J. A. OLDING, Agent.
P. & O. Co.'s Office,
Hongkong, 30th June, 1848.

FOR FREIGHT OR CHARTER.
THE "A" British Barque ELIZA,
245 Tons, Captain JOHN VALENTINE.

P. P. BURD, LANGE & CO.
FREDK. H. BLOCK
Hongkong, 28th June, 1848.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY 1847-49.
A GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of Messrs DENT & Co., on Thursday the 6th July, at 4 p. m.

THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr JOHN CROFTON in our establishment will cease from and after this date.
Our business in future will be carried on under the Firm of JAMIESON, ENGER & Co.

JAMIESON, HOW & CO.
Hongkong, 30th June, 1848.

BOOK SALE.
MARKWICK will sell by Public Auction, on Saturday evening 1st July, at 7 p. m.
A valuable collection of new and second hand works, Prints, and Paintings.

PUBLIC AUCTION.
JNO SMITH will sell by Public Auction, on Monday, the 6th July, a quantity of Storey Goods, consisting of Ladies Dresses, Perfumery, Stationery, Wines and Liquors; Gold Rings set with Precious Stones; a small lot of Plates; Glass and Crystal; a small quantity of Piano-forte; and other articles.

By the order of the Proprietors,
JAMES TAYLOR, Auctioneer,
No. 27, June, 1848.

PROFESSIONAL BREVITY.—When Mason was preparing the case of E. K. Avery, and had examined about 200 witnesses, somebody called to see him. The legal gentleman sent word that he was occupied, and could not be interrupted. "But the man is a witness," a Methodist minister said. "Well, sir, what can you testify?" "I have seen the witness," said Mason. "Let them be sworn upon their oaths and let them testify for or against the witness," said Mason.

THE LAST TELEGRAPH JOKE.—One of the best telegraph jokes of the season occurred in this city New York a day or two since, and aside from anything else, possesses the merit of being true. A "professional gentleman" had telegraphed to Buffalo, to procure the services of a Lady star for a brief season, at a certain theatre.—and received an answer through the same "highway of thought." Opening the communication handed him by the boy, he thought he spied a "game" of some wag in the matter; and he exclaimed, "You can't fool me,—this ain't her writing. I've seen it a thousand times, and this ain't no me,—this ain't her writing." And thus a quiet wit of his shrewdness, he proceeded to give directions about the stage.—New York Literary World.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

ARRIVALS. AT HONGKONG.

- June, 28, Poppy, Cole, from Calcutta.
28, Zephyr, Wilson, from Amoy 23rd June.
29, Dart (Am.), Porter, from Shanghai 15th June.
29, Zephyr, Wilson, from Camsingmoon.
29, Corsair (steamer), Soames, from Canton.
30, Bon Accord, Buckle, from Bombay 9th May.
30, Sir Edward Ryan, Triggs, from Whampoa.

AT AMOY.

- Joseph & Claire (French), Montfort, from Singapore 16th May.
22, Maingay, Richards, from Singapore 9th June.

The Zephyr spoke the Dart on the 26th; 10 days from Shanghai, sprung her foremast.

DEPARTURES, FROM HONGKONG.

- June, 28, H. M. S. Melampus, Captain Campbell, Whampoa.
28, Zephyr, Wilson, Camsingmoon.
29, Audax, Sullivan, Camsingmoon.
29, Dart (Am.), Porter, Whampoa.

FROM SHANGHAI.

- 11, Elleratie, Pagan, London.

SINGAPORE SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—June 11, Indian Queen, Vanderhoven, from Penang 6th June; 12, Marquis of Hastings (Portuguese), Silva, Penang.

DEPARTURES.—June 9, Maingay, Richards, Amoy; 10, Erin, Dunford, do.; Maggie, Jones, Hongkong, Louisa, Rozario, Amoy.

VESSELS IN CHINA.

Table with columns: Ship, Port, Tons, Masters, Consignees. Includes entries for H. M. Ship Cambrian, Ship Melampus, Brig Columbia, etc.

MERCHANT VESSELS.

Large table with columns: Ship, Port, Tons, Masters, Consignees. Lists various merchant vessels including Bon Accord, Clifton, Crown, Eliza, Guardian, Harbinger, etc.

SHIPPING IN CHINA.—Continued.

Table with columns: Ships, At, Tons, Masters, Consignees. Lists various ships including Portuguese, Spanish, French, etc.

VESSLS LOADING.

Table with columns: For, At, Ships, Consignees, Intended Dispatch. Lists loading schedules for London, W.C. of Amer, Bombay, etc.

VESSLS EXPECTED.

Table with columns: From, Date, Ship, Consignees. Lists expected arrivals from London, Liverpool, Portsmouth, Southampton, etc.