

THE FRIEND OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

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VICTORIA, SATURDAY, JULY 22nd, 1848.

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TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE FRIEND OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE, per Annum, 12 Dollars. Six Months, 7 Dollars. Three Months, 4 Dollars; all paid in advance. Credit sending to the Office for papers are requested to pay cash.
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FOR ENGLAND, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, BOMBAY
 Also, en route to the above,
 SINGAPORE, PENANG, GALLE—MALTA, SUVA, ADEH
 —COLOMBO, COCHIN, CALCUTTA, CANNANORE,
 MANGALORE, GOA, VINGOOLA.

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

CARGO will be received on board until Noon, and DEPARTURE 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 "PEKIN" 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.

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 8 per cent for Gold.

J. A. OLDING, Agent.

P. & O. S. N. Company's Office, Victoria, 15th May, 1848.

FOR FREIGHT OR CHARTER.

THE A. I. British Barque ELIZA, Captain JOHN VALBERT, apply to
 BURD, LANGE & Co.
 Hongkong, 18th July, 1848.

TO LET.

THE DWELLING HOUSE in Stanley Street, next house West of the Asiatic Society's premises and formerly occupied by Colonel BRETHERTON, 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 NIX-KEE 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 Younge, Apply to,
 LINDSAY & Co.
 Victoria, 29th May, 1848.

TO LET.

SPACIOUS Godowns and dwelling house, built of Granite and lately occupied by Messrs THOS. 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.

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, 30th June, 1848.

TO LET.

BUNGALOW in Gage Street. Apply at the Office of Friend of China, Victoria, 17th July, 1847.

FOR SALE.

BUILDING Allotment on the Queen's Road. Apply at this office.
 Office "Friend of China,"
 28th May, 1848.

NOTICE.

THE Firm of HOGAN & Co. China, was dissolved from the 30th of June last.
 Outstanding accounts will be settled by,
 AUG. CARTER.
 Hongkong 1st July, 1848.

NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr JAMES A BANCKER, in the Business of our Establishment, ceased on the 30th ultimo.
 OLYPHANT & Co.
 Canton, 6th July, 1848.

NOTICE.

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

NOTICE.

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

NOTICE.

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

FOR SALE.

BANGA TIN. Apply to,
 OLYPHANT & Co.,
 Canton.
 14th August, 1847.

FOR SALE.

FIFTY Peculs very superior JAVA COFFEE. Apply to,
 BURD, LANGE & Co.
 Victoria, 17th July, 1848.

FOR SALE.

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

FOR SALE.

FEW Toilet Shower Baths; and some Eng'lish Mosquito Nettings in 86 yds. Pieces—very cheap. Apply to,
 C. MARKWICK, Auctioneer.
 Queen's Road, 8th 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. &c.
 Good dry STORAGE with water frontage.
 CHARLES BUCKTON,
 Shipping and Commission Agent,
 Queen's Road, Victoria, 25th Jan., 1848.

FOR SALE.

AN Invoice of Spanish Olives in original packages; just received by,
 DRINKER & Co.
 Victoria, 5th July, 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 Taiwan.
 ALSO,
 Paint Oil in Demi-johns.
 SMITH & BRIMELOW,
 No. 1, Woosnam's Buildings,
 Victoria, 22nd February, 1848.

JUST RECEIVED FOR "JOHN O'GAUNT."
 A Assorted Invoice of Gentlemen's patent Leather Sommer Walking shoes; Brown Windsor gait; Nail and Tooth Brushes; Violet Powder; English made silk Umbrellas, &c., &c., &c.

A choice lot of small Cumberland Hams in first rate condition, and a few dozens of Real Devonshire Cyder.
 HOLMES & BIGHAM.
 Queen's Road, 7th June, 1848.

FOR SALE.

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

FOR SALE.

SUPERIOR Champagne at \$12 7/2 Dozen
 " Hock. 1822. 7 " "
 " Claret. 3 " "
 " Cognac. 4 " "
 Seltzer Water, per Basket, each } 3 "
 25 Pint Stone Bottles. }
 RAWLE, DUOS & Co.
 Victoria, 7th July, 1848.

