

BANGKOK RECORDER.

A Semi-monthly Journal

RES POLITICAE, LITERATURA, SCIENTIA, COMMERCIUM, RES LOCI, ET IN OMNIBUS VERITAS

VOL I.

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The Bangkok Recorder.

A Semi-monthly journal will be issued from the printing office of the American Missionary Association, at the mouth of the Canal, "Klaeng Bangkok Fai" about the 1st and 15th of every month. It will contain such Political, Literary, Scientific, Commercial, and Local intelligence, as shall render it worthy of the general patronage.

The Recorder will be open to Correspondents subject to the usual restrictions.

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N. A. MC. DONALD, EDITOR
D. B. BRADLEY, PUBLISHER

September 30th 1865.

September which has just closed has given quite a different face to the business prospects of this place for the next year. The rains held off until September, and even it commenced with apparently every prospect of a short crop. Merchants, proprietors of rice mills, and traders of every

kind wore a disheartened look. The natives were apprehensive of a famine. In many places extraordinary efforts were put forth in *merit making* in order to induce the rains to descend. The Lieut. Governor of one of the provinces, who is more enterprising than most of his countrymen, conceived the more sensible and effectual idea of damming the river in order to make the water overflow the rice fields. Before his dam was completed the rains came and swept it all away, and the river rose and overflowed the fields more effectually.

At this place our first heavy rain came on the 2nd Sept. In the evening a cloud came up in the west which appeared at first as if it would pass off in wind, but soon the rain began to descend in the real old fashioned way. That rain has been followed by many others of the same kind. Reports from all parts of the country are encouraging and there is every indication of an abundant crop. Men's faces, which are a good barometer in business affairs, indicate a considerable rise in the mercury, and the passing off of the clouds which obscured the horizon. Every one is preparing for business. Rice mills are hastening to be ready to start. Unless some great and unexpected calamity occur, business affairs will soon bear the ordinary aspect of prosperous times. Prices abroad were also for a time discouraging, but at the expense of a portion of the people of China a fair market is open. The high water in the North of China has destroyed to a great extent the crops, so that the rice of Siam as usual will find a fair market there.

Rong Lao.

The principle avenues of trade to this great emporium of Siam, this floating babel Bangkok, are the canals leading from it to different portions of the kingdom. Like rays of light in a camera they are brought to a focus here, but taken in an opposite direction they diverge until they cut the principle rivers, the great arteries of the kingdom. They thus become the chief avenues through which the produce from distant provinces reaches a market. Some of these canals are natural channels winding their serpentine course along, and oftentimes, too, writhing, and twisting as if they would tie themselves into knots. Then again there is the artificial ditch apparently straight, or as straight as they usually make things in Siam. Through these canals the water ebbs, and flows with the tide in the rivers. We started out one morning to buy a small quantity of molasses for the purpose of mixing mortar for brick work. Now there are some things although they may be plenty, are as difficult to be obtained in small quantities in Bangkok as water upon the mountains of Gilboa. You inquire where you think it ought to be found, and they send you to the *Chow Sua* and the *Chow Sua* sends you to some person else, until you become disgusted and give up the pursuit. We inquired several places for the article we wanted but it seemed to be the general opinion that we must go to the *Rong Lao* (distillery) and to the *Rong Lao* we went. We knew from a kind of instinct that the distillery was some where above the city and told our men to go there. To our surprise however they entered the canal known as *Klawng Koot Mai*; a direction apparently opposite to that which we wanted to go. We knew there was a canal entered the river above the city and had passed through it before but now it appeared a strange course to take and we could hardly reconcile ourselves to it, but being assured that it was the shortest and best way we yielded. The *Klawng Koot Mai* is one of the new canals dug by His Majesty the present Supreme King. It commences away down in the great bend and cutting across enters the river again just above the Custom House,

or Harbour Master's residence. After entering the canal the right bank for some distance is studded with Chinese paddy mills where the Chinamen manage with their basket mills to hull considerable quantities of paddy. Indeed in some places a number of these mills may be found on either bank. We could not however help thinking of the time as not far distant, when these mills will be among the things, that were in Siam. They even now appeared fewer in number than when we last passed through. They first, must yield to the power of western civilization. There are already three steam rice mills ready, waiting only for a move in the paddy before they move. They are capable of turning out at least three thousand piculs per day. The machinery is already landed for a fourth steam mill, and rumour says there are still more in contemplation. Loath therefore as the Chinamen may be to give up their favorite basket mills "*Ichabod*" is written too plainly upon them not to be noticed by the most casual observer. Chinese muscular power and basket mills, cannot compete with steam and six feet stones. This however will all turn out well in the end. The Chinamen thus driven from the slow process of hulling a few buckets of paddy per day, will disperse throughout the country, and turn their attention to raising paddy. The rice crop will thus materially increase from year to year. Many portions too, now covered with jungle, will yield to the axe and grubbing hoe of the Chinaman and soon a good crop of rice will be harvested in those places. We saw quite a number of small paddy boats at the native mills, and more coming in, but they would be a mere handful compared with the quantities which arrive in ordinary business times.

