MS 19 Piry Collection

About the collection:

Summary

Collection of private papers of Théophile Piry (fl. 1880-1915), Commissioner of Customs and first Postmaster General of the Imperial Postal Service, China, 1911-1915. This collection contains a range of material bearing on Piry's later career in the Chinese administration including drafts, notes, copies of correspondence, memoranda, reports etc. relating to customs affairs in Lappa and Macao and, later, the establishment of the modern postal service in China from 1911 until Piry's retirement in 1915. Of particular interest are the various papers concerning the development of the Imperial Postal Service, most notably in relation to arrangements with foreign counties (the so-called 'Guest Post' system) and the formalisation of relations with these countries both individually and through membership of the Universal Postal Union. Included can be found copies of postal agreements between China and France (1900), Germany (1905), Russia (1909) and Japan (1910), correspondence relating to China's entry to the Universal Postal Union, 1913-1915 and two historical notes and analyses concerning the development of the postal service (U-Tchau) in China.

History

In 1996 Special Collections of the Main Library at The Queens University of Belfast acquired from Mr. Charles Blackburn the papers of his maternal grandfather Théophile Piry. This archive forms the largest record of Piry's career in the Imperial Maritime Customs Service of China and then later as Postmaster General of the Chinese Postal Service. Unfortunately, it contains little information regarding his background and attempts to supplement this have thus far yielded little success. No reference exists in any of the D.N.B. catalogues and other archive material is lacking. Information from the Hart Collection (MS15), also held at Queens, provides a useful means of cross referencing dates and events and provides additional information regarding Piry's personal life.

The real importance of these papers however lies in the insight they provide into the Customs and Postal administrations during an era of profound importance in the relationship between China and the outside world. At the time the first of these documents was composed (1880) China was at a low ebb. The nineteenth century had been a period of upheaval in her internal administration and decline in her international political standing. Having traditionally been an exporter of ideas and influence China was now assailed by industrialised and often expansionist western powers and their protégés. In the past Chinese economic and cultural cohesion had either absorbed outsiders as in the case of the Manchu's or at least enabled her to keep them at a comfortable distance. When the Occident sought to open up Chinese markets to her trade it found not only a largely self-sufficient economy but a society convinced if its own superiority. However, China had not kept pace with technological developments and when the clash of cultures erupted into the Opium Wars of 1839-42 and 1856-60 China was defeated and confirmed in an unequal relationship with the Western powers. Under the terms of the Treaties of Nanking (29th August 1842) and Tientsin (1858) and the Conventions of Peking (1860) she not only paid an indemnity to the victors (a pattern adhered to after later conflagrations) but also formally accepted the equality of other nations in diplomatic relations. In addition, she agreed

to open various 'Treaty Ports' where foreigners could trade under a regulated system of tariffs and live outside the full jurisdiction of Chinese law.

The Manchu dynasty also faced domestic challenges, such as the Taiping Rebellion of 1853 that caused a general breakdown in order. In response the taotai of Shanghai in 1854 appointed nominees proposed by foreign consuls to direct the collection of duties on foreign trade. The success of the arrangement was such that in 1858 an Anglo-Chinese agreement provided for its extension to other ports. The importance of efficient collection was enhanced by the 1860 Conventions of Peking when Customs income was allocated to pay the indemnity settled upon China by the western powers. Under the direction of Robert Hart (later Sir) the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs (中國大清海關) became an indispensable component of Chinese revenue collection. Dominated at its highest ranks by foreign, principally British staff, it ensured a regular income for an administration beset with corruption and lacking centralisation. The honesty and impartiality with which it carried out its tasks, often beyond simple revenue collection, was not only admired but resented by those who sought to capitalise on Chinese weakness for commercial and political gain. The ambitions of foreign nations within China is demonstrated by their operation of their own postal networks and services within Chinese territory. In 1861 Hart initiated a Customs postal service and in 1896 an Imperial Decree established an Imperial Post (中國大清郵政) service under Customs supervision. However foreign postal services remained active in China, each of the major powers operating their own offices, collections and distributions for both domestic and international mail. At one level this was a response by foreign powers to the deficiencies of the native Chinese system. At another it was a means of asserting influence and for each power to prevent the predominance of the others in Chinese affairs. In his role as both Commissioner of Customs at Lappa and as Postal Commissioner and then Postmaster General Piry was in the forefront of China's relations with the outside world and remained so until his retirement was necessitated in 1915 by his absence in Europe during the First World War. As such his papers provide an invaluable insight into the condition of China at the turn of the century as well as the attitude of officials such as Piry and Hart who always maintained their loyalty to their employers in spite of national feeling.

ESTP1845

The Listing

Since their purchase by Queens the Piry Collection has been stored in the twenty-five folders in which they arrived. Each folder was attached with a typed summary of its contents but this did not always give an accurate description of the contents therein. For example, a collection of twelve letters from Sir Robert Hart to Piry was included in the listing for Folder Three, however upon examination they were found to be in Folder Two. Likewise, the folder containing correspondence between von Dewall, Nixon and Destelan is presumed to contain 'some 50 letters, notes, memoranda etc.' however a thorough examination of revels one hundred and twelve such items. Out of respect for the integrity of the archive however each folder has been left in the form in which it was found. Rather than altering the layout of the documents a summary has been provided of each to facilitate research. Each document has been assigned a reference designation that, in accordance with the filing needs of Special Collection at Queens, begins with 'MS19'. The contents of the first folder are thus labeled as 'MS19/1/1' through to 'MS19/1/42', the sequence reflecting Manuscript Collection/Folder within the Collection/Item (or Fonds) within the Folder. When one folio sheet contains two different documents a further subsection is added, as in the case of MS19/16/105/1.

Due to the variety of documents within the archive there is great disparity in the length of summaries given. Some items are receipts of only a few sentences, while others are twenty-two page commentaries on the application of

standards of international law. Some of the Customs files and many of those originating from the Postal Service often contain long detail of rules, regulations and duties that do not lend themselves to summarisation. As a result, items that contain personal statements, record sequence of events or pertain to diplomatic incidences have been allocated greater space. Articles dealing largely in 'routine' matters or administrative tasks are provided with an indication of their substance but without that content being significantly expanded upon. Such an approach raises the problem of providing an incomplete representation of the archive. To counter the danger of such a detailed index for each folder has been provided that list names, places and themes. Reference is thus made to people and places not specifically mentioned in the summaries but present nonetheless in the document. Piry himself has not been referenced to any extent in the indexes, principally because as the archive is concerned mainly with his work such entries would be superfluous. Some items have been detailed separately even when documents are identical. e.g. 1/2 and 1/3 are identical but Waters Island has been indexed with reference to both in case either document should become unavailable.

