

THE FRIEND OF CHINA

AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.

VOL. VII. No. 55.

VICTORIA, SATURDAY, JULY 8TH, 1848.

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TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE FRIEND OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE, per Annum, 12 Dollars. Three Months, 4 Dollars; all paid in advance. Credit sent to the Office for papers are requested to pay cash. Prices, 14 Dollars, \$4 Dollars, and 6 Dollars, for the periods of Twelve, Six, and Three Months respectively: Single Numbers, to Subscribers 25 cents each; to Non-Subscribers, 1 Rupee. Parties calling or sending to the Office for papers are requested to pay cash. Advertisements to have written on the face of them, the number of times they are required to appear, otherwise they will be published until countermanded. In all instances, those who are not subscribers, require to pay in advance.

FOR ENGLAND, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, BOMBAY Also, en route to the above, SINGAPORE, PENANG, GALLE—MALTA, SUEZ, ADEEN—COLOMBO, COCHIN, CALCUTTA, CANNANORE, MANGALORE, GOA, VINGOELA.

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 Passengers 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 Passengers from China, and the Straits, to Southampton, under the conditions specified in their customary Bill of Lading, at 25 per cent for Silver Bullion, and 8 per cent for Gold. J. A. OLDING, Agent. P. & O. S. N. Company's Office Victoria, 18th May, 1848.

NOTICE. 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. S. N. Company's Office, Hongkong, 30th June, 1848.

FOR FREIGHT OR CHARTER. THE "A. I. BRITISH BARQUE ELIZA," 245 Tons, Captain JOHN VALZENT, Agent. Apply to the Captain on board, or to P. P. BURD, LANGE & Co. FRED. H. BLOCK. Hongkong, 28th June, 1848.

FOR SALE. THE Hull of the Barque PATH-FINDER, also her Spars, Sails, Cordage, Stores, &c., separately, on a lot 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 BARNETON, 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 Nucleus 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 THOS. REEPLY & Co. The property is situated near the centre of the Town, (Victoria, Hongkong) and has a water frontage. Apply on the Premises, or to SYME, MUIR & Co. or to THOMAS RIPLEY & Co., Shanghai.

TO BE LET. TWO or Four Good Rooms in the upper part of a HOUSE by DOUGLAS LAPRAIK. Victoria, 4th July, 1848.

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

FOR SALE. A BUILDING Allotment on the Queen's Road. Apply at this office. Office "Friend of China," 26th May, 1848.

NOTICE. THE interest and responsibility of Mr JOHN SILVERLOCK in our Firm ceased on the 8th ultimo. HENRY MOUL & Co. Canton, 1st July, 1848.

NOTICE. MR FRANK DUVAL is authorised to sign our Firm by Procuration. RATHBONES, WORTHINTON & Co. Canton, 30th June, 1848.

NOTICE. THE interest and Responsibility of Mr JOHN GIFFORD in our establishment will cease from and after this date. Our business in future will be carried on under the Firm of JAMESON, EDGER & Co. JAMISON, HOW & Co. Hongkong, 30th June, 1848.

NOTICE. MR MARTIN WILHELMY, is authorised to sign our Firm by Procuration. BOUSTEAD & Co. Canton, 20th May, 1848.

NOTICE. MR FREDERICK H. BLOCK is authorised to sign our Firm in China by Procuration. BURD, LANGE & Co. Hongkong, 23rd May, 1848.

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

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

EX "MARY SPARKS." IRON Nails assorted, Copper boat do., small chain for Topsail sheets, signal Lanterns, round, square, and Hoop Iron, Hollow ware cooking utensils, Cabin stoves with piping and copper Tea Kettles to fit, Coffin furniture, Table cutlery, Pen Knives, Copper Perculators, Cross cut, and pit Saws, Hand Coffers and Leg Irons, Sandal wood and others Axes, Dog Chains and Collars, Padlocks; also a few 6 lb. Jars of very superior Butter, and Wine and Beer Corks. Apply to BOWRA, HUMPHREYS & Co. Victoria, 4th July, 1848.

JUST RECEIVED PER "JOHN O'GAUNT." An assorted Invoice of Gentlemen's patent Leather or Summer Walking shoes; Brown Windsor soap; Nail and Tooth Brushes; Violin Powder; English made silk Umbrellas, &c., &c.

ALSO. 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.

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

JUST LANDED. CHEESES; fresh Pine Apple Jelly; and Indian Arrowroot, in tins of 10 lbs, and in bulk. ALSO. Fine new Hay. FRANKLYN & MILNE. Victoria, 30th May, 1848.

FOR SALE. A FEW Toilet Shower Baths; and some English Mosquito Nettings in 35 yds. Pieces very cheap. Apply to C. MARKWICK, Auctioneer. Queen's Road, 3th 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.

FOR SALE. AN Invoice of Spanish Olives in original pack. Ages; just received by DRINKER & Co. Victoria, 5th July, 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. &c. Good dry STORAKH with water frontage. CHARLES BUCKTON, Shipping and Commission Agent, Queen's Road, Victoria, 25th Jan., 1848.

BIBLES, AND PRAYER BOOKS. A small Invoice has just been received by the undersigned. ROB: RUTHERFURD. Queen's Road, 16th June, 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 Woosnam's Buildings, Victoria, 22nd April, 1848.

FOR SALE. PRIME Columbia River Beef in Casks, and Columbia River Salmon, ex Teulon. ALSO. Paint Oil in Demi-johns. SMITH & BRIMELOW. No. 1, Woosnam's Buildings, Victoria, 22nd February, 1848.

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

VICTORIA DISPENSARY, QUEEN'S ROAD. SODA WATER and LEMONADE of Superior Quality. MACAO, 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, ACHOOH, -Commodore, No. 3, Imperial Hong. Hongkong, 4th November, 1847.

FOR SALE.—At the Office of this paper. Comradeship cheque books. Ships Articles, with an abstract of the merchant's act endorsed on the back. Powers of Attorney, after forms by Chitty. Charterparties, after forms by Chitty. Bills of Lading. Chinese Tariff of Imports, and Exports, for counting houses.

BILLS OF LADING FOR THE OVERLAND ROUTE. FOR sale at this office, four forms of bills of lading for goods of 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 under the Company's forms on Bank post.

Office "Friend of China," 26th October, 1845. SELLING ARTICLES, according to the receipt at Victoria 7 & 8 for sale at this Office. Office "Friend of China," Victoria, 11th October, 1845.

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

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

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. COMMERCIAL, HONGKONG, 7th July, 1848. NOTICE is hereby given, that the Undersigned will dispose of BILLS on the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, at 30 days' sight in exchange for British Money, Mexican and South American Dollars, and Rupees, to the extent required for the Public Service, on the terms most favourable to Government that may be proposed. SEALED TENDERS for this purpose will be received at this Office until Monday the 17th instant at noon. The TENDERS to be marked on the outside "Tender for Bills." F. S. CARPENTER, D. A. C. G.

NOTICE. THE Office of the "FRIEND OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE" has been removed to the premises adjoining the "Oriental Bank" on the Queen's Road. Victoria, 8th July, 1848.

FOR SALE. SUPERIOR Champagne at \$12 per Dozen. Hock, 1822, 7 " " Claret, 5 " " Cognac, 4 " " Seltzer Water, per Bottle, each 4 " " 25 Pint Stone Bottles, 3 " " RAWLE, DUUS & Co. Victoria, 7th July, 1848.

PUBLIC AUCTION. ON Tuesday forenoon the 11th instant, at eleven o'clock, will be sold by Public Auction in the Mess Room 95th Regiment, Murray Barracks, the effects of the late Captain GRAY, consisting of Fencing Pieces, Saddlery, a Sedan Chair, Shower Bath, and a variety of useful Articles. C. MARKWICK, Auctioneer. Victoria, 7th July, 1848.