FOR SALE.

SALT Provisions, Flour, Rum, Arrack, and Branly in Wood; Whisky, Cognac, and all kinds of Wines in Bottle.
 RAWLE, DUOS & Co.
 4th November 1846.

TO SHIP OWNERS, CAPTAINS, AND ALL CONCERNED.

THE undersigned having recently arrived from England and forming a Wholesale Biscuit Baking Establishment at this place, takes this mode of soliciting the patronage and favours of Ship Owners, Consignees, Captains of Ships, and the Mercantile Community in general, who may depend upon being supplied upon as liberal terms as the quality of the Biscuit required will justify.
 WILLIAM NEBKINGS.
 Bird Cage Cottage,
 near the Native Hospital, Queen's Road,
 Victoria, Hongkong, 17th July, 1848.

THE SEXTON begs most respectfully to inform the Community, that he has provided a Hearse and Pall, which may be obtained on application to him at the Colonial Church; and also that he is prepared to undertake with promptness and despatch, the performance of all necessary requirings for Interments, Tombs, &c., and will be thankful for any preference which may be given him.
 Victoria, 19th July, 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, 13th 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, ACHOOK—Comorador, No. 3, Imperial Hong Kong, 4th November, 1847.

FOR SALE.—At the Office of this paper, Comproadors cheque books.
 Ships Articles, with an abstract of the merchantman's act endorsed on the back.
 Powers of Attorney, after forms by Chitty, Chartermasters, 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 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 post.

Office "Friend of China" 28th October, 1845.

SHIPPING ARTICLES, according to the receipt act (Victoria 7 & 8) for sale at this Office.
 Office "Friend of China,"
 Victoria 11th October, 1846.

VICTORIAN REPORTS AND NAVY BILLS for sale at this Office.
 Office "Friend of China," 29th Dec., 1844.

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.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of Messrs HAMILTON, GRAY & Co. of SINGAPORE in our House, ceased on the 30th June last, and our Business will be conducted under its present style, by the remaining partners Mr R. J. GILMAN, and Mr ABRAHAM BOWMAN.
 GILMAN, BOWMAN & Co.
 Shanghai, July 1st, 1848.

FOR SALE.

"BLUE DEVIL"—A Grey Manilla Pony, the Winner of the Army Cap at the Army Autumn Meeting of 1847. Has been accustomed to carry a Lady. Is offered for sale because his owner has no further use for him.
 Apply to Messrs FRANKLIN & MILNE.
 Victoria, July 21st, 1848.



(From the China Mail, July 20.)

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

His Excellency Samuel George Bonham, Esquire, having returned to the Colony, has this day resumed the duties of Governor and Commander-in-Chief thereof.

By Order, W. CAINE, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 14th July, 1848.

It is hereby notified that the Rule of Court of Hilary Term, 1st January, 1848, which passed the Legislative Council of Hongkong on the 20th day of the same month and year, relative to the execution of Writs of Capias on persons out of the Colony, but within the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court thereof, has been approved and confirmed by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

By Order, W. CAINE, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 15th July, 1848.

The Honourable William Napier, Clerk of the Works and Civil Engineer of Hongkong, has this day assumed the duties of his office.

By Order, W. CAINE, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 15th July, 1848.

His Excellency the Governor is pleased to direct that the subjoined Extract from a Despatch lately received from the Right Honourable Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 4th May 1848, in reply to a Memorial from the British Merchants and other Inhabitants of this Colony, of the 19th February 1848, be published for general information.

By Order, W. CAINE, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 17th July, 1848.

EXTRACT.

