

*His Excellency the Viceroy to H. M. Acting Consul.*

17<sup>th</sup> April, 1878.

GOVERNOR HENNESSY'S SYMPATHY.

I have had the honour to receive your note, in which I learn that His Excellency the Governor of Hongkong has been good enough to express his commiseration for the people of Canton under their recent sufferings caused by the late tornado; and from it I discern the breadth of His Excellency's humane sympathy, which finds equal expression irrespectively of the nationality of its object. Not only myself, but the gentry and people of the whole city, unite in lauding this *trait* of His Excellency's character.

I have humbly attempted to do my duty during the three years of my administration, but I feel that it is to my own shortcomings that must be ascribed this want of Heaven's favour, which has thus resulted in recurring disasters bringing sorrow to my people. I find it impossible to express my feelings of humiliation and awe.

I have directed the local authorities to take measures, with the charitable Association and the leading gentry, for the alleviation of the people's distress; to bury the dead; to heal the wounded; and to mete out succour to those who are left destitute and without means of support: and this, too, is only what is due from any one to his fellow men.

I beg you will communicate this reply to His Excellency, at the same time conveying to him my thanks and my distinguished consideration.

No. 84.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following extract from the *London Gazette* of the 19th February, relative to the Treaty of July 10th, 1851, between Great Britain and the Sandwich Islands is published for general information.

By Command,

J. M. PRICE,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 24th April, 1878.

EXTRACT FROM "THE LONDON GAZETTE"  
OF TUESDAY, FEBRUARY, 19, 1878.

*Foreign Office, February 16, 1878.*

Notice has been given by the Hawaiian Government to terminate Articles IV, V, and VI of the Treaty of July 10, 1851, between Great Britain and the Sandwich Islands. In consequence of this Notice these Articles will expire on the 3rd of July next.

No. 85.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Notice is hereby given, that the Queen's Exequatur empowering TARO ANDO, Esquire, to act as Japanese Consul at this port, received Her Majesty's signature on the 4th March, 1878.

By Command,

J. M. PRICE,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 24th April, 1878.

No. 86.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Report from the Honourable CHARLES MAY, Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, for the quarter ending 31st March, 1878, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. M. PRICE,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 26th April, 1878.

[No. 4.]

FIRE BRIGADE DEPARTMENT,  
HONGKONG, 23rd April, 1878.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward to you, for submission to His Excellency the Governor, the Fire Brigade Report for the quarter ending 31st March ultimo.

The regular Parade and Inspections were held on the 9th February, 11th March, and 11th April, at which were present the Government Steam and Manual Engines, as also those of the Chinese Volunteer Fire Brigade Associations. All were satisfactorily worked on the Praya from the sea, and were in perfect order.

The Fire Ladders, Hose, Implements and Extinguishers were all found in good condition.

The Manual Engines at Sháu-kí-Wán, Aberdeen, and Yau-má-Tí have been examined and found in working order.

The Government Engineer made Monthly Reports of the state of the Engines, both Steam and Manual.

The Stores for the year 1878, ordered through Her Majesty's Crown Agents for the Colonies, arrived ex *Oxfordshire*, and were landed on the 5th instant in good order.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. MAY,  
*Superintendent, Fire Brigade.*

The Honourable J. M. PRICE,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary,*  
&c., &c., &c.  
HONGKONG.

No. 87.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Orders in Council extending the provisions of the "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," are published for general information.

By Command,

J. M. PRICE,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 26th April, 1878.

AT THE COURT AT OSBORNE HOUSE, ISLE OF WIGHT,

The 18th day of August 1852.

PRESENT,

THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

Whereas by the "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," it is provided that, whenever it is made to appear to Her Majesty that due facilities are or will be given for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from British merchant ships in the territories of any foreign power, Her Majesty may, by Order in Council stating that such facilities are or will be given, declare that seamen, not being slaves, who desert from merchant ships belonging to a subject of such power, when within Her Majesty's dominions or the territories of the East India Company, shall be liable to be apprehended and carried on board their respective ships, and may limit the operation of such Order, and may render the operation thereof subject to such conditions and qualifications, if any, as may be deemed expedient.

And whereas it hath been made to appear to Her Majesty that due facilities have been or will be given for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from British merchant ships in the territories of the Emperor of all the Russias, the King of Sweden and Norway, and the Republic of Peru.

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue of the powers vested in Her by the said "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to order and declare, and it is hereby ordered and declared, that from and after the publication hereof in the London Gazette, seamen, not being slaves, who desert from merchant ships belonging to subjects of any of the three powers aforesaid, when within Her Majesty's dominions or the territories of the East India Company, shall be liable to be apprehended and carried on board their respective ships.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury and the Commissioners for the Affairs of India are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

C. C. GREVILLE.