The sights in one of these canals, near the city are but those of the river on a smaller scale. The urchin rides along complacently in his *Sampan*, freighted with Chinese sugar cane, crying at the top of his voice "*Oi Chin Chin Oe.*" Next comes *Ma Tim*, or *Ma Tap*, or some other *Ma* with an eating saloon, and confectionary combined and all afloat, crying out at the same time the extent and quality of her commodities. A few rods in extent too, suffice, to give a correct idea of the whole scene, and scenery along the banks. Emerging from one of these short cut canals into the broad river again, it behooves a person to take a new reckoning and find out exactly his position, for should the tide be flowing, one unacquainted with the bearings might easily mistake the course for home and take an opposite direction. Right opposite the place where we entered the river, stands the distillery. We made straight across, and after landing marched along a kind of avenue, up to the main building, where we found a gentleman

seated *cross legged* upon a small platform. We asked him as politely as we could, to sell us a small quantity of molasses. His prompt reply was "mai mi." We pointed to two boat loads standing at the landing, but he insisted that they were empty and still said "mai mi." There was no mistaking the boats however, they were loaded to the waters edge. It is so common for the natives themselves to *liar* each other, that the *kahok* came up instantly in our mind, and we felt like bringing it out, but considering that we were in the wrong place to assume any thing like authority, we softened down our tone, and begged some of the refuse which flows from the still, and which might possibly answer our purpose. It was readily given for the taking away. The truth of the matter we found out afterwards to be, that molasses are very scarce, and they can barely get enough to answer their purpose: but instead of telling us so, oriental like, he told us a down right lie, and said he had none at all. This distillery is a Chinese establishment, and upon the whole, presents a species of *Celestial scenery* which to give in full detail would have defied even the pen of Thomas Dick. In one place are seated a group, indulging for a time their insatiable appetite for gambling. Near by is another group taking their noon day meal of *cungy* and fish, and were thus satisfying another appetite, which in a Chinaman is second only to that of gambling. Some straggling fellows also each had a stick of sugar cane in his hand gnawing at it with apparently as much relish as a hungry mastiff does a bone. There is always something disgusting about a Chinaman's eating. The Siamese although they use the most primitive implements, eat with such dexterity and neatness that one can't help but admire the operation. There is also a freedom from restraint, a relief from any fear of violating one of the minor rules of table etiquette which gives the whole affair an air of real enjoyment. There is apparently no fear lest they should commit the almost unpardonable offence of opening an egg at the wrong end, or in some unguarded moment put the knife into the mouth instead of that most unwieldy of all table implements the *split spoon*. The Chinese invented the *chop sticks*, and they must be well satisfied with the invention for they appear to make no effort to improve upon it, but who that ever saw a Chinaman slabbering, and blowing over a bowl of rice with a pair of chop sticks, did not long to see him back at the more primitive fingers. The men who invented the knife fork, and spoon, and some other *sine qua nons*, was certainly benefactors of the race. But the march of modern civilization has imposed upon those who move at all in fashionable life a burden of formality which destroys to a great

extent the natural ease and satisfaction which should be enjoyed in the partaking of ones meals.

Of the horde of Chinamen about this establishment, but few appeared to be actually at work. The whole of the operations were crude. An almost innumerable quantity of earthen jars, containing twelve or fifteen gallons each were standing around, in which were rice and molasses in every state of fermentation, and from each of several small stills, was running a stream about the size as a large straw of boiling hot *arrack*. The whole apparatus though crude, we suppose is not more so, than that which used to turn out the famous Irish and Scotch whiskey, or that which made the "*Menongahela*" in the days of the whiskey insurrection in Pennsylvania. There was only one little *ray* of consolation in seeing that liquor running from the still, and that is, it is to a great extent pure. It is not a mixture of poisonous drugs as the modern liquors of England, France and America. If a man will burn his inside out, better do it with pure fire, than such corroding stuff as sulphuric acid and other drugs.

Retail customers appeared to be tolerably plenty. They would lay down the money to the chief clerk, and he would give them a nicked bamboo stick indicating the amount, and they went to the man who measured out, and got their bottles filled. One thing was noticeable. None of the men engaged about the establishment, appeared as if they indulged too freely. They presented rather a contrast with the customers, who were mostly Siamese and whose eyes and faces indicated too clearly the course they were going. It would be interesting to know exactly how many Chinese there are in this kingdom. We believe every estimate of their numbers here, falls far short of the reality. They are, it is true, a floating population to some extent. Numbers return to China every year, and as many new ones come. They are found in numbers in every city and village, both on the coast and inland their outlandish tones are heard in every market, floating house, and on board of every trading boat, and junk. No class of Asiatics who are not already subjects of some European power have a better chance to get along here than the Chinese. They pay only a small tax every four years of four ticals and many of them manage to escape that. Many of them too manage to make money. These same Celestials are swarming in every habitable island in the Archipelego, and can roll up their seventy thousand in the United States. The following extract from an address, lately made by Rev. Mr. Speer Missionary to the Chinese in California (during the sessions of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church O. S.) may not prove uninteresting in this connection.

"But I rise to night to represent one of the most remarkable missions of the present age. The Divine process for the evangelization of the world, after Christ came, was first to make the Gospel clearly known around that central sea—the Mediterranean—in the parts of Asia, Europe and Africa lying upon its borders. Then, after four or five centuries of culture and preparation, God poured out there the barbarous tribes from the ends of the earth—the Huns, the Goths, the Vandals, the Turkish races, many of them from the very shadow of the Great Wall of China—who there learned of Jesus as their Redeemer and God, and sent back heralds of the glad tidings to the deserts and kingdoms far away.