"I have to request that you will acquaint the Memorials, that with every desire to meet their wishes, and to promote the interests of the community, I cannot admit that they have established any good ground for the reduction they seek, or that this measure would really be for the advantage of the Colony. Her Majesty's Government are of opinion, that after the large grants which have already been made for Hongkong, England could not with any propriety be asked to provide for the expense of those services to which the Fens in question are now applied, and in which the residents in the Colony are chiefly interested. If therefore these Fens were to be reduced, it would be necessary that the deficiency so occasioned in the Colonial Revenue should be supplied by some new taxation. But under the circumstances of Hongkong, it would be fatal to the object of the settlement to raise a Revenue by Customs duties or those upon Shipping, nor is there any other mode of laying the requisite amount of income which appears to be likely to be the just objection at that of requiring from the occupiers of Land the payment of a Rent the amount of which has been determined by public competition, and to which the parties liable to it have voluntarily bound themselves. But, independently of these reasons in support of the arrangement upon the subject which was adopted when the settlement was first established, the effect of any attempt to raise the Revenue by according to the prayer of the Petitioners, would, I conceive, be highly unjust to the unconsenting holders for the loss of which the Petitioners are now in possession only in consideration of their having formerly undertaken to pay the Rent which they now seek to have reduced. I am, however, to add that the engagements offered by Mr John Davis, and in which I am disposed to assist, of supplying the wants of the existing Land holders, and of increasing their property would be unavailing as a compensation for the loss of the Fens, and I beg to refer you to my Despatch of the 14th February, 1848, in which I have expressed my reasons and report upon the subject."
 (True Copy.)
 W. CAINE, Colonial Secretary.

THE FRIEND OF CHINA AND HONGKONG GAZETTE.

VICTORIA, SATURDAY, JULY 29th, 1848.

NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting of the "Society for Relief of Destitute Foreigners" will be held in my house at 11 past 6 P. M. of Wednesday the 29th inst.

VINCENT STANTON, Secretary.

Victoria, 18th July, 1848.

The American ship Amis was chartered at Bombay in May to load Cotton for China at 11 Rs. per candy. She is the first ship taken up for China since the duty on foreign bottoms was abolished.

About ten days ago two Junks sailed from this harbour for a northern port. Thirty miles from the Ly-moon passage they were intercepted by a fleet of fourteen piratical boats and plundered of goods to the value of \$5,000. It would appear that the pirates in the neighbourhood have forsaken the inner waters, and chosen a wider field of operations, but it is to be hoped that they will not long be permitted with impunity to cruise off the entrances to the harbour, for although their depredations are confined to native shipping, humanity requires that it should be checked, not to mention the policy of protecting our native traders.

In 1843 Sir Henry Pottinger proposed to the Chinese Government to adopt measures conjointly for the suppression of piracy in the Canton river and its estuary; this the Chinese declined. At this present moment the north east coast is scourged by these miscreants, preying upon the native commerce, and without foreign aid there is no chance of their being put down. The sole protection of the native trader is the convoy of foreign merchant vessels; and it would appear that this is attended with difficulties and excites jealousies as an undue interference with the duties of Her Majesty's ships.

It is very generally known that the schooner Spec, Captain Cole, is on her way to Hongkong, a prize to H. M. B. Childers, Captain Pitman. The circumstances connected with the seizure of the Spec will be fully investigated before the Court of Admiralty, and at present it would be unfair to pronounce the guilt of her Captain and crew; neither would it be prudent to say the Spec has been captured on frivolous pretences.

In referring to the matter a Contemporary has assumed the guilt of Captain Cole "who has been so long favourably known in China"; a somewhat different opinion obtains in Shanghai where the matter is better known. We give an extract from the letter of a Correspondent dated the 8th instant, but we need scarcely state that until all the evidence has been laid before a competent tribunal no correct conclusion can be come to.

