

(c) A certificate of good moral character, signed by the head of the school or college at which he has last received his education; or, if he has not received education at any school or college since the year 1853, then such proof of good moral character as may be satisfactory to the India Board.

(d) A statement of those of the branches of knowledge, hereinafter enumerated, in which he desires to be examined.

3. The examination will take place only in the following branches of knowledge:—

English Language and Literature:—

| | |
|--|-------|
| Composition | 500 |
| English Literature and History, including that of the Laws and Constitution | 1,000 |

1,500

| | |
|---|-----|
| Language, Literature, and History of Greece... .. | 750 |
|---|-----|

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| " " " Rome | 750 |
|----------------------------|-----|

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| " " " France | 375 |
|------------------------------|-----|

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| " " " Germany | 375 |
|-------------------------------|-----|

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| " " " Italy | 375 |
|-----------------------------|-----|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Mathematics, pure and mixed... .. | 1,000 |
|-----------------------------------|-------|

| | |
|--|-----|
| Natural Science, that is, Chemistry, Electricity and Magnetism, Natural History, Geology, and Mineralogy | 500 |
|--|-----|

| | |
|--|-----|
| Moral Sciences, that is, Logic, Mental, Moral, and Political Philosophy | 500 |
|--|-----|

| | |
|---|-----|
| Sanscrit Language and Literature | 375 |
|---|-----|

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Arabic Language and Literature | 375 |
|---------------------------------------|-----|

6,875

4. The merit of the persons examined will be estimated by marks, according to the ordinary system in use at several of the Universities, and the numbers set opposite to each branch in the preceding paragraph denote the greatest number of marks that can be obtained in respect of it.

5. No candidate will be allowed any marks in respect of any subject of examination unless he shall obtain, in respect of that subject, one-sixth of the number of marks set against that particular subject.

6. The examination will be conducted by means of printed questions and written answers, and by *visá voce* examination.

7. After the examination shall have been completed, the marks obtained by each candidate, in respect of each of the subjects in which he shall have been examined, shall be added up, and the names of the twenty candidates who shall have obtained a greater aggregate number of marks than any of the remaining candidates shall be set forth in order of merit; and such twenty candidates shall be deemed to be selected candidates for the Civil Service of India. Their choice, so far as it can be allowed, of the Presidency in India to which they shall be appointed, shall be determined by the order in which they stand on such list.

8. In August, 1857, a further examination of the selected candidates will take place in the following subjects:—

| | |
|---|-------|
| Law, including the ordinary rules of taking evidence and the mode of conducting civil and criminal trials... .. | 1,000 |
|---|-------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| The History of India | 400 |
|-----------------------------|-----|

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Political Economy | 400 |
|--------------------------|-----|

| | |
|---|-----|
| Any Vernacular Language of India, to be previously fixed by the India Board... .. | 200 |
|---|-----|

and such further examination will be conducted in the same manner as that above described. (The numbers set opposite to each subject denote the greatest number of marks which can be obtained in respect of such subjects.)

9. Any selected candidate who shall not, at such further examination in 1857, obtain, in each of the subjects above-mentioned, one-sixth of the number of marks set against such particular subject, shall be struck off the list of selected candidates.

10. The selected candidates who, at such further examination, shall be deemed by the examiners to have a competent knowledge (ascertained in the manner mentioned in the preceding paragraph) of Law, the History of India, Political Economy, and one Language of India, shall be entitled to be appointed to the Civil Service of India; and the names of such candidates shall be placed in a list in the order of their merit in such examination, estimated, as above, by the total number of marks which they shall have obtained in respect of all the subjects in which they shall have been examined at such examination.

11. The seniority in the Civil Service of India of such candidates shall be determined according to the order in which they stand on the list resulting from such further examination.

12. No person will, even after such examination, be allowed to proceed to India, unless he shall comply with the regulations in force at the time for the Civil Service of India, and shall be of sound bodily health and good moral character.

13. The Commissioners for the Affairs of India will be ready to receive, at any time previous to the 1st of May, 1856, the testimonials of persons desirous of being appointed to the office of Examiner; but, with respect to the examinations above mentioned, no such appointment will be made until after the date above mentioned.

14. All papers relating to the above-mentioned examinations are to be sent, and all inquiries are to be addressed, thus:—

"THE SECRETARY,
"INDIA BOARD,
"Westminster."

"India Civil Service Examination."

No. 25.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following communication from the Superintendent of Police to the Colonial Secretary, having been laid before His Excellency The Governor, SIR JOHN BOWRING desires that his cordial thanks may be given to the Gentlemen who so kindly and actively co-operated in stopping the progress of the Fire on the morning of the 24th Instant.

By Order,
W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria,
Hongkong, 25th February, 1856.

No. 10.