The indexes only cover the English language sources and ideally a similar listing of the Chinese and French material would also be provided. Unfortunately, time prevents this and such a tasks awaits to be undertaken. The foreign language correspondence has however been translated to provide as full a range of detail as feasible. Chinese characters have also been used where possible when referring to specific individuals to ensure as accurate a rendering as possible and to overcome possible errors in Anglicisation. Reforms instituted since 1956 to reduce the number of stroke required for each character means that those found in these archives are archaic by People's Republic of China standards. They are however still in use in Taiwan and have been retained here to maintain consistency. Personal names are rendered as they have been found in the text, and in the case of British and European persons if Christian names are absent then surnames only are used. The forms of English spelling used match those of the archive and the time period. As such 'Hong Kong' is rendered as 'Hongkong' and 'Peking' is used rather than Beijing. Sometimes even 'Pekin' is used when it appears as such and this serves as a means of respecting the archive as it has been found while also maintaining consistency throughout. Chinese place names have been spelt using pre pin-vin phonetics.

The individual folders within the archive have been arranged within the calendar as distinct entities, so although the archive has indeed been treated as a whole the following pages consist of sub-sections for each individual folder (labeled as 'Folder One, Folder Two' etc.) and include a brief summary of its content as a preliminary introduction to the summaries of the specific documents.

The summaries have all been made in the third person and a variety of terms such as International Postal Union, Union, Universal Postal Union, Convention, Congress have been used in reference to postal agreements and negotiations. Although this may appear inconsistent or even confusing all such references are faithful to the original content of their documents. A potential problem lies in the referencing of personal names when only a surname is present. In Folder Sixteen for example reference to 'Mr. Wang' is made in several documents. All referencing to these names has assumed it to be the same individual through when this may not be the case.

Listing prepared by Mr John Hunter.

Special acknowledgement must be accorded to Mrs. Lan Li of the Institute of Life Long Learning, Queens University Belfast, for her contribution in translating and transcribing the Chinese documentation.

MS19 Outline

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MS 19/1 Letters and Memoranda: Macao Junk Contraband Incident

This folder contains forty-two letters and memoranda relating to the seizure of a junk carrying contraband rice to the Portuguese colony of Macao.

A diplomatic incident ensued as a result of the junk subsequently drifting in Macao's territorial waters where it was confiscated by the local authorities. The documents herein are a compilation of Customs records of the sequence of events, correspondence with Sir Robert Hart on the matter and letters to Governor Galhardo of Macao in an attempt to resolve the situation. Much of the material is in draft form and includes a lengthy analysis of the application of International Law to the situation.

MS 19/1/1 19/3/1899 O LUSITANO, four paged Macao newspaper in Portuguese but with some articles

in Chinese.

MS 19/1/2 9-10/03/1899 Seizure of Fishing junk with Rice for Macao on the 7th instant by C.L. "Lungtsing".

Report made by J. Manners, Tidesurveyor at Lappa Customs House. Signed by Manners, "J. Nolasco da Silva, 4th Assistant <u>A</u>" to Commissioner Piry, and Théophile Piry, Commissioner of Lappa Customs and District. One folio sheet, hand written. Labelled as "copy" and composed in English.

Manners describes the receipt by Customs Launch "Lungtsing" on 7th March at 11.30

a.m. of a report from three sampan bourn informers concerning a junk carrying contraband rice bound for Macao. He then details the action taken to find the junk, on board of which were found three hundred and one bags of rice and sixteen bags of bran. Such items were contraband trade goods due to a prohibition upon the export of rice by the Viceroy of Canton. Manners then relays the measures taken for the vessel's confiscation and transport by four sailors to Malowchow for confinement. In this account

p.m. the junk was noticed to be leaving the Nine Islands area, where it had been anchored, being last sighted at 7.15 p.m. south-east of those islands.

he refers to statements made by Messrs. Trush and Cunha and concludes that at 6.00

After Manners' own report a brief entry was made by Commissioner Piry. He cites the Seizure Report and Revenue.

Cruiser's Log book as substantiating Manner's version of events.

Tidesurveyor's Report signed 9th March 1899, Commissioner's signed 10th March 1899

Identical to item MS19/1/2. Also labelled as "copy"

Report made by J. Melly, Launch Officer on Customs Launch "Lungtsing". Signed by

To The Commissioner of Customs - J. Melly

himself and "J. Nalasco da Silva, 4th Assistant A" to Commissioner Piry.

One two paged folio sheet, hand written and composed in English.

Melly gives an account of three informers notifying the Customs Launch "Lungtsing" at 11.30 a.m., 7th March, of the whereabouts of a junk carrying contraband rice for Macao. When the "Lungtsing" reached Li Kiaw one of the informers identified the junk by sight



MS 19/1/3

MS 19/1/4

n.d.

and Melly was then given orders by the Officer in Charge (Wolfe) to board it. He found the vessel deserted and also found a cargo of rice and bran which was counted in the presence of two of the informers. Upon reporting back to Wolfe the junk was taken in tow towards Nine Islands. At White Rock the informers on board departed, to where he did not know. Melly disembarked at Picnic Bay and returned to the launch. Four armed sailors were then placed onboard the junk with instructions to take it to Malowchow. The last Melly saw of the junk it was drifting either east or southeast.

MS 19/1/5 09/03/1899

Special Report by J. Melly

Report by J. Melly, Launch Officer on Customs Launch "Lungtsing". Signed by himself and "J. Nolasco da Silva, 4th Assistant <u>A</u>" to Commissioner Piry.Two single paged folio sheets of thin paper, hand written and composed in English.

Content Identical to that of MS19/1/4. 9th March 1899.

MS 19/1/6

Letter to the Tidesurveyor from J. Wolfe

Officer-in-Charge of Customs Launch "Lungtsing", to J. Manners, Tidesurveyor at Lappa Customs House.

One single paged folio sheet. Hand written and composed in English.

Wolfe enquires privately on behalf of "The Commissioner" about the confinement of four sailors who had been left aboard the confiscated rice junk. After being captured by Portuguese authorities from Macao these men were goaled and the junk impounded. The Commissioner has been informed through their wives that the sailors have been placed under an obligation by their gaolers to pay towards the cost of their detention. There is also is an allegation that one of the men had been beaten with bamboo while in custody



15/03/189

MS 19/1/7 15/03/189

Memorandum produced by Lappa Customs House

Documentation produced by Lappa Customs House recording an enquiry held by Commissioner Piry and his legal advisers into the events surrounding the confiscation of the rice laden fishing junk on 7th March and its subsequent capture by Portuguese authorities.

Eight one sided folio sheets. (Thin paper copy). Hand written in English with Chinese characters for the sailor's names. This is a transcript of the account given by the four Chinese sailors (林泰, 張福勝, 業來勝 and 羅貴) who had been left in charge of the confiscated rice junk. There are individual statements from each, detailing the course of action taken in response to the initial report by three informants of the junk's whereabouts. These four men were among the first of the "Lungtsing's" crew to board the junk and witnessed the flight of its crew across a beach on the mainland. They verify that the cargo of the junk was counted in the presence of two of the informers. Their statements also detail the departure of these men and provide eye witness accounts of the accidental drifting of the junk into Portuguese waters due to a lack of

wind for the sails. Their capture by the Portuguese authorities is also recounted but there is no detail regarding their treatment in custody.