"The affair of the Spec you will no doubt have fully before you by this opportunity. From all that I can hear on the subject from several persons present at the examination before the Consul at present, the Spec was chartered by the fishermen of Ningpo and Lookoo to protect them from the Pirates; that a Junk was pointed out to the Captain (Cole) as a prize by his crew, and also it is said by two Chinese boats. That Capt. Cole then hailed, the Junk and commanded her to come to anchor, which she commenced heaving up a boarding-netting. That Capt. Cole then gave orders to fire into her, which was accordingly done and several men killed, she was then boarded and brought into port. This being done in sight of the Childers, which vessel was too far to be seen to interfere, a British Officer ordered Captain Cole to proceed to Shanghai and to consider himself under arrest. When Capt. Cole arrived there, he and the crew were tried by the British Consul, who found that he acquitted of the Mandarin or Admiral of the station regarding the character of the Junk (the interpreter was not in court I believe) and that the Mandarin said she was not a Prize.—I will bear that the Mandarin said she was not a Prize, but I will bear that she had 3000 lbs of opium on board, and that she was carrying them—she had more arms too than usual. It is generally remarked that Capt. Pitman interfered greatly in the examination of the witnesses, himself being one, and appeared to be anxious for the conviction of Captain Cole; the Chinese witnesses appeared to have been all blind and deaf before they came into court. However minor matters were investigated, the Spec was found to be a Prize, and fired into by the British, killing and wounding several men without provocation, without any previous act of hostility having been committed by the crew of the Junk, and I fear he will not get off with ease. Though I hardly think that a British conversation with the Mandarin will be regarded as evidence, for it is pretty well understood that the Pirates pay the Mandarin a part of the opium. The Spec had 170 lbs of Hongkong opium on board of one of the Childers."

The Mandarin is extremely jealous of the intrusion of foreign vessels either as carriers or as convoy, and some of them are not above participating in the profits of piracy. Their declaration that the Junk fired into was not a prize will therefore be taken with caution. We are informed by another of our Correspondents that the Che-Chien of this place [who] lately put a Junkman in prison for

attempting to hire a convoy of foreign vessels for the protection of the Junks going northward, and who is now at Soo-chow, has been told by the Lieut. Governor there, that as the coast abounded with pirates, whom he and his colleagues were unable to suppress, greatly to the injury of the merchants, therefore he should not have interfered to prevent their hiring foreign vessels for conveying the Junks, and that his conduct was so unreasonable that he relieved him from his post."

The Spec is looked for daily, and next Admiralty Sessions the case will be tried in open Court. In the meantime, the Masters of vessels employed in a similar way will remember that their duty is simply to protect the convoy from pirates—not to make war upon them. Captain Cole appears to have erred from not being aware of this, and perhaps he was in some degree led away by a desire to make a prize in sight of one of Her Majesty's cruisers. It cannot be supposed that plunder was his object; he would not have attempted such a thing in presence of a ship of war, unless insane as well as wicked.

It will be observed that Earl Grey has refused to reduce the rent of land in Hongkong in compliance with the memorial sent home in February; he appears willing, however, to extend the term of the leases, or even grant them in perpetuity.

We never thought his Lordship would grant the prayer of the memorialists, and perhaps it is not advisable that he should. A certain amount of revenue must be raised, and the public lands are the true source. Were these lands alienated entirely, taxes would require to be levied on imports, port charges established, and all the advantages of a free port abandoned for ever. Property would thus become valueless, and many who had signed the memorial would regret their own precipitancy.

Apart from other objections, the memorial is ill-timed. An unfounded opinion prevails at both the foreign and colonial office that the British in China are unreasonable in their expectations, and this inconsiderate memorial may have had a tendency to confirm that opinion.

It was alleged that Sir John Davis would support the view of the memorialists—and this possibly induced parties to take active steps in getting it up. His Excellency had no such intention. He was going home, and was not sorry to have one tangible proof of the unreasonable demands of his countrymen. It was a bit of congenial diplomacy to entrap the Landholders,—it being given out by his emissaries that he approved of a reduction in the land rent.

An extension of the term of lease would certainly be a boon; it would give a value to property which has not yet been established. None of the incumbents will out-live their lease it is true, but in building substantial houses people look for a permanent investment. A quarter of a century hence, perhaps not one of the present proprietors will be in China. Their property will fall into other hands, and every year that brings the lease nearer its termination it becomes less valuable. An application for a longer lease or one in perpetuity, backed with the recommendation of His Excellency, Mr Bonham, would most likely be successful, and we trust that those who from their position in society are expected to take a lead in public matters will not allow the present favourable opportunity to pass.