POLICE DEPARTMENT, HONGKONG,
25th February, 1856.

Sir.—I have the honor to forward to you to be laid before His Excellency the Governor the following "Special Report."

At about half-past twelve A.M., 24th instant, a fire broke out in the Western Market, either in the Fish-market or in a Store, the basement of one of the houses on the North side of the Queen's Road West. Prompt communication was made to the Central Police Station, and thence to the Main-guard 59th Barracks, and as quickly as could be expected a strong military force was at the scene of the conflagration. Detachments of seamen were landed from H. M.'s Ships in Harbor, and from the Spanish Government Steamer *Reina de Castilla*. Strenuous efforts were made to subdue the fire, both by the use of the many powerful and well-managed fire-engines in attendance, and the well-directed efforts of the seamen to pull down the wooden fronts and projections of houses, but for a long time, owing to so much wood entering into the construction of the houses, and the mass of flame in the large yet unapproachable area of the West Market, (increased to fierceness by a strong North-east breeze,) not attended with success; the flames communicated to the houses on the South side of the Queen's Road, and extended to the end of the block of buildings eastward, also some distance up the Central Street, Tai-ping-shan. About 3½ o'clock A.M., the fire was so far got under that no apprehension was felt for its proceeding Eastward or Westward, but there appeared great danger of its extending up the Tai-ping-shan, which led to the necessity of cutting off the communication by blowing up one of the houses. The result was altogether successful, and at about 5 A.M., the flames were completely subdued, and confined to the buildings partially consumed. It is satisfactory to state, that those who worked and directed the fire-engines rendered good and effective service, as there is no doubt that, but for the aid from this source, the fire would have reached to an alarming extent.

The Fire Engines in attendance were as follow;—

- 1 Private Engine, powerful and effective, owned by Tam Achoy.
- 1 Public do. belonging to an Association of Chinese.
- 2 Private do. do. to P. & O. St. Nav. Company.
- 1 do. do. do. to Messrs Dent & Co.
- 1 do. do. from a Merchant Ship in Harbour.
- 1 from the Spanish Government Steamer.
- 4 do. do. Military Departments.
- 1 attached to the Police Department.

12 Total.

One Engine was forwarded by Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co., but broke down on the road.

It is to be regretted that the blowing-up of the house as before mentioned, caused the loss of life of four Chinese, who, (with several others who received slight injuries,) were in the building at the moment of the explosion, every possible precaution was taken by the Chief Magistrate, who gave directions for the warning, in their own language, of the Chinese Spectators, and by the Commanding Officer Royal Engineers, who personally directed the measures connected with laying and firing the gunpowder, to prevent any accident; and this casualty may properly be attributed to the unfortunate perversity of the sufferers themselves.

I have made every possible inquiry into the cause of the outbreak of the fire, but failed to obtain any direct information; I have however no reason to believe that it arose otherwise than by accident.

There was but little or no disorder during the fire, apart from the excitement amongst the residents in the vicinity; or were there many instances of robbery, and none of a violent character have been reported. Police patrols were sent to different parts of the town, and the Sergeants in command reported that all was quiet. It is rumored that one woman and three men were destroyed in one of the consumed houses in the market, but no confirmed information has been received.

Police Force in attendance.

- 1 Superintendent.
- 1 Assistant do.
- 1 Inspector.
- 2 Sergeants.
- 6 Acting Sergeants.
- 84 Constables.

Total 95

H
Grat
tary,
Acti
and
direc
to a

N
20
dest
othe

No.

7
exe
for

It
ever
shet
and
the

C
No.

7
Spe

here
Gov

that
war

an e
nati
the

whi
Lav
Act

Cor
Ma
effe

Dec

His Excellency the Governor, The Honorable Lieut.-Colonel Graham, Military Commandant, the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, The Honourable the Chief Magistrate, Captain Cowper R.E., Acting Surveyor General, Commodore Elliot and other military and civil Government officers were present and by their presence and directions stimulated the exertions of those who rendered assistance to subdue the fire.—I have &c.,

C. MAY,
Superintendent of Police.

N. B.—The total number of houses burnt down is 78, and about 20 others partially burnt or damaged. The value of the houses destroyed, I estimate at (\$80,000) eighty thousand dollars, and the other property and merchandize at (\$20,000) twenty thousand dollars.

C. MAY.

The Honorable
W. T. MERCER, Esquire,
Colonial Secretary.

No. 26.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Circular, issued by the Commission for executing the Office of Colonial Treasurer, is made public for general information.

By Order,
W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria,
Hongkong, 27th February, 1856.

CIRCULAR.

TO HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS.

It is hereby intimated, that in future, on the First Morning of every Month, a Notice will be posted at the Colonial Treasury, shewing the Quantity of each particular Coin in the Treasury Chest, and the Proportion in which each will be distributed in payment of the various Salaries and Contingencies due for the month preceding.