God is thus conducting the great reformation of the Church. It is the fourth century since Martin Luther, and John Calvin, and Ulric Zwingle. Upon this prepared Continent, God has disciplined his Church. Now behold the tribes of Asia, following those of other divisions of the world, pouring out from the same regions as of old, divinely led to seek the same glorious light. There are now sixty or seventy thousand Chinese on our Pacific Coast. But there will follow millions. They are now spreading over California, over Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Utah, over Northern Mexico, over the Islands of the Pacific and South America. The day is coming when numerous railroads will connect the Pacific coast with the rest of the country, and when they will reach the Valley of the Mississippi, and the Valley of the Ohio, and labor on your farms, in your shops, in your families. Just as water flows from a level where it has been long dammed up, so a crowded population of hundreds of millions must gravitate toward the immense unoccupied or thinly settled regions in the west and centre of this Continent. No human power can hinder it. And how vast beyond all conception must be the influence to be hence exerted in bringing the numberless myriads of China, and the great nations of that Continent, to believe in and serve the Lord Jesus Christ:

What then are these Chinese, mentally? They are as shrewd, business-like, active, as ourselves—well called the "Yankees of the East." One of the most learned and distinguished of the divines of this country, (the Rev. Dr. Shedd, of New-York,) said to me a few days ago, "If such an estimate is true, it will put a new face upon this Chinese movement, in my own mind, and in that of the country." This estimate is true. They come to California, and compete successfully with our own merchants and artisans. They go to the Sandwich Islands, as I saw at Honolulu and Lahaina, actually take the native trade out of the hands of Americans and other foreigners by superior management. One built a locomotive in California, put it

upon a track laid around a large shed, and charged us barbarians twenty-five cents each for a ride. Another constructed a small and perfect steamboat, four feet long, which worked handsomely. They can do many things that astonish us white barbarians. A Chinese doctor, Dr. Li Po-ti, is now practising in San Francisco, not homeopathy, nor hydropathy, nor motor-path, nor any of our *pathies*, but on Chinese principles, feeling the twelve pulses in each arm, and prescribing Chinese doses, for our benighted people—earning, one of the newspapers says, \$10,000 a year. I heard of a Chinese doctor who made a fortune at Havana."

Ats and Copper Coin.

A Translation.

What do those individuals mean who publish their opinions so frequently in the newspaper here, on the subject of tin and copper *ats*? what they repeat so often is already known by their readers. Are the writers and composers of these articles the authors of the reports which are noised abroad that the king of Siam is a mere tool of men, doing every thing which they desire without gainsaying; My advice to them is, write no more to make others weary of you. If you wish to get gain import copper or bars of copper as merchandise. If the price be moderate we will purchase some of it, but do not circulate a false report that the government has ordered it.

As for forbidding the use of the tin *ats* and consenting that others should bring copper *ats* and sell them to us it cannot be done, we cannot allow it. The Siamese have skill enough to make copper *ats* themselves, but the copper metal is difficult to be obtained, and tin is abundant in Siam. We have availed ourselves of the best materials we had for making *ats*, and even if people easily counterfeit the tin *ats*, they cannot make a great business of it, they cannot be made like the royal *ats*, they are much softer and can easily be detected by bending them with the fingers. And if the people take them as lawful tender let them do so. When they bring them to the royal mint to exchange for silver they can very easily be tested and proved to be spurious. The mere effort to bend them is enough to show what they are made of. The composition of the royal *ats* cannot be cast in the counterfeiter's molds, because it is made of tin, copper, and zinc, a very hard substance.

Whenever any one shall bring these spurious *ats* to the royal mint to exchange for silver, they will be easily detected as a very slight twist with the fingers will bend them, and when such *ats* are brought they will fetch only the value of the tin, which is one fuang for 3½ ounce, whereas genuine *ats* will be taken at there established value, that is one fuang for eight *ats*.

Do not write any more visionary articles on this subject, we are too lazy to read them, and if you publish them we shall not be ashamed of ourselves, because we know that even tin *ats* are far better than the old fashioned cowries.

We intend however to make a variety of copper coin, and that quickly—On kind will be at the rate of two for one fuang and will be called *kung* or *seek*, and another at four for one fuang to be called *Ká* or *Seok*. These will be ready for use shortly. Now do not talk dreamily about this any longer, for we are too lazy to read or hear any thing more on this subject.

If the Editors of the papers shall get this paper, let them publish it—or if they prefer to despise us, and murmur and continue telling their dreams, why, let them murmur on, we shall not count them offenders if they do so: but we do think that kind of dreamy murmuring is useless toil, for there is no one of us that will think of following them. It is all of a piece with the telegraphic wires and railroads, which the writers on these subject have written to make us wonder and astonished, until the subject has become quite insipid, and we are lazy of reading and lazier in hearing of the subject. But a little of such curious things to amuse ourselves such as balloons and a few others,—something which we can turn to a little profit according to our feeble ability,—it would be quite reasonable we should desire to obtain some of them in proportion to the small means of our poverty stricken country.

Look at the Steam Rice and Saw Mills here. What a noise has been made about them? And where are the great results of it all?

Notification.

A Translation.

CHOW PHYA PRAKLANG, Minister for Foreign affairs, hereby informs the Consuls and Vice Consuls of the Treaty Powers resident in Bangkok, that the Siamese government has directed him to make known unto them the causes and reasons of the late changes made in taxing cocoanut trees and oil.

Formerly the rate of taxation allowed by law upon cocoanut trees, was fifteen cents for 16 trees, and the tax was farmed out to one man. After this plan had been tried for a time, the oil farmer complained that it was very difficult for him to manage the farm, and begged that he might be allowed to relinquish it, requesting that the monopoly of trading in cocoanuts should be given him instead; This was granted, and the people were allowed to make oil without any tax upon it.

