

公 函 譯 要

KUNG HAN I YAO.

TRANSLATION OF IMPORTANT

OFFICIAL LETTERS,

BY

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TO

SIR ROBERT HART, BART, G.C.M.G.,

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF CUSTOMS,

THIS BOOK IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.

PREFACE.

IN these letters my aim has been not to mystify the student by free translations which apparently have little reference to the original text, but by rendering the meaning as literally as possible, consistent with ordinary grammatical rules, to afford him useful instruction.

The bracket () encloses words that are necessary to render the meaning clear or give the literal interpretation of a word or sentence.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my indebtedness to Mr. E. Von Zach of the Austrian Legation, Peking,—one of the best Chinese Scholars I know—for his kindness in revising the manuscript, and making some suggestions thereon.

W. G. LAY.

Shanghai, April, 1903.

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Letter No. 1.

啓者十二月二十一日接到

專函以西歷正月分本關經費等

項關平銀〇〇兩〇錢〇分又

鎮江蒙自兩關經費銀〇〇兩

共銀〇〇兩〇錢〇分請核

發等因茲備具關平銀〇〇〇

兩〇錢〇分號票一紙送請

貴稅務司查收見復爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

啓者 I beg to state for your information—the usual phrase with which a letter begins.

分 a portion, to divide; here (January's) share.

經費 Expenses, Customs allowance A/c. A., **核發** to consider and issue

備具 prepared (cheque): not necessary in English.

見復 acknowledge receipt: *lit.* to be replied to as **見** is sign of passive.

Note complimentary elevation of "Honourable Commissioner."

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) having received on the 21st day of the 12th moon the Commissioner's special letter requesting issue of the January Customs allowance for his office Tls.——, and that for Chinkiang and Mengtze Tls.——, Total Tls.——, now forwards cheque for Tls.——, which he trusts the Commissioner will find in order and acknowledge receipt of.

For this (the Taotai) will be grateful, and takes the opportunity to wish (the Commissioner) daily happiness.

Letter No. 2.

啓者十二月二十一日接到

專函以西歷正月分七成船鈔項

下請預發銀〇〇兩所有廣方

言館經費銀〇〇兩請預行扣

除等因茲備具關平銀〇〇兩

又收廣方言館經費銀〇〇兩

板函二聯一併送請

貴稅務司查收見復爲荷此頌

日社

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) having received on the 21st day of the 12th moon the Commissioner's letter applying for the issue of Tls.— 7/10th. Tonnage Dues, January—less Tls.—expenses of the Kuang Fang Yen Kuan—now forwards (cheque for) Tls.—, and two receipts for the school expenses, which he trusts the Commissioner will find in order, and acknowledge receipt of.

NOTES.

項下 An account, funds.
以 here on account of (the 7/10th Tonnage Dues) 請預發 please prepare and issue

板函 a stereotyped form of a letter, here a printed receipt: in a later letter an application to Taotai for drawback.

一併 all, equally, uniformly. Here "all" (the documents sent together) not translated.

Letter No. 3.

啓者十二月二十一日接到

專函請領西歷正月分崇寶沙防

疫公所華醫生曹文貴薪水規

銀〇〇兩又女醫生薪水規銀

〇〇兩共〇〇兩等因到道茲

照數動支填票一紙函送即希

貴稅務司查收給領見復爲荷

此頌

日社

NOTES.

防疫公所 guarding against epidemics public office, i.e., Quarantine Station.

薪水 salary - *neosalario*

動支 to move for payment i.e., appropriate funds for.

TRANSLATION;

(The Taotai) having received on the 21st day of the 12th moon the Commissioner's special letter applying for Tls.——, January salary of Tsao Wên Kuei Chinese doctor at Chung Pao Sha Quarantine Station, and Tls.——, pay of the female physician, Total Tls.——, has now appropriated the required amount (*lit.* according to the amount), and filled up a cheque which he forwards by letter trusting the Commissioner will find it in order, will issue, and acknowledge receipt.

Int. debit - red - general, municipal expenses

and forms in Kamin...

Letter No. 4.

啓者查蘇州河所添洋水巡一
 名每月薪資關平銀七十兩自
 西歷一千八百九十九年二月
 起加給銀三十兩業經照放在
 案茲接
 貴稅務司專函請發西歷十二月
 分薪水關平銀壹百兩等因用
 特照案填票函送即祈
 查收轉給示復爲荷此頌

Handwritten notes:
 查
 轉給
 示復
 爲荷
 此頌
 特照案填票函送即祈
 查收轉給示復爲荷此頌

NOTES.

查 It appears; result of my investigation is as follows; here "with reference to" makes better sense.

薪資 salary
放 here to issue

特用照案填票 using a specially according to the records filled in cheque.

TRANSLATION.

With reference to the pay of the Foreign River Police Constable, who was added (for duty) on the Soochow Creek, at a salary of Tls. 70 a month—increased by Tls. 30 a month from February 1899, and issued accordingly as shown by the records—(the Taotai) has now received the Commissioner's special letter applying for issue of the December amount Tls. 100. He has therefore filled up and sent by letter a cheque which he trusts (the Commissioner) will find in order, hand over, and acknowledge receipt of.

Letter No. 5.

啓者十一月二十日接

某總領事○來函據某某醫

生稟有馬四十二匹裝客勒敦

輪船運往呂宋請繕護照一紙

移給等因除由道繕照函送

某總領事查收給執外合就函

致卽祈

貴稅務司查照一俟該商報運前

項馬匹出口希卽給單驗放爲

荷此頌

日社

TRANSLATION.

On the 20th day of the 11th moon a certain Consul General wrote requesting a *huchao* to enable a certain doctor to ship to Manila per S.S. "Colton" 42 horses. This document has been filled out by the Taotai and sent to the Consul General for issue, and in addition, as in duty bound, the Commissioner is informed of the matter with the hope that he will release these horses on application for export being handed in.

NOTES.

Lil. (Consul) having received a petition from a certain doctor that he has 42 horses to be shipped on S.S. "Colton" for conveyance to Manila requests that a *huchao* be filled out and transmitted to him for issue.

Notice 函送 sent in a letter. 給執 to issue (Giles). Really give him to hold in his possession.

一俟 etc., *lit.* as soon as the said merchant reports conveyance of the aforesaid horses abroad (Taotai) hopes (Commissioner) will at once give document (issue permit) examine and release.

X karga 7.7. smab. nroed unu. cyus. - neo shua
unuy. unu
xx no hameupiof amioi qafon

May 28. 1911

Letter No. 6.

啓者十二月初一日據輪船支

應所王守仁東函稱福州螺州

鄉今歲荒歉在滬購買秬米四

百石託福安官輪載回專備平

糶之需請給護照等情到道除

給護照外用特泐布即希

貴稅務司查明護照驗放出口可

也此頌

日社

TRANSLATION.

On the 1st day of the 12th moon (the Taotai) received from Prefect Wang Jên-tung, of the steamer pay and stores office (probably China Merchants) a letter stating that, as there had been a famine at Lochou village in the Foochow district, he begged for a *huchao* to cover 400 *shih* of Rice, which he had purchased at Shanghai, and which he had asked the Government steamer "Fuan" to take back (to Foochow) as a special provision for the needs of sale at cost price.

The Taotai has issued a *huchao*, and on presentation thereof will the Commissioner kindly scrutinize it, examine (Rice), and permit Export.

NOTES.

秬米 common rice.
石 at Shanghai equal to a picul and a half.
守 official designation of a Prefect. Notice its insertion between name and surname.
支應所 an office that issues pay, and for a steamer stores and coal also.
平糶 to sell grain at fair or cost price.
Last paragraph *lit.*, on reaching Taotai besides issuing *huchao* he uses a specially written letter hoping (即 equal to 就) then Commissioner will examine clearly (*huchao*) examine (rice) and release for export.

明照

Letter No. 10.

啓者接

俄總領事瀾 來函據本國東省鐵路公

司滿州輪船主稟本日由滬開往海參崴

運載該處鐵路華工回烟台過冬因工人

衆多分兩次載運船上必須預備華米以

爲途中食用擬在滬購米三百石等語函

請通融核准給照等因查米糧一項照約

不准運往外洋據稱米三百石以備途中

食用因念爲數無多暫准通融驗放一次

以後仍不得援以爲例除函復外用特奉

布即希

貴稅務司查明照章辦理爲荷此頌

日社

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) has received from the Russian Consul General Ku'o a letter to the effect that

the Captain of the S.S. "Manchuria" of the Russian Eastern Railway Company had petitioned him to the effect that, on the day in question, he was sailing from Shanghai to Vladivostock to convey thence to Chefoo to pass the winter Chinese labourers employed on the Railway. These coolies being numerous were to be carried in two batches, and as he had to prepare Chinese Rice for use on the voyage he purposed purchasing 300 *Shih* at Shanghai. (The Consul General) would ask that as a compromise permission be granted and a *huchao* issued.

It appears that the Export of Rice to a Foreign Country is prohibited by Treaty, but as the 300 *Shih* Rice are said to be prepared for use on the voyage, and seem a small amount, they may as a temporary compromise be examined and released. This case must not in future be quoted as a precedent. Besides replying (to the Consul General), a special letter is prepared with the hope that the Commissioner will look into the matter and deal with it according to the regulations.

NOTES.

等語 close of a quotation from any document.

暫准通融驗放一次 temporarily grant as a compromise examination and release this once.

援以爲例 quoting as a rule.

查明 to examine; look into the matter; investigate.

Вопросы индустрии, торговли и промышленности - вопросы сельского хозяйства
Вопросы промышленности, сельского хозяйства
Вопросы индустрии, сельского хозяйства

5. Наморова, владимирская губерния, село...
6. Благородный князь...
7. Владимирская губерния...
8. Наморова, владимирская губерния...
9. Владимирская губерния...

1. Наморова, владимирская губерния...
2. Владимирская губерния...
3. Владимирская губерния...
4. Владимирская губерния...

↑ 5 laws - enforce, punish, manufacture, import, export, purchase, consignment, etc.
 2 1/2 much the Chinese cracker
 1 1/2 1/2 1/2
 2 1/2 1/2 1/2
 3 1/2 1/2 1/2

Letter No. 11.

啓者九月二十八日接

某總領事○來函據本國商某某行稟

有上海麪粉七萬五千袋每袋約重五十

磅擬于本年西十一月一號至明年六月

一號止運往琿春地方請准單出口致希

查照等因到道查此項麪粉是否機器造

就琿春地方是否俄屬曾否運過有案該

商辦運出口與向章果否相符合行函詢

即希

貴稅務司查明核辦見復爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

Consul received petition that merchant having, etc., proposed, etc.
 Native merchant here asks Consul for export permit and suggests that he 致 write (to Taotai) 希 hoping 查照 he will take note.
 造就 to finish making; made; manufactured.
 辦運 to buy and transport.
 向章 rules in force, established rules.
 相符 to correspond with; agree with.
 果否 whether really or not.

TRANSLATION.

On the 28th day of the 9th moon (the Taotai) received from a certain Consul General a letter that a certain firm of his nation had petitioned him that it purposed—beginning with the 1st November of this year and stopping on the 1st June next year—shipping from Shanghai to Hunch'un (Vladivostock) 75,000 bags Flour—each bag weighing about 50 lbs.—and it begged for permission to export (this flour). Would (the Consul General) write to (Taotai) to take note.

On this reaching the Taotai he would inquire:

- 1°. whether this flour is machine made or not,
- 2°. whether Hunch'un is a Russian port or not,
- 3°. whether it is on record or not that any flour has been sent there,
- 4°. whether or not in purchasing for Export the merchant is acting in accordance with rules in force.

It is the Taotai's duty to inquire, so he trusts the Commissioner will investigate the matter, act accordingly, and reply.

Letter No. 12.

啓者接
漳州總鎮曹
來電以故中
軍楊維新
樞擬明正節後
回
湘請商滬
關勿阻等
因用特
函致即希
貴稅務司
轉致防疫
院知照爲
荷此頌
日祉

NOTES.

故 deceased, "late."
柩 coffin containing a corpse.
正節後 for 正月燈節以後
after the lantern festival.
以 to take and 回 return it.
致 to go to, here, the notify,
write to.

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) has received a telegram from Tsao, Brigadier General at Changchou, that he purposed to return to Hunan, after the lantern festival next year, the coffin containing the corpse of the late Military Secretary Yang Wei-hsin, and he requested that the Customs be consulted, so that there be no delay (*lit.* hindrance). A special letter is written trusting that the Commissioner will in turn communicate with the Quarantine Hospital to take note.

Letter No. 13.

啓者據家人張福稟稱

翰林院錢飭赴北京帶送

昆中堂廣東一品鍋二隻昨在

海晏輪船被洋扞手取去乞致

關發還等情前項一品鍋既係

備送禮物自應准予發還用特

函致卽希

貴稅務司查照辦理爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

一品 to hold first class delicacies: *here*, as it were an auspicious expression implying promotion to the first rank. My Teacher explains that these dishes are made of pewter of a size to hold half a chicken or duck and they may be heated either by boiling water or a spirit lamp.

Last paragraph *lit.*, "the aforesaid 1st quality delicacy dishes then are prepared to be sent as presents must necessarily (or naturally ought) to grant return."

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) has received a petition from Chang Fu, a family servant, to the effect that Ch'ien of the Han Lin Yüan had ordered him to convey to Grand Secretary K'un at Peking two Cantonese hot water dishes which were seized yesterday by a Foreign Tidewaiter on board the S.S. "Hae-an," and which he begs that the Customs be communicated with to release.

As these dishes are presents they should be returned, so a special letter trusting the Commissioner will hand them back is prepared.

Letter No. 14.

日 社	貴 稅 務 司 查 照 驗 放 爲 荷 此 頌	到 道 合 亟 函 致 卽 希	該 船 收 執 請 致 關 驗 放 等 因	百 噸 填 用 四 三 十 九 號 護 照 兩 張	定 <small>江江 甯靖</small> 鴨 尾 船 裝 運 東 洋 煤 三 四	大 生 廠 張 殿 撰 來 函 由 滬 僱	啓 者 頃 接
--------	--	--------------------------------------	---	---	---	---	------------------

NOTES.