PUBLIC AUCTION. MR DUDELL has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on Wednesday next the 12th instant, at 11 o'clock a. m., on the premises under a distress for Rent, the whole of the Stock in Trade, Furniture, &c., of Messrs STROOKS & Co., comprising Shelves and Drawers; Show Glasses and Cases; Patent Scales; a four burner Lamp; Glass Cupboard; Office Desk; an assortment of Medicines and Bottles; Counters; Sponge; Hair Brushes; Perfumery; Trusses; a Postal and Mortar; a few Tables and Chairs; Cooking Utensils, &c., &c. Victoria, 7th July, 1848.

NOTIFICATION. It is hereby notified, that Her Majesty's Colony of Labuan will be opened to Settlers and other immigrants, from and after the first day of August next, and that all persons being well and peaceably disposed, thereafter coming to reside within the said Colony and its dependencies, shall receive the protection of the Laws, as subjects of the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Labuan is to be a free Port, without any duties on Imports or Exports, and without any Tonnage or Anchorage dues on vessels of any description. The earliest arrangements consistent with the interests of the Colony and the convenience of Settlers, will be made for the disposal of Lands, by public competition within the limits assigned for the Town, and elsewhere; and pending the carrying into effect such arrangements, parties making application to the Governor, or in his absence to the Lieutenant-Governor, will be allowed to contract, within specified limits, dwelling houses, or other tenements, of a temporary description, removable within a stipulated time; but such permission and consequent occupancy will confer no claim, whatever of priority of title to any land so occupied; and all claims to Land within the said Colony, arising from any persons prior to the issue of this notice, purchase, or otherwise howsoever, will be held as absolutely null and void, save only Titles under Grants from the Crown. (Signed) F. BROOKE, Governor of Labuan. By His Excellency's Command, Head Law, Secretary to the Government of Labuan, Labuan Government Office, Labuan, 30th June, 1848.

be destroyed as an example to other villages. He stipulates that the executions take place at Hwang-chu-kee, alleging that at the common execution ground any criminals might be substituted in their place (Keying profited by this hint); he states further that the British government will consider the execution of only four murderers as an addition to the injury. Keying loses no time—his answer bears the same date, and is perhaps the best drawn up paper of the whole. He offers the four heads, and intimates to Sir John Davis that if he does not accept this, the blame must rest with him. It is also asserted for the first time that the English were the aggressors, having fired pistols when the Chinese merely shouted at them. Sir John replies rather intemperately, quoting a despatch to the Emperor, in which Keying states that the wishes of the people must be complied with, though opposed to treaties with foreigners. Sir John ultimately abandoned his position and accepted of the four criminals, again bringing British diplomacy into contempt by making demands which he had not the courage to enforce.

These documents are already familiar to our Readers, and we have merely glanced at them. A re-perusal confirms our opinion.—

That Keying was prepared to give ample satisfaction whilst apprehensive of a military invasion.—

That after Sir John Davis arrived in Canton he (Keying) was advised by certain foreigners inimical to British interests.—

That Keying listened to their advice knowing that the Hongkong garrison was reduced.—

That Sir John Davis before he made his demands, should have been prepared to stand by them at any price.—

That the four gagged men executed at Hwang-chu-kee were not concerned in the murders at all; a fact which Sir John Davis suspected, but the arrival of the mail with unpleasant despatches determined him to patch up all difficulties.

Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston.

Victoria, Hongkong, December 7, 1847.

My Lord,—I have the honour to inclose copy of a letter received by me from Captain MacGree, senior naval officer in China, informing me that he had visited the Futaba steamer down from Whampoa in the 30th ultimo, and that she would proceed up again on the 13th instant. To this letter I also append my reply.

In my despatch of September 23, I transmitted a copy of my letter to the Rear-Admiral, in which I stated that when the *Putra* is not at Canton, the presence of a vessel of war at Whampoa, according to Treaty, appears essential, and much more requisite than at any other port of trade.

Having of course no direct authority or control over the ships of Her Majesty's Navy, and the officers of that service being, perhaps naturally, very jealous of any interference on the part of a civil authority, I can only repeat from time to time the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, or my own wishes on the spot. I have recorded my declaration to the Navy in China, that the constant presence of a vessel of war in the Canton River is essential, and much more requisite than at any other port of trade. It would have been better on this occasion that the *Putra* had been relieved by another vessel before she left Whampoa, the *Columbine* then lying in our harbour; and I would suggest an order being sent from the Admiralty inclosing again on the senior naval officer the necessity of attending strictly to the suggestions of Her Majesty's civil authority in China.—I have, &c.

(Signed) J. F. DAVIS.

Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston.

Canton, December 13, 1847.

My Lord,—On the 7th instant I received a statement of Hongkong, from Mr Consul Macgregor, that six Englishmen, John Bellamy, Henry Balkwill, Patrick McCarrie, William Brown, William Rutter, Alexander Small, clerk to merchants at Canton, had proceeded about three miles up the river on the 6th in a Chinese boat, and that they had not been heard of until the time he wrote on the 6th.

On the 6th I learned, to my great horror, as well by private letters as by the inclosed despatch from the Consul (which in some of its details has since proved incorrect), that the above six young men, some of them with pistols in their possession, went into the village called Hwang-chu-kee, three miles above Canton, and getting into an affray with the natives, shot one of them dead and wounded two others, and that one of them was afterwards murdered by the natives, and that the other two were afterwards murdered by great cruelty.

The extreme anxiety of Keying on this occasion was evinced by his addressing to me on the 7th instant the inclosed note, which I received on the 8th. He therein declares that not an individual of the guilty should escape, and that the national laws would be vindicated, and the hearts of men terrified.

Embarked for Canton on the following morning, in Her Majesty's ship *Deedalus*, but continued on shore detained, and I did not reach this until yesterday the 12th. Keying, in the meanwhile,

wrote me the additional note annexed to this, all of which I forward as indicative of his great anxiety to assure me that all which justice required should be done. By the inclosed reply from on board the *Deedalus*, I was assured to convince him of the feeling which would be excited by the late barbarous atrocity, and the probable consequences of neglecting to punish it fully.

On my way up to Canton I received the annexed from Keying, dated the 11th instant, in which he detailed the further measures taken for the apprehension of the murderers, and added that six of the parties concerned had been captured.

On my arrival at Canton yesterday, I found that all the bodies of the murdered persons had been recovered in a shockingly mutilated state, and that they had been buried by their friends. I lost no time in addressing the inclosed note to Keying, in which I acknowledged his expressed determination to do justice, and proposed that officers deputed by myself should witness the execution of the guilty, adding that I was ready to assist him with a force in case of need.

The British merchants at Canton had applied for fifty men to be sent up as a security to the factories, and Major-General D'Aguiar, with my concurrence, despatched them in the *Putra* steamer on the 10th instant. That is nothing whatever, in my opinion, to jeopardize the tranquillity or safety of the factories. The general feeling here among the better Chinese, is one of disgust and resentment at the late atrocious outrage in a place which is noted for the bad character and turbulence of its inhabitants.

The villages where the tragedy occurred have been deserted by the natives, and Keying has taken possession of and sealed up the public buildings. Many of our officers have visited the locality, and seen it surrounded by the boats and men of the Chinese Government. No pains will be spared by me to obtain the immediate execution of the murderers.—I have, &c.

(Signed) J. F. DAVIS.

Consul Macgregor to Sir John Davis.

Canton, December 7, 1847.

Sir,—Referring to my despatches of yesterday's date, I have to report to your Excellency that towards evening I received information that a report was spread among the Chinese that the six young men therein alluded to had been murdered by the villagers of Hwang-chu-ke. I have heard several versions of this atrocious act, all of which agree in the fact that soon after our countrymen had landed near the village to doth on the morning of the 6th, they were surrounded and attacked by the inhabitants, in consequence of which an affray ensued, in which two of our people were killed; the remaining four, who had no arms of defence, save perhaps a cane, fled, but were hotly pursued by the villagers through several places, and at last overtaken at a place called Hang-kau, where the combat was renewed, and here it seems the fugitives were overpowered by numbers, captured, and could not but cause a great amount of excitement among the foreign population of Canton; and among the British residents, impatient at the slow proceedings of the Chinese authorities, and the suspense in which they were kept for want of official information regarding the fate of our young countrymen, had resolved to proceed to the spot and act for themselves. As this would be interfering with the duties of the magistrates, who had already been despatched to the village by the Imperial High Commissioner, with orders to investigate the matter, I thought it right to warn the British residents not to adopt such a course, in a notice, of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy.