New information that arises from this document is a denial of any claims that original crew of junk had been forcibly removed from the boat. Also, the Customs House authorities have queried the difference between these statements and those given by these sailors to Portuguese authorities. What emerges is that the sailors received smuggled instructions from rice retailers in Macao. In addition the statements assert that there were five informers who reported the position of the junk, whereas items on MS19/1/4, MS19/1/5 and MS19/1/19 record only four.

MS 19/1/8 n.d.

Minutes of Enquiry at Lappa Customs House

Record made at Lappa Customs House of an official investigation into the rice junk incident.

Five singe sided folios. Many corrections have been made and lines crossed out. Present at this Enquiry were Commissioner Piry, Mssrs. Basto, Andrew, Nolasco, Irvine, Manners. The purpose of the investigation was to clarify the sequence of events of the confiscation of the rice junk and its subsequent capture by Portuguese authorities. To this end the four Chinese sailors left on board the junk were interviewed. The information provided is consistent with that of MS19/1/7, with adamant assertions that the original crew of the junk had already departed when it was taken into Customs Service custody. Likewise there is reiteration that after they were left on the junk nobody else boarded until the Portuguese authorities. The smuggled letter the men received while in gaol at Macao was produced for inspection.



MS 19/1/9 ESTP 1845

Identical to item MS19/1/7 and marked with the same date.

MS 19/1/10

Identical to item MS19/1/7 and marked with the same date

MS 19/1/11 n.d.

Enclosure

No place or origin or author is referred to on this document. It appears to be part of the rough notes used to collate the broader case file. Consists of a two paged folio sheet, handwritten in pencil in rough script English.

A listing of central themes, persons and sequence of events in the rice junk seizure and subsequent diplomatic correspondence with Portuguese authorities. No date given the content suggests that it was written after all statements had been collected and official proceedings had commenced. The last date listed is that of the "19th".

MS 19/1/12 12/03/1899

Statement by Watcher Cunha stationed at Nine Islands

Documentation produced at Nine Islands Customs Station and labelled as "copy". Signed by "J.? da Cunha" and "Douglas Irvine, 4th Assistant <u>B</u>", an assistant to Commissioner Piry.One single sided folio.

A brief four line statement of what da Cunha saw of the rice junk's confiscation and later departure on 7th March. He gives some specific times but otherwise merely records that he saw the "Lungtsing" towing a two mast fishing junk, and subsequently seeing the junk set sail at 6.00 p.m. He provides no additional detail to what has already been recorded.

MS 19/1/13 n.d.

To the Commissioner of Customs, Lappa.

Statement by Launch Officer Edward O'Hare in response to query made by the Commissioner regarding rice junk. Signed by O'Hare and "J. Nolasco da Silva, 4th Assistant A" to Commissioner Piry. One page hand written folio sheet of thin paper.

O'Hare replies to a query made by Commissioner Piry concerning the rice junk affair. He recounts that at 11.30 a.m. on the morning of the 7th March the "Lungtsing" was drifting off Jonka when three informers boarded and reported a junk carrying contraband rice near 'Kiow'. Wolfe then instructions Melly to board the vessel and what occurred thereafter. Similarly to other statements made he cites that the original crew of the junk appeared to be onshore and he was directed by Wolfe to take possession of the sampan the crew appeared to have used in their getaway. The cargo of the junk was then counted in the presence of two of the informers and the vessel was then towed to Nine Islands. The informers left the launch in the vicinity of White Rocks after having been paid one hundred dollars. The junk was anchored in Picnic Bay at 3.40 p.m. With four sailors remaining on board under orders to take the vessel to Malowchow.



MS 19/1/14 n.d Statement about informer

Statement made by J. Wolfe, "Officer in charge". Signed by himself and "J. Nolasco da Silva, 4th Assistant A" to Commissioner Piry .One hand written folio sheet of thin paper. Wolfe gives his account of the events of 7th March. He records that at 11.30 a.m. on the day in question three men were taken on board the launch and passed information regarding a junk carrying contraband rice. When they came upon the junk Wolfe instructed to proceed Mr. Melley in the launch port-gig towards it and go onboard. Likewise he ordered Mr. O'Hare to take the starboard-gig and retrieve the sampan on shore that was assumed to have been used by the junk's crew to make their getaway. The bags of rice on board the junk were counted, deliberately in the presence of the informers. These men were then paid one hundred dollars and allowed to continue on their own business. The junk was then towed by the Launch to Nine Islands and was anchored in Picnic Bay.

MS 19/1/15 Identical to MS19/1/14.

MS 19/1/16 Identical to MS19/1/4.

MS 19/1/17 Identical to MS19/1/4.

MS 19/1/18 Identical to MS19/1/5.

MS 19/1/19 n.d

The Minutes of launch "Lungtsing" between 11 a.m. the 7th to 8 a.m. of the 8th, hour by hour.

Signed by J. Wolfe (Officer in charge), E. O'Hare (Launch officer), and J Melly (Launch officer). Two folio sheets, hard paper.



The first item detailed in this document records that from 11.00 a.m. to noon the launch drifted of Longka where at 11.30 a.m. it encountered a sampan carrying four men, three of whom were taken on board the "Lungtsing". Acting upon information received from these men the launch proceeded to 'Kihow' in pursuit of a junk carrying contraband rice. The junk in question was boarded at 00.50 p.m. by Mr. Melly using the port-gig and found to be carrying both rice and bran. The junk was found abandoned and a group of men carrying bundles were observed on the shore. Mr. O'Hare was sent to retrieve the sampan believed to have been used these men to leave the junk. From 1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. the junk was being towed and between 2.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. reached White Rocks area where the informers were paid one hundred dollars and sent on their way. At 3.40 p.m. the fishing junk was anchored in Picnic Bay at Nine Islands with four Chinese sailors being left aboard to forward her to Malowchow. The rest of the entry consists of routine entries regarding the normal operations of the launch for the rest of the night and proceeding morning, noting the junk.

MS 19/1/20 n.d. A special report on informers

Signed by Launch Officer O'Hare. One folio, hard paper.

O'Hare records that at 11.30 a.m. on the morning of the 7th Mr. Wolfe and sighted sighted a sampan approaching the Customs Launch "Lungtsing", three Chinese passengers of which were taken on board and gave information about contraband rice near 'Kiau'. The launch then proceeded in that direction and one of the informers then pointed the junk out by sight. The junk was found to be abandoned and Mr. Wolfe sent Mr. O'Hare in the launch's starboard gig to retrieve a sampan lying on the beach, believed to have been used by the former crew of the junk. The sampan was placed on board the junk, which in turn was taken in tow by the launch. Two of the informers were taken on board the junk to be present during the count of its cargo. Between 2.40

p.m. and 3.00 p.m. all three informers departed on a passing sampan after having received a payment of one hundred dollars from the Officer in Charge.

MS 19/1/21 14/03/1899

Memorandum

Note from, C.L. "Lungtsing", Custom House, to J. N. Manners, Tidesurveyor. One folio. Wolfe informs Manners that the four Chinese sailors being held in gaol were complaining of sickness and appealing for assistance.