When Sir John Bowring Minister Plenipotentiary for Great Britain, and his Assistant Mr. Harry Parks, came to negotiat

a treaty between G. Britain and Siam (it being the first treaty made with the western powers) a consultation was held among the officers of the King of Siam on the subject of double taxes; which resulted in a petition that henceforth only one tax should be put upon each taxable article. This petition was granted to a great extent, and the tax levied on coconuts was removed, and the tree taxed at the rate of one salung for three trees.

After this the people finding that the tax on coconut trees was very heavy, were indisposed to plant any more trees. The old trees decaying, and the price of coconuts becoming higher every year, all who had to do with either the nut or the oil complained greatly, until the matter came before His Majesty the Supreme King and his government.

At the beginning of the year of the Cow the 6th of the decade, it being full 13 years from the commencement of the present reign, the time deemed suitable for having a new assessment made on taxable merchandize, a party of officers were sent to examine the orchards, and make a new assessment according to the old custom of Siam. This being accomplished, His Majesty, together with all his counselors was fully persuaded that the people had neglected their coconut orchards, and had not planted new trees because they felt the taxes on them to be oppressive; it was therefore deemed wise to adopt some other plan. To this end it was decreed that the tax on the trees be taken off, and the people encouraged to plant new ones with all freedom, so that there should be an abundance of them. And in regard to the revenue, which has heretofore been obtained by taxing the coconut trees, amounting to 1285 changs and 33 ticals, it was decided that the government, in order to make up in part for the loss, put a tax upon the coconut at the rate of one tenth.

An offer has already been made for the monopoly of this at the rate above specified, guaranteeing to pay for the farm the sum of 700 changs per annum. This leaves a deficiency in the revenue for coconut trees, amounting to 585 changs and 33 ticals. This the Siamese government consents to lose, on the principle that it is better to suffer the pecuniary loss by removing the tax, than that the article of revenue should be injured. And whatever article of merchandize or business there may be suitable to be taxed, the government must seek from it a revenue according to the old custom by a monopoly. But there will be only a single tax imposed on all the produce of the coconut tree.

In the 9th Art. of the treaty regulations made by Harry Parks Esq. the following clause is inserted, viz.—“On the part of the Siamese, if they have any article in their country which has not yet been taxed and

they think it well to put a tax upon the said article or business they are at liberty to do so, and the Siamese government are allowed to make new taxes.” Mr. Parks agreed to this clause, only insisting that the taxes be always reasonable and always single.

This exposition the Siamese government beg to publish that no foreigner shall misunderstand the matter.

Issued on Monday the 8th of the waxing moon, 9th month in the year of the Cow the 7th of the decade; July 31st 1865.

Oil Tax

A Translation.

Phya Racha P'akdee and Phya P'é-Pit P'ok'ei received a royal command saying, that in the year of the Cow the 5th of the decade, eight servants of the king examined the orchards of the people, and made a record of the coconut trees in each, and the amount of the taxes to be paid upon them at the rate of 100 cowries for one tree, and this assessment was sent to all the proprietors of coconut trees in the kingdom.

Sometime after this the farmer of coconut oil entered a complaint that the people would frequently make coconut oil and sell it, and when he sent his officers to take and imprison them, quarrels arose and complaints were made by them before the tribunals, causing much trouble and loss of time to the farmer, and he therefore begged that the farm might be removed from the oil and put upon the coconuts themselves, giving the farmer the exclusive privilege of purchasing the coconuts. Having had a conference of the royal counselors touching this matter, they were unanimous in requesting that this change should be made, and consequently the petition was granted, and it became a law that the farmer have the monopoly of the purchase of coconuts. But (in the year of the great dragon 8th of the decade), the farmer did not abide by the law concerning it, and pursued a course that oppressed the people. Therefore the government caused the taxes on coconuts and on the trees to be removed, and placed a tax of one salung on every three trees, thus allowing the people to sell coconuts and oil as they pleased.

In the year of the rat 6th of the decade, it was found that both coconuts and oil had become much dearer than before, and His Majesty, in considering the subject, concluded that the prices had risen partly because the coconut trees had become too old to bear, and partly because many of them had died. Thus fruit bearing trees had become fewer, and moreover the people were not inclined to plant new trees in their orchards, fearing the tax of one salung for every three trees. Consequently His Majesty was graciously disposed, in the year of the rat, (last year) to issue a decree

to all the owners of coconut orchards about Bangkok, and in all the provinces, who were liable to pay taxes on coconut trees, that from and after the beginning of the year of the Cow the 7th of the decade, it shall henceforth be forbidden the officers in charge to take any tax from the people for their coconut trees, and that instead thereof, a tax shall be put upon coconut oil as it was formerly. Therefore let all the owners of coconut orchards replant their orchards with new trees in greater abundance than formerly, and thus will it become a source of wealth to the country, coconut oil being of great use in the country, and it will become a profitable article of merchandise in the provinces of Siam, and abroad in other countries.

The charge of circulating this decree is given to Pra-kaao K'arurattā bawdee chow krom, K'oon P'é pāt-tāna-kawn, palat of the left, and K'oon Wesootta palat of the right, treasurers for the inner orchards; and Lóang kào chow krom, K'oon Séé Sombat palat Krom for the outer orchards. K'oon Muñ nai-rāwang has been put in charge of distributing this decree to all the owners of coconut orchards. Now let there be no delay in replanting all coconut orchards to the full extent, that the trees may be abundant in all alike. And from the beginning of the year of the Cow the taxes on coconut trees shall be given as a royal favor to the people and owners of coconut orchards. Let there be no violation of this decree.

Issued on Monday the 12th of the waning moon, 9th month of the year of the Rat, 6th of the decade. And sealed with the seal of Phya Pé-p'it Po-kei; Aug. 29th 1864.