In order to obtain early and positive information upon a subject which absorbed all other considerations in the minds of our countrymen, I instructed Mr Vice-Consul Elmist to proceed to the village at an early hour, there to meet the magistrates, to urge him to greater activity, and, above all, to obtain a clue to what had become of our missing countrymen. From that gentleman's report, of which I inclose a copy, your Excellency will observe that no progress had been made in the matter for the last twenty-four hours, and that the affair is still involved in the same mystery as before. Under these circumstances I have again addressed the Imperial High Commissioner, the proceedings of the present visit of energy of the proceedings of the local authorities, as far as possible to be able to inform you of the result of my application in my next despatch. I inclose in the meantime a copy of that high officer's communication, which he sent me in answer to my first report of the unfortunate occurrence from which it manifestly be lost not a moment in giving the necessary orders for its prompt investigation.

I shall be expecting your Excellency's instructions how I am further to proceed in this melancholy affair; and as I do not wish to detain the extra boat which I have hired for the conveyance of this despatch, I have only time to add that,—I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS C. MACGREGOR.

P.S.—Since writing the above, the Mandarins Tung and Ning have called upon me, by order of the Imperial High Commissioner, with a message, to say that the Kwang-foo and several other officers of rank had proceeded to Hwang-chu-ke to assist in the search, which they were instructed to carry should be carried on with all the dispatch which circumstances permitted. They added, that if the persons missing were found to be still alive, they should immediately be released, and if slain, their bodies would be given up for interment.

(Signed) FRANCIS C. MACGREGOR.

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis.

(Translation.) Keying, High Imperial Commissioner, &c., &c., sends the following communication. The Great Imperial Commissioner, on the 9th of the 10th month (8th December), that six Englishmen on the 28th (5th instant) about noon went to some village in a boat, for a walk, and that it was known what had become of them. At this I was greatly surprised, and ordered the local district soldiers to proceed with the utmost expedition in search of them. I also received a communication from Consul Macgregor, stating that on the 28th (5th instant)

about noon six Englishmen proceeded in a boat on the river in a northerly direction for recreation, but nothing had been heard of them up to the present moment. He had only heard a rumour that some foreigners had had a fight with villagers at Hwang-chu-ke or at Pile shawy. He therefore addressed the Nanhai and Pwan-yu magistrates on the subject, and also begged that both might be ordered soon to adopt measures of protection.

When this reached me the Great Minister, I ascertained that those men had proceeded up the northern branch of the river for recreation, and on the second day not yet returned, for which there must evidently be a cause. I therefore necessary to institute instant search. I therefore reiterate my orders to the Pwan-yu and Nanhai magistrates, to adopt immediately with all possible energy measures for the protection [of those Englishmen] and to make inquiries about them.

These magistrates have now gone in every direction to find them out, and heard a very vague rumour that some Englishmen engaged on the 28th (5th instant) in a fight with villagers, without ascertaining the real facts as to the place and village where the quarrel with the English took place; nor could they arrive at satisfactory results.

I therefore despatched the Prefect of Canton with the district military, to order the gentry all round to assemble to investigate what had really passed on the 28th (5th instant), and with all haste to find out the culprits, to seize them with the utmost severity, and when apprehended punish them according to the extreme penalty of the law. These villains act with total disregard to the regulations and create disturbances. Should they not submit, soldiers will instantly be appointed to surround and apprehend them, and not one individual shall escape. Thus the national laws will be vindicated, and the hearts of men will rejoice. The honourable Envoy need not entertain any anxiety on this point.

Whilst wishing you every happiness I address this communication.

To his Excellency Her Britannic Majesty's Plenipotentiary, Sir John F. Davis, Bart., &c., &c., Taokwang, 27th year, 10th month, 30th day (7th December.)

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis.

(Translation.) A communication. Ke, Imperial Commissioner, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., &c., hereby make a communication in reply.

With reference to the case of six Englishmen having been put to death by the Chinese party on an excursion on the river in a northerly direction, I have already communicated to your Excellency in a despatch the particulars relative to the orders given to the local military, to the especially appointed officers, and to the local civil authorities to take measures for surrounding and seizing the criminals, which is on record.

The Prefect and district magistrate have not withstanding taken their measures lazily. I further appointed the Provincial Criminal Judge in conjunction with a colonel, to proceed at the head of an additional number of soldiers and militia to the place in question to urge on the proceedings.

Since then, in the afternoon [of this day] the body of an Englishman has been obtained by dragging; and I am now superintending the giving of orders to various people to continue the dragging night and day for the other bodies, which I have insisted must be obtained.

In this case the villains concerned have acted in a most lawless manner, in carrying their violence to the excess of betting to death a number of individuals, and I shall not fail to give strict orders to the officers who have the conduct of the proceedings to get the whole number of the bodies, and at the same time to seize every one of the murderers still remaining with the utmost severity of the laws, as a satisfaction for the injuries and barbarity they have committed.

Should I in this matter commit myself to the slightest degree of partiality or connivance and fail to proceed with vigour, or to use every exertion to search for and apprehend the criminals, it would not only be impossible for me to meet your Excellency's demands, but also be unable to face the merchants and people of different countries.

I have now to make this communication for your Excellency's information; and I avail myself of the opportunity to wish you all happiness and honour. A necessary communication.

To his Excellency Sir John Francis Davis, Bart., Her Britannic Majesty's Plenipotentiary, &c., &c., December 8, 1847.

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis.

(Translation.) A communication. Ke, Imperial Commissioner, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., &c., hereby makes a communication.

Whereas with reference to the case of six Englishmen having been put to death at Hwang-chu-ke by the Chinese people, I a day or two ago communicated to your Excellency in a despatch the particulars relative to the measures taken for dealing speedily with it, as also the circumstance of a body having been got by dragging. This is on record.

With respect to the remaining five bodies, after measures have been taken for several successive days, the whole number have been obtained by dragging.

As to the murderers I have given strict orders to the local military and the especially appointed officers, together with the proper Prefect and district magistrates, to lead soldiers and militia to the three villages Hwang-chu-ke, Keou-peou, and Hang-keah, in order to search for and apprehend them. I have insisted on their capture being effected, and will punish the bones within the next few days. Six ruffians have been involved in the case, and if I do not give redress for the barbarous wrong done, I shall ultimately be unable to face the world. And I know that your Excellency will certainly be able to perceive my intentions.

I take this opportunity to wish you constant happiness. A necessary communication.

To his Excellency Sir John Francis Davis, Bart., &c., &c., December, 10, 1847.

Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying.

Deedalus, December 11, 1847.

I have received your Excellency's three notes, in which you declare that the murderers of the six Englishmen shall be speedily executed, in order to vindicate the national laws, and rejoice men's hearts. This is perhaps the most energetic language that England has experienced from the Chinese, and if it is not immediately and fully redressed, war will be inevitable. It depends on your Excellency, by doing speedy justice, to prevent future outrages. If you do not immediately seize and execute the murderers, I shall not be able to restrain my people. Should your Excellency be unable to coerce the populace, I have plenty of force to assist you.

I come in person, in order to secure that punishment be at once inflicted, and that I may report the same to my Government by the next mail. Having so deeply resented the mere ill-treatment of our sailors on a former occasion, what detestation and resentment will be excited by the heinous murder of six Englishmen at once! I cannot leave Canton until they have been publicly executed.

On account of the lives of six murderers, your Excellency will certainly not risk the interruption of friendship. I take this opportunity to apprise you that the people of Canton may be chastised within a few months, if justice is not immediately done, it cannot be said hereafter that I did not give previous warning.—Accept, &c.

(Signed) J. P. DAVIS.

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis.

(Translation.) A communication. Ke, Imperial Commissioner, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., &c., hereby makes a communication.

Whereas with reference to the homicide committed by the people of Hwang-chu-ke, I have already communicated to you in a despatch the particulars relative to the recovery of the bodies and the measures taken for surrounding and apprehending the murderers, which is on record.