殿撰 = 狀元 candidate who wins first place at triennial Palace Examination.

鴨尾船 duck tail vessel, papico, here lorcha. Notice from the arrangement of the characters the "Chiangching" takes 400 tons Coal and her *huchao* No. is 39.

收執 to hold in one's possession.
合亟 it is incumbent on me at once to.

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) has just received from Chang Tien Chuan, of the Ta Shêng Ch'ang, a letter to the effect that he has chartered the lorchas "Chiangching" and "Chiangning" to convey 400 and 300 tons of Japanese Coal (to Tungchow?), for which *huchaos* Nos. 39 and 40, duly filled up, have been handed to the vessels, and he requests that the Customs be communicated with to examine and release.

Will the Commissioner kindly act as requested? (*lit.* on this reaching the Taotai it is his duty at once to prepare a special letter with the hope that the Commissioner will note, examine, and release).

Letter No. 15.

日 社	貴 稅 務 司 查 照 可 也 此 頌	聞 有 派 定 相 應 函 復	查 此 事 應 派 之 員 本 道 一 經	聞 致 希 查 明 見 復 等 因 准 此	南 洋 大 臣 派 定 何 員 如 有 所	來 函 重 修 本 口 水 道 一 事	啓 者 昨 展
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NOTES.

1st paragraph *lit.*, in the matter of the repair of the waterways of this port if (the Taotai) has heard what official has been deputed (Commissioner) writes hoping he will ascertain the facts and reply.

2nd paragraph *lit.*, it appears that in this matter the official who ought to be sent, the Taotai as soon as he hears deputing (of him) is decided on as in duty bound will reply by letter for Commissioner to take note.

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) yesterday received a letter from the Commissioner to the effect that

if (the Taotai) has heard of the appointment by the Southern Commissioner of Trade of an officer to serve on the Whangpoo Conservancy Board he will kindly inform him.

Some one must be deputed so the Taotai will, on learning the fact, at once inform the Commissioner thereof.

Letter No. 16.

日 社	頌	貴 稅 務 司 查 照 核 明 辦 理 為 荷 此	布 即 希	數 還 清 再 為 放 行 等 情 用 特 奉	飭 該 船 東 將 欠 恒 豐 和 之 銀 如	還 請 致 關 將 該 艇 新 萬 利 扣 留	用 本 號 經 理 所 給 之 銀 亦 不 繳	給 銀 六 百 四 十 兩 現 該 華 艇 不	號 前 當 新 萬 利 划 艇 經 理 會 撥	啓 者 茲 據 華 商 恒 豐 和 號 稟 本
--------	---	---	-------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

NOTES.

划艇 a lorcha.
 前當 * * * 經理 * * *
 when acting as agent, *lit.*, formerly acting as Manager.
 致關 to communicate with Customs, or write to, *lit.*, to go to or send.
 如數 according to the amount, *i.e.*, in full.
 等情 need not be translated. Marks close of a quotation from an inferior.
 奉布 have the honour to acquaint.
 查照 to take note, make oneself acquainted with. An expression that appears in most letters.
 Note construction of sentence
 將欠 * * * 之銀如數
 還清 take the borrowed money in full repay and clear off.

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) has received a petition from the Chinese firm Hêng Fêng Ho asking that the Customs be communicated with to detain the lorcha "Hsin Wan Li," and to instruct the Master thereof to refund in full the Tls. 640 which that firm disbursed on the vessel's account when acting as her agent, and which, now that the agency has been taken away, still remains unpaid. Failing repayment the vessel not to be released. A special letter is therefore prepared with the hope that the Commissioner will take note, investigate the matter, and deal with it.

Letter No. 17.

日 社	送 交 敝 處 轉 致 爲 荷 此 頌	時 放 行 同 深 盼 切 其 憑 據 仍 望	一 無 疫 憑 據 以 便 到 粵 免 驗 隨	貴 稅 務 司 務 請 上 海 防 疫 醫 院 給	便 用 特 奉 商	恐 抵 粵 後 防 疫 所 留 難 殊 爲 不	船 赴 粵 履 任 隨 帶 眷 屬 人 多 誠	道 至 好 實 屬 無 病 今 由 滬 乘 輪	新 授 廣 東 雷 瓊 道 吳 觀 察 與 本	啓 者 日 內 現 有
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NOTES.

觀察 epistolary designation of a Taotai.
 與本道至好 with the present Taotai very friendly.
 實屬 really is.
 乘輪船 embark on a steamer.
 由滬 * * * 赴粵 from Shanghai to Canton.
 眷屬 belonging to family, i.e., members of family as well as underlings.
 防疫所 place for guarding against epidemics, i.e., Quarantine Office.
 務 must, here 務請 to earnestly ask, entreat, implore.
 無疫憑據 no epidemic proof, i.e., clean bill of health.
 隨時 at once.
 同 both Taotai's.
 轉致 in turn to send.

TRANSLATION.

Wu Taotai, recently appointed to the Lei Ch'ung Circuit in Kwangtung—a good friend of the Writer (*lit.*, Taotai) and not sick in any way—is now going by steamer to Canton to enter upon his post, but, as his following (family and retainers) are numerous, he fears great inconvenience from the Quarantine Office after arrival there. The Taotai therefore specially writes to the Commissioner to entreat the Shanghai Quarantine Office (*lit.*, hospital) to issue a clean bill of health so that (Mr. Wu and suite) may be released without inspection immediately on arrival. Both (Taotais) earnestly long for this, and trust the Commissioner will forward document to Yamên to hand over.

Letter No. 18.

啓者各國商人由上海辦米裝運別口會

奉

前南洋大臣劉 核准應照約章由關取

保給照限期繳銷先經函布在案茲于十

一月十八日接

某總領事○ 來函據廣源行稟有米五

千石麥子五千石運往威海衛膠州旅順

口請飭繕照移給等因到道除函復飭令

該行取具的保赴關領照報運照章辦理

外合就函致即希

貴稅務司查照俟該行來關報運前項米麥

查照取保給照征稅放行並令按約繳銷

爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

照約章 according to the stipulations of the treaty.

核准 permission after considering.

由關取保 by the Customs exacted a bond.

限期 to fix a limit of time.

會奉 * * * 先經函布 in the past received * * * already notified by letter.

請飭繕照移給 requests that orders (be given) to copy out *huchao* and send or transmit it.

石 *shih* 150 catties.

除 * * * 外 besides; but I think that "in addition" is better here.

取 of the Customs to exact; of merchant to take or bring.

取具 to bring a prepared 的 true.

保 guarantee.

俟 when.

等因 close of a quotation from a superior or equal.

TRANSLATION.

With reference to the purchase of Rice by Foreign merchants for export to other ports, which the records show that the Taotai notified the Commissioner had been authorised by Liu, late Southern Commissioner of Trade, on condition that the Customs take a bond in accordance with treaty stipulations and issue certificate to be handed in for cancellation within a fixed time, the—Consul General (*lit.*, letter received from) writes on the 18th day of the 11th moon asking for *huchao* to cover 5,000 *shih* Rice and 5,000 *shih* Wheat destined for Weihaiwei, Kiaochow, and Port Arthur, which the firm of Kuang Yüan had petitioned him to apply for.

In addition to replying (to Consul General) that the said firm be instructed to appear at the Custom House with satisfactory bond, and apply for permission to export in accordance with the regulations (*lit.* take prepared true bond go Customs receive certificate report conveyance according to rule be dealt with), it is (Taotai's) duty to write trusting the Commissioner will note, and when the firm in question appears at the Customs to apply for shipment of the Rice and Wheat to take a bond, issue certificate, and release (the goods) on payment of Duty. Also instruct it to hand in (certificate) to be cancelled as laid down by Treaty.

Letter No. 19.

日 社	荷 此 頌	貴 稅 務 司 查 收 轉 給 照 章 辦 理 爲	船 准 單 一 紙 蓋 印 函 送 卽 希	將 稟 結 存 案 外 茲 飭 承 核 繕 造	結 送 請 飭 繕 到 關 轉 給 等 因 除	保 結 請 發 造 船 准 單 將 原 稟 保	造 夾 板 船 一 艘 遵 章 行 駛 取 具	來 函 以 據 華 商 李 廷 榮 稟 備 資 仿	啓 者 十 一 月 十 一 日 接 到
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NOTES.

仿造 to make according to pattern.

轉給 to be in turn given.

Last paragraph: *lit.*, besides taking petition and bond and storing them in archives now the ship construction permit, as instructed, sealed and written out after consideration (of the right form to use) by the Shupan 承 is sent with a letter hoping the Commissioner will find it in order in turn issue it and deal with the matter according to the regulations.

TRANSLATION.

On the 11th day of the 11th moon (the Taotai) received the Commissioner's letter forwarding original petition, and a bond, from a Chinese merchant Li T'ing Jung:

applying for permission to construct a sailing vessel,—funds for which are provided and bond for which is filed—to ply under the regulations;

and requesting that directions be given for filling out of a permit and its transmission to Customs for issue.

The petition and bond have been filed in the archives, and a permit, duly made out, is now forwarded with the hope that the Commissioner will find it in order and issue it in accordance with the regulations.

Letter No. 20.

啓者案准

山東登萊青道李 咨以靖海巡船船面

須改機輪亟應興修與上海發昌船廠訂

立合同入隲修理以兩箇月完工已飭黃

守備以潼帶船入隲請飭屬照料等因當

卽分行上海縣暨會審委員遵照在案茲

于三月二十六日又准

李道台咨該船業已工竣將次出隲請查

照等因到道合泐奉布卽希

貴稅務司查照爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

案准 it is on record &c., translated here some time ago.

須改機輪亟應興修 necessary correction of the engines ought at once to be repaired, *i.e.*, to have some necessary repairs to her engines at once attended to.

Notice title of captain comes between name 黃 and surname

以潼

守備 a second captain, or commander.

屬 belonging to, *i.e.*, subordinates.

照料 to look after their interests, *i.e.*, afford all needful assistance.

會審委員 Mixed Court Deputy.

將次 about to.

合泐奉布 it is my duty to write a respectful communication.

TRANSLATION.

Some time ago Li Taotai, of the Têng, Lai, Ch'ing Circuit in Shantung, wrote that Captain Huang I-t'ung had been instructed to take into dock the cruiser "Chinghai" to have some necessary repairs to her deck engines (*i.e.*, donkey, capstan, and derrick) at once attended to, which the Fa Ch'ang Dock at Shanghai had contracted to complete within two months, and requested that orders be issued to (Taotai's) subordinates to afford all needful assistance.

The records show that the Shanghai District and Mixed Court Magistrates were instructed accordingly, and on the 26th day of the 3rd moon Li Taotai wrote again for (the writer's) information that the work being complete the vessel was about to vacate the dock. Accordingly it is the Taotai's duty to notify the Commissioner.

Letter No. 22.

啓者頃接江甯省垣來電驚悉
南洋大臣劉宮太保於月之初
五日巳刻因病出缺滬上官商
同深哀慟渥承
關愛用特布
聞卽祈
貴稅務司查照順頌
日祉

NOTES.

江甯 Nanking 省垣 capital.
渥承 enriched recipient of.
關愛 Commissioner's love.
宮 elliptically for 青宮 the
Heir Apparent;
巳刻 ssü k'ò 9 to 11 a.m.

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) has just received a telegram from Nanking, the capital, from which he was startled to learn that, on the morning of the fifth day of this moon, Liu, Southern Commissioner of Trade, and Guardian of the Heir Apparent, had already vacated his post through illness (died). (This news) has profoundly grieved the officials and merchants of Shanghai.

(As he was) deeply loved by the Commissioner the Taotai writes specially for his information.

Letter No. 23.

啓者本道於光緒二十八年
九月十三日因公前赴金陵
省城當經函致在案茲于九
月十七日公畢回轅合再函
致卽希
貴稅務司查照爲荷此頌
日祉

NOTES.

金陵 another name for Nan-
king.
前赴 for 前往行赴 to pro-
ceed to.
當經 at that time: here trans-
lated "duly."

TRANSLATION.

On the 13th day of the 9th moon of the 28th year of Kuang Hsü (the Taotai) went to the provincial capital, Nanking, on public business; which fact the records show was duly communicated to the Commissioner. Having returned to his Yamên on the 17th day of the 9th moon on the completion of his business, it is his duty to again write trusting the Commissioner will take note.

Letter No. 24.

啓者接到九月十九日

專函以老公茂行運進小火輪一件估三千

兩報往登州完稅後查明呈有道署免照

一紙准其免稅請將前完稅銀一百五十

兩給還存票等因查該船號收上註明九

月十三日往登州請有收稅單現未繳回

應令該商將前給收稅單送銷並將本署

免照一併檢呈查驗俾可核發存票合就

函復即希

貴稅務司查照飭遵爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

查明 ascertained clearly by Customs: not translated in paragraph 1.

查 it appears to, or is ascertained by Taotai: not translated paragraph 2.

Notice Taotai's exemption certificate authorising exemption from duty.

檢 here to pick up and 呈 hand in.

將前 * * * * 存票 take formerly issued D. P. C. send for cancellation also take this office's E. C. one and all pick up hand in so as to enable consideration and issue of drawback.

一併 one and all; here both.

TRANSLATION.

On the 19th day of the 9th moon (the Taotai) received (Commissioner's) application (*lit.*, special letter * * * applying) for refund by drawback of Tls. 150, the duty on a Tls. 3,000 steam launch brought in by Lao Kung Mao, and reported as going to Tengchou—for which a Taotai's Exemption Certificate was handed in after levy of duty.

The Bank Receipt clearly states the thirteenth day of the ninth moon (as date) of departure, but, as the Duty Paid Certificate applied for has not yet been returned, the merchant should be directed to send it in for cancellation that both it and the Taotai's exemption certificate may be inspected so as to enable the matter to be considered and drawback issued.