Elephant Festival.

The grand procession of elephants came off according to previous announcement, at about 4 O'clock p. m. on Monday 25 ult. We were just in time to meet the procession on the street in the rear of the Royal Palace. It was one of those motley, nondescript affairs, we are accustomed to see here, and was peculiar in many respects to Siam. The object appeared to be to have the royal elephants, horses, carriages, cattle, &c., sprinkled with holy water. On either side of the street, and nearly opposite each other were two small stands erected, about ten or twelve feet high and upon which were three or four men, one of whom had a bunch of bamboo splints, in his hand and kept sprinkling the passing crowd with the consecrated water. Along either side of the street filed a line of men, fantastically dressed, with a red coat and a glazed hat, shaped like a sugar leaf, and resembling a *Sow-wester*. Some of these men carried small pendant flags, with all kinds of devices. Others carried simply a stick, resembling a walking stick, whilst others had bows on

their shoulders. As they marched along they were sprinkled from the sta ds.

Between the files of men, and at irregular intervals marched the royal elephants with slow and ponderous steps. One or two had a kind of *howdah* or their backs, but no person in them. The driver sat upon the neck of the animal. Others had no *howdahs*, but had one or two persons besides the driver riding on them. One large redish coloured one had a kind of throne on his back, in which was seated a man with a pea-cocks tail in each hand, and was making all kinds of outlandish girations. The elephants numbered about thirteen, as nearly as we could count (for we forgot to commence in time,) and they were made to pass close to each stand to get sprinkled. When a few drops fell on the riders they rubbed it over their heads and faces with most profound reverence. Behind each elephant were several men walking bearing platters, containing plantains, nicely prepared sugar cane, &c. to feast the the royal creatures. Some of the elephants were evidently old residents with large tusks, which were profusely ornamented with heavy rings which were probably gold. Along with the elephants were two venerable looking white monkeys, each seated on a pole carried on mens, shoulders. Each one of these, too, had his appropriate train, and feast following the same as the elephants. Next to the elephants came the horses, richly decorated with foreign saddles, bridles, holsters, and pistols, and each led by a groom. Next came a number of empty European carriages, drawn by horses and the horses led by grooms. Next came some redish coloured cattle, and buffalos, and in the crowd some where (we forget exactly the place) was a highly ornamented buffalo cart loaded with persons. We forgot to say that the whole was interspersed with discordant sounds of native music. The rear was brought up by a flourish by the native soldiers. After the procession was past His Majesty amused himself for a short time by throwing limes, each probably containing a small coin, down amongst a crowd of boys some of whom showed great agility in scrambling for them in the mud.

Atlantic Telegraph Expedition.

London Daily News

Nothing could be more auspicious than the weather of yesterday, and certainly nothing could be more successful than the final splicing of the cable, and the departure of the Great Eastern. From first to last there was not a single incident to mar the satisfaction of those present, or which could be construed into an unfavourable omen to the mighty work in hand. The shore end of the cable has been tested every few hours in the receiving house at Foilhum-merum Bay since its submersion, and while

on board the Caroline the return was only seven millions of units to the minute, it rose to thirteen millions before the wire had been under water 24 hours. This increase means practically that from one to two words a minute can be passed along the cable, in excess of what was done before the laying, the cold water having increased the insularity, and strengthened its already splendid condition. The Great Eastern was ordered to hold herself in readiness on Saturday, and about midnight on that day Captain Anderson received a final message from Mr. Glass that everything was ready, and that the big ship was to steam out to the Caroline with all convenient speed. The Hawk—a swift screw steamer, built as a Confederate blockade-runner, and recently purchased by the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company—left Valentia at 9.30 A.M., with Lord John Hay, Sir Robert Peel, M.P.; the Knight of Kerry, and the Misses Fitzgerald, Mrs. Glass, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, Captain and Mrs. White, Mr. J. C. Parkinson, and others, on board, and after passing Bray-head, and the rugged island rocks called the Skelligs about 11 A.M., came up to the Great Eastern and Caroline soon after one A.M. The day was bright and comparatively calm, but as the Hawk steamed along the coast and up to the bay, at the far point of which the little telegraph-but could be seen, a mere white dot in the distance, the admirable fitness of the landing-place chosen was as apparent as were the difficulties besetting all attempts to utilise this rough and dangerous coast. The cliffs up which the cable passes from the sea the receiving-house are more than 250 feet high, but from the deck of the Hawk they appeared level with the sand, so vast and extensive is the lofty range of rocky fastnesses against which the Atlantic heavily breaks, and so completely do they dwarf all objects in their vicinity. Desolate grandeur and terrible magnificence are the characteristics of these wild Kerry hills. For miles not a house nor a human being can be seen. There is no sign of cultivation, and no apparent probability of cultivation being successful. A ruined watch-tower, a lighthouse or two, and a deserted and crumbling fort, spoken of as Cromwell's, dot the coast line at long intervals; but it is manifest that by far the greater portion of the land immediately above the rocks the sea lashes with so much of sullen fury has never been trodden by the foot of man—Now rising flush out of the water, perpendicular as the Victoria-tower, now shelving down abruptly, and presenting a smooth and polished surface to the breakers, and now abruptly jutting off into fantastic shapes—as if some wicked genie had determined to realise a nightmare, and had put into stone the strange figures haunting his unholy sleep—these rocks seem to defy science and mock