I have now received a report from the officers especially deputed, and the Prefect and district magistrates concerned, to the following effect:—

"We, in conjunction with the Adjutant-General and the Colonel Commandant of the Prefecture, proceeded with troops and police to the villages Hwang-chu-ke, Keou-peou, and Hang-keah, which we surrounded with the view of seizing the murderers. We at once searched and closed the ancestral hall of the families Leang and Chih at Hwang-chu-ke, and afterwards the soldiers and police apprehended six persons Leang-a-lee, Leang-ah-ah, Chin-a-hae, Wang-a-ling, La-hang, and Wang-a-man, whom we had brought before us and interrogated; but as their depositions throw but a partial light on the subject, we have given orders to have them re-examined in order to elicit the truth. We have at the same time given further orders to the soldiers and police to track out and apprehend the murderers, and to force the gentry and elders of the places in question to deliver up the whole number of them for prosecution and punishment."

In reply to this I have declared to these officers that it is necessary they take strict and immediate control of the soldiers and police, and use the utmost energy in tracking out and apprehending the murderers—the capture of the whole of whom must be effected, and their crime rigorously punished; and that they must not, because the bodies have been all recovered and a few of the criminals seized, show the least sign of laxity or indolence; besides which I hasten to give you this communication for your information, taking the opportunity to wish you all happiness. A necessary communication.

To his Excellency Sir John Francis Davis, Bart., &c., &c., December 11, 1847.

Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying.

Canton, December 12, 1847.

I have had the honour already to address your Excellency, on my way to Canton, concerning the late horrid and barbarous murder of six of my countrymen.

This morning I have received your note dated yesterday. Your earnest expressions of determination to execute strict justice on all murderers are worthy of your high station as Imperial Commissioner, and in a few days your sincerity will be displayed in severe and final proceedings against the guilty.

I cannot leave Canton until deputed British officers have witnessed the execution of all the criminals at Hwang-chu-ke. Should the mail, which departs on the 30th instant, not convey information of this being done, I expect an expedition will immediately be ordered from India. Your Excellency knows that my Government did not brook the mere maltreatment of two common sailors. Here are six young gentlemen of good connections murdered in cold blood. My Government will be exasperated beyond measure, and nothing but the severest and amplest can inflict.

I therefore expect that your Excellency will be very early out with all the necessary arrangements to be executed at Hwang-chu-ke, where I will remain officers to proceed on without it. The three villages should then be traced to the ground, as an example of the punishment of extreme wickedness. I have abundance of force to act as a guard, and prevent disturbance at the execution, if you so please.

I earnestly recommend it to your Excellency to attend to my request. As I have the interest and views of my own Government, I am certain that you will not be satisfied if the whole of this is not done. If the sore is not healed alive, it will in a few months break forth, and cause infinite misery, and the loss of thousands of lives, together with the expenditure of millions of money.

I write this with the utmost truth and sincerity, being willing to procure peace and friendship, if the wicked are not sacrificed, then the world will be involved.—Accept, &c.

(Signed) J. P. DAVIS.

Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston.

(Translation.) Canton, December 12, 1847.

I consider the inclosed translation of the Provincial Judge of Canton as a communication, being as it goes the declaration of the authorities, and regarding the steps taken against the

SHIPPING IN CHINA.—Continued.

Table with columns: Ships, At, Tons, Masters, Consignees. Lists various vessels including Brigades, Amiral, Valos, Joseph & Clats, Sumatra, Sphylide, Emily, and others.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

AT HONGKONG.
4, Deron, Langley, from Whampoa.
5, Andar, Sullivan, from Cumingmoon.

AT CUMINGMOON.

4, Cocozie Family, Durham, from Calcutta.

DEPARTURES.

FROM HONGKONG.
5, Juliet, Watson, Shanghai.
5, Sir Edward Ryan, Triggs, Cumingmoon.

FROM WHAMPOA.

27, Boivac, Murray, Bombay.

SINGAPORE SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—June 16, Poppy, Cole, from Calcutta 22nd May; Bon Accord, Bucks, Bombay 9th do. 15, Ash, Roskel, Bombay 6th do.; Thomas Perkins (Am.) Pike, Penang 10th do. 18, Bahman (Arab), Jones, Bombay 16th May; 19, H. M. Brig Mariner, Commander Matheson, Cape of Good Hope 27th April; 20, Mariposa (Am), Sanders, Penang 8rd June; Adelaide, Hutchinson, Bombay 14th May.

DEPARTURES.—June 13, Kitty, Shaw, Amoy; 16, Poppy, Cole, China; 17, Indian Queen, Vanderhoven, Amoy; 18, Sophia Fraser, McKellar, Amoy; Bon Accord, Bucks, Hongkong.

SHIPPING IN CHINA.

VESSELS OF WAR.

Table with columns: Ship, At, Tons, Masters, Consignees. Lists warships like H. M. Ship Cambrian, Ship Melamp, etc.

MERCHANT VESSELS.

Table with columns: Ships, At, Tons, Masters, Consignees. Lists merchant vessels like Gensat, steamer, Devon, ship, etc.

VESSELS LOADING.

Table with columns: For, At, Ship, Consignees, Intended Dispatch. Lists loading schedules for London, Calcutta, Bombay, etc.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

Table with columns: Date, Ship, Consignees, Intended Dispatch. Lists expected vessels from London, Liverpool, Perthmouth, Southampton, Perthwood, Shelds, Newfort, Sydney, Borneo, Penang, Singapore.

lages concerned in the late murders. It was stated on the 5th instant, previous to the discovery of all the bodies.

The arrested ones from Keying reached last night. It states that a Chinese was killed and another wounded by pistol-shots in the affray previous to the death of the six young men. Reasons are offered for the apparent delay in the indication of official punishment, and my proffered assistance is declined on the ground of opposition being made to the Imperial Commissioner on the part of the three villages.

In my reply enclosed, I observe that the apparent delay argues a want of power in his Excellency to do what is necessary, and that if in this case, I am ready to afford him efficient assistance. I again call upon him to fix a day for the execution of the guilty.

I proceed to remark that the very First Article of the Treaty has been so grossly violated, that nothing but indemnity for the past and security for the future can satisfy Her Majesty's Government; and that the first step necessary, failing redress, will probably be the removal of the British merchants and trade to Hongkong for security.

I entertain the hope that Keying will be both willing and able to give metropolitan demand, and which he volunteered so early to offer. I must fix a reasonable limit in time for the execution of justice on the guilty; failing which, I anticipate the necessity of allowing our merchants time to conclude their present operations, and to withdraw their persons and their moveable property from Canton, leaving the rest to the responsibility of the Chinese Government.

Proclamation of the Provincial Judge of Canton. (Translation.)
By Imperial appointment Chief Justice for the Province of Kwangnan, makes proclamation.

Whereas the penalty of the statute is always life, for life, the inhabitants not concerned in the present case need not hurry about moving their property, in trepidation and anxiety. Do you the neighbors and people of the several villages in the neighborhood of Kenau-poo, Kang-koo, and Hwang-chu-ke, who are men of reason and capacity, hasten to inform the civil and military officers of the place in which the corpses are concealed, that they may take possession of them as soon as possible; and do you also deliver up the authors of the disturbance. Be likewise speedy in bringing intelligence of the two persons who were killed, of the surname of Chin and Lo, that an inquest may be held upon them. You can then dwell in tranquillity, and joyfully pursue your avocations, and both natives and foreigners will have repose. My motives is to preserve all your villages unharmed (or entire). Do not deceive yourselves. These are my commands.

Issued on the 1st of the 11th moon (5th Dec., 1847).

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis. (Translation.) A communication.

Ke, Imperial Commissioner, Governor General of the Two Kwang, &c., hereby makes a communication in reply to the following:
On the 12th instant at about 4 o'clock, and today, I have successively received your Excellency's despatches, with the contents of which I have made myself fully acquainted. On receiving your Excellency's despatch yesterday referring to this case, I communicated to you in reply the circumstance of Leang-lae and others having, on being interrogated, admitted that the villagers had beaten the

SEE SUPPLEMENT.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SINGAPORE. (From the Straits Times June 21.)
WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.
The state of the market remains much in the same condition reported in our last. There does not appear to be any alteration in the demand for British manufactured products, and the present aspect of the market is far from encouraging. Holders of impositions remain firm and stocks of most description are moderately light; the absence of native orders, and the stocks in second hands prevent shop-keepers purchasing on speculation. The laxity of native credit and the tightness of money still prevail.

