

Prefect Wu says that he has written full particulars of all that has been reported in this letter to Chang, the Han-lin (19), and gives me to understand, consequently, that I need not trouble your ear with a repetition of them.

I have, therefore, the honour to transmit you this summary.

#### Observations.

(1.) The Prince Hwui is Mien Yü, only surviving brother of the late Emperor; Kung is Yih Su, brother of the present Emperor; Ching is a Prince of the 2nd Order of Imperial Nobility, whose I name cannot ascertain.

(2.) Kweiliang, Hwashana, Mingsheu, and Twau Ching-shih.

(3.) *Lit.*, such a peace fashion, or such peace measures.

(4.) Made up, concocted; a certain amount of fraud is implied.

(5.) When application is made.

(6.) Immediate payment, viz., of the indemnity.

(7.) *Lit.*, a thousand consents, and a hundred compliances.

(8.) More literally employ this (language) for the purpose of tethering—a favourite word of Kiyng and others in relation to the government of foreigners.

(9.) The barbarian is the robber, Hwang, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, the master of the house, whom he has injured; will Government forget itself so far as to make terms with the barbarian by persecuting Hwang?

(10.) The despatches to the Emperor are returned to the high officers authorized to address them, with some slight observation written in red ink by the Emperor. If his answer is of great length, or requires deliberation, he writes merely, "Our placet will be given separately." In the latter case he sends down what we call an Imperial Decree to the Great Council for transmission to the officer or officers concerned.

(11.) *Lit.*, where there is this determined bias and self-opinion there is indeed no such word as happiness (or fortune).

(12.) A place near the Yellow River, at which the Governor-General Ho was to have met the Commissioners as they came down. The rumour here alluded to is probably a revival of the above, which was in circulation in August and September.

(13.) The form in which the inferior addresses the superior official.

(14.) Rather, spy out.

(15.) Baron Gros did not sign the Tariff, &c., until some days after Lord Elgin's departure for Hankow. It was stated that some missionary question was under discussion between his Excellency and the Commissioners.

(16.) Returns, viz., from Hankow.

(16A.) The Commissioners sat more than once to the Honourable N. Jocelyn, who photographed them at the British Consulate.

(17.) Howqua, and some other ex-hongists had been expected at Soo-chow, to advise the Commissioners regarding the amendment of the tariff.

(18.) This report probably grew out of the collision of the Ngan-king rebels with the squadron escorting Lord Elgin, of whose approach, to judge from appearances, the Imperialist force endeavoured to make some use.

(19.) There are more than one doctor of the Han Lin of this surname at Canton.

(Signed) T. WADE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

*Memorandum by Mr. Wade, intended to accompany the Translation of a Letter forwarded by Mr. Parkes, from Canton, to the Earl of Elgin, on the 15th January, 1859, précis of which was inclosed to the Foreign Office.*

THE letter forwarded by Mr. Parkes, of the genuineness of which I see no reason to entertain any doubt, read by the light of the correspondence of the Imperial Commissioners and earlier proceedings of the Chinese Government, ever since negotiations fairly commenced at Tien-tsin, furnishes, to my mind, a clue deserving of attention to the course the Government has in this last instance pursued.

According to the writer, evidently an official who has access to good information, the Emperor determined, the moment our backs were turned, to cancel the whole Treaty extorted from him in June, 1858, and for this purpose sent Kweiliang and his colleagues south. This accords with a rumour current at Shanghai in August; Kweiliang was said to be in deep disgrace for his negotiations, the first public notice of which by the Chinese Government was in a decree of the 25th July, to the effect that the barbarians who "burst into the river" with their ships had retired in obedience to the affectionate commands of Kweiliang.

The use of the term "barbarian," as Lord Elgin complained in a letter to the Commissioners of the 7th September, was itself an infraction of Article LI of the Treaty, committed within one month of its signature.

The mission of Kweiliang and his colleagues, ostensibly to revise the Tariff, was remarkable as being so much more than what the Treaty required. It had been stipulated merely that a high officer of the Board of Revenue should repair to Shanghai. Two ex-Commissioners of the Canton Customs were indeed added to the Commission, but one of these was replaced by Twau Ching-shih, one of the Under-Secretaries most actively employed during the Treaty negotiations. His leave-taking memorial, also published in the Gazette, assured the Emperor, in stock phrase, that he would be zealous in "soothing the barbarians."

Rumour, as I have said, made the object of this mission anything but a revision. Nothing, however, very positive was stated, nor did the reports on the subject command general attention.

Meanwhile, as Kweiliang and his colleagues had promised at Tien-tsin, on the 4th July, to obtain from the Emperor, as soon as they returned to Peking, a decree appointing a Commissioner to revise the Tariff, which decree would reach Shanghai as soon as Lord Elgin, his Lordship, after ten days' delay at Shanghai, had written on the 21st July to complain that he was still without a line from Peking on the subject.

On the 27th he received a letter from Ho Kwei-tsing, announcing the appointment of the Commission, composed, with the addition of himself, of the members enumerated above, who, he said, would arrive about the 18th of August.

Lord Elgin visited Japan; and having made his Treaty there, hurried back to Shanghai, to learn, by a letter from the Commissioners themselves, that they could not be at Shanghai before the 6th of October.

It is, I repeat, quite clear that Kweiliang and Hwashana, the highest officers of the Civil establishment, were not coming to revise a Tariff. Indeed, another object of their mission was eventually stated in their own letter of the 22nd of October, to which we shall come in due time. Ho