(Signed) W. T. MERCER, *President*,
" J. HYNDMAN, } *Members*,
" H. REINHARD, } *of the Treasury Commission.*

Colonial Treasury, 26th February, 1856.

No. 27.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Return of Notes in Circulation and Specie in Reserve at the Bank of the Oriental Bank

Corporation in Hongkong, is published for general information.

By Order,
W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria,
Hongkong, 27th February, 1856.

Account of the Average amount of Notes in Circulation at the Bank of the Oriental Bank Corporation in Hongkong for the Month ending 31st January, 1856, rendered in accordance with the Terms of Her Majesty's Royal Charter of Incorporation.

NOTES ISSUED.....\$149,575,
exclusive of the Notes of the Oriental Bank still outstanding.

Wm. LAMOND,
Acting Sub-Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation, Hongkong,
1st February, 1856.

I hereby certify having examined the Books of the Oriental Bank Corporation, and that the Treasure exhibited corresponded in Amount with the Terms of the Royal Charter.

H. REINHARD,
A Member of the Colonial
Treasury Commission.

Victoria, Hongkong, 26th February, 1856.

No. 28.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Tenders will be received up to Noon of the 15th March next, for the construction of the following Works:—

1. A CENTRAL POLICE STATION at the S.E. angle of the junction of Wellington and Cochrane Streets.
2. A SMALL POLICE STATION near Messrs Gibb, Livingston & Co.'s lower gate.
3. A POLICE STATION at West Point.

Plans and Specifications may be seen, and every information given, on application at the Surveyor-General's Office.

By Order,
W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria,
Hongkong, 28th February, 1856.

CONSULATE OF CHILE,
CANTON, February 18th, 1856.

Under the instructions of the MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, the undersigned hereby calls the attention of persons concerned to the annexed DECREE of the GOVERNMENT OF CHILE.

GIDEON NYE, Jr.
Consul of Chile.

SANTIAGO, 8th May, 1855.

SIR,—I have received from the Minister of Marine a Communication, stating that His Excellency the President has issued the following Decree,—

1st, The Government is at present equipping and shipping men for the Brig-of-war "Ancud," and other Government Vessels:

2d, That Foreign Merchant vessels have lately been shipping Native Sailors to an extent seriously incommoding to the State:

3d, That the Government has adopted effective means in order to sustain the national character of Merchant Vessels, and render more effective the Laws relative to the Mercantile Marine:

4th, That for the reasons above given, there exists great scarcity of Chilian Sailors, which scarcity embarrasses our mercantile vessels.

In consequence, therefore, the Commandant General of Marine, according to the Law XXVII, of July 1836, and in virtue of the power reposed in him by the said Act, issued the following Decree:—

1st, Chilian Merchant Vessels are hereby permitted to ship and employ as ship's Company, two-thirds of their crew from Foreign sailors, from Captain to Boy.

2d, This Decree shall exist and have full effect and virtue till the 25th day of May 1857, after which time the Decree of the 25th January 1847, will again take effect.

3d, National ships at sea on the 25th May 1857, will enjoy the benefit of the Decree now made till their arrival in a Chilian port.

Government Officials are requested to give full publicity to the foregoing Decree.

(Signed)

A. VARAS.

NOTICE.

THE next SESSIONS of the SUPREME COURT under its SUMMARY JURISDICTION, will be held on FRIDAY, the 7th day of March, 1856, at 12 o'clock Noon.

By Order of the Court,
WILLIAM HASTINGS ALEXANDER,
Acting Registrar.

In re JOHN COLLETT, deceased.
" FRANCISCO ANACLETO, "
" CAETAINO FERNANDEZ, "
" MAHOMMED ALLI, "
" MUNGLOO.

NOTICE is hereby given to the NEXT OF KIN and all other Persons to produce any WILLS or CODICILS of the above Parties that may be in their possession, before the Supreme Court, on SATURDAY, the 8th day of March, 1856; or if none, that the Next of Kin do accept or refuse LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION; failing which, Administration will be granted to the Acting Registrar of the said Court.

By the Court,
WILLIAM HASTINGS ALEXANDER,
Acting Registrar.

NOTICE.

FREDERICK BLOCK, Esq., is my ATTORNEY in China during my absence therefrom.

W. T. BRIDGES.
15th January, 1856.

NOTICE.

A PUBLIC MEETING, for the establishment of a FIRE BRIGADE, will be held at the Residence of Messrs ARMSTRONG & LAWRENCE, on WEDNESDAY, the 5th March, at 3 o'clock P.M. Should the Mail Steamer arrive on Wednesday, the Meeting will be postponed till the following day, at 3 P.M.
Hongkong, 1st March, 1856.