The location of an extensive water frontage for Chinese Goods at a greatly reduced ground rent, is also a matter worthy of consideration. The present rent and title has prevented the influx of Chinese merchants to the serious injury of the colony. We need scarcely repeat the well known fact, that four years ago the Chin Chew merchants did apply to Sir John Davis for land, and it was refused, except at the usual price and with the usual title.

During this and the past month there has been much sickness in the Colony; and among the military a melancholy loss of life. The disease appears to be similar to that of 1843 and 1844,—the fever of the tropics in its most virulent form. H. M. 95th Regiment has suffered severely; many of the victims were sober, soldierlike young men, by no means likely to have courted disease by imprudence. Bad matters are they have been exaggerated, unintentionally no doubt, but rumour is always in excess.

A Circular dated the 17th has just been presented (State 543 of 40). It is signed by the Colonial Secretary, relative to the memorial, and concludes as follows:

"I am further instructed to inform you that this Memorial will be glad to be furnished with your views on the term for which you consider would be desirable to extend the present Lease."

From our enquiries we learn that the 95th Regiment men in June, and in July, twenty-three from the 1st of the month to the morning of the 20th. This is very distressing, but far short of what has been alleged. There are now in ninety-one cases in the Hospital; also about one hundred convalescents—many of them rapidly regaining strength—taking exercise on the water every evening in a launch placed at their disposal by a mercantile gentleman.

The 95th was much cut up by Cholera in Ceylon, and landed in China last year at the commencement of the hot weather in rather a sickly condition. This in part, if not entirely accounts for the sickness in the summer of 1847, which, however, was far short of the present season so far as it has gone.

The following is a close approximation to the present condition of the regiment, showing the number invalided, deaths, &c., to this date:

Landed, 31st May 1847, ..	583 men.
Transferred,	4 "
	569 "
Deaths to 31st May 1848, ..	44
Invalided,	57
	81 "
	488 "
Deaths, 1st June to 20th July, 31	
In Hospital,	100
Convalescents, (about)	522 "
Effective strength of the regiment, ..	256 "

We regret to hear that about 150 recruits are expected from England daily. They could not arrive at a worse period, as the colony has not been in such a sickly state since 1843. There appears to be a want of judgment in timing the arrival of troops in China; during the last four years they have all or nearly all landed in the warm months, and suffered in consequence. In changing the regiments on service, and in strengthening them by fresh detachments, it could be readily arranged so that the soldiers should arrive after the summer; thus having five or six months of cold and temperate weather before they were exposed to the full influence of climate.

The sickness is not confined to the 95th. The European police are suffering; and it is remarked that in that corps the best men have been attacked. Among the Chinese in the Bazaar there has also been an unusual degree of sickness; and not a few deaths. We are not aware whether their disease is exactly similar to that among the Soldiers and Police; they call it fever, and say the deaths are frequently very sudden. We have not heard of any serious sickness among the European inhabitants.

The epidemic among the troops and Chinese may be chiefly ascribed to the long term of intense heat. The heavy rains which usually fall in June and July cool the atmosphere; they also wash out the sewers and prevent miasma being generated on the fetid water lodged in them.

It was remarked in 1843 that June and July were very dry months, the sickness commencing in June; a General Order by His Excellency Sir Henry Pottinger dated 21st July 1843 refers to the "Barracks at West Point being about to be vacated by the wing of H. M. 55th Regiment now stationed there in order that the ground in the neighbourhood may be levelled and drained."—An opinion then prevailed that the fever was confined to that part of the Island and that the causes were removable. Subsequent experience showed this to be a fallacy; the epidemic spreading over all the inhabitable part of the colony and raging on board the ships in harbour.

In 1844, June and July were wet months; but sultry. There was a good deal of sickness, though less than during the corresponding months of the previous year. The European troops were wintered in comparatively good barracks; but the Sepoys, living in mat houses where the Murray barracks now stand, lost a great many men. The situation was not a favourable one—low, damp and land-locked—but it was alleged that the Indian Soldiers required to be quartered near fresh water. 1845, 46 and 47 were healthy years among all classes, and though the first part of the summer of 48 has been so fatal, it is to be hoped that the rainy season is not far distant and that the progress of the disease will be arrested. The immediate effect will be to cool the atmosphere from six to eight degrees, and wash out the deleterious matter which has accumulated in the drains. We are not aware that there is any cause of complaint, but it is to be expected that

the police compel the Chinese in the Lower Bazaar to keep the open sewers clean. In that locality the houses are so huddled together and over-inhabited,—that with the filthy habits of people, open sewers, and bad air,—the wonder is that hitherto it has been so healthy.