It is the Taotai's duty to reply trusting that the Commissioner will note and issue the necessary instructions (*lit.* direct obedience).

Letter No. 25.

啓者近來滬上各銀行將現銀運往東三省及長江各口絡繹不絕以致滬上銀根緊急拆息日昂查各省認撥之洋款因各省銀色低潮時有參差倘解現銀滬市未能合用往往託由商號滙兌以期便捷如果滬上現銀出口過多不獨攸關市面於還欸亦大有窒礙應如何設法維持之處用特奉商卽祈
 貴稅務司妥籌辦法轉商
 各領事官飭遵爲荷本道今晚因公赴甯
 匆匆上船俟回時再行晤
 教此頌
 日社

NOTES.

現銀 ready money; sycee.
 以致 so that; with the result that.
 絡繹不絕 in an unbroken line.
 銀根緊急 source of money in straits.
 拆息 = 銀拆 daily interest of Native Banks.
 低潮 at low tide; at a low ebb; hence of poor quality.
 潮銀 base silver.
 商號 Commercial Banks as opposed to 官號 official ones.
 認撥之洋款 responsible for appropriation for Foreign loans.
 滙兌 to remit; effect an "exchange" on another place.
 便捷 convenient.
 維持 to aid, help.
 甯 Nanking.
 匆匆 in a hurry.
 再行晤教 again to go and at an interview receive instruction.

TRANSLATION.

Of late Shanghai Banks have been remitting sycee in a ceaseless stream to the three Eastern provinces (Kirin, Shengking, Heilungchiang), and the Yangtze ports, with the result that at Shanghai money has become tight, and the native rate of interest daily rises.

It appears that the Foreign loans repayable by each province constantly vary owing to the poor quality of the silver there, which, if sent to the Shanghai market, cannot be used by it (hence) as a convenience Commercial Banks are constantly called upon (*lit.*, requested) to remit (by draft). Should Shanghai silver therefore go out in too great quantities not only will the market be affected, but the payment of the loans will suffer greatly.

A special letter consulting (the Commissioner) as to the best method of aiding in the matter is prepared with the hope that the Commissioner will devise some satisfactory plan and discuss it with the Consuls, who may instruct (their nationals) to be guided thereby.

The Taotai goes to Nanking to-night on public business, and is in a hurry to get on board his ship. On his return he will call and see the Commissioner.

Letter No. 26.

啓者十二月二十一日接

某總領事○函以商人新興有打鳥槍七

桿手槍八把空藥紙袋一百個槍子二千

個及應用零件等共裝第一百十六號箱

內由法國撒拉齊公司輪船運送到滬請

致關給單起岸等由到道查此項鳥槍等

件如果實係打獵所用姑准通融驗起除

函復外用特函布即希

貴稅務司查明辦理可也此頌

日祉

NOTES.

姑 under pressure of circumstances; as I cannot well refuse the request.

通 通 compromise; an exceptional measure which must not be taken as a precedent.

驗 起 to examine and land.

TRANSLATION.

On the 21st day of the 12th moon (the Taotai) received from a certain Consul-General a letter requesting that the Customs be notified to permit landing by the merchant Hsin Hsing of

7 fowling pieces,

8 revolvers,

100 empty cartridge cases,

2,000 cartridges, and

accessories (*lit.*, miscellaneous necessaries),

all packed in box No. 116 imported by French mail S.S. "Salazie" into Shanghai.

Should these fowling pieces, etc., really be for sporting purposes the request cannot well be refused, so the matter may be compromised and the goods be allowed to be examined and landed. The Taotai therefore in addition to replying writes specially to the Commissioner hoping he will ascertain the real facts and deal with the case.

Letter No. 27.

啓者據北洋海軍採辦委員樊直牧稟

稱竊北洋飛鷹獵船鍋爐用水管向德國

伏耳鏗原廠購運九千條前已運到三千

六百二十五條稟蒙免稅驗放在案茲前

項水管又由白令司輪船運到五千三百

七十五條計裝十三箱估價關平銀四千

二百五十兩請免稅前來合就函致即希

貴稅務司查照給單免稅驗起爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

直牧 = 直隸州 a Magistrate of an independent department.
北洋海軍 Peiyang Squadron.
Giles also gives "hai chün" as Chinese Admiralty.
鍋爐 boilers.

TRANSLATION.

Fan Fên, Magistrate, Deputy charged by the Peiyang Squadron with the purchase (of materials), petitions that he bought from the German firm "Fu Êrh Chin Yuan" 9,000 tubes for the boilers of the Peiyang cruiser "Feiyang," of which 3,625 have arrived and been kindly examined and released without payment of duty. The balance of 5,375 tubes are now coming in by the S.S. "Pai-ling-ssu" packed in 13 boxes, and valued at Tls. 4,250; which also kindly admit free.

On receipt of this, it is the Taotai's duty to address the Commissioner hoping he will note, issue document freeing from duty, examine, and (allow goods) to be landed.

Letter No. 28.

啓者案接

貴稅務司來函新闢橋石柱歪斜情形危險

請派員勘辦等因當經派員勘明擬照案

由董傳匠估修以便行人函商

租界領袖轉諭工部局知照一面傳諭瞿

董事等辦理在案茲查此項工程現已切

實估修用特奉布卽祈

貴稅務司查照爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

情形危險 circumstances dangerous.

估修 to estimate and repair, i.e., to repair.

董 or 董事 a Manager; Headman; Village Elder.

TRANSLATION.

On receipt of the Commissioner's letter requesting that some one be deputed to examine and repair (*lit.*, deal with) the stone pillars of the Sinza Bridge which were dangerously out of the straight, an officer was at once sent to survey them, and (the Taotai) proposed that, to convenience travellers, precedent should be followed and the Village Elders summon workmen and undertake the repairs. The Doyen of the Consular Body was written to to direct the Municipal Council to take note, and at the same time Ch'ü and the other Village Elders were ordered to take action. This is on record.

It now appears that the work has been satisfactorily executed, so the Taotai specially informs the Commissioner thereof trusting he will take note.

Letter No. 29.

啓者昨因

蘇糧道署託戴生昌小輪船局運壽板一

副往蘇當於九百九十七號紅函致關免

驗放行在案茲據招商局經報之人來稱

此項板料關上未肯放行須估價照捐等

語未知前號紅函是否達到用再函布即

希

貴稅務司查照一俟戴生昌船局裝運此項

壽板赴蘇免稅免驗放行爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

茲 now; translated has appeared instead of now appears.

壽板 a set of (6) coffin planks
板料 plank materials; only translated once in first paragraph by "a set of coffin planks."

捐 to pay duty.

達到 made known.

TRANSLATION.

The Customs Clerk (*lit.*, Manager of Applications) of the China Merchants S. N. Co., has appeared and stated that yesterday the Customs would not release, but insisted on charging an *ad valorem* duty on a set of coffin planks, which the Grain Commissioner at Soochow had requested the Tai Shêng Ch'ang Steam Launch Company to convey to Soochow, and which the records show Taotai's letter No. 997 asked should be passed free of examination.

The Taotai is not aware whether the letter above referred to has reached the Commissioner or not, so again writes hoping he will take note, and, on Tai Shêng Ch'ang shipping these coffin planks to Soochow, release them free of duty and examination.

Letter No. 30.

啓者金陵草鞋夾江係屬內河爲停泊民
船要道前因輪船屢有碰船淹斃人命情

事經

總理衙門定章並在夾江設立禁牌禁止

中外輪船行駛

尊處諒必有案可稽惟草鞋夾江係在何處

江面離某處若干里未甚明晰因念理船

廳處必有長江水道洋圖如能詳細指明

望即

示知以免轉輾移詢致稽時日較爲簡捷用

特奉詢即祈

貴稅務司查明見示爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

要道 here an important place.
禁牌 a prohibitory tablet usually of wood.
惟 and; but.
詳細指明 minutely point out.
轉輾 repeatedly.
移詢 transmission of enquiries.
較爲簡捷 a little more convenient; comparatively more convenient; here to economise time.

TRANSLATION.

As the Ts'ao-Hsieh-Chia river near Chinling (Nanking cut-off) is an inland stream, and an important anchorage for junks, the Tsung Li Yamên some time ago made a rule, and erected a tablet (wooden) at the place prohibiting steamers, foreign and native, from voyaging thereon because on several occasions steamers had collided with junks (*lit.*, vessels) to the consequent loss of life by drowning.

Your office is certain to have records that can be referred to, and, as (the Taotai) is not clear as to what waters are meant by Tsao-Hsieh-Chia river, and their distance in *li* from other places, and thinks that the Harbour Master's Office doubtless possesses a foreign chart of the Yangtze waterways, he would be obliged by your replying at once if the details of the place can be pointed out, and thus avoid repeated enquiries which will only result in delay. To economise time therefore a special letter of enquiry is prepared with the hope that the Commissioner will look into the matter and reply.

Letter No. 31.

啓者十二月十四日接展

來函以英商美查公司葯水廠常年應需之

梳頭一百五十噸並非違禁之列歷來准

予征稅放行茲擬限定此數准於一年之

內運滿爲止以示限制請核復等因到道

查梳頭一項如與硫磺有別自可准予征

稅進口用特泐復卽希

貴稅務司查照核明辦理可也此頌

日社

NOTES.

常年 every year.
歷來 hitherto.
爲止 to stop there; this is the
limit.
梳頭 soda.

TRANSLATION.

On the 14th day of the 12th moon (the Taotai) received (the Commissioner's) letter that Major Brothers Chemical Works—British—require annually 150 tons Soda, which do not come under the law prohibiting (importation of munitions of war), and which hitherto have been permitted to pay duty and be released. In order to mark a restriction, it is now proposed to decide that every year this amount and no more may be passed in full, and you request consideration and reply.

If "soda" really differs from Sulphur, import should be allowed and duty levied. A special reply trusting that the Commissioner will note, look into the matter, and deal with it.

Letter No. 33.

啓者金裕盛商船被圖南輪船碰傷船貨一案前准

函復如果兩造均願歸本關理船廳居間秉公辦理則當由該廳另外再請熟悉船務之兵商兩船公正管駕各一位會同訂期齊集兩造人証悉心研訊持平公斷惟須先由兩造各具切結到案方可照辦等因當經備文移詢

招商局去後茲准復文內開此案既由道函請

貴稅務司轉飭理船廳居間另延公正管駕會同訂期集訊公斷自應照辦一俟會訊有期復飭該船主前來聽候訊斷等因除諭飭金裕盛船商遵照並函請

招商局轉飭圖南船主一律出具切結送關備案外合先函布即希

貴稅務司轉飭理船廳查照辦理一俟訂定會訊日期並望

示知爲荷此頌
日祉

NOTES.

居間 to stand between=從中 acting as mediator.
切結 a secure bond, guarantee.

TRANSLATION.

In the matter of the collision between the S.S. "Toonan" and the merchant vessel "Chin Yü Shêng," in which the latter and its cargo were damaged, (the Taotai) received some time ago your reply (note *han* above line) that, if both parties were willing to submit to the impartial arbitration of the Harbour Master, that official would, in addition, invite two captains—one man-of-war and one mercantile marine—thoroughly versed in marine affairs (to sit with him), and with them appoint a day for the hearing of the case and judgment (*lit.*, assembling the two parties with witnesses and with their entire mind thoroughly investigate and give a just decision). But it will be necessary for plaintiff and defendant each to file a satisfactory bond before the case can be dealt with.

(The Taotai) at once wrote to the China Merchants enquiring (their wishes) and was duly informed that, as this case had already been referred to the Commissioner by the Taotai with the request that the Harbour Master be instructed to invite impartial captains to conjointly fix a date for the public hearing of the case, it was their duty to abide by his action. As soon then as the date of investigation could be decided upon, the captain of the vessel would be directed to appear before the court.

Besides instructing the "Chin Yü Shêng" owner (*lit.* merchant) to obey, and writing to the China Merchants to direct the "Toonan" captain also to file a bond at the Custom House, it is the Taotai's duty to inform the Commissioner hoping he will order the Harbour Master to take note and act accordingly. Kindly let (Taotai) know when the date for enquiry is settled.

Letter No. 34.

啓者據民人孫阿關稟稱撐駕貨船爲業往來浦江歷照
定章行駛此次裝載紅磚來申於前月二十七日七點半鐘
時行至陸家嘴地方忽有太古公司之桂林輪船由東往
西南行駛身見輪來卽照章將船身緊靠東灘行駛詎該
輪違章亦向東灘橫衝直撞而來倉猝間無從避讓將身
船貨及人一併撞沉幸爲水巡捕船瞥見前來救起身等
四人尙有船夥孫勝祥一人迄今仍未撈着伏查浦江行
船章程民船在浦東行駛輪船在浦西行駛以故兩無妨
碍今該輪違章妄駛致身船貨俱沉船夥淹斃身船于前
年新釘約用洋一千二百元所裝紅磚值洋一百數十元
船中存有現洋四十元零星什物不計統共失去一千三
百餘元身所養命之源盡歸烏有此後何以謀生况船夥
親屬向身拚開無地可容稟懇照會飭提太古桂林船主
訊究違章情形賠償船貨撫卹船夥等情到道據此查此
案被告之太古行桂林輪船係屬英商照章須赴
英按察司控告惟該民人船貨碰沉業已苦累不堪焉能
再延律師爲之伸訴究竟此次錯在何船既經拯救之水
巡浦船在場目擊必可作証能否由理船廳秉公訊斷用
特奉詢卽祈
稅務司查核見示如可由關集訊本道當函商
事飭遵可也此頌
日 貴

英總領

NOTES.

浦江 Whangpoo river up to Sungchiang 110 li from Shanghai.

緊靠 closely keep alongside, *i.e.*, closely hug.

詎 an interjection of surprise.

船身 hull of boat.

橫衝直撞 at right angles rushing towards straight running against, *i.e.*, veering about, going first in one direction then in another.

倉猝間 in the midst of his flurry or excitement.

身 here the petitioner or "any."

無從 not complying with; unable.

爲 by (the river police seen); later on in the letter, "on behalf of."