at the puny strength and petty resources of man. The cormorant may be seen greedily dipping into the waters below them, the seagull slowly flits about their rugged surface, the plaintive cry of the curlew mingles with the roar of the sea, and the gannet and puffin dispute for supremacy over their points and peaks. But these are absolutely the only signs of life. Neither sheep nor cattle are browsing on the bright green patches which alternate with the sombre blackness of the massive rocks; and the hissing, seething spray bubbling furiously up through the crevices it has forced, and the caves and crags it has shaped and broken through long ages, alone breaks the stillness, and gives other animation to the scene. Such is the stony shore holding the English end of the Atlantic telegraph. Captain White, who is in command of the Coast Guard here, devoted many days to sounding Foilhum-merum-bay, in his self-imposed capacity of honorary adviser to the company, and at length succeeded in hitting upon a natural groove in the ground-rock under the sea, about a foot deep and half a foot in width. In this the landing end of the cable was carefully laid; and the importance of this fortunate discovery may be estimated from the fact that it is so situated as to preserve the big wire from the waves at the very time of their breaking against the shingle. This wire, which, it should be mentioned, gradually decreases in size until at the end of its 25 miles it is of the same circumference and bulk as the one with which it was spliced yesterday, is of formidable strength at this point, and well calculated to resist the hard treatment it will certainly experience from the sea. Still, a natural channel in which its last twenty feet will lie like a child in its cradle is a grand aid to permanence, and the company is to be congratulated on the result of Captain White's patient and persistent soundings.

As soon as the Hawk arrived within ear-shot of the Great Eastern yesterday every one on board the big ship's tender came aft, and Sir Robert Peel gave the signal for three cheers, a hearty response to which soon came over the water. At this time the Caroline was within a few hundred yards of the chief cable ship, and half a dozen well manned boats, including the two paddle ones from the Sphynx, were busily engaged in easing the cable and facilitating the splice. From the stern of the Great Eastern a thin line could be seen, which, dropping in the water at an apparently sharp angle, was towed by the boats to join the Caroline, and made to communicate between the two ships. The splicing was proceeded with without delay. First the end of each cable was divested of its gutta-percha coating its outside wires and hemp, and the core and marrow of the undertaking, the copper conductor, was exposed. Then, by

RUSSIA.—The warehousing system is to be allowed unlimited scope. The army is to be reduced to the ordinary peace footing. Various buildings occupied by the military at Warsaw during the insurrection are forthwith to be given up to their owners.

KINGDOM OF ITALY.—Cholera had proved fatal at Ancona in 781 cases up to the 12th. The Archbishop and the Procurator Royal were among the deaths. All vessels coming from Italy are placed under quarantine in Sicily.

THE PAPAL STATES.—The Pope has authorised an new loan of 10,000,000 Roman crowns. The papal army is to have an increase of 3,000 men.

TURKEY.—The deaths from cholera at Constantinople from the 26th ult. to the 1st inst. were 1,442. The cholera is also at Smyrna and Syra. It is disappearing from the islands.

SPAIN.—It is said that the King was closely watched while on his journey to see his dying father. The cholera is infecting the Spanish ports, and the inhabitants have fled from Barcelona in large numbers.

PORTUGAL.—The King has recovered from his indisposition, and the Queen and infant Prince are doing well.

UNITED STATES.—President Johnson is still in bad health, and is going to the sea side. General Grant has left for Quebec. Jefferson Davis is better treated, and his friends are urging for a speedy trial. Mr. Benjamin and General Kirby Smith have reached Havana. The troops disbanded since the end of the war number three quarters of a million. The Federal debt was \$2,756,000,000 on the 1st July. A meeting of sympathy with the Mexican Republic has been held in New-York, when a letter from General Sheridan produced great enthusiasm.

CANADA.—Sir E. P. Tache, the Prime Minister, is dead, and there will probably be a reconstruction of the Cabinet, the Confederation question being the turning point.

WEST INDIES.—The reports of the crop are generally favourable. The Spaniards had not carried out the blockade of San Domingo.

SOUTH PACIFIC STATES.—The Chilian Congress have been reconsidering Art. 5 of the Constitution, which acknowledges the Roman Catholic faith alone. A fire at Valparaiso did damage to the amount of \$2000,000. The revolution gains ascendancy in Peru, the fleet having gone over. The same is the case in Ecuador, where one of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamers was seized by the revolutionist chief, and made to do good service.

COMMERCIAL.—The Bank rate remains at 4 per cent. Both English and foreign securities slightly improved. Consuls 89½ to 89¾. The biddings for India bills took place yesterday. Bar silver, 60¼d. Mexican dollars, 60¼d.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the editor of the Bangkok Calendar, issued for six consecutive years from the Printing Office of the Am. Missionary Association in this city, fully intends to continue the publication of the work, and hopes to show improvements in the next issue as he has ever aimed to improve upon successive numbers from the beginning. He hereby respectfully solicits the continued support of all his former patrons with their usual liberality, at the least, and with more if their business at the beginning of the next year shall revive and flourish.

MR. A. SAIHTLER,
PHOTOGRAPHER.

Begs to inform the inhabitants of Bangkok, that he has arrived here upon a visit, and during his stay will be glad to take portraits, landscapes and views of houses etc. of all sizes, to 15 inches. He is now ready to take photographs between 10 A. M. and 4 P. M. Parties can be waited upon at their residences. Cloudy weather does not interfere with the operations. His atelier is at FAEKS HOTEL.

NEW ROAD.

TOWING IN SAIGON RIVER.

The undersigned begs to inform Captains, Ship Owners, and Consignees of vessels that the S. Sr. "Powerful" 100 Horse power will be ready to tow, in a short time, Vessels of the largest tonnage in Saigon River at moderate rates.