The following letter to the Foreign merchants of Canton appears to be from the Chinese owners of produce, and has reference evidently to the arrangement made by the British Chamber of Commerce last year for reducing the Linguists fees upon imports and laying part of the burden upon exports.

It is only fair that the Linguists should in part be remunerated by the owners of produce, and so far no objection can be made to the new arrangement; it is to be feared, however, that they have made this arrangement a cover for extortion, and that in reality they draw more from the foreign trade now than they did before the import fees were reduced. Not having received any information further than is contained in the document itself, we lay it before the public with these few observations:—

Canton, 8th June, 1848.

Sir.—The Linguists having commenced to exact exorbitant fees for trifling services, we the undersigned Chinese Merchants engaged in Foreign trade, feel it our duty to address you this respectful letter to prevent your deducting the same for them in order to maintain Equity.

We beg to state, that five Linguists have hitherto managed the business of carrying on the commercial intercourse between Chinese and Foreign Honorable Country Merchants. When Goods were to be imported, the Linguists hired boats in which to repair to Whampoa, and when the Goods arrived at Canton, they reported the value at the Custom-house for examination, and calculated the amount of duties. The expenses attendant on going backwards and forwards, from Canton to Whampoa, and vice versa, were paid by the Linguists, and they received a fee of Fifteen dollars per boat, was allowed them, as a recompense for the necessary trouble. But the five Linguists have been gradually reducing the fee, and in the present time, we have been informed, they have reduced it to six dollars per boat. Now, we have calculated that there are about five thousand boat loads of import Goods annually, making a total sum obtained of Thirty thousand dollars. In respect of this sum, the Linguists have no doubt, more than sufficient to defray the annual outlays incurred for wages and food, and hence they were willing to accept of a reduced fee. In respect of the Goods which are exported they have merely the trouble of reporting them at the Custom-house for examination, and are not required to make the most trifling outlay.

According to the old regulations for exports, six hundred chests of Tea were considered equal to one boat load, and each boat load was valued at 100 dollars, in which state matters existed for a long time with mutual satisfaction.

Much to our surprise however, the five Linguists during the present (Chinese) year took upon themselves to alter the regulations making three hundred chests equal to one boat load, and demanding from us for the same a fee of six dollars. We are really waiting a few days for the arrival of six hundred chests. On one side they have demanded a little, on the other side demanded much, hence it is evident to all that they are availing them selves of circumstances to reduce the fee. For the sake of our own fitting a fee was to recompense the Linguists for the trouble they had to undergo.

When Goods are to be imported, the business is multifarious; the Linguists have made a deduction from the fee, in exporting Goods the business is trifling, yet they have, on the contrary, increased the fee. If we judge this, according to the principle of reason, they have really acted in an unjust manner.

At the time the Linguists together with your Honorable Country Merchants agreed upon the new regulations, increasing the fee, they had not previously given information of the circumstance to us, to know if it was suitable or not. Hence our names are not attached to the newly made regulation, and our Linguists have of their own accord, arbitrarily made an increased demand.

Again, seeing that our Commercial concerns have lately been in a bad state, they have, in the hope of increasing the fee, they had not previously given information of the circumstance to us, to know if it was suitable or not. Hence our names are not attached to the newly made regulation, and our Linguists have of their own accord, arbitrarily made an increased demand.

Now we are of the opinion, that in this your Honorable Country Merchants have at once agreed to the wishes of the Linguists without having given the matter the necessary consideration. Your Honorable Country Merchants ought to reflect, that the Linguists have increased the fee for the purpose of seeking their own ends, and in consequence of increasing the fee, according to the new regulations, we are made to suffer enormous losses. Your Honorable Country Merchants ought to be sensible of this, and should be enabled to seek quietude after the gain. This your Honorable Country Merchants have incurred the expense of seeking their own ends, and in consequence of increasing the fee, according to the new regulations, we are made to suffer enormous losses. Your Honorable Country Merchants ought to be sensible of this, and should be enabled to seek quietude after the gain.