瞥見 to glance at; catch a glimpse of.

親屬 relatives.

拚鬧 to suffer disturbance or trouble.

無地可容 not a leg to stand upon, no place to run to.

焉 how.

在場 at the place.

TRANSLATION.

An individual named Sun A-kuan has petitioned (the Taotai) to the effect that he gains his livelihood as a cargo-boat man (*lit.* punting a cargo-boat) plying on the Whangpoo, and has always obeyed the sailing rules. On this occasion—20th day of last moon—he was coming to Shanghai with a load of red bricks, and about 7.30 o'clock was at *Liu Chia Tsui* when suddenly Butterfield & Swire's S.S. "Kweilin," steaming (*lit.*, sailing) from the east towards the south-west, appeared, and petitioner, on seeing her coming, at once in accordance with the rule (of the road) hugged closely the eastern shoals. To his surprise the steamer broke the rule, went also to the east flats, and as she did not hold on a straight course (petitioner) became flurried, and, being unable to get out of the way, his vessel and men were all sunk by collision. Luckily, however, the River Police Boat, catching a glimpse of them, came to their rescue and picked up him and three others, but there remained his partner Sun Sheng-hsiang, who up till now has not been saved.

Petitioner would humbly submit that, under the Whangpoo sailing directions, junks must sail on the east side of the river, and steamers on the west thereof in order to avoid injury to both. But on this occasion (*lit.*, now) the said steamer disobeyed the rule, and took such a wrong course as to result in the sinking of petitioner's vessel and cargo, and the drowning of his partner. The boat was new (*lit.*, newly nailed together) the year before last at a cost of about \$1200, the cargo of bricks was worth more than 100 dollars (*lit.* 100 and several tens), and on board was ready money to the extent of \$40, besides some miscellaneous articles which he has not counted. Altogether the loss amounts to over \$1300, and his means of livelihood are gone, (*lit.*, source whence he nourished his life entirely become non-existent) so how is he to exist in the future? Moreover the drowned man's relatives are continually worrying (petitioner), and he has no means of yielding (to their wishes). (He therefore) prays that (the Taotai) will write (to Consul) that orders be issued to summon the "Kweilin" captain for an investigation into his infraction of the law, and that in pity to the partners he make good the (loss of) vessel and cargo.

Such is the statement that has reached the Taotai. In this case it appears that, as the accused—Butterfield & Swire's S.S. "Kweilin"—belongs to a British Merchant, (the case) should be tried before the British Judge, but as the plaintiff's boat and cargo have been sunk in collision, and he has already suffered intolerable loss, how can he engage a lawyer to plead his case? After all in this instance the blame can be attached to one or other vessel by the rescuers—the river police—who were in the vicinity and witnessed (the affair), so could not the Harbour Master impartially try the case? (The Taotai) specially writes asking if this can be arranged, and trusts that the Commissioner will enquire and reply in what manner the Customs can assemble (all the parties) for trial. The Taotai will then write and consult with the British Consul-General that obedience may be directed.

Letter No. 35.

日社

貴稅務司查照迅將卹洋發給王銀寶領回俾得早日歸葬妻女是所盼禱此頌

函請卽祈

縣轉給該屍親赴關領銀等情到道相應求給予照會費投具領申請賜給照會發

貴稅務司旋准函復未允照辦卽經轉飭知

再函商

上海縣申請轉商請加等情據經本道一

啓者老公茂紗廠小輪撞翻划船溺斃王銀寶妻女二命一案前據王銀寶以赴關

NOTES.

憑 * * * 稟 In this sentence the Hsien on receiving Wang's petition reports (despatch from inferior) to Taotai, etc.

請領 apply for and receive.

函商 etc., a letter discussing (raising the question) with Commissioner.

一再 again and again.

旋准 subsequently received.

未允照辦 did not assent to act accordingly.

飭知 to notify inferiors or subordinates.

奉諭 to receive commands; here "was told."

文據 written proof.

始 then.

呈求 to hand in a humble request; here "begs."

費投 to deliver to.

具領 to receive in full.

洋 for 洋銀 foreign money, i.e., dollars.

歸葬 to remove the bodies to his home and to bury.

TRANSLATION.

In the matter in which the Lao Kung Mao Yarn Mills' Launch collided with and upset a sampan drowning Wang Yin-pao's wife and daughter, the said Wang Yin-pao reported a while ago (to the Hsien) that on going to the Custom House to receive compensation (*lit.* compassionate allowance) he got nothing as the amounts disagreed. The District Magistrate therefore begged the Taotai in his turn to discuss the matter with (the Commissioner) and ask for increase. On this reaching the Taotai the question was raised again in letters to the Commissioner, who replied that matters could not be arranged as desired, whereupon (the District Magistrate) was notified accordingly. This is on record.

The Shanghai Hsien now reports that he has received a petition from Wang Yin-pao to the effect that on the 13th day he went to receive (the money), and was told that he must produce proof (that he was the party concerned) before it could be handed over. He begs for a despatch to take with him as a proof (of identity) to enable him to get delivery (of the allowance). The Hsien therefore requests that a despatch be issued to him for transmission to the relative of the deceased that he may deliver it at the Custom House and be paid the money.

On receipt of this the Taotai, as in duty bound, writes (this) request and trusts that the Commissioner will note and quickly issue the compensation dollars to Wang Yin-pao to take back that wife and daughter may receive an early funeral. This is (the Taotai's) prayer.

Letter No. 36.

啓者十二月二十一日接

招商局顧道台來函以福建啓糧道函因

閩省歲歉月支旗營兵米不敷所用派員

至無錫鎮江等處採辦米石茲據該員辦

就白米貳千石定于二十四日裝海琛輪

船運閩附送

閩督憲護照二紙請致關驗放等由除將

護照驗明函還並報明

兩院憲鑒核外合亟奉致卽希

稅務司查照驗免放行爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

歲歉 failure in crops.
白米 white rice, *i.e.*, table rice.
辦就 to conclude provision of, *i.e.*, bought.
鑒核 to examine and consider; *i.e.*, for their information.

TRANSLATION.

On the 21st day of the 12th moon (the Taotai) received a letter from Taotai Ku, of the China Merchants S. N. Co., that Ch'i, Grain Taotai of Fuhkien, had written him that, as the crops were deficient in that province, he had insufficient rice for the monthly issue to the Banner Troops, and had therefore sent a deputy to Wuhsi and Chinkiang, etc., to purchase rice. The deputy in question having bought 2,000 *Shih* of table rice has decided to ship it to Foochow per S.S. "Haeshin" of the 24th instant, and has sent in two *huchao* from the Fuhkien Governor General with the request that the Customs he communicated with to examine and release.

Besides returning these *huchao* by letter after verifying their correctness, and reporting the matter to the Governors—Min and Chê—for their information, it is the Taotai's duty to at once notify the Commissioner and trust that he will accordingly release (this rice) without examination.

Letter No. 37.

日 社	此 頌	柯 副 稅 務 司 同 時 相 見 爲 荷	李 副 稅 務 司	並 望 轉 邀	貴 稅 務 司 查 照 屆 時 撥 冗 稍 待	台 端 專 誠 拜 賀 合 先 函 訂 即 希	點 鍾 趨 詣	元 旦 良 辰 本 道 擬 于 是 日 十	啓 者 十 二 月 初 三 日 爲 西 歷
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NOTES.

元旦 New Year's Day.
 良辰 an auspicious day.
 專誠 in full sincerity.
 趨詣 * * * 拜 to go to * * *
 to visit.
 相見 to meet, have an inter-
 view with.

TRANSLATION.

The Taotai purposes visiting your Honour at 10 a.m. on the 3rd day of the 12th moon—Foreign New Year's Day—to offer you his most sincere congratulations, and, as in duty bound, writes beforehand fixing (the time). He trusts that the Commissioner will take note, and at the appointed hour lay aside his business, and attend for a short while upon him. He also hopes that the Deputy Commissioners Lay and Grevedon will be invited to meet him at the same time.

Letter No. 38.

啓者光緒二十八年四月初四日奉

兩江督憲劉 札以拐匪以藥迷人或以

食物引誘童男幼女或賣作娼優或賣爲

奴婢此等拐匪所在皆有平日專於內地

拐帶小孩搭坐輪船駛赴沿海口岸價賣

小民受害無窮應由各關道會同稅務司

於輪船到口時認真查察設有攜帶小孩

即切實盤問來歷偷迹涉可疑便當截留

行查並將攜帶小孩之人發縣看管嚴究

詳辦滬關爲出海口岸更應嚴密稽查毋

得視爲故事致長拐風等因查此等拐孩

匪徒搭坐輪船曾經海關獲辦有案茲奉

前因除分行縣委派差探隨時查拏外

合亟抄札函致即希

貴稅務司查照嚴飭扞手巡查人等務於輪

船進出口時嚴密稽察如果獲到眞犯自

當重賞本道懸欸以待決不食言並乞

飭知爲荷此頌

日祉

NOTES.

藥迷 besotted or confused by medicine, *i.e.*, drugged.

以 *here* to use or take medicine to; or *by* medicine, etc.

所在皆有 they are to be found everywhere.

搭坐 to travel by.

攜帶 to take along with; in their care or charge.

迹 footprints; *here* circumstances.

涉 connected with, involve, suspicious, doubtful.

可疑 suspicious, doubtful.

便當 = 就 then ought.

截留 to detain.

行查 to carry out investigation.

看管 to be attended to; held in custody or under surveillance

致 so that; here translated lest. Notice kidnappers in Chinese "this class of kidnapping vagabonds."

分行 separately to send despatch of instructions to.

差 constables of the Chih-hsien

探 detectives of the Weiyuan.

務 must.

以待 in order to wait, *i.e.*, awaiting some one to claim them for services performed.

懸欸 hanging up funds, *i.e.*, reward account.

縣委 District Magistrate and Mixed Court Deputy.

TRANSLATION.

On the 4th day of the 4th moon, 28th year of Kuang Hsü, Liu, Governor General of the Two Kiang, wrote (*lit.*, despatch of instructions received) that Kidnappers were drugging, or enticing away with food, young boys and girls to be sold for prostitutes and actors or male and female slaves. This class of Kidnappers is to be found everywhere, and, to the boundless injury of the people, they are generally in the interior for the special purpose of stealing children and shipping them by steamer to the coast ports for sale. The Customs Taotai ought therefore, in concert with the Commissioner, to have steamers carefully searched on arrival, and, should there be on board any people with children in their care, at once to make a genuine enquiry into their antecedents, and on finding (*lit.*, if there be) any suspicious circumstance to detain them for investigation and despatch to the District Magistrate to be attended to (*i.e.*, held in custody), strictly tried, and dealt with. The Shanghai Customs is (at) the port where extra precautions (*lit.*, extra secret inquiries) are necessary, and the matter must not be regarded as one of no consequence (*lit.*, as an old legend) lest the Kidnapping spirit grow.

It is on record that Kidnappers have been arrested on board steamers by the Customs and dealt with, and now that the above despatch has been received, it is (the Taotai's) duty to direct the Magistrate and Deputy (Mixed Court) to select and send constables and detectives to search and seize on vessel's arrival (*lit.*, forthwith). Besides so doing, a copy of the Governor General's despatch is forwarded by letter to the Commissioner, trusting he will take note and issue rigorous instructions to Tidewaiters and Police that they must on arrival of steamers search with the utmost secrecy. Should any of the real criminals be arrested, large rewards will be issued by the Taotai—who will not break his promise—from his "reward funds awaiting (claimants)."

Trusting that orders will be given, etc.

Letter No. 39.

啓者十一月初五日接展
來函以棉花駁船傍輪上貨往往均在輪船兩旁貨艙門口並排疊靠有
碍船路請出示諭禁等由到道除飭繕告示發縣分貼外茲繕告示六
紙函送即希
貴稅務司查收發貼可也此頌
日祉

計送告示六紙

欽命二品頂戴江南分巡蘇松太兵備道袁

爲

出示曉諭事本年十月初五日接

新關稅務司好來函前以本口江面駁運棉花一幫船隻傍輪上貨
往往均在輪船兩旁貨艙門口並排疊靠形同鳥翼左右分張水路幾
被阻斷來往之船俱極危險萬一彼此碰撞則所有之人船貨物皆所
不保其奈雖經本關迭次飭拏究罰而犯之者依然如故不得已乃於
上月間特爲飭傳該駁船之管幫朱坤來關諭令傳知各該駁花船戶
人等以後祇許將此項駁船前後接尾直連相傍不准仍前並排疊靠
免碍水路倘有再敢故違不遵者即予拏送至縣懲辦等諭去後不料
茲據該管幫稟復奉諭之下遵即分投傳知無如各駁船等良莠不齊
安分者固所樂遵頑梗者輒以口說無憑仍然違抗未免使身掣肘稟
請曉諭俾憑遵辦等情函請飭繕告示發縣分貼並飭送六紙到關以
便在租界各碼頭實貼俾得周知而昭信實等由到道合行出示曉諭
爲此示仰駁船戶人等一體知悉嗣後爾等駁運上輪貨物祇許在輪
船兩旁前後接尾直連相傍不准仍前並排疊靠阻碍船路自蹈危機
倘再不遵由關送縣懲辦決不寬貸其各凜遵毋違切切特示

光緒二十八年十一月十六日示

NOTES.

蘇州府 松江府 太倉州

傍 to depend on, alongside
相 alongside.

均 all: here not translated.

貨 艙門口 cargo hold door,
i.e., ships' hatches.

並排 層靠 united rows and
layers leaning against.

等由 close of quotation from
equal or slightly inferior.

分貼 means that the Magistrate
posts up in all the various
places necessary.

以 that.

往往 constantly, often.

形同 resembling, appearing.

分張 separately spread out.

則 then.

其奈 the remedy, resource
here = 無奈 unfortunately.

予 I, me.

而 still.

犯之者 the law breakers.

如故 as of old.

依然 as before.

不得已 no help for it; unable
to stop.

傳 1st meaning to summon,
2nd meaning to transmit by
word of mouth.

傳知 to apprise.