Saigon August 29th 1865.

DENIS FRERES.

NOTICE

To be sold without reserve, at **PUBLIC AUCTION**, on Wednesday the 10th proximo, and on one or two of the following days, at the residence of **MESSRS. SCHILL MALHERBE & Co.**, a quantity of valuable jewelry, consisting of Diamonds, Diamond rings articles decked with Diamonds, other precious Stones, bracelets, necklaces, earrings, gold-bronches, silver, gold and diamond buttons, watches, gold chains, watch keys and gold ornaments, silver plated ware etc. etc.

A full catalogue of the articles to be sold, may be found at the house of the said firm, from the 30th inst, to date of sale.

The sale will commence on said day at 11 A. M. precisely.

C. ACHUNE,
AUCTIONEER.

NOTICE

Ex. "RADAMA" from London.

CONSIGNEES of W. 100-100 casks COAL TAR PITCH are hereby notified that the same have been landed, and if not claimed within seven days from this date will be sold to defray expenses incurred thereon, including freight.

JOHN MACKENZIE

Bangkok }
27th Sepr. 1865 } MASTER.

NOTICE.

The subscriber would hereby inform the public that he has recently purchased all the presses and type, together with all the type-casting and book-binding apparatus formerly belonging to the Am. Baptist Mission in this city; and having thus reinforced his original Printing establishment with a great increase of power, he hopes to perform a much greater amount of printing for the Mission and for this business community, and to fulfil the desires of his patrons with more promptness and certainty than before.

D. B. BRADLEY.

Bangkok Sept 12th 1865.

**North China Insurance
COMPANY.**

THE UNDERSIGNED having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept risks, and to grant policies on the usual terms.

BORNEO CO. "LIMITED".
Agents at Bangkok.
Bangkok, 14th January, 1865. (tf)

NOTICE.

WE, the Undersigned, herewith notify all Ship Masters and owners interested, that we will henceforth, only acknowledge those Pilots, who hold their Licenses in accordance with the Port Regulations from the Harbor Master, and countersigned by us.

A. MARKWALD & Co.
Agents for the Hamburg and Bremen Underwriters.
Bangkok, 21st January 14th 1865. (tf)

**Batavia and Colonial
Sea and Fire Insurance
Companies.**

THE UNDERSIGNED being Agents for the above named Companies are prepared to accept risks, and to grant policies on the usual terms.

PICKENPACK THIES & Co.
Agents at Bangkok.
Bangkok, January, 14th 1865. (tf)

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED BEGS to inform the Ship owners and Agents of Bangkok, that he has been appointed Surveyor to the Register Maritime or International Lloyd' and is prepared to grant Certificates of Classification on Vessels according to their rules.

DANIEL MACLEAN.
Bangkok, 14th January, 1865.

Oriental Hotel.

**BOWLING ALLEYS AND
BILLIARD SALOONS.
THE NEWEST
Established Hotel
in Bangkok.**
DYER & CO. Proprietors.
Bangkok, 14th January, 1865.

Ship Chandlers.

VIRGIN & CO.

**Ship Chandlers, Auctioneers,
And Commission Agents.**

ESTABLISHED MARCH 1st 1861.

Situated near the Roman

Catholic Church Kawk-Kwai.

Bangkok, 14th January, 1865.

Beamtmachung.

Der Unterzeichnete bringt es hiermit zur öffentlichen Kenntniss, dass er zum Königl. Preussischen Consul für Siam ernannt ist und vom heutigen Datum seine Functionen als solcher angetreten hat.

Unterthanen der folgenden Staaten kommen demnach laut des mit Siam durch Preussen abgeschlossenen Vertrages unter seine Jurisdiction: Preussen, Mecklenburg Schwerin, Mecklenburg Strelitz, Bayern, Sachsen, Hannover, Württemberg, Baden, Kurfürstenthum-Hessen, Grossherzogthum-Hessen, Sachsen-Weimar Eisenach, Sachsen Meiningen, Sachsen Altenburg, Sachsen Koburg Gotha, Schwarzburg Rudolstadt, Schwarzburg Sondershausen, Reuss ältere Linie und Reuss jüngere Linie, Braunschweig, Oldenburg, Nassau und die freie Stadt Frankfurt, und werden hier ansässige Unterthanen der genannten Staaten hiermit aufgefordert, sich innerhalb vierzehn Tagen zwischen 10 und vier Uhr, Neu Ankommende innerhalb vierzehn Tagen nach Ankunft, behufs Registrirung im Consulat zu melden.

Laut ministeriellem Erlass, datirt Berlin 16 Nov. 1864, wird Unterthanen der Herzogthümer Schleswig, Holstein und Lauenburg, nachdem diese laut dem Wiener Vertrag vom 30 Oct. v. J. in den Besitz von Preussen und Oestreich übergegangen, auf ihr Ersuchen, der Preussische Schutz verliehn.

Königlich Preussisches Consulat zu Bangkok, den ersten April 1865.

PAUL LESSLER.

Union Hotel.

**THE OLDEST
ESTABLISHED HOTEL
IN BANGKOK.**
Billiard Tables and Bowling
Alleys are attached to the
Establishment.
P. CARTER,
Proprietor. Bangkok, 14th Jan. 1865.

The Printing Office

**OF THE
AMERICAN MISSIONARY
ASSOCIATION,**

*Is situated behind the upper Fort,
near the palace of*

H. R. H. PRINCE KROM HLUANG
WONGSA DERAT

*at the mouth of the large Canal
Bangkok-Yai*

All orders for Book and smaller Job Printing, in the European and Siamese Languages, will here be promptly and neatly executed, and at as moderate prices as possible.