Englishmen to death, they themselves being on the spot and witnessing the affair with their own eyes; and that the Englishmen had wounded several of the natives also of orders having been given to subject them to another interrogatory, and to force the delivery up of the principals in the murders.

Since then the Commissioners in the case, and the local authorities concerned, have presented a report stating— On the 12th instant a widow Chin, of the maiden name of Ho, of the Hang-keou village, and a widow Le of the maiden name Mo, of the Kenou-pou village, severally reported for inspection their respective sons Chin-shin and Lee-keen, who they stated had been shot by foreigners in the outskirts of the Hwang-chu-ke village. It was found on inspection that the body of Chin-shin had a shot wound on the left side of the breast, which had really caused his death. Lee-keen had a wound in the fore part of the right side, which had a very grave appearance, and had rendered him speechless. The results of the inspection were then separately entered into the forms, and orders given for the shrouding of the dead body, and the medical treatment of the wounded person, &c.

In reply I gave orders to urge on the proceedings vigorously, and to use the utmost diligence in forcing the gentry and elders to deliver up the names of the principal murderers who beat the Englishmen to death, in order that they may be prosecuted and punished.

On examination I find that the Chinese laws on giving life for life in cases of murder are severe; and as this case is moreover one affecting the relations between the two countries, it will, still less than others, permit of the slightest degree of perversion or remission. The whole of the inhabitants of the villages are however not alike, there being among them both good and bad; and in this affair justice will not be rendered for the dead, nor a warning given to the ignorant and foolish, unless we succeed in inflicting condign punishment on the true and real murderers. And the real murderers, again, can only be ascertained with truth, apprehended and delivered to the authorities by the gentry and elders of the public halls. Hence I ordered the civil and military commissioners in the case to lead troops to the place in question and establish themselves there, as also to close up the ancestral halls of the gentry and people, and thus force them to deliver up the murderers with all speed. The commissioners have now reported to me that the gentry and elders having yielded obedience to their commands, are using the utmost diligence in searching out the murderers in order to deliver them up, and that they will probably be obtaining within a few days. As soon as they have been conveyed to the authorities, they will be rigorously punished in accordance with the laws. Decidedly there shall not be the slightest delay or remission.

The villagers in question became all afraid as soon as the authorities commenced their proceedings; and the gentry and elders have agreed to deliver up the murderers without having dared to make the least unbecomingly opposition, a proof that the people have a sense of the laws of their Sovereign. I shall therefore be able to coerce them; and your Excellency need not cause yourself trouble with over anxiety on my account. For this reason I make you a communication in reply; and take the opportunity of expressing my hopes for your abundant happiness. A necessary communication.

To his Excellency Sir John Francis Davis, Bart., &c., &c. December 13, 1847.

Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying. Canton, December 14, 1847.

I have received your Excellency's note of yesterday, in which you inform me that the murderers are not yet all found.

In a previous note you declared that all the villagers in common combined to kill the six Englishmen. It cannot therefore be difficult to find a number of the guilty.

Nine days have now elapsed since the murder, and nothing has been done. I have one steamer already arrived, and can assist your Excellency immediately with 400 men to support your authority. It is plain to me that you are unable to act, and hence the delay in executing the guilty. Unless you can fix a limited time and a particular day for the execution, the confusion and trouble will be increased. I have therefore to request you will inform me in how many days the principal murderers will be put to death, in order that I may know how long I shall remain at Canton, and that the hearts of my countrymen may be pacified.

The First Article of the Treaty provides that British subjects shall enjoy full protection in every part of China. Six Englishmen have now been barbarously murdered by the country-people of this province; and thus the Treaty has been shockingly violated. I therefore immediately report this to my Government by the next mail steamer, and they will do what they consider necessary to secure protection at Canton for the future. At present the danger to the merchants from these banditti is so great that in about a month it will probably be necessary to remove the Consul and the merchants to Hongkong, and to stop the Canton trade.

I again request your Excellency not merely to repeat your former words, but openly and clearly to fix a day on which the main police officers to Hwang-chu-ke to witness the execution of the murderers. I have already caused officers to examine the place, and found it very convenient of approach.—With assurances, &c. J. F. DAVIS. [Signed]

Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston. Canton, December 18, 1847.

My Lord,—On the 16th instant I received from Keying the annexed note, in which he informed me that nine criminals in all had been captured. Certain arguments are advanced in excuse for further delay, at the same time that he expresses his desire to bring matters to a satisfactory termination. The days had elapsed since the commission of the murders, and according to Chinese practice this was a sufficient period, and Keying to be much more explicit on the subject, if he was so inclined.

I accordingly thought it necessary to address the enclosed reply, fixing one week hence as the limit beyond which I could not continue the negotiations. He had himself begun by vomiting a great deal of profane abuse, and declaring that he could face neither myself nor the representatives of other nations unless full redress were given.

On the 16th I received the annexed answer, in which a most inadmissible attempt is made to reduce the question to a matter of arithmetic, and to reduce the Chinese who were killed, and so wounded by the murdered persons in self defence, to execute only four of the murderers, reserving the rest for minor punishments. It is also proposed that execution shall be done at the ordinary place for that purpose, instead of the locality where the murders were committed. The example would thus be altogether lost to the villagers, and it is moreover very probable that an equal number of condemned criminals would be passed off for the real murderers, which would only aggravate the evil.

I accordingly sent the enclosed note in reply, observing that the murder of the six Englishmen was exactly in accordance with the previous declaration of the villagers, and that the shots were fired in self-defence; while some of those who were murdered met their fate in cold blood, and after a stock trial by the heads of the village, as appears from the statement I have the honour to annex.

I add, that unless the guilty are executed at Hwang-chu-ke as an example to the villagers, the measure will be utterly futile; that I will not trouble him to put the four men to death at the ordinary place of execution, as it will be no satisfaction whatever, and of no avail as an example, since any four criminals might as well be substituted in their place.

I conclude by observing that not only full satisfaction for the past, but adequate security for the future will be required; and that I cannot defer beyond the 22nd instant reporting to your Lordship the assent or refusal to comply with my demands.—I have, &c. J. F. DAVIS. [Signed]

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis. (Translation.) A communication. Ke, Imperial Commissioner, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., &c., hereby makes a communication in reply.

Yesterday I received and made myself fully acquainted with your Excellency's despatch, in which you ask, with reference to the Hwang-chu-ke affair, what have many days to the principal murderers can be put to death, and request me openly and plainly to fix a period for their execution.

On examination I find with reference to this case, that the Commissioners have in the course of the proceedings captured eight criminals, and that the gentry and elders have delivered up one. I have ordered them to be subjected to a rigorous interrogatory. I have at the same time given orders for the rigorous apprehension of others, and that the gentry and elders to ascertain the principal murderers, and deliver them in as taken within a few days. My distress and anxiety of mind being still greater than that of your Excellency, I will of course exert myself to the utmost in rigorously urging on the proceedings, and there shall decidedly not be the slightest degree of delay. But the criminals in cases such as these, being aware of the grave nature of their crimes, they under these circumstances have been more than usually determined; and when they have been captured in consequence of the measure taken, it constantly happens that they endure the torture and will not speak out the true circumstances, hence the taking of their depositions costs a great deal of exertion. It is therefore difficult to determine previously and without date on a period for putting the principal murderers to death. If it be not taken into consideration whether or not the true murderers are executed, I merely seek to bring the affair to a hasty and precipitate conclusion, the wrongs of the dead will be left unredressed and unavenged. I conceive that your Excellency, whose intelligence and discernment exceeds that of other men, will not consider those opinions incorrect.