前後接尾直連 fore and aft
joined to the tail in a straight
connection.

故違 intentionally to disobey.
Notice again dare intentionally
to disregard and not obey.

投 to hand over to 分投傳知
to apprise in detail or separately.

無如 alas.

良莠 good and evil (tares).

安分者 those who do their
duty. Notice 者 the one who.

自蹈危機 and thus endangering
their lives.

其各 each, every one.

奉布 to have the honour to
acquaint.

TRANSLATION.

On the 5th day of the 11th moon (the Taotai) received the Commissioner's letter (*lit.* opened the incoming letter) stating:

that cargo-boats—containing raw cotton—going alongside steamers to ship cargo constantly collect in rows abreast at the hatches on both sides of vessels to the detriment of the fairway; and requesting that a proclamation forbidding this practice be issued.

On this reaching the Taotai, he gave orders for a proclamation to be written out and issued to the District Magistrate to be posted in the various places necessary (*lit.*, separately), and, in addition, forwards six copies thereof to the Commissioner trusting he will find them in order and post them up. 6 proclamations forwarded.

PROCLAMATION.

Yüan, By Imperial Command Wearing a Button of the Second Grade, Taotai of the Su, Sung, T'ai, Circuit charged with Military Control, in the matter of a Proclamation:

On the 5th day of the 11th moon of this year (the Taotai) received from Mr. Hobson, Commissioner of Customs, a letter to the effect that for some time past the fleet of boats engaged in the waters of the port conveying Raw Cotton alongside steamers for shipment constantly congregate in rows abreast at the hatches on both sides of vessels—like birds' wings stretched out to right and left—to the obstruction of the fairway, and the extreme danger of vessels going to and fro. If perchance there is a collision the men, vessels, and cargo concerned cannot be protected. Unfortunately though the Customs (*i.e.*, the Commissioner) repeatedly gave orders to seize and fine, the offenders act as before, so, being unable to stop (this practice), during the course of last moon Chu K'un, Overseer of the Cargo-boat fleet, was summoned to the Custom House, and directed to notify all the Cotton Cargo-boat men that, in future to avoid detriment to the fairway, their boats must be alongside in single lines connected fore and aft and not as formerly in rows abreast. If any again dared to disobey they would be sent at once by me to the District Magistrate for punishment.

Notwithstanding (or to our surprise) the Manager now replies (*lit.*, petitions in reply) that he at once, in obedience to orders, notified the various parties concerned, but alas! the good and bad cargo-boat (men) are uneven (*i.e.* of different opinions). The well-behaved obey gladly, but the obstinate regard his words as idle talk (*lit.*, talk without proof), and continue to disobey, which cannot fail to get him (the Manager) into trouble (*lit.* impede his free action). The Petitioner therefore begged that, as a proof that obedience was required, a notification be issued.

The (Commissioner's) letter therefore requests that instructions be issued for copying out of a proclamation to be sent to the District Magistrate for posting (*Chinese* separately), and also that orders be given to forward six copies to the Customs to be hung up at the various jetties in the Settlement for general information, and to manifest sincerity.

On receipt of this, it is the Taotai's duty to issue a proclamation, and accordingly this proclamation calls upon all cargo-boat men alike to understand that in future, when you convey cargo to a steamer, you must fasten alongside in connected lines fore and aft, and not as formerly in rows abreast to the detriment of the fairway and the endangering of your lives. Should any again dare to disobey they will be sent by the Customs to the District Magistrate to be punished, and no mercy will be shown. Let all tremblingly obey! Let there be no disobedience!

A special proclamation.

Letter No. 40.

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NOTES.

論及 to discuss.
查疫洋人 foreigner searching for epidemics, i.e. Foreign Quarantine Officer.
以 to take; by the use of.
官 an official.
投 to jump into.

TRANSLATION.

On the 12th day of the 8th moon (the Taotai) received your letter that you had read in the issue of the 6th day of the 8th moon of the "Chung Wai Jih Pao"—a daily newspaper published in the English Settlement of the port—an article stating that (*lit.*, discussing)

the Chefoo Quarantine Officer had by the use of poison injured a certain Shantung man;

a certain official's family had been killed (*lit.*, died a violent death);

a girl belonging to a good family had been so handled that in shame she cast herself into the Sea;

all of which statements are false, but, lest (*lit.*, for fear) they should stir up trouble, you request that the offender be strictly forbidden (to publish such statements) and be dealt with.

The Taotai considers that, as the "Chung Wai Jih Pao" is situated in the Settlement, the Doyen of the Consular Body should be asked to look into the matter, prohibit (such articles appearing in future), and issue order for correction (of article complained of). The Taotai has written him, and in addition sends a special reply to the Commissioner hoping he will note and also communicate with the Doyen that (the offender) be prohibited (from committing like offences) and be dealt with.

Letter No. 41.

啓者頃奉

外務部密電總稅務司呈稱滬粵商運莫

非鴉片在未定商約以前立有合同未便

概抽重稅應限三日內將合同赴關呈驗

掛號准自新約畫定之日起限六箇月仍

照值百抽五納稅逾限即每兩征銀三兩

其限內不能運到者設法將合同註銷等

語應查照辦理仍將掛號總數報部等因

奉此用特奉布即祈

貴稅務司查照辦理應否出示曉諭之處並

請

酌奪仍希將辦理情形並掛號總數一併

示知以便轉報爲荷順頌

日社

NOTES.

密 secret hence 密電 a code.
呈驗 handed in for examination—not translated as this phrase is understood.

自 from.

征 to levy duty. Notice every ounce pays duty Tls. 3 or on—will be levied.

Notice “whether there is a place for issue of a proclamation or not 並 also requests consideration, etc.

仍 again 希 hoping. Jêng need not be translated here.

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) has just received from the Board of Foreign Affairs a code telegram to the effect that the Inspector General had reported that Shanghai and Canton Importers of Morphia had, before the conclusion of the New Treaty, entered into contracts, under which they could not well (*lit.*, conveniently) exact the increased (*lit.*, heavy) duty. Such contracts ought therefore to be allowed three days within which to be registered at the Custom House, and, during six months from the date of signature of the Treaty (Morphia imported under them) ought as before to pay duty at five *per cent ad valorem*. On expiry of the limit, three taels an ounce should be levied. Some plan should be devised for the cancellation of contracts for Morphia which cannot arrive in time. (Têng yü close of quotation from I. G.). The matter ought to be noted and dealt with accordingly, and the total amount registered be reported to Board. (Têng yin close of quotation from Board).

On receipt of this, the Taotai writes specially to the Commissioner hoping he will note and deal with the matter, and also consider and decide whether or not a proclamation should be issued. That (the Taotai) may in turn report, he trusts (the Commissioner) will reply giving details of his action and the amount registered.

Letter No. 42.

啓者前擬添書趕造各口免照銀數冊簿並責令陳慶春等會同清理業于十月間函致

台端並飭關科書吏唐大衍傳諭去後茲據唐書稟稱陳書等會同妥議以新募冊書大都生手非有熟悉單務情形之書督率辦理轉虞錯誤擬卽責成單書陳慶春督同監造等因查此項免稅底冊本係各該書應辦之事緣據一再稟懇添人辦理是經照准以示體卹現在迭奉

大部嚴催不得不加緊造送惟積壓已久僅由陳書一人督率仍恐辦理遲延難期得力查單書王仲侯李吉生徐調甫於單務較爲熟悉自應連同陳慶春一併調回常川駐署督同新募冊書趕速盡心清造所遺執照房單照事務卽由前送之學習書胡仲梅侯友臣吳培之汪似村暫行代辦於公事均有裨益仍俟免稅冊務辦竣再將陳書等送關接替至長江各口板函銀數從前未填之件卽請

嚴諭經辦各書舍從速補填以後更宜隨辦隨註免再積久貽誤用特函致卽希

貴稅務司查照分別飭遵足紉

公誼仍望

迅速見復爲荷此頌

日祉

NOTES.

趕造 to hasten the making.
 責令, 責成 to charge with, make responsible for.
 清理 to clear off.
 免照銀數冊簿 Registers of Exemption certificate moneys.
 並 also, and.
 台端 Your Honour.
 科 a class; subdivision.
 傳諭 to send a message ordering.
 單務形情 circumstances, details, of documentary work *i.e.*, Shupan duties.
 督率, 督同 to lead, conduct.
 是經照准 is already authorised according (to petition.)
 以示體卹 in order to show mercy, kindness, pity, or sympathy with.
 加緊 increased urgency.
 難期得力 it is difficult to expect he will have the strength.
 較爲熟悉 better acquainted with than others.
 常川 uninterruptedly.
 執照房 Certificate Office.
 單照事務 documentary affairs.
 接替 to take the place of, *here* resume duty.
 經辦 to manage, be in charge of.
 書舍 Shupan.
 更宜 still more must.
 足隸公誼 thoroughly consonant with the *entente cordiale*.
 迅速見復 may be quickly replied to.

TRANSLATION.

It having been proposed some time ago to increase the Shupan Staff so that the entering up (*lit.*, making) of the various port Exemption Certificate Registers might be hastened, and to charge Ch'ên Ch'ing-ch'un and others with the joint responsibility of clearing off the work, your Honour was notified in the course of the 10th moon, and T'ang Ta-yen, Customs Record Shupan, was directed to issue the necessary instructions.

T'ang Ta-yen now suggests (*lit.*, petitions stating and proposing) that Record Shupan Ch'ên Ch'ing-ch'un be made responsible for the conduct and supervision of the work. This conclusion has been arrived at after thorough (*lit.*, satisfactory) discussion with Ch'ên and others, and is due to their fear that mistakes may arise owing to the newly engaged Register Shupan being all raw hands with no one conversant with Shupan duties who can superintend the work.

(The keeping of) these E. C. records is really the proper work of these Shupan (alone), but in order to show kindness to them their repeated petition begging increase of staff (*lit.*, add men for working) was acceded to. The Board (of Revenue) is now so extremely pressing that (the Taotai) cannot but be urgent in the preparation and forwarding (of these registers). Only as the arrears are so great (*lit.*, they have accumulated for so long) it is to be feared that, if Shupan Ch'ên alone superintends, the work will be delayed, and his strength overtaxed (*lit.*, difficult to hope that he will have the strength). Shupan Wang Chung-hou, Li Chi-shêng, Hsü Tiao-pu, seem to be better acquainted with Record work than others, so they and Ch'ên Ch'ing-ch'un should all be retransferred to live uninterruptedly at the Yamên, and there supervising (*lit.*, leading) the (newly) engaged Shupan cause them to devote their whole attention (*lit.*, hasten with all their mind) to clear off the arrears. The certificate and other documentary work left behind can be temporarily looked after by Hu Chung-mei, Hou Yu-ch'ên, Wu P'ei-chih and Wang Ssü-ts'un—formerly sent to learn work—, and thus public business reap the benefit. On the completion of these E. C. books Shupan Ch'ên, etc., will be sent back to the Custom House to resume duty.

As regards the money amounts formerly not entered on the applications for Yangtze drawbacks (the Taotai) would request that strict orders be given to the Shupan in charge to quickly make good the omission, and in future to be extra careful to make the entries at the time the documents are dealt with, and thus avoid again having accumulation (of work) and mistakes.

This is communicated by a special letter to the Commissioner for his information trusting that he will issue the detailed instructions necessary, and thus thoroughly maintain the *entente cordiale*.

Kindly favour with an early reply.

Letter No. 43.

啓者十一月二十八日接

英總領事滿 來函廣源行有米一萬

石運往汕頭等處十月二十二日函致

准復飭知該行赴關領照本月二十三

日該行稟因前次漏未聲明此米係他

處運來轉運出口以致照未領到當又

函請致關在案茲又據該行稟此項護

照仍未發給查米石存棧日費甚鉅再

請立即致關發照等因查此項米石既

由他處辦運到滬現由上海轉運汕頭

夏門廣州天津牛庄烟台自應按照轉

口向章辦理本可毋庸給照除函復

英總領事飭知該商赴關報運外合就

函致即希

貴稅務司查明照轉口章程辦理爲荷此

頌

日社

TRANSLATION.

On the 28th day of the 11th moon (the Taotai) received a letter from Mr. Mansfield, British Consul-General, that the British Firm Kwang Yüan had for shipment to Swatow and other places 10,000 *Shih* Rice, which the Consul-General wrote about on the 22nd day of the 11th moon, and duly received reply that the merchant should be instructed to go to the Customs and receive *huchao*. On the 23rd day of the present moon the firm in question reported that, owing to the omission last time of the port whence this rice arrived for transshipment, this certificate (*chao*) has not been received, and (the Consul-General) at once, as the records show, wrote requesting that the Customs be communicated with. The said firm now petitions that this *huchao* has not been issued yet, and as the expense of daily storage of the rice is very great (the Consul-General) would again ask that the Customs be immediately written to issue *huchao*. (Close of quotation from Consul-General's letter).

As it appears that this rice has been imported from other places and is now to be transhipped from Shanghai (*lit.*, sent in turn from) to Swatow, Amoy, Canton, Tientsin, Newchwang, and Chefoo, it ought to be dealt with under the existing Transshipment Regulations, and there is really no necessity to issue a *huchao*. Besides replying to the British Consul-General to direct the merchant to apply at the Custom House for shipment, it is the Taotai's duty to write the Commissioner trusting he will investigate and deal with the matter according to the Transshipment Regulations.

NOTES.

漏未聲明 omitting and not stating clearly.
此項 this class or kind.
既 then ; as ; since.

Letter No. 44.

啓者前以普陀輪船留爲防疫之用所需
煤油薪糧項函請

貴稅務司設法籌撥未荷

見復現在奉裁各船已於十一月底止停給

餉項並奉

督憲電飭設法變價之諭所有普陀一船

既擬留充防疫之用自應先將本年十二

月起應給該船薪糧各費籌定庶可分別

請示辦理合再奉布卽祈

貴稅務司查照前函迅賜復示以憑核辦爲

荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

前以 some time ago (or formerly), on account of or because.

