

As it would be extremely inconvenient to divide the mail, and no practical advantage would result from doing so, all correspondence intended for the United Kingdom by French Packet will be sent via Naples, even though marked via Marseilles.

An impression appears to prevail that correspondence for the Mediterranean stations, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, the Levant, Turkey, &c., can be forwarded only by British Packet. It can be forwarded also by French Packet, and if so forwarded generally arrives a week earlier than if it had been detained for the British Mail.

ALFRED LISTER,
Postmaster General.

General Post Office, Hongkong, 22nd October, 1878.

No. 209.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Return of Births and Deaths for the 3rd Quarter, ending 30th September, 1878, received from the Registrar General's Office, is published for general information.

By Command,

C. MAY,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 25th October, 1878.

RETURNS of BIRTHS and DEATHS for the 3rd Quarter of 1878, ending 30th September.

DISTRICTS.	BRITISH AND FOREIGN COMMUNITY.				CHINESE.				DEATHS. BRITISH & FOREIGN COMMUNITY.
	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.		BIRTHS.		DEATHS.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	Males.	Females.	
Victoria,	22	21	35	15	173	122	466	553	British and Foreign, 9 Portuguese, .....18 Indian, &c., 6 Non-Residents, .....17 <hr/> 50
Kow-loon, .....	...	...	...	...	7	4	29	23	
Sháu-ki Wán, ....	...	...	...	...	6	10	30	19	
Aberdeen, .....	...	...	...	...	2	1	14	10	
Stanley, .....	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	6	
TOTAL, ...	22	21	35	15	189	137	546	611	
GRAND TOTAL,	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE, PER 1,000 FOR 3RD QUARTER OF			1878.					
Births, 369	Whole Population,			34.69	...	...	...	...
Deaths, ...1,207	British & Foreign Community,			22.28	...	...	...	...
	Do. deducting non-Residents,			16.84	...	...	...	...
	Chinese,			35.55	...	...	...	...

JOHN GERRARD,
Acting Registrar General.

Registrar General's Office, Hongkong, 24th October, 1878.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

The Bokhara Buoy, which drifted from its position on the rock during the Gale of the 8th instant, not yet been replaced.

J. P. McEUEEN,
Acting Harbour Master, &c.

Harbour Department, Hongkong, 21st October, 1878.