To sum up: this case ought and will be speedily dealt with. If I can settle it one day earlier my mind will be set at rest one day the sooner, and it will therefore decidedly not be delayed the length of time. As soon as the principals and accessories are all seized, tried, and sentenced, I will instantly inform you of it in a despatch. These words proceed from my heart, and I hope you will not distrust them. I in the meantime make you this communication in reply, and take the opportunity of wishing you all happiness and peace. A necessary communication.

To his Excellency Sir John Francis Davis, Bart., &c., &c. December 16, 1847.

Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying. Canton December 15, 1847.

I have received your Excellency's reply of this day's date, stating that you cannot yet fix a time for the execution of the murderers.

Ten days have now elapsed since the murders were committed and no redress has been obtained, notwithstanding your own declaration that without giving full redress for the late detestable outrage you could not face myself nor the representatives of other nations. It is time that I should now fix a limit beyond which I cannot communicate on the subject with your Excellency. I have therefore to state explicitly, that unless the murderers are executed at Hwang-chu-ke in presence of my deputies officers before the 22nd instant, I must cease our correspondences, and inform my Government that proper redress cannot be obtained.

Whatever further measures I may have adopted will be approved by the public world, as forced upon by the barter and injustice of the Chinese Government.—Accept, &c. J. F. DAVIS. [Signed]

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis. (Translation.) A communication. Ke, Imperial Commissioner, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., &c., hereby makes a communication in reply.

Yesterday I received and made myself fully acquainted with your Excellency's despatch, in which you say with reference to the case of the murder of six Englishmen by the natives, you had previously expressed your opinion that the murderers must be executed before the 22nd instant, &c.

On examination I find that murderers in giving preparation for life must forfeit a life for each life they take. This is a pervading principle of justice of both ancient and modern times. In the present case the Englishmen have wounded two Chinese with fire-arms, one of whom has already died, and it is uncertain whether the other was so injured; while the Chinese beat six Englishmen to death. Now in consequence of my rigorous orders to the Commissioners and local authorities to examine the captured criminals day after day with torture, four of them have been convicted as principals in the murders, and it is proper that these be forthwith and severely dealt with, their punishment being increased in degree. They will therefore be taken round to an execution-ground and at once executed. As to the rest, they will again be severally tried and sentenced, and the case will in all probability be settled before the 22nd instant. When the fixed period arrives I will give you information of the proceedings in another despatch.

Further I have twice already memorialized His Imperial Majesty by openly express with reference to the case, and in obtaining the attainment of a settlement of which circumstance I have also to inform you. For this reason I make you a communication in reply, and take the opportunity of wishing you constant happiness, &c. A necessary communication.

To his Excellency Sir John Francis Davis, Bart., &c., &c. December 17, 1847.

Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying. Canton, December 17, 1847.

I have in acknowledgement received your Excellency's letter dated yesterday. In this you state that because one of the villagers who attacked my countrymen was killed, and another wounded by them, you will execute only four of the murderers. But these villagers had often openly declared that they would kill any foreigner who came there; and the six persons murdered by them only defended themselves when they were first attacked, and were not one of them deliberately tied up, and then put to death with weapons, as appeared on examination of the bodies.

The British Government will certainly consider your present proposition as only an addition to the injury, and as no better than mere mockery. It is impossible for foreigners to remain at Canton if they cannot get out of their own precincts without being murdered. The First Article of the Treaty has been daily more and more grossly violated, until no safety or protection remains.

I have already told your Excellency the very least that will satisfy the British Government and nation. The murderers MUST be executed where the crime was committed in presence of my officers, and Hwang-chu-ke be destroyed as an example to the villagers; it will not be better for this case that you should say I will not trouble you to put to death three or four men at the execution ground; it will be no satisfaction whatever and of no avail. Any four criminals indifferently might as well be substituted in their places.

The wrong committed by the Imperial Commissioner Lin was no greater than the present. Yet either cannot or will not protect the lives of British subjects by proper control over the country-people. It is now time that the British Government should require only satisfaction for the past, but security for the future. Proper security must be given that my countrymen will not be maltreated and murdered by the Chinese of this province, in violation of the First Article of the Treaty.

I have now given your Excellency full notice; and every other nation will at once perceive the atrocious injury that has been inflicted upon the British subjects, and their security. On the 22nd it will be time for me to report to Viscount Palmerston your Excellency's proceedings; and I shall also take such measures as appear to be necessary for the present.—Accept, &c. J. F. DAVIS. [Signed]

Statement from a Chinese witness respecting the murder of the six Englishmen.

Three of the foreigners were killed in the affray at Hwang-chu-ke; two ran one way, and one another. The two were pursued, taken, and killed on the 12th. The sixth ran a long distance, and was later and confined for two nights in the Kwan-su-yu.

On Monday morning summonses were sent to the thirteen villages to assemble, at which three classes of villagers attended, namely, the Hoeng-jin, So-ao, and Kum-keo. The corpse was laid on Monday afternoon. Some were for sparing the sixth foreigner, who was taken for mercy, and offered any money, even 10,000 dollars.

The majority however determined on killing him, saying he would otherwise return and destroy them like a tiger, or get them into trouble. This foreigner could speak a little Chinese. In the morning of Tuesday, before daylight, he was brought out of the meeting-house, and killed by a batch of disbelievers as he was in cutting wood. There were some who used the wispers of the bodies of the six who were killed; some were for burning the bodies, but it was determined to throw them in the water, which was accordingly done, the bodies being attached to a large-log of heavy wood (or tree).

Three bodies were found at Nha-how; his not heard where the other bodies were found, nor the names of the place where the six Englishmen were murdered. Some of the above circumstances were collected from two or three persons, but were generally confirmed by a more particular statement from one in whom he placed confidence. Will collect what more information he can get. The parties from whom this is derived were not, he believes, particularly concerned in the business, but have received and collected in the neighbourhood.

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affray. Has not heard how the affray commenced. Statement taken before me, this 12th day of December, 1847, from a very respectable Chinese.

[Signed] R. J. GILMAN.

Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston. Victoria, Hongkong, Dec. 24, 1847.

My Lord,—On the 18th instant I received at Canton the enclosed note from Keying, in which he endeavours to make it appear that the murder of the six Englishmen was the hasty result of an affray in which they themselves were the aggressors. Abundant evidence however has proved the contrary. He further combats my objections to the criminals being put to death at the ordinary execution-ground, instead of the village where the crime was committed, and where it ought therefore to be executed.

In reply, I show that the murdered persons used their pistols in self-defence, and I trace the late enormity in the conduct of the mandarins themselves, who, by proofs in my possession, have in many instances encouraged the people against foreigners. The question is from an officer of Keying himself to the Emperor, of which I obtained a copy, and of which he has not disavowed the authenticity.

On the express stipulation that the four murderers immediately to be decapitated are only a portion of the whole, and that eleven more are reserved for punishment, I consented to their being executed in presence of my officers, but nowhere except at the village itself, and at a central spot at the common execution-ground, where their fate could have been no example whatever to the villagers.

On the afternoon of the 20th I received Keying's assent as to the place of execution; and it was agreed it should take place at 7 o'clock the following morning, in presence of my officers. The plans accordingly proceeded, at daylight on the 21st, to the village, having on board Mr Johnson and a number of officers, with the light company of the 55th Regiment. The ground was large by the Chinese and English force, and an immense crowd was collected at some distance, though in perfect silence and order. The four chief criminals were brought forward, one by one, to the centre of the square, and their heads struck off; while their stout and healthy appearance proved that they were countrymen recently from the mountains; work, and not criminals out of a goal. Indeed it is impossible to imagine that, in the presence of the villagers themselves, the Government for its own sake could degrade itself by such a gross subterfuge. Inclosed is Mr Johnson's report.

Inclosure No. 4 is the account forwarded to me by Keying of the trials and sentences of all the fifteen prisoners, but the facts are evidently perverted. Of the eleven reserved for punishment, after reference to the Criminal Board, one is sentenced to decapitation, one to strangulation, three to military banishment for life, and six, who only assisted in throwing the bodies into the river, to 100 blows and three years banishment.

I left Canton on the 22nd instant, and arrived here this morning in the *Dandolo* to answer my despatches by the mail.—I have, &c. [Signed] J. F. DAVIS.