撥 to set aside funds for.

荷 to be grateful for.

奉 receive 裁 decision (of the Viceroy.)

餉項 revenue, here salaries, etc.

飭 * * * 諭 *lit.*, directed instructions; here instructions 所有 the.

From *so yu* "the "Pootoo" one vessel since it is proposed to * * * * naturally ought first to take 12th moon owing said vessel pay and grain each expense and fixedly arrange or provide for, or calculate."

TRANSLATION.

With reference to the Coal, Oil, Wages, and Rations needed by the launch "Pootoo," retained for Quarantine Work, (the Taotai) wrote some time ago requesting the Commissioner to devise means for their provision, but has not been replied to. (He) has now been directed to stop issue of salaries, etc., to each vessel (*i.e.*, government vessel under his control) at the end of the 11th moon, and telegraphic instructions to sell (*lit.*, to devise means to turn into money) these vessels have also been received from the Viceroy. The pay and rations therefore, commencing from the 12th moon, due to the "Pootoo," which he purposes retaining for Quarantine Work, ought first to be provided for, and then he will be able to apply in detail (*lit.* separately) for instructions. Again he has the honour to address the Commissioner trusting he will note his former letter, and favour him with an early reply that he may consider and take action.

Letter No. 45.

啓者案奉

外務部札據總稅務司申稱出使各員川

資雜費暨安家銀兩各款由總稅務司轉

飭途經各口稅司代墊將所墊各款繕單

呈核飭道由使費項下歸還在案嗣因庚

子之變各口未能照送清單茲據津海江

海粵海九龍四關稅務司將歷年所墊出

使各款開報計合共墊關平銀〇〇兩〇

錢〇分合規平銀〇〇兩〇錢〇分彙繕

清摺送請備案並飭滬道歸還墊款等因

札道將前項墊款由出使經費項下照數

提還等因奉此查奉撥前項墊款歷年均

送由

尊處收領歸款有案茲奉前因現於使費項

下照數動支規平銀〇〇兩填票一紙函

送卽希

貴稅務司查照代收呈報

總稅務司分別歸墊清欸仍將收到日期

見復以憑核辦爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

出使 envoys to a foreign country.

安家 family allotments.

代墊 to pay for, advance money, hence tien k'uan advances.

繕單 copy document and 呈 hand in 核 for consideration or examination.

歸還 to repay 歸 also to repay.

庚子 cyclic character for 1900.

開報 the state in writing.

計合共 calculate that it amounts in all to.

彙繕清摺 collectively to copy out a clear statement. Notice k'ai-pao is connected with hui shan ch'ing-chê.

Notice find in order and receive on behalf of all.

TRANSLATION.

It is on record that (the Taotai) has received a despatch from the Board of Foreign Affairs that the Inspector General had reported that the Travelling and Miscellaneous expenses, as well as the family allotments, of Legation Officials abroad had been, as directed by him and on record, defrayed for them by the Commissioners at the ports *en route*, who were to draw up and hand in documents specifying their outgoings that (the Board) might consider and direct the Taotai to refund from Legation Funds. Afterwards on account of the upheaval (or revolution) of 1900, each port was unable to supply a report (*lit.*, unable accordingly to send clear statement), (but) now the Four Commissioners at Tientsin, Shanghai, Canton, and Kowloon, have sent in a collective detailed list of the expenditure on "Legations Abroad Account." for past years amounting in all to Tls.—, requesting that it be placed on record, and the Shanghai Taotai be directed to reimburse these advances. (Close of quotation from I. G.)

The Taotai is instructed to repay the foregoing advances—according to the amount stated—from "Legations Abroad Account." (Close of quotation from Board).

(The Taotai) ascertains that, according to the records, the repayment of these advances has for years past been made to You, Sir, (tsun ch'u) to divide, so now on receipt of the foregoing (despatch) he has appropriated from the "Legations Abroad Account" the required amount, Tls.—, and has filled up a cheque for that sum, which he sends to the Commissioner hoping he will find it in order, and report to the Inspector General that it may be divided according to the list. Also (*lit.*, according to custom) reply giving date of receipt for Taotai to take action (*lit.*, act accordingly).

Letter No. 46.

啓者十二月二十日奉

署南洋大臣張札准

外務部咨查未經烘烤之生茶舊則原減

二成現既更定新章自應照此遞減二成

每百斤收稅一兩其征逾一兩者照發存

票辦理除札總稅務司轉飭遵照外咨行

飭即分移各關一體遵辦等因奉此除分

移外合就函致即希

貴稅務司查照辦理爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

原減二成 originally deducted 2/10ths, i.e., 20%.

查 it appears to Board, not translated here.

照發存票辦理 should be dealt with by issue of drawback according to the amount paid.

TRANSLATION.

On the 20th day of the 12th moon (the Taotai) received from Chang' Acting Southern Commissioner of Trade, a despatch that the Board of Foreign Affairs had written him that, as on Unfired Tea under the Old Tariff 20% was deducted from the weight before duty was levied, the new rule as altered ought to grant like deduction, and duty should be charged at the rate of Tls. 1 per picul. The amount collected over and above Tls. 1 ought to be refunded by drawback.

The Inspector General has been directed to communicate these orders to his subordinates, and, in addition, (the Board) writes (to Chang) to at once issue separate instructions for every Custom House to act in unison therewith.

On receipt of above the Taotai has written to each office concerned (*lit.*, separately), and it is besides his duty to inform the Commissioner trusting he will note and deal with the matter.

Letter No. 47.

啓者接到十一月初二日

專函以英公司船鈔二千九百九噸於十月

十八日照完鈔銀給有專照茲經查明

英領事報單實係二千七百四十五噸應

完鈔銀一千九十八兩計誤開多完一百

六十四噸請將多完鈔銀六十五兩六錢

給還存票等因並附專照一紙到道查該

船應完鈔銀既經查明報單實係誤開多

完核與所給專照相符應准發還茲照填

銀六十五兩六錢存票一紙同專照一併

函送即希

貴稅務司查收給領至原給專照內應批銷

一百六十四噸鈔銀六十五兩六錢並請

飭承更正發還爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

照 *accordingly* comes before 完 but translated before 給
 計開 as follows: *here* chi-wu-lai calculation wrongly states.
 專照 a special certificate, *i.e.* Tonnage Dues one.
 實係 * * * * 相符 really is erroneously stated, overpaid (amount) on comparison with certificate issued agrees.
 照填 filled up according to the proper amount.
 飭承 directions to the Shupan.

TRANSLATION.

On the 2nd day of the 11th moon (the Taotai) received the Commissioner's special letter that, on the 18th day of the 10th moon, the P. and O. S. N. Co. paid dues on a tonnage of 2,909, and certificate was accordingly issued. It now clearly appears that the British Consular Report really calls for 2,745 tons on which Tls. 1098 dues are payable. Application is (therefore) made—and tonnage dues certificate forwarded—for refund by drawback of Tls. 65.60 overpaid on tons 164 wrongly entered in excess.

These (documents) have reached the Taotai, and, as it appears to him with reference to the dues payable by the said vessel, that there has really been a mistake in the report, and that the amount overpaid agrees with the certificate issued, it is his duty to authorise refund (*lit.*, issue of refund). He has now filled in a drawback for Tls. 65.60, and sends it in a letter with the Tonnage Dues Certificate, trusting that the Commissioner will find them in order and issue them. From the original Tonnage Dues Certificate should be written off 164 tons and Tls. 65.60, and (the Taotai) therefore requests that orders be given for the correction and return (of certificate to P. & O.).

Letter No. 48.

啓者吳淞防疫院扣留閩省運來故勇靈

柩三十具前擬用船載往湖南會館義塚

埋葬商准

貴稅務司函復事屬可行並將致防疫院洋

文函一封附送到道正擬派人持函搬運

適接福州

楊廉訪
孫觀察
來電擬派福安輪船赴申於月之中

旬將各柩運往岳州請轉致放行等因用

特奉布即祈

貴稅務司轉致吳淞防疫院知照一俟福安

輪船到淞盤運各柩赴岳立即放行至

貴稅務司前次送來致防疫院一函應否更

改換繕之處並希

核明示復爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

義塚 i-chung a public cemetery.

Notice 更改換繕 alter and exchange the text or writing, i.e., altered or exchanged for another letter.

故勇 deceased braves, here Hunan braves.

TRANSLATION.

Regarding the 30 coffins containing the corpses of braves (Hunan) imported from Fukkien and detained at the Woosung Quarantine Hospital, which it was formerly proposed should be sent by boat to the Hunan Guild for interment in the Public Cemetery, the Taotai, on consulting the Commissioner, was informed that there was no objection to this proposal (*lit.*: affair belongs to the allowable). A letter to the Quarantine Hospital was enclosed in the reply, and duly received by the Taotai.

While in the act of arranging the despatch of a man to take the letter and transport (the coffins), he received from Yang, Judicial Commissioner, and Sun, Taotai, at Foochow, a telegram proposing to despatch the S.S. "Fuan" to Shanghai about middle of the month to convey the coffins to Yochow, and requesting the Taotai in turn to notify (the Customs) to release.

The Taotai specially writes a respectful letter hoping the Commissioner will in his turn notify the Woosung Quarantine Hospital to take note, and, on arrival of the "Fuan" at Woosung for the purpose of conveying the coffins to Yochow, at once to release them. As regards the Commissioner's former letter to the Quarantine Hospital, will he kindly reply whether it should be altered or not.

Letter No. 49.

啓者查吳淞防疫醫院扣存各柩前接

福建

楊廉訪
孫觀察

來電擬派福安兵輪船運回

岳州當經本道函囑

貴稅務司繕給洋文憑據以便交來人領運

在案昨又經電准

閩局復稱冬江水淺兵輪難行已商

招商局分三批包運現派郭令承桂領解

請轉致

貴稅務司給憑往起等因用特奉布即祈

查照轉飭吳淞防疫醫院接洽照辦應否分

給憑據之處並希酌核示知順頌

日社

NOTES.

囑 to order : also used as "request" by equals, *vide* Giles.

接洽 "to acquaint oneself with" seems the meaning here, but this phrase may also be translated by "in mutual accord."

TRANSLATION.

With reference to the coffins and corpses detained at the Woosung Quarantine Station, Yang, Judicial Commissioner, and Sun, Taotai, of Fuhkien, some time ago wired (the Writer) proposing to despatch the man-of-war "Fuan" to convey them to Yochow, and the Taotai at once, as the records show, asked the Commissioner to copy out and issue a foreign certificate to bearer that he might take delivery of, and convey away, (the corpses).

Yesterday the Taotai wired the Min Chü, who telegraphed that during the winter the river was too shallow for men-of-war (*lit.*, water shallow men-of-war could with difficulty travel). The China Merchants S. N. Co., (at Foochow) had therefore been consulted with, and had contracted to undertake the conveyance (home) in three lots of these coffins. Kuo Ch'êng-kuei, District Magistrate, was being sent (*lit.*: now) to escort them, and it was requested that the Commissioner be asked to grant certificate under which they might be landed.

A special letter is prepared with the hope that note will be taken, and the Woosung Quarantine Hospital be directed to acquaint itself with the matter and act accordingly.

Will the Commissioner kindly inform the Taotai whether or not a separate certificate should be issued?

Letter No. 50.

啓者十月十六日准

蘇藩司陸 咨據職員鄒裕培稟在長邑

開設仁昌官硝鋪所儲硝舫瞬將銷竣擬

照成案逕向滬上洋商訂購洋硝三百担

請給印批聲明專歸華民匠鋪傾銀所需

不涉軍火官用等情除繕批詳請

督憲驗掛飭發該職員赴採外咨請致關

查驗納稅進口等因茲據職員鄒裕培稟

今秋請辦洋硝三百担本應俟奉到印批

再行採購祇因待貨甚殷是以於奉札後

即向地亞士洋行照數訂購茲由德公司

輪船裝運到滬除俟奉到印批再行呈驗

外請先致關給單征稅驗起等情並附

藩司所給札文到道除將札文暫存俟呈

驗印批到日再行一併發還外用特泐布

即希

貴稅務司查照給單征稅驗起可也此頌

日社

NOTES.

在長邑 in the Chang chow district.

職員 Official of Taotai's rank and under; also = 卑職 I, the official. Here the first meaning.

瞬 in the twinkling of an eye.

逕 direct.

印批 sealed *huchao* or permit.

待貨甚殷 waiting for the goods very great, *i.e.*, cannot wait so long; need them at once.

TRANSLATION.

On the 16th day of the 10th moon (the Taotai) received a despatch from Lu, Provincial Treasurer at Soochow, that the official Tsou Yü-p'ei had petitioned him to the effect that the Saltpetre stored in the Jên Ch'ang Saltpetre Shop started by him in the Chang Chou district being nearly exhausted, he purposed, according to established precedent, purchasing direct from a Foreign Merchant at Shanghai 300 piculs Saltpetre. He begged therefore for a sealed *huchao* specifying clearly that the goods are needed solely by a Chinese shop for assaying silver, and are not munitions of war for official use. (Close of Petition).

Besides making out the *huchao*, and requesting the Viceroy to examine, register, and instruct issue of it to the said official to enable him to purchase (*lit.*, to go to buy), (the Treasurer) writes asking that the Customs be notified to examine, levy duty, and (allow) importation. (Close of Treasurer's despatch).

The official Tsou Yü-p'ei now petitions (Taotai) that, before buying the 300 piculs Saltpetre applied for this autumn, he ought to await the stamped *huchao*, but, as his need for this commodity is great, he, after receipt of despatch (from Treasurer) purchased the necessary amount (*Chao Shu*) from the "Ti Ya Shih" firm, which the German mail has now brought to Shanghai. Besides awaiting the receipt of the sealed *huchao* for presentation (*lit.*, when he will hand it in), petitioner begs Taotai to write beforehand to the Customs to grant permit, levy duty, examine, and (allow) landing.

(This petition) together with the Treasurer's enclosed despatch, has reached the Taotai, who besides retaining the latter temporarily until the *huchao* has been presented for verification when both documents will be returned, writes a special letter to the Commissioner hoping he will take note, issue permit, levy duty, examine, and (allow) landing.

