



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1862.

Whitehall, October 30, 1862.

THE following Address of Congratulation to the Queen, on the occasion of the Marriage of Her Royal Highness The Princess Alice, with His Royal Highness Prince Louis of Hesse, having been transmitted to the Right Honourable Sir George Grey, Baronet, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department for Presentation, has accordingly been presented by him to Her Majesty, who has been pleased to receive the same very graciously:

To the QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,

WE, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of Winchester, in Council assembled, beg leave to offer our sincere and respectful congratulations to your Majesty, on the Marriage of your illustrious Daughter the Princess Alice to His Royal Highness the Prince Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt.

We ardently trust that, under the blessings of Providence, the illustrious pair may enjoy every possible felicity, and that the union may increase the comfort and domestic happiness of your Majesty.

Given under our Common Seal this 7th day of October, 1862.

Charles Wright, Mayor.

Foreign Office, October 27, 1862.

COPIES of Correspondence with Her Majesty's Minister in China:

My LORD, *Peking, July 18, 1862.*

I HAVE the honour to enclose copy of a despatch from Mr. Gingell, Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow, detailing the steps taken by him, in consequence of the levy of an extra charge by the officials of Hoonan on teas bought by British subjects in the interior for shipment at Hankow.

I also enclose copies of two despatches, the one disapproving of the seizure of war-junks and of a custom-house officer, as a guarantee against repetition of these acts, and the other directing Mr. Gingell to inform Her Majesty's subjects that their proper course to pursue is to pay these illegal charges under protest.

I am particularly anxious to submit this latter point to your Lordship, for, if the principle laid

down meets with approbation, it will, in a great measure, prevent claims founded on irregular acts of provincial authorities, becoming a source of gain to unscrupulous traders, a system which flourished luxuriantly in Egypt, to the great detriment of the national reputation of European states.

The complaints forwarded from Hankow are simply an illustration of the truth, that in countries, like China, where the principles of administration differ entirely from those practised by us, the conclusion of a treaty is the commencement and not the termination of difficulties. The ill-will, ignorance, and necessities of local authorities have to be encountered; and time, patience, and tact are required to overcome them. Foreign merchants expect to obtain the same facilities at Hankow as, for instance, at Shanghai, forgetting that twenty years have elapsed since our intercourse with the latter place began; and they apply to the Consul for naval assistance as the readiest and most effectual means of overcoming opposition. The Chinese Government relies so little on force in its internal administration, that the appearance of a single gunboat is generally enough to effect the object peaceably; but there is no certainty that such will always be the case, and at all events the proceeding is not very palatable, and probably leads to retaliation in the shape of petty annoyances and insults offered by the populace to foreigners.

Your Lordship will see by the enclosed despatch from the Prince of Kung, that another release of laden junks and seizure of war-boats has been effected near Nanking, the circumstances of which have not been reported to me. These acts are not easy to justify, and it is difficult to say how far they may put to inconvenience Tsung-kwofan, in his operations on the river against the insurgents. My reply is, that these acts are rendered necessary by the habitual disregard of treaty rights, and the little attention paid to the Prince of Kung's orders on this subject. At the same time I have written, both to the Consuls and to Sir James Hope, to put a stop to these proceedings, as this remedy is more objectionable than the evil complained of.

A considerable contraband trade is springing up on the Yangtze River, in salt; and at one place, about fifteen miles above Chin-kiang, a settlement is growing up, formed of needy and desperate western men, who undertake to convoy vessels engaged in it. The Chinese allow these vessels to pass, but have established customs'