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis. (Translation.) A communication. Ke, Imperial Commissioner, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., &c., hereby makes a communication in reply.

I have just received and made myself fully acquainted with your Excellency's despatch, in which you say that the British Government should require only satisfaction for the past, but security for the future. Proper security must be given that my countrymen will not be maltreated and murdered by the Chinese of this province, in violation of the First Article of the Treaty.

I have now given your Excellency full notice; and every other nation will at once perceive the atrocious injury that has been inflicted upon the British subjects, and their security. On the 22nd it will be time for me to report to Viscount Palmerston your Excellency's proceedings; and I shall also take such measures as appear to be necessary for the present.—Accept, &c. J. F. DAVIS. [Signed]

Statement from a Chinese witness respecting the murder of the six Englishmen.

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The majority however determined on killing him, saying he would otherwise return and destroy them like a tiger, or get them into trouble. This foreigner could speak a little Chinese. In the morning of Tuesday, before daylight, he was brought out of the meeting-house, and killed by a batch of disbelievers as he was in cutting wood. There were some who used the wispers of the bodies of the six who were killed; some were for burning the bodies, but it was determined to throw them in the water, which was accordingly done, the bodies being attached to a large-log of heavy wood (or tree).

Three bodies were found at Nha-how; his not heard where the other bodies were found, nor the names of the place where the six Englishmen were murdered. Some of the above circumstances were collected from two or three persons, but were generally confirmed by a more particular statement from one in whom he placed confidence. Will collect what more information he can get. The parties from whom this is derived were not, he believes, particularly concerned in the business, but have received and collected in the neighbourhood.

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Mr. Johnston to Sir John Davis.

(Canton, December 24, 1847.

Sir,—In compliance with your Excellency's instructions, I proceeded early this morning on board the Honourable Company's steamer, "Canton," to Hwang-chu-ke, and witnessed the decapitation of the four criminals concerned in the recent murder of six Englishmen at or near that place.

Arriving at Hwang-chu-ke between 7 and 8 o'clock, I found the two deputed Chinese officers, Ning and Tung, together with the Kwang-chow-foo, Nanhan, and other authorities in attendance.

The square place of execution had been chosen in front of the Hall of Ancestors (had been chosen) for the execution, and along two sides of it were drawn up about 100 Chinese soldiers. Our guard landed and took a position opposite them, and the four culprits were beheaded on the spot thus inclosed, their bodies being placed in coffins and immediately afterwards carried away.

The whole execution was performed in silence, without any of the people of the village being near, although they were observed in considerable numbers at a little distance, and probably had a view of the proceedings.

It was the general remark of the guard and such English spectators as were on the ground, that the culprits were "all stout men in rude health, having the appearance of able-bodied countrymen."—I have, &c.

[Signed] A. R. JOHNSTON.

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis.

(Translation.) A communication. Ke, Imperial Commissioner, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., &c., hereby makes a communication.

Whereas with reference to the case of six Englishmen having been put to death by the villagers at Hwang-chu-ke, I at the first, on hearing of the affair, appointed high civil and military officers, having under their direction the local military and inferior special officers, together with the prefect and district magistrates to proceed to the place of the crime, to hold an investigation, and take such measures as might be necessary. They obtained the bodies by dragging; and successively captured, and forced the gentry and elders to deliver up a number of criminals, of which I have given your Excellency information in several communications, as is on record.

Having found on examination that in this case a total number of seventeen criminals, Leang-a-lae, &c., had been captured, I gave orders for them to be delivered over to commissioners, to be rigorously tried and punished, and I have now received the report of the commissioners, stating:—

"In obedience to your orders we had the criminals brought before us, and subjected them to a most strict interrogatory.

"Two of them, Ho-wei and Lo-ying, were, on being interrogated, found not to be concerned in the case, and were sent to be liberated.

"Leung-ah-deposed that he was 24 years of age, China-ban that he was 40 years of age, and both of them that they were natives of the village of Hwang-chu-ke. Lo-ying deposed that he was 22 years of age, Hwang-a-man that he was 39 years of age, and both of them that they were natives of the village of Hwang-keau. They all deposed that in the afternoon of the 5th December, six Englishmen carrying pistols entered the village, and that the villagers shouting and pursuing them, two of the Englishmen fired, killing Chin-ai-chin and wounding Lo-keen, who fell to the ground; that they the deponents incited the crowd to pursue and beat the Englishmen, one of whom each of them killed by repeated wounds with swords and spears; and that after a consultation was held, and accompanied by Leung-ah, they threw the bodies into the river in the hope of extinguishing the traces of their crimes—all which they declared to be the truth.

"Leang-a-gan deposed that he was 40 years of age, and a native of the village of Keau-peau, and that he had followed Leung-a-lae and the others to pursue and beat the Englishmen, one of whom he put to death.

"Wang-king deposed that he was 38 years of age, and a native of the village of Hwang-chu-ke; that Lo-keen was his grandmother's brother's son; that on seeing him receive a wound and fall to the ground, he advanced to assist and protect him, and that he threatened to pierce the Englishmen with a spear, in doing which he happened to wound one of them so as to kill him.

"Chin-a-so deposed that he was 31 years of age, and Hsin-shih that he was 39 years of age. Both deposed alike—that they were natives of the village of Hwang-chu-ke, and that it was the case that they had assisted Leung-a-lae, &c., in inflicting wounds on the Englishmen.

"Leung-a-uh deposed that he was 33 years of age, and a native of the village of Hwang-chu-ke, and that he had complied with the request of Leung-a-lae, &c., to assist them in putting the six bodies into the river.

"Ho-a-teen deposed that he was 38 years of age, Chin-ka-deposed that he was 29 years of age, Leang-a-so that he was 35 years of age, Chin-ah-so that he was 29 years of age, and Leung-a-fung that he was 32 years of age. They all deposed alike—that they were natives of the village of Hwang-chu-ke, and that they had complied with the request of Leung-a-lae, &c., to give their assistance in carrying the bodies of the Englishmen to the river and throwing them into it, which they declared to be the truth.

"We have to present this report, that you may examine into it and take such measures as may be necessary."

After examination I find that as the four criminals Leung-a-lae, Chin-a-so, Lo-ying, and Wang-a-man first commenced inciting the crowd to beat and pierce the Englishmen, and then put them to death by repeated wounds, thus causing the death of several persons; that the circumstances attendant on their crime are so comparatively grave, and that if they merely be sentenced in accordance with the law, to decapitation after confirmation by the Criminal Board, such would not be sufficient for a public warning. These four criminals have therefore been sentenced with additional severity to

immediate decapitation, the sentence to be executed at once.

Lo-a-gan, who followed them and killed an Englishman, has been sentenced in accordance with the law against intentional homicide to decapitation, awaiting in prison confirmation of his sentence by the Criminal Board.

Although there is something excusable in the offence of Wang-a-shing, who advanced to the assistance and protection of his grandmother's brother's son, wounded an Englishman with a spear thrust so as to kill him, still, as he has committed a homicide, it is inexpedient to show any lenity by decreasing his punishment. He has therefore been sentenced in accordance with the law to strangulation, awaiting in prison the confirmation of the Criminal Board.

Chin-a-tao and Ho-a-shing, who gave their assistance in beating and inflicting wounds on the Englishmen, have been sentenced in accordance with the law to military transportation to the distance of 2600 li.

Loang-a-uh, who complied with the request to help in throwing as many as six bodies into the river, has been sentenced with severity to transportation for life to the distance of 2000 li.

The six persons Ho-a-tsun, Chin-a-tsun, Leung-a-g, Loang-a-ke, Chin-a-wan, and Leung-a-fung, who assisted in throwing away bodies that were afterwards found, have been sentenced in accordance with the law to be punished with 100 blows with the greater bamboo, and transportation for three years; the criminals to receive the blows after the legal computation, and to be settled on their arrival at the place to which they are transported.

The eleven criminals from Lo-a-gan downwards will all await the reply of the Criminal Board, by which their cases will be separately considered at the autumnal trials.