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SHANGHAI.

[STATISTICS OF THE TRADE OF SHANGHAI, PUBLISHED BY THE SHANGHAI BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.]

IMPORTS, 1st MAY TO 30th JUNE.

Table of imports from May 1st to June 30th, listing articles like Grey Shirtings, White do., Dyed Cottons, etc., with columns for quantities and values.

TOTAL IMPORTS FROM 1st JANUARY TO 30th JUNE 1848.

Summary table of total imports from January 1st to June 30th, 1848, categorized by article type and value.

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS, SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

Comparison table of principal imports for the same period as last year, showing quantities and values.

EXPORTS OF TEA FROM SHANGHAI.

Table of tea exports from Shanghai, listing destinations like To 30th June, Congou, etc., and their respective values.

TO THE UNITED KINGDOM SINCE 1st JULY 1847.

Table of tea exports to the United Kingdom since July 1st, 1847, with columns for tea types and values.

TO HONGKONG AND CANTON SINCE 1st JULY 1847.

Table of tea exports to Hongkong and Canton since July 1st, 1847, showing quantities and values.

TO AUSTRALIA (DIRECT) SINCE 1st JULY 1847.

Table of tea exports to Australia (direct) since July 1st, 1847.

TO THE UNITED STATES (DIRECT) SINCE 1st JULY.

Table of tea exports to the United States (direct) since July 1st.

COMPARATIVE EXPORT OF TEA 1846-47 AND 1847-48.

Comparative table of tea exports for 1846-47 and 1847-48, showing total values and quantities.

INCREASE IN 1847-48.

Table showing the increase in tea exports for 1847-48 compared to the previous period.

DECREASE DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

Table showing the decrease in tea exports during the same period.

EXPORTS OF RAW SILK AND SUNDRIES, 1st MAY TO 30th JUNE.

Table of raw silk and sundries exports from May 1st to June 30th, listing quantities and values.

EXPORTS OF RAW SILK FROM SHANGHAI.

Table of raw silk exports from Shanghai, listing destinations and values.

TOTAL EXPORTS OF SUNDRIES FROM SHANGHAI, 1st JULY TO 30th JUNE 1848.

Table of total sundries exports from Shanghai from July 1st to June 30th, 1848.

(COMMUNICATION.) NOTES ON THE NATIVE TRADE, RAW COTTON.

By statements received from the dealers in this article, the following estimates are given of the quantities of last year's crop shipped seawards, and also of the shipments in boats for consumption in the upper provinces. These estimates are believed to be rather than under than in excess of the actual amount, but in a country where a little regard is paid to Trading Facilities, such an opportunity of an approximation to the truth. It has been inferred from the export and large Pro-

amongst the European soldiers alone, being an average of nearly 100 per cent. This fearful mortality seems to have been attributed by General D'Aguiar, from the moment he assumed the command, to the right cause, the miserable temporary barracks, occupied by the troops, and when come into play the decision of character and fearlessness of responsibility which entitles him to be called a remarkable man. The Friend of China states that General D'Aguiar's first act on assuming the command was to take upon himself the responsibility of ordering the sickly soldiers to be removed to secure proper accommodation for the troops that remained, determined that they should no longer be sacrificed in the miserable hovels they had hitherto inhabited. The ground allotted for the camp contained no suitable site for a hospital, and Sir Henry Pottinger demurred to concede the ground which General D'Aguiar fixed upon for this important purpose, until the latter intimated his resolution to purchase it at whatever price, for the Board of Ordnance, at the next sale of land, if he could procure it in no other way. Having carried this point, General D'Aguiar commenced the erection of permanent barracks for the troops, without waiting to go through the usual process of submitting plans and estimates for the approval of the Home Authorities. The barracks thus built at a cost of £60,000, are perhaps the finest in the world. They are three stories high, each story being surrounded by a spacious verandah enclosed with verandahs, which can be shut or opened at pleasure. So perfect is the ventilation of these barracks, that notwithstanding the number of inmates the temperature in them is said to be lower than in any private residence in the island.