MS 19/1/22 7/03/1899

Deck Log

J. Wolfe, Officer in Charge of Customs Launch "Lungtsing". One folio sheet of faint writing in penciThis document is an extract from log of Customs Launch "Lungtsing" on day rice junk was confiscated. It contains chronology of events of the day, such as who was posted on deck at what time and ordinary duties carried out such as cleaning.

MS 19/1/23

Document in Chinese.

One of the four Chinese sailors taken captive by the Macao authorities has composed this letter while being held in gaol. He asserts that the Portuguese intend to place them on trial and he and his fellow inmates are appealing for help.

MS 19/1/24 n.d.

Joint Report of C.L. "Lungtsing" Pilot Chang Nungi and Boatswain Li Kai to the Commissioner of Customs.

No signatures, addressees or details of place of origin present. One page folio sheet in pencil handwriting.

The pilot and boatswain here assert that at 11.30 a.m. on 7th March three men boarded the launch while adrift off Jongka. They gave information about a 'rice boat' at 'Kee ow' and in response the launch set course for that destination. They arrived at 12.45 p.m. and twenty mates and five sailors made their way to the junk in a gig from the launch. It was found with rice and to be abandoned but a sampan was noticed on the beach. Several men carrying bundles of clothing were also visible and were running over the hills. Their sampan was retrieved by the first mate and the junk was towed to Nine Islands and anchored here at 3.30 p.m.

MS 19/1/25

15/03/1899

Letter from 'His Excellency the Governor to Mr. Théophile Piry, Commissioner of Customs.'

Document in French

Colonel Galhardo, Portuguese Governor of Macao, responds to Piry's representations about the four sailors arrested by the Macao authorities and the return of the seized junk and cargo. He claims that the rice laden fishing junk confiscated by Customs on 7th March 1899 was not found in the condition as claimed by the crew of the "Lungtsing". It had not weighed anchor and her crew were still aboard when the "Lungtsing" followed

her towards Macao during the night, the captain ordering a seizure by force. Although he is not sure what territorial waters this took place in, he claims that a crew of eight were present on the junk and were placed on a passing fishing boat to be taken to shore. The men who seized the junk were not wearing uniforms but Macao police later found four hats on board on which were written "Lungtsing".

Galhardo also claims that out of the supposed cargo of three hundred bags of rice only two hundred and ninety-one have been found. He accounts for this by alleging the remainder were misappropriated by the crew of the "Lungtsing", labelling her captain dishonest and his actions irregular. Similarly the reports made by Customs employees were also dishonest and therefore the "Lungtsing" log cannot be trusted. Special dispensation however can be made for the four sailors found on board the junk by Macao authorities. They were not aware of the full sequence of events or of the rules of civilised nations. To arrest them would be unfair as they were ignorant and merely obeying orders.

Galhardo resolves however not to return the junk or its cargo to Customs. Regardless of where the Chinese seizure took place such actions were intolerable to the laws of the colony and basic human rights as recognised by civilised countries. As such he orders that the junk and its cargo be given back to their original owners. Galhardo has arrived at this conclusion due to the findings of his own investigation and that of the Portuguese Department of Chinese Affairs. In the course of enquiries statements were obtained from witnesses and the four Customs sailors.



16/031899

ESTP1845

Letter from Piry at Lappa Custom House to The Governor of Macao.

Document in French.

Piry expresses his disagreement with Galhardo's version of events. He was not consulted during the Governor's investigation and has not agreed with the return of the junk and the cargo to the original owners. As Galhardo admits that nobody had been able to ascertain if the junk had been taken in Portuguese waters Piry rejects the legality of Galhardo's decision. Furthermore he resents the fact that Galhardo has interfered between Chinese authorities and Chinese subjects and will inform his superiors in Peking accordingly.

MS 19/1/27

Draft of MS19/1/26

Document in French

MS 19/1/28 n.d.

Memorandum composed by Piry.

Document in French

Piry refers to correspondence he has received from Galhardo who has claimed that Piry should have noticed that the captured junk was owned by residents of Macao and that the seizure took place in Portuguese waters. Consequently the matter can come under Portuguese jurisdiction only. Piry refutes this, affirming that the junk was in

Portuguese waters only after the seizure initially took place in Chinese waters. As such the actions of Customs were entirely legal

MS 19/1/29 n.d

Draft letter from Commissioner Piry to the Governor of the Portuguese territory of Macao.

One single sided folio.

While stating his respect for Portuguese sovereignty Piry insists upon the release of the four Chinese sailors being held in Macao. He labels their detention a 'mistake' since they were in charge of a Chinese junk that had been arrested in Chinese waters. He validates the seizure of the junk with the fact that the cargo it carried was illegal and known to be by 'all the foreign Powers.' While in the charge of the Customs men the junk 'drifted into Portuguese waters'. Piry assures the Governor that if the Portuguese believe they have genuine complaint against the activities of the Customs employees he will hold an investigation to which the Governor may send representation. This would be in accordance to the Convention agreements in place and Piry is eager to argue his case in terms of legal principal. On this basis he presses his request for a release of his men, the junk and its cargo, stressing the obligations upon the Governor to conceded under the terms of his governments legal agreements with China.

MS 19/1/30

n.d.

Customs Memorandum

Galhardo to Piry.

In French

Galhardo is responding to a letter he received a letter from Piry on 11th challenging the legality of Portuguese actions and justifying those of Customs. He expresses his disagreement with Piry and questions the accuracy of some of Piry's statements. Galhardo claims that when the junk was found the four sailors onboard from the "Lungtsing" claimed spontaneously that the junk was going to Macao with eight men who were forcibly removed. Due to the many lies in the reports made by the Customs officials of the "Lungtsing" caution needs to be exerted when assessing the situation. Also some of the junks rice cargo was taken aboard the "Lungtsing" by her captain and the matter requires further investigation by the Office of Chinese Affaires to ascertain the truth. Due to the fact that the Portuguese seizure of the junk occurred in Macao's waters the legality of Portuguese is assured. Galhardo shall consult with the Magistrate to obtain his interpretation of the situation and will only be able to reach a final decision when he has ascertained all the facts.

In conclusion he hopes for a resolution on the question of border tariffs, but it will not effect the sovereign rights of Portugal in this matter.

MS 19/1/31

Letter from Piry to Galhardo.

In French

Draft of MS19/1/26



MS 19/1/32

15/03/1899

Solicitor's letter

From C. Ewens, Solicitor and Notary Public, Hongkong, to Piry.

Handwritten folio sheet.

Ewens is responding to enquiries made by Piry about potential legal action against Portugal. He believes there is little he can do without being present and advises Piry to consider 'how far Pekin wishes to conciliate' before taking firm action. He makes the point that Chinese weakness may be too acute to take a resolute stance in this matter and is also helping Piry in his French correspondence with the Governor of Macao. He discounts any possibility of pursuing a charge of piracy being persued or of claiming a violation of Chinese sovereignty. Rather, he directs Piry to capitalise on 'Clause 3 of the Convention' regarding treatment of Customs employees. Ewens also suggests that the Governor of Macao might try to claim that the junk had originally been retained by Piry's men in Portuguese waters, which in turn would constitute a violation of Portuguese sovereignty. Of further concern is the difficulty of Piry writing in a non-official capacity, with the suggestion being made that in attempting to do so he should rely on the offices of Bastos, a Portuguese employee.