Letter No. 51.

啓者據滬上衆職商陳作霖等稟稱上海爲通商總埠輪船市舶往來如梭現值時疫流行難免此傳彼染吳淞設立驗病局凡染有疫氣之人必須醫愈方准進口以防傳染法誠善也近來吳淞驗病局每因人多難于細驗茲在滬華商擬于吳淞自設驗病局請華人之精于西醫者一同查驗果係染疫卽送交華商所設醫院仿照西法醫治愈後並當邀請洋醫驗明釋回則致病無虞而生命可保環求照會

各國領事並函知稅務司以後船舶往來華人准由華商驗病局自行醫治保全人命等情到道據此查該職商等因近來各口時疫盛行往來船多人衆擬在吳淞集資另設一驗病局專留醫華人以分崇寶沙醫院之勞誠爲善舉且仍延洋醫會同查驗必能認真事屬可行除批示並照會

租界領袖美總領事古轉致
各總領事查照見復外合就函致卽希

貴稅務司轉致吳淞防疫醫院知照仍望見復爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

認真 zealously; in good earnest; energetically.

職商 merchants holding official titles or nominal rank.

市舶 junks.

現值 it is just the time of; now; at this time.

時疫 a disease incident to the season.

流行 to prevail; circulate about.

此傳彼染 conveying infection from one place to another.

精於西醫者 one skilled in Western medicine.

環求 all beg; *huan* to surround.

分 to divide, *here* translated "participate in."

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) has received a petition from the merchants holding official titles (or nominal rank) Ch'ên Tso-lin and others, to the effect that, as Shanghai is a great Commercial Centre where steamers and junks voyage to and fro like the weaving of a shuttle, should an epidemic at this time prevail it would be difficult to prevent infection from spreading.

At Woosung there is a Quarantine Office (*lit.* disease inspection bureau) where, in order to guard against spread of disease (*lit.*, infection), all infected patients must await their cure before being allowed to enter port. This is an excellent plan, (but) of late the Woosung Inspection Board has been constantly unable to examine minutely owing to the number of people (to be dealt with), so now the Chinese Merchants at Shanghai propose to establish an Inspection Office at Woosung, and invite a Chinese skilled in Foreign medicine to coöperate in inspection work. Should an epidemic prevail, (patients) will at once be sent to the hospital started by Chinese Merchants to be treated in accordance with Western methods, and, on recovery, the foreign doctor will be requested to examine and discharge them (*lit.* release for return). Thus the patients will not be afraid, and their lives will be protected.

All the Petitioners beg the Taotai to write to the Foreign Consuls, and notify the Commissioner, that in future the Chinese on vessels (*i.e.*, steamers) and junks voyaging to and fro should (*lit.*, are allowed to) be treated at the Inspection Bureau, established by Chinese Merchants, to the complete protection of their lives (Close of quotation from petition).

It appears to the Taotai that the said Merchants, moved by the reason that (*lit.*, because) ships and passengers come in great numbers from ports where epidemics flourish, have devised the excellent plan of collecting money for the separate establishment of an Inspection Bureau wherein Chinese can be specially retained for treatment, and thus participate in (*lit.*, divide) the labours of the Chung Pao Sha Quarantine Station. Moreover by their inviting a Foreign Physician to join in the inspection the work is sure to be performed zealously, and is practicable.

Besides noting on the petition and sending a despatch to Mr. Goodnow, Doyen of the Consular Body, to communicate it to the various Consuls General to note and reply, it is (the Taotai's) duty to write to the Commissioner trusting he will in turn inform the Woosung Quarantine Hospital that it may take note. Kindly reply.

Letter No. 52.

啓者四月初十日奉

南洋商憲劉 批本道詳奉發商人王仁

乾稟關弊甚深請革除一案詢據稅司登

復實在情形請示緣由奉批據詳已悉王

仁乾所稟係爲自便私圖固不待言現由

稅司將華洋關扞拏貨另給小方憑單之

外復又在各船刊貼告白以便周知所辦

亦極妥洽惟過客於經由之地偶帶零星

什物以供日用所需亦屬人情之常物既

碎瑣又不能報關納稅能商稅司如何明

定章程俾各有遵守不致再有誤會貽人

口實庶裕課便民兩盡之矣仰卽遵照商

辦報查繳摺存等因到道奉此相應錄批

函商卽希

貴稅務司查照批示酌辦 見復爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

批 to note instructions on a despatch from inferior or petition.

詳 to report to a superior.

奉發 received petition forwarded by him.

請示 application for instructions.

詳 * * * * 緣由 reported the particulars.

刊貼 printed and posted up.

告白 a notice.

於經由之地 at a place passing by; i.e., touching at a place on the way.

供 to supply 以供 as a supply for.

亦屬人情之常 also is a constant occurrence in human relationships.

不致 so as not to result in.

貽人口實 leaving behind people's talk, or that peoples' mouths may be stopped.

貽 here with 不致 in front=

杜. 報查繳摺存 original report of investigation returned; enclosure retained for archives.

TRANSLATION.

With reference to a petition begging for abolition of the very great Customs malpractices (prevailing) presented by the merchant Wang Jên-ch'ien to Liu, Southern Commissioner of Trade and forwarded by him to (the Taotai) on the 10th day of the 4th moon, the latter, after ascertaining the true facts of the case from the Commissioner, reported them to the Viceroy, and, on asking instructions, received the following reply:—

(Liu) has received the report and acquainted himself with its contents. He finds that Wang Jên-ch'ien's petition was (presented) with a view to derive some illicit advantage for himself, and decidedly need not be discussed (*lit.*, not wait for talk). The plan of action, mentioned in the Commissioner's reply, under which the Tidewater, Chinese or Foreign, issues a seizure ticket, and a notification is posted up on each vessel for general information, is extremely satisfactory. However, travellers passing through a place unpremeditatedly carry odds and ends of food—a constant occurrence—, which being numerous and trifling cannot well be reported to the Customs for payment of duty. Cannot the matter be discussed with the Commissioner and clearly defined by rule for general guidance so that people's mouths may be stopped, and there be no cause for further misunderstandings? Thus will the double object be attained to the utmost of benefitting the Revenue and (conveniencing or) helping the people. (Liu) expects that he be immediately obeyed, by discussion, action, and report of investigation. (Original report) is returned, and enclosure (containing the facts as ascertained from the Commissioner) is retained for the archives.

The Taotai as in duty bound copies note and discusses (the matter) by letter with the Commissioner trusting that he will take note of the instructions, deliberate, decide upon action, and reply.

Letter No. 53.

啓者據江南商務局派赴日本博覽會
委員李丞宣龔查令鍾泰稟稱日本大
阪開設商業博覽會江南商務局業已
備送物品在案目下商品已齊而大阪
事務所催貨亦甚亟卑職等當與洋員
栗林孝太郎會商擬將所辦物品趕於
本月初五早附日本西京丸輪船出口
限初十內到會符其規則茲將商品量
數價值開列清單呈請給發免單護照
等情據此查此事曾准江南商務局照
會到道據稟前情茲繕護照一紙函送
即祈

貴稅務司查照簽字蓋印交給來差帶回
以便轉送執運屆時並望驗照放行爲
荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

大阪事務所 Osaka Exhibition Committee.
商品 merchandise.
太郎 Mr.
所辦物品 the prepared exhibits.
來差 bearer.
屆時 at due date.

TRANSLATION.

Li Hsiang-kung, Sub-Prefect, and Ch'a Chung-t'ai, District Magistrate, Deputies from the Kiangnan Chamber of Commerce to the Japanese Exhibition have reported to me, as the records show, that of the exhibits (things classified) prepared by that Chamber of Commerce for the Osaka Exhibition, the mercantile portion is ready, and, as the Osaka Exhibition Committee is extremely pressing in the matter of (forwarding) goods, the petitioners talked the affair over with Mr. Li Lin-hsiao, Foreign Deputy, and purpose hastening to ship these exhibits early on the 5th day of this moon per S.S. "Saikio Maru," so that they may reach the Exhibition before the 10th—the limit laid down by the rules. A detailed list of the exhibits is now presented, enumerating the number of packages and value of contents, and a free pass and *huchao* are begged for.

In this matter a communication has already been received from the Kiangnan Chamber of Commerce, and so, on the foregoing petition being received, the Taotai has filled up a *huchao* which he forwards by letter, trusting the Commissioner will note, sign and seal, and return by bearer that it may be handed over. At due date kindly examine *huchao* and release (goods).

Letter No. 54.

啓者上海運米出口一事現經本道酌訂辦法以示限制除抄章照會租界領袖總領事查照轉致

各國總領事諭飭各洋商遵照外用特函致

貴稅務司查照仍俟

領袖總領事復到另行奉布此頌

日祉

計抄章程

計開

一酌定運限 嗣後請照運米出口議定期限米數每次以三箇月爲

限此三個月內准運米十五萬石出口由道核定預先照會

領袖總領事轉致 各總領事傳諭商人按照所定限章領照販運

查驗出口如所領米照於未滿三個月限期之前已經運足限定米

石之數應即截止作爲此次限滿不得於限內添請米照或已屆三

個月限期而洋商所領米照石數尙未運足亦于限滿之日截止不

得逾限請運仍俟每值限滿體察當時情形再行核數續運

二領照訂限 凡請領護照限于領照後一月之中將米運行如一月

已滿尙未運行該照即應作廢

三酌抽運費 現奉

南洋商憲飭據江甯司道關局議復長江各埠出口之米每石加抽

平糶捐錢二百文等因上海運米出口以後應于領照時認繳每石

二百文解道儲備本省將來平糶之用

NOTES.

酌訂 drawn up; considered and decided upon.

酌訂運限 considered and decided upon limitation of conveyance or export.

或已屆 * * * 截 *lit.*, if on the other hand the three months are up and the *shih* amounts (mentioned in) foreign merchants received certificates are still not transported in full (shipments) must likewise stop at the expiry of the three months' limit.

值 to happen, meet; at the time when.

領照訂限 on receiving *huchao* limit fixed, *i.e.*, after issue of *huchao* time is fixed for exportation under it.

平糶 sale of grain at cost price to starving people.

TRANSLATION.

In the matter of the export of Rice from Shanghai, the Taotai has, in order to enforce certain restrictions, drawn up rules (*lit.*, drawn up a procedure) copy of which has been sent to the Consular Doyen to be communicated to the Foreign Consuls-General, who in turn will notify Foreign merchants to be guided thereby (*lit.*, obedience), and a special letter is now addressed to the Commissioner for his information. As soon as the Doyen's reply shall arrive, a further letter will be prepared.

Copy of Rules. To wit:

1°. LIMITATION OF EXPORT.

In future, when application is made to export Rice, both time and amount will be limited, and in each case three months will be the allowance (*lit.*, limit). During these three months 150,000 *shih* may be shipped away, and the Taotai, on consideration and decision (of the amount), will write beforehand to the Consular Doyen to inform the various Consuls-General who will direct their nationals (*lit.*, merchants) to take out *huchao*, buy (Rice) for shipment, and have it examined and exported in accordance with these restrictions. Should these *huchao* be used up to the full extent of the limit of Rice before the expiry of the three months, export will at once stop (*lit.*, at once there will be cutting off), and this particular transaction will be complete. No additional application may be made within this time limit of three months for extra *huchao*, and should the shipments at the end of the three months under these *huchao* by Foreign merchants not amount to the amount of *shih* allowed, they must cease on expiry of the time granted and no application to ship later will be entertained. But when the time is up the circumstances will be considered, and amounts calculated for supplementary shipment.

2°. LIMIT OF TIME FOR EXPORT.

All applicants for *huchao* must within one month from time of receipt of them, ship away their Rice. Should shipment not be so made, the *huchao* will become waste paper.

3°. FEES TO BE LEVIED.

200 cash per *shih* shall be levied at time of issue of *huchao* to be sent to the Taotai to be stored in the Treasury as a provision for this province for the sale of grain at cost price (to starving people). (This procedure) is in accordance with the instructions of the Southern Commissioner of Trade after receiving reply from the Kiangning Grain Commissioner's Bureau that 200 cash per *shih* were levied on Rice exported from Yangtze Ports as contribution towards selling grain at cost price (to impoverished folk).

Letter No. 55.

啓者十二月初八日准

蘇牙厘局咨蘇捐分局委員查獲上海班

信划夾帶大土兩個印花破爛呈出運單

四紙貨數日期不符又續獲大土十隻小

洋土兩隻印封模糊單貨日期亦不符合

其爲移揭印花借單朦運情弊顯然如援

歷辦碎土成案亦應充公此次雖土未翦

碎而情節相同咨詢核復等因到道合就

抄咨函商卽希

貴稅務司查明見復以憑核轉爲荷此頌

日祉

NOTES.

准咨 wrote: *lit.*, received despatch from.
 印花 opium labels.
 查獲 to seize.
 班信划 a mail sampan; Ning-po footboat.
 其爲 this is an obvious case.
 移揭印花 changing and manipulation of labels.
 借單朦運 borrowing of documents for wrongful or deceptive conveyance.
 情弊顯然 malpractices have come to light.
 咨詢 a despatch of enquiry.
 核酌 consider and in his turn reply.

TRANSLATION.

On the 8th day of the 12th moon the Soochow Likin Office wrote that the Weiyüan at the Soochow Sub-Station had seized 2 cakes Patna Opium carried in a Shanghai mail sampan, as the labels thereon were torn and the 4 transit certificates presented disagreed both as regards amount of cargo and date. He seized in addition 10 cakes of Patna and 2 of Malwa as their sealed wrappers were blurred (indistinct), and certificates, goods, and dates, also disagreed. There are obvious cases of changing and manipulation of labels, and borrowing of documents to cover the wrong goods (*lit.*, for wrongful conveyance). (Such are) the malpractices that have come to light. Confiscation will take place if we follow the precedent set by the manner in which broken Opium has been treated hitherto—the circumstances being identical though the Opium has not been cut in pieces. (The Likin Office) writes enquiring that the matter may be considered and reply sent.

