



SUPPLEMENT

TO

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1856.

*Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between Her Majesty and the Kings of Siam.*

Signed at Bangkok, April 18, 1855.

[Ratifications exchanged at Bangkok, April 5, 1856.]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and all its dependencies, and Their Majesties Phra Bard Somdetch Phra Paramendr Maha Mongkut Phra Chom Klau Chau Yu Hua, the first King of Siam, and Phra Bard Somdetch Phra Pawarendr Ramesr Mahiswaresr Phra Pin Klau Chau Yu Hua, the second King of Siam, desiring to establish upon firm and lasting foundations the relations of peace and friendship existing between the two countries, and to secure the best interests of their respective subjects, by encouraging, facilitating, and regulating their industry and trade, have resolved to conclude a Treaty of Amity and Commerce for this purpose, and have therefore named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say :

Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Sir John Bowring, Knight, Doctor of Laws, &c., &c. :

And Their Majesties the first and second Kings of Siam, his Royal Highness Krom Hluang Wongsa Dhiraj Snidh ; his Excellency Somdetch Chau Phaya Param Maha Puyurawongse ; his Excellency Somdetch Chau Phaya Param Maha Bijai-neate ; his Excellency Chau Phaya Sri Suriwongse Samuha Phra Kralahome ; and his Excellency Chau Phaya, Acting Phra-Klang :

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, and found them to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles :—

ARTICLE I.

There shall henceforward be perpetual peace and friendship between Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and Her successors, and Their Majesties the first and second Kings of Siam, and their successors. All British subjects

coming to Siam shall receive from the Siamese Government full protection and assistance to enable them to reside in Siam in all security, and trade with every facility, free from oppression or injury on the part of the Siamese ; and all Siamese subjects going to an English country shall receive from the British Government the same complete protection and assistance that shall be granted to British subjects by the Government of Siam.

ARTICLE II.

The interests of all British subjects coming to Siam shall be placed under the regulation and control of a Consul, who will be appointed to reside at Bangkok ; he will himself conform to, and will enforce the observance by British subjects of, all the provisions of this Treaty, and such of the former Treaty negotiated by Captain Burney in 1826, as shall still remain in operation. He shall also give effect to all rules or regulations that are now or may hereafter be enacted for the government of British subjects in Siam, the conduct of their trade, and for the prevention of violations of the laws of Siam. Any disputes arising between British and Siamese subjects shall be heard and determined by the Consul, in conjunction with the proper Siamese officers ; and criminal offences will be punished, in the case of English offenders by the Consul according to English laws, and in the case of Siamese offenders, by their own laws, through the Siamese authorities. But the Consul shall not interfere in any matters referring solely to Siamese, neither will the Siamese authorities interfere in questions which only concern the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty.

It is understood, however, that the arrival of the British Consul at Bangkok shall not take place before the ratification of this Treaty, nor until ten vessels owned by British subjects, sailing under British colours and with British papers, shall have entered the port of Bangkok for purposes of trade, subsequent to the signing of this Treaty.