MS 19/1/33

14/03/1899



From C. Ewens, Solicitor and Notary Public, Hongkong, to Piry.

Two handwritten single page folio sheets.

Ewens is responding to enquiries made by Piry about potential legal action against Portugal but feels that the only relevant points within the Portuguese Treaty only vague apply to the situation at hand. However Clause 3 of Chinese Tariff Rules are applicable because the Portuguese had already 'assented' to the code. Other clauses within the code were too vague for utilisation. Ewens maintains that legally the Chinese Government was entitled to act as it did in regards to the junk and that its subsequent drifting into Portuguese waters did not invalidate Customs Service claims over the vessels. He further advises against 'any dispute which can serve no useful purpose', suggesting instead that Piry rely on the efforts of 'Bastos' to secure a release. Failing that he recommends that the Chinese government give ground in some other area to resolve this issue. Ewens suggests that Piry seek a written explanation from the Governor of Macao explaining his position with a view to avoiding similar problems in the future. He indicates that if the matter is not resolved it may provide a useful bargaining counter for the Chinese government on another occasion. There is little Ewens can do from Hongkong, and he makes known his willingness to travel to Macao to be of service.

MS 19/1/34

14/03/1899

Solicitor's letter

From C. Ewens, Solicitor and Notary Public, Hongkong, to Piry.

Two handwritten single page folio sheets.

At Piry's request Ewens clarifies the applicability of Clause 3 of the Convention, indicating that actually it does not hold in this case because no complaint had been made by a merchant and the Governor of Macao has not sought an investigation. However the Portuguese have indeed violated the Convention and Ewens urges Piry to bring this to the Governors attention who in turn might allege offences committed against Portugal. Ewens contends that Piry could call upon the Governor as many times as he likes, in the name of the Chinese Government, for the release of the men in its employ. The difficulty continues to be what position the Governor will take on the matter. There remains a possibility of defending the sailors in a private case, without Customs being involved.

MS 19/1/35 13/03/1899

Letter from C. Ewens.

Ewens writes to Piry with advice on negotiations with Portuguese authorities in Macao for the release of the captured junk and sailors.

Two handwritten single sided folios.



Ewens asserts that the chief problem in negotiating a settlement remains the 'obstinancy of the Governor'. He suggests that release of the men might be achieved by claiming that they were merely obeying orders. Nothing should be done without reference to 'Pekin' for clarification of the Chinese Government's official position. Ewens is convinced that the Galhardo is wrong and that they need only to await for a full disclosure of all the facts for that to be beyond dispute. However getting the Governor's agreement as to what actually are the facts may be problematic. Ewens suggests that if Piry can make himself 'unpleasant' and cause difficulties for the Portuguese it may hasten a resolution but again this would require approval from 'Pekin'. If the Galhardo continues to hold the men Piry should seek his reasons in

MS 19/1/36 9/03/1899

Letter to the Tidesurveyor

Signed by J. Wolfe, Officer in Charge of Customs Launch "Lungtsing" and addressed to the Tidesurveyor.

One handwritten folio sheet page.

writing so that Ewens may examine them.

Wolfe has been informed by the wives of the gaoled sailors how the Portuguese authorities became involved in the situation to begin with. After abandoning the rice laden fishing junk its crew reported themselves to Portuguese authorities who in turn set out to capture the junk. In their statements to the Portuguese the Customs sailors maintain that while under their charge the junk was carried by the tide into Portuguese waters

MS 19/1/37 n.d.

Translations of Chinese letter - Envelope A

One handwritten folio sheet page.

This is a translation of the Chinese letter smuggled to the four sailors held by the Macao authorities. In it they are advised their release could be secured if they claim that the

crew of the confiscated rice junk had been present when boarded by Chinese Customs officers. Furthermore the crew were forcibly removed, arrested, and taken on board the "Lungtsing" and held for questioning. Likewise they should claim that the junk had then been towed to Nine Islands but a lack of a wind meant the strong current was able to take the vessel into Portuguese waters. By following these instructions the four men were supposedly guaranteed of being 'liberated'.

MS 19/1/38 14/03/1899

Memorandum

Detailing how Chinese sailors in Portuguese custody had been motivated by chance of release to give false information regarding the rice junk to their gaolors.

Signed by George Manners. One handwritten single sided folio.

Seaman Lin Lai, one of the four Chinese sailors who had been taken into Portuguese custody, is here called an 'old hand' of the service. He has been persuaded to give false evidence to the Portuguese by the promise of early release. Lin Lai has been advised thus by 'people interested in the rice'. As such he has told his captors that there was a crew still present on the rice junk when it was boarded, and that they were forcibly removed from it upon the order of the captain of the Customs Launch "Lungtsing".

MS 19/1/39

Letter in Chinese

MS 19/1/40 n.d.

This letter refers to Li Kai but is non-specific in content.

Statement by Manners.

Two pieces of paper pinned together. A draft and final version.

Trush's statement that on the 7th March he sighted at 1.15 p.m. the Customs Launch "Lungtsing" owing a two mast fishing junk from Long Ka. The vessel was then anchored at 'Picnick Bay'. At 5.30 p.m. he went alongside the vessel and found her to be laden with rice and manned by four sailors in uniform and belonging to the "Lungtsing". At 6.00 p.m. the junk weighed anchor and left.

MS 19/1/40 n.d.

Statement by Manners.

Two pieces of paper pinned together. A draft and final version.

Trush's statement that on the 7th March he sighted at 1.15 p.m. the Customs Launch "Lungtsing" owing a two mast fishing junk from Long Ka. The vessel was then anchored at 'Picnick Bay'. At 5.30 p.m. he went alongside the vessel and found her to be laden with rice and manned by four sailors in uniform and belonging to the "Lungtsing". At 6.00 p.m. the junk weighed anchor and left.

MS 19/1/41 n.d.

Customs Memorandum

No signature present or indication of place of origin beyond paper head. The handwriting looks similar to that on item MS19/1/40. Two handwritten double sided folios.

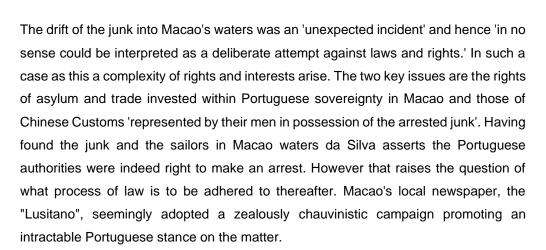
These brief notes are a general outline of the situation. They assert that none of its crew was present at the time the junk was boarded; that the boarding of the junk took place near but not actually in Portuguese waters; that uniformed officers had been left in charge of the junk; that drifted into Portuguese waters with the tide. There is also a suggestion that China is being victimised in this matter, that the Portuguese would not be taking such a stance against the other powers.

MS 19/1/42 n.d. Case Analysis

An analysis of the legal standing of the Portuguese authorities in Macao and the Chinese Customs in the matter of the confiscated rice junk.