The success of General D'Aguiar's sanitary measures is almost beyond belief. The casualties amongst the European troops during the sickly season which preceded his assumption of the command had been 427, or 22 per cent, in 1847, the next year of his command, or 22 per cent, in 1848, the same season to 189, or 15 1/2 per cent, in 1845, they fell to 77 or 8 1/2 per cent; and, in 1846, to 19 or 2 1/2 per cent. Last year they appear to have risen again to 6 per cent, but this was the inevitable result of a special verandah enclosed with verandahs, which can be shut or opened at pleasure. So perfect is the ventilation of these barracks, that notwithstanding the number of inmates the temperature in them is said to be lower than in any private residence in the island.

But the Friend of China gives another illustration of General D'Aguiar's contempt for responsibility, where he considered the health and comfort of the men whom he was placed to be at stake. It will be remembered that, after the evacuation of Chusan, H. M. 8th Regiment came round to Bengal. The Regiment had suffered dreadfully from sickness during the previous season, and General D'Aguiar's right judgment was exposed to a three months' trip during the monsoon, in transports crowded according to the Admiralty regulations, a great deal of disease and discomfort would be the inevitable result. The Admiralty rule it seems is, that in many instances, as the transport will hold area to be hung, and one third more troops than hammocks to be put on board; thus obliging the watch on deck to turn into the heated hammocks just vacated by their comrades. On these conditions General D'Aguiar applied to the Senior Naval Officer for one thousand tons of tonnage over and above the quantity allowed by the Admiralty. It was furnished on the General's responsibility, and we may suppose to add to the credit of his judgment, and to the credit of his additional expense thus incurred.

We are not justified in calling General D'Aguiar remarkable man. It is refreshing to read of such independence, as a General Officer spending £20,000 in barracks, and taking up a thousand tons of tonnage over the regulation, all on his own responsibility, and to the credit of his judgment, and to the credit of his additional expense thus incurred. We are not justified in calling General D'Aguiar remarkable man. It is refreshing to read of such independence, as a General Officer spending £20,000 in barracks, and taking up a thousand tons of tonnage over the regulation, all on his own responsibility, and to the credit of his judgment, and to the credit of his additional expense thus incurred.

To be serious however, every body must envy the feelings with which General D'Aguiar returns to England, having his service in the East, he has not only proved himself to possess in an eminent degree some of the highest qualifications of a military commander; but, in achieving this reputation and by the way, as it were, he has managed to convert a post-humous pension into an amount of human and human suffering which is already almost beyond the bounds of calculation. - Englishman. Our Bengal contemporary is a little malicious in ascribing this fulsome panegyric to us. We always looked upon General D'Aguiar as a good hearted but weak headed man, easily led by those brought into immediate contact with him. The barracks about which so much has been written (they were illustrated in a London paper) are placed in one of the most unhealthy places on the Island, and as a specimen of architecture beneath criticism. The officers quarters, containing some twenty habitable apartments, cost about £20,000. There is only accommodation for ten inmates allowing each two apartments, and for the money ten comfortable houses each having a couple of sitting rooms, four or five bed rooms, out-houses, &c., could have been built. The Barracks that cost £50,000 accommodate about 600 men! In ascribing the improvement in the sanitary state of the garrison to the Murray Barracks, General D'Aguiar's friends commit a great mistake, the garrison was in a healthy condition before the barracks were finished. We believe, however, the General did take upon himself the responsibility of putting up these buildings, and also a very magnificent house for himself, for the doing which he got severely over the haunches. The money had to be voted by Parliament after it was expended, thus placing the department in a dilemma. Fortunately for the General his father had been of service in obtaining secret information for Lord Wellington during the Peninsular war, and not only has he been forgiven, but a regiment has been bestowed upon him in manifest injustice to the many General Officers who have seen much hard service.