A Book-Bindery is connected with the Office, where Job work in this Department will be quickly and carefully performed.

There are kept on hand a supply of Boat Notes, Manifests, Blank Books, Copy Books, Elementary Books in English and Siamese, Siamese Laws, Siamese History, Siamese Grammar, Journal of the Siamese embassy to London, Geography and History of France in Siamese, Prussian Treaty &c.

The subscriber respectfully solicits the public patronage. And he hereby engages that his charges shall be as moderate as in any other Printing Office supported by so small a Foreign community.

Small jobs of translating will also be performed by him.

BANGKOK Jan. 14th 1865.

D. B. Bradley.

**ROBINSON & CO.,
WHOLESALE AND FAMILY
WAREHOUSEMEN,**

Ale, Wine, and Spirit Merchants,
IMPORTERS OF EVERY VARIETY
OF EUROPEAN GOODS,

No. 1 Raffles Place, Singapore.

Robinson & Co.'s Millinery Show Rooms (upstairs) are stocked with the most fashionable Goods, selected by their agents in London and Paris and forwarded per overland mail.

A recent attache of the royal Mint, London, recently visited ours at Philadelphia. As he was leaving he remarked to the coiner, "When you come to London, I beg you not to visit our Mint. You are a hundred years in advance of us."

American Paper.
OUR "darling Lillie," of three years,

while trying to get on her stockings one day, discovered a few hairs on her legs, when she exclaimed, "Mother, I think I shall be an angel soon, the feathers are beginning to grow!"

AN urchin in school reading about a singular gentleman, was asked by the teacher what the expression meant. The

boy promptly answered, "A man that *isn't married!*"

The Steamer Chow Phya arrived at the bar at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock P. M. on Wednesday 27th ult. Passengers Capt. Burn, Mr. Barlow and Mr. Thomson photographer.

BANGKOK RECORDER SHIPPING LIST, SEPT. 30TH 1865

Arrivals.						Departures					
DATE	NAMES	CAPTAIN	TONS	FLAG & RIG	WHERE FROM	DATE	NAME	CAPTAIN	TONS	FLAG & RIG	WHERE FOR
Sept. 25 27	Hong Tay Guan Chow Phya	Chinese Orton	200 353	Siam. Bark do Str.	Singapore do	Sept. 22 26	Young Hap Tweelingen	Chinese Bruijins	200 596	Siam. Bark Dutch do	Hong Kong Sourabaya

Foreign Shipping in Port.

VESSEL'S NAMES.	ARRIVED.	FLAG & RIG.	TONS.	CAPTAIN.	WHERE FROM	CONSIGNEES.	DESTINATION.
Dueppel	.....	Prussian Barque	600	.....	Hong Kong	A. Markwald & Co.	In dock
Kim Guan	Sept. 7	do do	250	Chinese	Singapore	Chinese	.....
Maggie Lauder	.....	British Steamer	131	Hodgeton	.....	Hodgeton	Towing
Maria	Sept. 8	Dutch Barque	600	Ingerman	Batavia	Borneo Co. Limited	Java
Radama	August 19	British Barque	348	Mackenzie	London	Scott & Co.	China
Ravensbourne	Sept. 9	do do	410	Cooper	Hartlepool	Borneo Co. Limited	Uncertain

Siamese Shipping in Port.

VESSELS NAMES	DATE OF ARRIVAL	FLAG & RIG	TONS	CAPTAIN	WHERE FROM	CONSIGNEES	DESTINATION
Ayudian Power	.....	Steamer	640	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bangkok Mark	Nov.	Ship	409	.....	Hong Kong	Poh Toh	Laid Up
Cruizer	.....	do	700	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chow Phya	Sept. 27	Steamer	353	Orton	Singapore	Poh Yim	Singapore
Envoy	June 1	Barque	330	.....	Singapore	Chinese	China
Favorite	July 17	Ship	400	Garnier	Singapore	Nacodah	.....
Fairy	.....	Steamer	.....	Lee	.....	.....	Towing
Hope	Nov. 27	Barque	430	Millington	Hong Kong	Poh So	China
Iron Duke	June 3	do	331	.....	Singapore	Chinese	In Dock
Indian Warrior	Feb. 16	do	464	Groves	Hong Kong	Chow Kwang Siew	China
Illus. Conqueror	August 31	Steamer	.....	Eames	Coast	.....	Towing
Jack Waters	.....	do	.....	.....	.....	Chinese	.....
Kim Soay Soon	June 23	Barque	150	Chinese	Cheribon	Chinese	.....
Lion	Aug. 19	Barque	200	.....	Batavia	.....	.....
Morning Star	Sept. 31	Steamer	.....	Siamese	Coast	Koon Lit	.....
Prosperity	Mar. 19	Ship	604	Andrews	Hong Kong	Poh Keam	.....
Race Horse	Feb. 14	do	389	.....	do	Poh Toh	China
Siamese Crown	Mar. 25	do	549	.....	Swatow	Chinese	do
Sophia	do 27	Barque	282	Hinson	Hong Kong	Poh Yim	Singapore
St. Paul	June 8	do	300	Thomson	Singapore	Chinese	China
Sing Lee	Mar. 5	Ship	356	.....	.....	Chinese	.....
Telegraph	July 31	Barque	302	Christiansen	Hong Kong	.....	.....
Tik Chi	July 7	Brig	193	Chinese	Singapore	Chow Sua Poop	.....
Young Ing	June 12	do	190	Chinese	Singapore	Chinese	.....