Signed by J. Nolasco da Silva. Twenty two single sided. Badly faded in some areas and some pages have been rewritten at a later date and in a different hand to enhance legibility.

This is largely a narrative of the events and nature of the controversy. Da Silva begins with an outline of the Chinese policy towards the export of rice and how such trade was prohibited by the Viceroy of Canton. In the course of their operations the Chinese Revenue Cruisers were thus obliged to enforce this policy [and did so]. [In the normal operation of duties the captain of the "Lungtsing" had received information regarding a fishing junk laden with rice at 'Ki ow, 19 miles north of Macao.' The launch proceeded thereto and took possession of the vessel. It was then towed to Nine Islands, 'where there is a Customs Station.' Before arriving there the three Chinese informers had left the launch. Four sailors from the "Lungtsing" were left on board the junk while the launch then went south to continue with its normal operations. The junk was intended from there to make its way to Malowchow but due to the currant drifted towards Macao. Acting on information received from the original smugglers of the rice the Portuguese authorities then set about to capture the junk



Da Silva makes reference to the works of Jan Ferguson, the Dutch composer of the "Manual of International Law". Da Silva claims that the standards laid down therein should be applied in the dispute between Portuguese Macao and Chinese Customs. The passage quoted maintains that if a state carries out an arrest of a vessel of its own



nationality, outside the territorial waters of any other another state, that arrest remains valid should the vessels either intentionally or otherwise enter the waters of another state. The arrested vessel has no right of asylum for her nationality remains intact.

Reference is also made to the 1887 agreement between Portugal and China and recognised as law in Macao since June 1888. He contends that this agreement, ostensibly pertaining to opium smuggling, established a procedure whereby Chinese Customs and Portuguese authorities were entitled to call for an investigation when their interpretations of a situation differed. When that failed the next recourse was to Peking for a joint decision. The Governor of Macao made no use of this means of finding a solution, principally because the seizure by Customs of the rice junk had been entirely legal and the consignee of the vessel and cargo lacked any legitimate case to contend. All Portuguese dealings in the matter had been conducted in private and without a recognisable process of law.



The four detained sailors were eventually released, without being punished, because they were guilty of no crime. Through this action the Portuguese authorities made a de facto admission of the validity of the Chinese case. Conversely however the junk and its cargo were handed over to those presenting themselves as its consignees. The matter highlights the need for further clarification of certain points of law between the two states, for the benefit of all concerned.

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MS 19/2 Folder Two - Letters and Memoranda: Macao Junk Contraband Incident

Correspondence in this Folder consists mostly of handwritten letters from Piry writing at Lappa Customs House and to Sir Robert Hart, with some to Robert .E. Bredon at the Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking, between 13th January, 1898 and 9th June, 1898. These reports cover the host of problems with which Piry had to contend in his day-to-day administration of Lappa Custom House: rice smuggling, an outbreak of plague and the Lappa Hospital, problems with the Portuguese authorities at Macao, navigation regulations, Likin, trade reports, supposed French designs on St. John's Island, the rice-junk seizure case and stamp-duty in Macao. The last twelve documents are letters sent from Hart to Piry offering advice on the fulfillment of his duties as well as personal matter. Unfortunately the illegibility of Hart's letters prevents a thorough summary or indexing of their contents.

MS 19/2/1 n.d Letter from Piry writing at Lappa Customs House.

In Chinese

His letter is identical to MS19/1/23 but is composed in a more formalised manner.

MS 19/2/2 n.d. Letter from Viceroy Tan to Governor Galhardo.

In Chinese

The Viceroy is concerned at the activity in Daheng Qin (大横琴) of a group of westerners who have built a base from which they claim to be carrying out survey work. Tan notes that their stay in the area has been protracted but in the spirit of 'friendship' will allow them to remain until 1st October.

MS 19/2/3 n.d. Document

In Chinese

This document pertains to the traffic in opium from Hongkong.

MS 19/2/4 09/10/1897 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.42.

MS 19/2/5 02/11/1897 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.43. Walsham also gives instructions to ensure the comfort of station employees while also noting that the 'West River question' will continued todevelop for some time. (The West River issue centred on the opening of the port of Wuchow to foreign trade. This was not finalised until 4th June1897.)

MS 19/2/6 07/11/1897 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.44.

MS 19/2/7 28/12/1897

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter their letter dated 5th December. Walsham refers to a letter he has also enclosed in his reply. The letter had been sent to the Inspectorate General from a Mr.

Finlayson who complains that of being inappropriately passed over for promotion. Walsham has already assured him that his concerns 'have been noted'.

MS 19/2/8 28/12/1897

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.47

MS 19/2/9 21/12/1897

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.46. Walsham also indicates that the 'furniture allowance' will be issued.

MS 19/2/10 20/01/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.49. Walsham notes states that Piry's recent involvement in the importation of rice has met with approval from the 'I.G.' and the 'Viceroy'.

MS 19/2/11 07/02/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.50.

MS 19/2/12 25/02/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House

acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.51.

MS 19/2/13 22/03/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House

acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.52.

MS 19/2/14 17/03/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House

acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.57.

MS 19/2/15

28/05/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

Two paged folio sheet.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.58. Walsham states that in the formation of policy regarding the Customs quarters at Wanchai Piry needs to be cautious in dealing with the Portuguese. Also, Piry is advised to keep the local Chinese officials informed, such as the Viceroy (of Canton), and to 'keep them up to watching their country's interests'. Hart is prepared to trust Piry's own initiative in this matter.

MS 19/2/16

22/06/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.59. Some of the issues regarding staffing that Piry in that letter are being gradually dealt with. Hart also wishes for Piry to obtain a copy of Gowey's report as soon as possible

MS 19/2/17

26/07/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.61. The question of a transfer of a Mr. McKenzie has been noted

MS 19/2/18	21/10/1898	Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.67.
MS 19/2/19	23/08/1898	Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letters S/O no.63 & 64.
MS 19/2/20	24/08/1898	Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letters S/O no.54 & 55.
MS 19/2/21	21/11/1898	Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.70.
MS 19/2/22	04/01/1899 STP1845	Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.72.
MS 19/2/23	06/03/1899	Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.75
MS 19/2/24	27/03/1899	Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and hand written folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter dated 10th March.

MS 19/2/25 04/04/1899 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.77. MS 19/2/26 11/04/1899 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letters S/O no.79 & 80 MS 19/2/27 22/04/1899 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letters S/O no.82 & 83. MS 19/2/28 10/05/1899 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.85. MS 19/2/29 23/05/1899 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letters S/O no.87, 88, 89 & 90 MS 19/2/30 30/05/1899 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letters S/O no.91 & 92

MS 19/2/31 01/06/1899 Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.93.