On receipt of this despatch, it is the Taotai's duty to send a copy of it to the Commissioner hoping he will ascertain the truth and reply that an answer may be sent to Soochow.

Letter No. 56.

啓者十二月十四日准

蘇藩司咨蘇省前因錢缺價昂在江南銀

元局按照市價發商行銷核計解蘇銅元

爲數甚鉅而市肆錢價仍未平減訪由市

儉罔利將司中散發銅元購集成數販運

至清江徐州一帶拾價銷售實爲一大漏

卮業經頒示禁止一面在寶蘇局開爐鼓

鑄制錢接濟民用所有解到銅元在省垣

設立官局聽民間零星兌用除飭長元吳

三縣隨時查禁不准將銅元私販出境外

咨請致關查照暫行停止出口以濟民用

等因到道合就函致卽希

貴稅務司查照辦理並請轉飭大關吳淞關

經辦人等一體遵照爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

市價 market value.
 市肆錢價 market value.
 平減 to be lowered.
 拾價銷售 raised the price for selling, or sold at higher prices.
 漏尼 a leakage, evasion.
 制錢 copper cash.
 接濟民用 to help the people's use, i.e., to benefit the people.
 零星兌用 to exchange silver in small amounts for these coins for their use.
 銅元 copper cents in opposition to 制錢.

TRANSLATION.

On the 14th day of the 12th moon (the Taotai) received a despatch from the Provincial Treasurer at Soochow that, owing to the shortage of cash in the Su Province (Chekiang) exchange ruled high (*lit.*, value was high), whereupon the Kiangnan Mint made a calculation and remitted an enormous quantity of copper cents to be issued to merchants at market rates to be put into circulation (*lit.*, to have a free sale), but all to no purpose as the market price has not yet been lowered.

Enquiry shows that brokers with a view to profit (*lit.*, netting profits) have bought and accumulated the copper coins issued by the Treasurer, and are selling them for conveyance to the Ch'ing Chiang and Hsüchou district where the copper realises higher prices. This is really a very great frustration of our purposes.

Proclamations forbidding this practice have been issued, and at the same time the Pao Su Chü has started a mint (*lit.*, furnace) to coin copper cash for the relief of the people, and an office has been opened at Soochow to permit of folk exchanging (silver) in small amounts for the copper coins that have been sent.

Besides directing the three District Magistrates at Chang, Yuan, and Wu, at once to search out and prohibit, and not allow copper coins to be privily sold out of their districts, (the Treasurer) would request that the Customs be communicated with to take note, and stop temporarily for the benefit of the people the export (of these coins). (Close of Treasurer's despatch).

On receiving this it is the Taotai's duty to write to the Commissioner trusting he will note and deal with the matter, and (he) also begs that (the Commissioner) will in turn direct those in charge of the native Customs here and at Woosung alike to obey.

Letter No. 57.

啓者本年十一月二十七日奉

督辦鐵路總公司事務大臣兼辦輪船事宜札開照得內河行駛小輪船章程此次會議中英商約業經重訂推廣辦理亟宜招集華商合籌資本在內河各港設立公司保自有之權利杜外溢之源流應以籌欸購船爲先務適有浙江利用公司賠折官本經

浙江撫部院任 函商歸併招商辦理當卽飭令招商局總董派總船主總管輪核實估計又派鎮江招商局董事朱馮壽將滬浙蘇常碼頭生財一併估價買回並派委候選同知朱馮壽總辦在案茲據朱丞稟報利用公司輪船三號又拖船四號以及生財一切均給價接收並自行添購恒通恒豐恒慶恒昇輪船四艘擬先開杭嘉蘇常等埠其餘逐漸推廣已於十月十七日在上海美租界設局開辦刊刻木質鈐記一顆文曰總辦招商內河輪船公司鈐記稟請分行立案保護等情前來查內河輪船招商公司係爲扶持商務起見既經朱丞馮壽等籌欸購船在美租界設局開辦自應由官加意保護以期振興而資擴充札道查照立案並希照會分行一體立案保護等因奉此除函致

英法美
國總領事並札縣廳一體查照立案外合泐函佈卽祈

貴稅務司查照一體立案保護爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

官本 capital advanced by the Government.
 此次會議 this time together negotiated.
 推廣 to extend.
 擴充 to extend.
 招集華商合籌資本 to get together Chinese merchants to provide capital.
 木質 wooden; made of wood.
 分行 at the various places.
 權利 powers, rights.
 先務 the first thing.
 生財 assets.
 總管輪 Engineering Superintendent.
 鈐記 a seal.
 浙 Ningpo.

TRANSLATION.

On the 27th day of the 11th moon of this year (the Taotai) received from the Director General of Railways and Mercantile Marine Interests (*lit.*, steamer requirements), a despatch to the effect that whereas, under the Anglo-Chinese Treaty recently concluded, the Inland Navigation Laws have been revised (*lit.*, again settled) and extended, it is extremely necessary to invite Chinese merchants to subscribe capital for the establishment of companies in the interior waterways in order to protect their own interests and prevent the source (of wealth) from flowing abroad. The first thing to do therefore is to provide funds for the purchase of vessels.

It happened that the Chehkiang Li Yung Kung Ssü having lost all the capital advanced it by the Government, Jên, Governor of Chehkiang wrote (the Director General) discussing the question of placing the Company under the management of the China Merchants S. N. Co., whereupon the Head Manager of that Company was directed (by the writer and not Jên) to depute the Marine and Engineering Superintendents to look into the matter and estimate the true value (of the Li Yung Co.'s fleet). Chu Fêng-shou, Expectant Sub-Prefect and manager of the Chinkiang agency, was deputed to take charge of, after purchasing, the jetties and other assets of the Company at Shanghai, Ningpo, Soochow, and Changchow. Sub-Prefect Chu now reports that the three steam launches, four tug-boats, and all assets of the Li Yung Kung Ssü, have all been paid for and taken over, and that he has bought in addition four steamers "Hengtung," "Hengfeng," "Hengh'ing" and "Hengsheng," which he proposes to run first to Hangchow, Kashing, Soochow, and Changchow, and thence gradually extend his operations.

On the 17th day of the 10th moon the Company was established on the American Concession, engraved a wooden seal with the title "Tsung Pan Chao Shang Nei 'Ho Lun Ch'uan Kung Ssü Ch'ien Chi" (Seal of the China Merchants General Inland Navigation Company), and petitioned that the matter be recorded at the various places, and the necessary protection be afforded.

It appears that this Company is established with the view of upholding commerce, and as Chu Fêng-shou and others have provided funds for the purchase of vessels, and have opened an office on the American Concession, the officials ought to afford them special protection that they may flourish, and be aided in their extension. The Taotai is therefore directed to take note, record, and it is hoped that he will write to each (official) concerned alike to record and protect. (End of Director General's letter).

This communication having reached the Taotai, he has informed the French, British, and American Consuls-General thereof, has written the Hsien and Mixed Court Magistrate to note and record in the same manner (*lit.*, uniformly), and, as in duty bound, has prepared in addition this letter hoping the Commissioner will take note, record, and afford protection.

Letter No. 58.

啓者十二月初九日奉

外務部札准

管學大臣吏部尙書張百熙奏大學堂需用書籍儀器
等件擬請一律免稅一片

光緒二十八年十一月十九日奉

旨外務部議奏欽此據原奏內稱大學堂需用書籍儀器標
本器具一切物件均由外洋購運或內地採買經過關
卡擬請一律免納稅鈔由大學堂發給印單凡經過關
卡驗明印單隨時放行庶免留碍至所用各物名目件
數悉於印單上詳細開列以便稽覈等因本部查向章
官物本有免稅之條大學堂需用書籍儀器等件自可
准照官物一律免稅茲於十一月二十八日覆奏奉
旨允准相應劄行該關監督遵照可也等因到關奉此合亟

函致卽希

貴稅務司查照如遇前項器具等物到關驗明印單免稅
放行爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

自可 naturally can ; ought.
旨 edict.

合亟 it is incumbent to at once.
儀器 "globes and maps" is the Shanghai Teacher's rendering, but the meaning is also astronomical instruments.

標本器具 apparatus for instructing by experimental illustration. My teacher says this phrase is Japanese Chinese and it might be translated by instruments or apparatus to illustrate the origin of things.

欽此 these are the Imperial words ; such is His Majesty's pleasure.

TRANSLATION.

On the 9th day of the 12th moon (the Taotai) was notified (*lit.*, received a despatch of instructions) by the Board of Foreign Affairs that it had received a memorial presented to the Throne by Chang Po-hsi, President of the Board of Civil Office, and High Commissioner in charge of the Peking University, suggesting that all college necessaries, such as books, globes, and maps, should be uniformly passed free of duty, on which on the 19th day, 11th moon, 28th year the Imperial note was made.

"Let the Board of Foreign Affairs deliberate and report."

These are the Imperial words.

In the original memorial occurs the sentence, "in order to avoid detention and delays it is proposed to request that all college necessaries, books, globes, maps, and apparatus for instruction by experimental illustrations—whether purchased from abroad or procured in the interior of the country—should immediately and uniformly on presentation of a stamped document issued by the College be passed free of all dues and duties at all the Custom Houses and Barriers touched at (*lit.*, passed). The names of the articles required, and number of packages will be clearly entered on this document for convenience of inspection." (Close of quotation from memorial).

It appears to the Board that in the regulations in force there is a clause exempting official goods from duty, and therefore the aforesaid college necessaries ought to be treated accordingly and uniformly passed free.

On the 28th day of the 11th moon, the memorial in reply (from Board) received the Imperial assent, hence, as in duty bound, the Superintendent of Customs is instructed to obey.

Having received this, it is incumbent on the Taotai to at once write to the Commissioner, trusting he will take note, and, if any of the aforesaid goods arrive, examine the stamped document and release (them) without levying duty. This will oblige greatly. Wishing you daily blessings.

Letter No. 59.

啓者茲接

某國總領事某 來函以據紳商李閱稟

禮和小輪船開往丹陽拖載牛船回申請

照會北關並咨厘局轉行各卞放行等因

到道查小輪船除長江一帶不准拖帶貨

船外其往來內港經過局卞應行停輪候

驗悉遵內地章程辦理上海一口凡中外

新置各小輪船照章須先赴

貴稅務司處稟報聽候驗明給照方可行駛

沿途各卞亦卽憑以驗放無須另由地方

官給發護照今禮和小輪船曾否驗明給

有何號執照爲憑用特函詢卽希

貴稅務司查明見復核辦爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

Tanyang to Shanghai, etc. : *lit.*, sailing to Tanyang to tow boats laden with cattle and return to Shanghai.

Steamers voyaging, etc., *lit.*, those going to and fro on inland waters passing barriers must stop engines.

etc., all obey Inland Rules and act accordingly, *i.e.*, Inland Rules lay down.

北關 Shanghai Customs as opposed to the
南關 Native Customs.

TRANSLATION.

(The Taotai) has just received from the—Consul-General a letter to the effect that the merchant Li Fa, belonging to the gentry, had petitioned him requesting that the Customs be communicated with and the Likin Office be notified, to direct the various Likin barriers to allow the steam-launch "Liho" to pass on her return from Tanyang to Shanghai with cattle boats in tow.

This reached the Taotai, who finds that, with the exception of the Yangtze where towage of cargo-boats is prohibited, all steamers voyaging on interior waterways must stop and be examined at all the barriers passed *en route*. All obey Inland Rules and act accordingly.

At Shanghai all newly purchased launches—foreign or native—must under the regulations go first to the Customs to report for examination, and receive certificate before being allowed to travel. All barriers *en route* relying (on this certificate), examine and release the vessels without delay, and territorial officials do not require to issue *Huchao* in addition. Has the "Liho" been examined and what is the number of her certificate proving it? The Taotai specially writes to enquire, and trusts that the Commissioner will ascertain and reply that he may consider and deal with the matter.

Letter No. 60.

啓者十二月十四日接展

來函以英商公和祥行由甯波運來碎石三

船在浦東董家渡碼頭起岸有滬南馬路

工程局差役向該各石船堅索捐洋六角

因無錢應付即將三船櫓枝拔去請飭給

還等因到道除行馬路工程局查明核辦

外惟董家渡一帶係在南市該處水利應

歸水利局管理經劉升道與

前領事會議擬章稟奉

南洋大臣
總理衙門
飭遵有案照章本非洋商應立碼

頭之處用特泐復即希

貴稅務司查照飭知爲荷此頌

日社

NOTES.

堅索 strictly demanded.
拔去 to take out; to pull out; here to seize.
“No merchant should construct” *lit.*, this is not really a place where foreign merchants ought to construct a jetty.
南市 South Market, *i.e.*, to the south of or above Shih Li P'u.
水利 water facilities; freedom of Waterways.
惟 after 外 has here the meaning of 查.
飭知 to make known to inferiors.

TRANSLATION.

On the 14th day of the 12th moon (the Taotai) received the Commissioner's letter requesting that instructions be issued for the return of the yulohs (oars) seized by the officials of the "South Maloo" Board of Works from the three junks belonging to the British Firm Kung 'Ho. The reason (for the seizure) was that these vessels, when importing broken stone from Ningpo and landing it at the Pootung Tungadoo Wharf, did not pay, as they had no money, the wharfage dues of sixty cents demanded per boat.

This reached the Taotai, who directed the Maloo Board of Works to ascertain the truth and deal with the matter, and, in addition, now writes a special letter to the Commissioner to note and reply as he finds that, according to the rules in force, no foreign merchant should construct a jetty at this place. The Tungadoo district being situated above Shih Li P'u, the Water Rights ought to be under the control of the "Freedom of Waterways Board." The records show that rules to this end were drawn up by Liu, former Taotai, after consultation with former Consuls and Commissioners, and submitted to the Tsungli Yamên, and Southern Commissioner of Trade, who directed that they be put in force.

The Taotai has prepared a special reply and hopes that the Commissioner will take note and inform (the Harbour Master and Merchants).