The four criminals, Leang-a-lae, Chin-a-hae, Lo-ying, and Wang-a-man, will in the meantime be immediately executed, as a public warning and a caution for the future.

With reference to the rest, I shall memorialize His Imperial Majesty, requesting their cases to be deferred over till the confirmation of the Criminal Board, the reply of which I shall await, and then deal with the criminals severally in accordance therewith.

I have now to give your Excellency a communication containing the particulars relative to the trial and settlement of this case; and take the opportunity to wish you all happiness. A necessary communication.

To His Excellency Sir John Davis, Bart., &c., &c. December 20, 1847.

Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston.

Victoria, Hongkong, Dec. 27, 1847.

My Lord,—Just before quitting Canton after the execution of the four principal criminals in presence of my officers, I addressed the annexed note to Keying, informing him that if I expected within a month to be certified of the fate of the eleven remaining criminals, and that within the same time I must have due security against the recurrence of such outrages as that of the 5th instant, and for the observance of Article I of the Treaty of Nanking, I added a copy of the hostile notice issued by the villagers near Canton, directly calculated as it was to inflame the hate thereby.

In the inclosed reply, Keying gives his reasons why the eleven remaining criminals cannot be punished within a month, but that when he has received a rescript from the Criminal Board he will send it. With regard to the inflammatory notice, he professes ignorance of the authors, but adds that "he shall exert himself to the utmost to adopt measures for ensuring protection for the future."

In my answer dated the 25th instant I observe that I did not ask who were the authors of the inflammatory notice, but that it was evidently the cause of the late murders. That as his Excellency himself told me "the villagers were in a state of entire submission, and it would be impossible to reduce them to greater obedience," it followed that it must be in his power to take the steps for the complete observance of Article I of the Treaty.

That unless this be immediately done British subjects must proceed to Hongkong and other ports. That it is the rule of the Great Western nations to discuss questions with the Government, and not with the people, and that if some security for the future is not obtained, Consul Mcgregor will retire to Hongkong on the 20th January, until he British Government has settled the due observance of the Treaty.—I have, &c.

(Signed) J. F. DAVIS.

Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying.

Canton, December 32, 1847.

I beg to inform your Excellency that I have received a report from my deputed officers of the execution of the four principal criminals at Hwang-chu-ke according to agreement. As this is a very inadequate punishment for the enormous crime to be expiated, the fate of the eleven remaining criminals should be settled within a month, when a reply can be received from Peking.

As regards the future, it is quite as necessary as reparation to the present. That I must withdraw the Consul and the merchants to Hongkong, as they cannot remain safely at Canton, I enclose to your Excellency a copy of the hostile notice issued by the elders of the village. This is plainly contrary to Article I of the Treaty of Nanking, and also to the agreement of the 8th April. I have therefore to request that within a month the hostile villagers may be reduced to obedience according to the Treaty, and such a law made by your Excellency as shall ensure the full observance of past engagements.—Accept, &c.

(Signed) J. F. DAVIS.

Printed handbill circulated, & sold at Canton.

(Translation.) On looking back, it appears that since the barbarian merchants first came to our city to trade, up to the present time, there is not one of the others that has not shown a trembling obedience to the laws and customs of our Government, nor have they ever taken occasion to cause trouble, as at present among the merchants of America, Portugal, Holland, and France, for instance, there is

none who does not pursue his calling in peace, and conduct himself aright, or who avails himself of all pretexts for giving annoyance. It is only you English, who, to gratify your wolf-like hearts, are brutal and without fear, encroach audaciously upon the confines of our Empire, who are truly detestable.

Our Sovereign has already bestowed upon you the whole of Hongkong to let you set your commerce on foot; you English devils are unwary of his extraordinary bounty, and of the anxious desire of his whole heart to show tenderness to those from afar. You have now, too, usurped the old and new China streets, and some in Honan and other places, to erect therein your devils' hungs. Your greed is insatiable, and indeed beyond the reach of either the [feeling of human nature] or the principles [received from Heaven]. We the gentry and scholars, therefore, feel an indignation and excitement not to be appeased; and the gentry and scholars of the whole city, as well as the elders of the villages, have flocked in crowds to the Hall of Assembly, hereby to proclaim to you barbarian merchants, that the Braves collected and trained at the hall are not less than 100,000 strong; they dread not your muskets and cannon, they shrink not a hair's breadth in fear. If any of you English barbarians have the courage that men may not face, just make ready your muskets and cannon, and collect your barbarian forces, and come, we pray you, to the Shing-ying Hall of the 4th village (of Keang tsun, a place about ten miles to the north of the city, at which this hall is said to be), presuming upon your awful valour. It matters not that your muskets and cannon be good (lit. sharp), or what the number of barbarian troops, we will not set so much as a fragment of their mail return, nor a single level go back; and if you should have the good fortune to prevail in the fight, we shall of course directly present you (with ground on which) build your devils' hungs, and the tens of thousands of taels which are to meet the wants of our force, all most we present to you for the supply of your army; we the gentry and scholars, will certainly not break our word. You the English barbarians, must henceforward conform only to our customs, nor must you go outside rambling and laying hold of our territory to induce disorders. Neither will your encroachments along the river banks be tolerated; but if you are audacious and insist upon them, as soon as your new devils' hungs shall have been erected there, (the gentry, &c.) of the hall will either issue a table of high rewards, or lead on their forces in person, and will assuredly consume them with fire, and utterly exterminate you. Though you be able to secure yourself for the nonce, you cannot certainly guard against the future; and after that the merchants of our city will not do more trade with you, the barbarian English; and though you, the barbarian English, bring your merchandise to the city, you will gain nothing. Although your dispositions resemble those of the tiger and wolf, we of the hall, in drawing up these Articles, are just and honourable and in no respect selfish. As we have said, so will we do: this is positively no vain determination. You, the English barbarians, will do well to give your nature reformer—examine and decide. In sorrow reform your past errors, that they entail not repentance in the time to come.

The joint manifesto of the gentry and elders of the Hall of the nine districts (districts merely with reference to the Hall of Assembly).

Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis. (Translation.) Keying, High Imperial Commissioner, &c., sends the following answer to a letter of the honourable Envoy, respecting the punishment of the accomplices, and the necessity of controlling the villagers. Here follows an extract of that despatch.

In the various provinces throughout the Central Empire, in all criminal cases in which the perpetrators are sentenced to decapitation, strangulation, or transportation, the gentry will for the confirmation of the sentence, and the Board of Punishments, and the only exceptions are crimes of the deepest dye, when the offender is instantly executed, which is in strict conformity with the established laws. Those who ought to be strangled or decapitated and await their doom in prison, are criminals whose cases are determined according to their merits at the autumnal assizes. It is therefore stated in the code that their sentence will be carried into effect after autumn.

Our territory is at a very great distance from the capital, and the correspondence takes much time. It is therefore quite impossible to receive the confirmation of the Board within a month.

To sum up the whole, I remark that I have to wait for the decision of the Board in regard to those who have been sentenced to decapitation, strangulation and transportation, to carry the same into effect. The moment, however, I receive the rescript from that tribunal, I shall instantly address a letter to the honourable Envoy, to save you all anxiety on that subject.

I heard of the piscard, of which you inclose a copy, in summer, but though I instituted every where an investigation as to the name of the author, I never learnt it, because it was the false production of some vagabond, and not put forth by the elders of the townships; and thus affords no evidence. I have however given directions to the local authorities as well as to respectable people to ascertain instantly the fact.

You state in your letter, that those villagers must be compelled within a month to submit with fear. The executions took place on the 14th instant (21st December), and none of them uttered a word. They are therefore in a state of entire submission, and it would be impossible to reduce them to greater obedience. If the Great Minister are equally desirous to afford protection for the future, and shall exert myself to the utmost; to adopt measures for settling it, in order to preserve mutual tranquillity for ever.

Whilst forwarding this reply I wish you much happiness, and address the same to His Excellency Her Britannic Majesty's Plenipotentiary Sir John Francis Davis, Bart., &c., &c.

Keangkwang, 27th year, 11th month 16th day, (23rd December).

Magpinned, 18th in the original.