MS 19/2/32	27/09/1899	Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa Customs House, dated 13 th September.
MS 19/2/33	29/05/1899	Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. One typed and hand written folio sheet. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter dated 18th May.
MS 19/2/34	24/06/1899	Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.95.
MS 19/2/35	28/08/1899	Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa Customs House, dated 5th August
MS 19/2/36	28/08/1899. ESTP1845	Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt for letters received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa Customs House, dated 13th & 15th August.
MS 19/2/37	11/09/1899	Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa Customs House, addressed to the Inspector General and dated 21st August.
MS 19/2/38	13/09/1899	Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa Customs House, addressed to the Inspector General and dated 21st August.
MS 19/2/39	30/10/1899	Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking. One typed and handwritten folio. Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa Customs House, addressed to the Inspector General and dated 7th September.

MS 19/2/40 04/10/1899 Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio

Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa

Customs House, dated 21st September

MS 19/2/41 11/10/1899 Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa

Customs House, dated 25th September

MS 19/2/42 23/10/1899 Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa

Customs House, dated 7th October.

MS 19/2/43 23/10/1899 Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa

Customs House, dated 7th October

MS 19/2/44 07/12/???? Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking.

One typed and handwritten folio.

Document of receipt for letters received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa Customs House, addressed to the Inspector General and dated 25th Oct and 12th

November

MS 19/2/45 12/02/1900 Letter from R.E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector General of Customs, Peking

One typed and handwritten folio

Document of receipt for letter received from Piry, Commissioner of Customs, Lappa

Customs House, dated 13th January

MS 19/2/46 13/01/1898 S/O. No. 50 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart

One double sided and one single sided folio

Piry had dispatched his confidential report on his staff two days previous but wants to add more information. He praises Manners unreservedly, stating the few men in the service compare favourably to him. Piry recommends that some gesture be made to Manners to demonstrate the regard in which he is held. He also makes recommendations regarding the transfer of officers Grainger, Williams, McKenzie and Gordon. Reference is also made to the needs and capabilities of some of the Chinese staff and their usefulness in acquiring information. New launch officers are needed but are difficult to recruit and the matter is of some urgency because they had been

'awfully busy'. This was partially because of the renewal by the Viceroy of the prohibition of rice exports, contrary to expectations. Piry has received representations from the Governor of Macao and the Colonial Secretary regarding the situation.

MS 19/2/47 n.d.

S/O. No. 51 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double sided folio and one single sided folio.

The Chinese New Year celebrations were busy but passed off peaceably but relations with Macao have been further strained by a unilateral declaration by its Governor of a ban on rice exports from the colony. Piry was in no way consulted about this course of action, despite an understanding arrived at the previous December under which he allowed some rice to pass into Macao. In response Piry discontinued all supplies of rice from mainland China into Macao. The situation has been a matter of consultation between Piry and Hillier, with Piry anxious about relations with the colonial authorities in both Macao and Hongkong. As such both men made representations to the Viceroy that the export of 500,000 piculs be permitted and feels it may have some success. Piry considers the matter a difficult one for the Customs service and regrets that the service is unavoidably involved due to its obligation to prevent smuggling.

Piry has recently been unfavourably commented upon by the Hongkong "Telegraph", whose 29th January edition noted his position as both a Frenchman and Commissioner of Customs. He replied to the newspaper with two letters, sending a copy of each to Hart. In addition a lack of staff means that work at Lappa Customs House is suffering.

MS 19/2/48 28/02/1898

S/O. No. 52 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double sided folio.

New regulations regarding the trade in kerosene oil will in Piry's opinion cause financial hardships. The key matter of concern however is the continuing seriousness of the rice question. He and Hillier are under new instructions from the Viceroy (of Canton) to limit exports to monthly quotas. This is to ensure that only a specified volume of rice (80,000 piculs) be exported for the year. Piry considers the regulation of such enormous quantities an arduous task and believes the Viceroy has underestimated the level of work required by his policy. He believes his own system of allocating permits to prospective exporters for given quantities would be more efficient. Piry and Hillier are currently consulting with a view to reaching a solution acceptable to all parties (including Hongkong and Macao) and which will avoid future difficulties. Piry's own information is that most of the rice exported from China goes not to the British and Portuguese colonies but to Japan.

Otherwise Piry notes that relations with the Portuguese are running smoothly. Recent tension between the Governor of Macao and the 'IC's Navy' have subsided in the IC's favour with a Portuguese naval reduction in the region. The Portuguese were also planning a five day festival to celebrate the voyages of Vasco da Gama

MS 19/2/49

17/03/1898

S/O. No.53 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double sided folio. The price of rice in Macao is double its usual level, a situation Piry predicts will be made worse by a complete lack of the commodity in the near future. The Governor of Macao has taken no adequate steps to deal with the measure. Meanwhile the Japanese have continued importing rice from other Asian countries, their intention being to store five years supply in case of war. A fortnight previous Piry and Hillier proposed to the Viceroy that permits be issued to authorise some merchants to supply rice to the colonies. The impression given by the 'native papers' is that the Viceroy is not 'assuredly' against the 'allowance rice', but in practise has stopped all exports. In the meantime the effect is reduced work for the customs officials in Lappa, but Piry predicts that an end will be brought to this policy when starvation sets in at Macao. Piry still holds out hopes of obtaining permission from the Viceroy to issue export permits, suggesting as well that the Governor of Macao may be able to come to some arrangement of his own with the Viceroy. Piry also notes that many 'well-to-do' Chinese have moved to Macao and Hongkong from mainland China. Some were apparently motivated by the belief that 'trouble is impending'. In consequence demand for housing in both colonies has increased and Piry is anxious that the customs 'rented quarters arrangement shall not be disturbed'. Also mentioned are improvements being made in the Customs Launches in service at Lappa, including the use of Chinese style boats. Plague is beginning to surface in Hongkong, but thus far Macao has not been affected. If it should spread Nine Islands may provide refuge.



MS 19/2/50 12/04/1898

S/O. No.54 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double sided and one single sided folio.

There is a standstill in the rice situation with Macao and plague has spread both there and in Hongkong. Authorities in Macao however deny its presence with the assertion that suspected cases are immediately deported. This evidently involves a removal of patients to a Chinese hospital near the Wanchai Customs Station. In response a member of staff at the Station 'bolted from fear'. Piry wants an end to this export of plague and with this in mind discussed with Galhardo the possibility of establishing a barrack-style hospital isolated from residential areas. The Governor gave little support but Piry eventually got the proposal accepted. He now relies on the ability of Chinese officials to carry through the measure.

Piry has recently supplied the postal service with four Portuguese clerks, evidently needed to maintain the international balance of the service. He has also made the acquaintance of the new French Minister, Mr. Pichou, whom he hopes will help calm the political atmosphere in Peking.

MS 19/2/51 06/04/1898

Letter to Mr. Bredon from Piry.

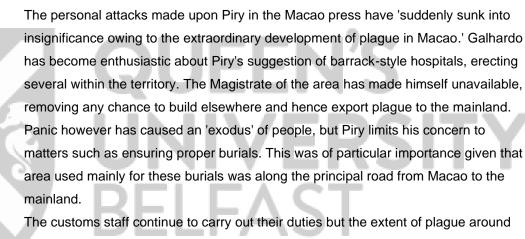
One double sided folio.

Piry replies to a letter he received from Bredon in which the latter gave his views on the rice situation. Piry feels that the main problem he and his office have in dealing with Macao is the Portuguese belief that the Customs Service exceeds its remit in the operation of its duties. Bredon's letter has motivated Piry to report the whole matter to Peking. Bredon had suggested that the colonial authorities be allowed to issue rice licenses but Piry explains why that would not work. Such a scheme had been attempted the previous December but was exploited by Galhardo for his own gain. The difficulty in finding an accommodation means that export from mainland China will remain prohibited, forcing Macao to seek imports from elsewhere. Piry laments that political wrangling is delaying a resolution but the general matter of rice may become more complicated as production in China might be hindered by insufficient rain.

MS 19/2/52 29/04/1898

S/O. No.57 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double sided and one single sided folio.



The customs staff continue to carry out their duties but the extent of plague around Wanchai may necessitate a change of quarters. Piry however is confident that the situation should improve before the end of June. He concludes with a complimentary observation upon the work of Basto and Nolasco and some minor detail on the latter's background



MS 19/2/53 12/05/1898

S/O. No.58 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart

Two double sided folios

The customs staff have been relocated away from the Wanchai quarters due to the prevalence of plague in that area. The unsatisfactory sanitary conditions of Lappa Hospital in the immediate vicinity of the Customs House necessitated the move. Piry reflects that leaving Wanchai empty could arouse Portuguese aspirations for influence and suggests its allocation to 'some petty official' to maintain at least a token Chinese presence. He seeks Hart's permission to propose such to the Viceroy, and to seek a subsidy for the operation of this scheme as well. This antipathy towards the Portuguese is reflected in Piry's comments on their approach to the plague situation in general. He views the severity of the epidemic as largely the result of Portuguese policy, claiming that 'Macao did not behave like a Christian colony'. The

effect of this will be that Macao will be the region worst effected by plague for years to come.

Mr. Lowden, a member of Piry's staff, has sent his wife to Shanghai and their children to Japan for safety. Otherwise the moral of the staff is excellent. Piry is now living at Nine Islands and his children are enjoying it. He refrains however from detailing his domestic life out of deference to Hart's own 'worries' and notes that repairs to the launch "Cungsing" have continued successfully

MS 19/2/54 08/06/1898

S/O. No.59 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart

Two double sided folios.

Piry has received Hart's instructions regarding the transfer of Mr. Gordon to Foochow, the appointment of Messrs. Irvine and Basto to Lappa, and the promotion of Mr. Nolasco. He is sorry to lose Mr. Gordon but welcomes the transfer for Gordon's own sake. The Station is in need of new Outdoor Staff and Piry suggests a transfer of some because of health or unsuitability. Accommodation arrangements now in place mean that the office has a perfectly good house without occupants.

Plague has slightly diminished and research by Yessin indicates the possibility of a vaccine and cure. Dr. Gowey and his Portuguese assistants have been experimenting with serum upon live Chinese subjects with successful results. These experiments have been in controlled environments, in which some of the test cases have been allowed to die. Colonel Galhardo of the Portuguese authorities has been a patron of this research, helping to smooth over difficulties with Lappa Hospital in the acquisition of human subjects. Piry has undertaken to help Dr. Gowdey have his report published in the Medical Gazette.



MS 19/2/55 = 05/07/1898

S/O. No.60 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

Two double sided folios.

Plague has finally subsided in Macao, with the estimated death toll for the previous three months being over one thousand. Piry's attempts to improve conditions at Lappa Hospital have become public knowledge and he is now held in high regard by the population of Macao. The high death rate and poor sanitation and organisation at the hospital, coupled with the manner in which patients were confined there by the Portuguese authorities, is now provoking public indignation. The Portuguese authorities are now displaying 'very special marks of attention' to Piry and his colleagues and Colonel Galhardo, who had never visited Piry before, has now done so.

In terms of Customs Service operations Piry rejects the idea that the men be centralised as an unnecessary expense. Instead he asserts that the men should remain distributed along the frontier in their present locations with existing stations being refurbished if necessary. He has had difficulties replacing some of the outdoors officers transferred away from Lappa by Hart. Also he has just been informed that the Customs Launch "Lungsting" 'ran down a junk' the previous night. Although the

launch is lightly damaged the junk has been lost and there may be 'a couple of thousand dollars' damage to pay'.

The newness of some of the staff at Lappa has meant a heavier workload for Piry, but thus far this has not caused any trouble.

The new 'Inland Steam Navigation Rules' have caused some concern to Chinese merchants and Macao lawyers, some of whom have been seeking clarification from Piry of their meaning and effect. He has explained to them that since Macao is not inland and Lappa is not a Treaty Port the new rules do not apply there. Regardless he thinks that some sort of compromise will need to be arranged. Mr. Drew has brought to Piry's attention the difficulties inherent within some of the rules, while Mr. Wang argues that steamers are meant to be charged at every barrier.

MS 19/2/56 19/07/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One singe sided folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.60.

Hart recognises that Hongkong and Macao may require special attention in the application of the new regulations regarding inland navigation. This however cannot be addressed in the immediacy but rather would be best dealt with as circumstances develop. Hart anticipates that the Legations will oppose an imposition of likin upon steamers in Treaty Ports and will press for Customs to act as the main agency in the matter.

MS 19/2/57 11/07/1898

S/O. No.61 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double paged folio sheets. Mention of a photograph, possibly in the Hart papers. The "Lungtsing" is docked in Hongkong for repairs, although damage was not as serious as anticipated. Piry has authorised some of his men to remain in Hongkong and oversee the repairs on the Customs Service behalf. This has required a reallocation of duties among men remaining at Lappa. Piry recommends that McKaige be transferred due to his 'suffering', but requires a replacement of 1st or 2nd rank in his stead. Piry seeks Hart's approval for the manner in which he dealt with an indemnification for the damages caused by the "Lungtsing".

MS 19/2/58 12/07/1898.

Letter from Piry to Sir Robert Hart.

One double sided folio.

Piry thanks Hart for the recent announcement that an increase of pay for Customs staff has been secured from the 'yemân'. This alleviates years of anxiety as it now provides remuneration adequate enough to allow savings and investments by staff. Piry continues with a praise of Hart's contribution to the Customs Service and the example he sets for the other men.

MS 19/2/59 28/07/1898.

S/O. No.62 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Two double sided folios.

Piry expresses to Bredon his pleasure that Sir Robert is taking 'a change' for a few weeks at Peitaichao, away from the heavy burdens of Peking work. This is particularly gratifying given the new stresses to which he has recently been placed under and Piry assures Bredon that he will also have the support of the whole service.

Governor Galhardo requested a conference with Piry regarding Inland Navigation, a matter which Piry does not consider 'ripe' yet. The meeting took place and was used by the Governor to suggest that Macao might acquire an 'Examination Hulk' through which would pass all of Macao's shipping trade and accommodate Customs. He also informed Piry of his wish to have Treaty Port status applied to Macao carried goods and has already made enquiries with the Chinese authorities towards that end. Piry is surprised that the Chinese merchants of Macao have accepted the idea and he and Hillier are further examining the proposal.



Piry been notified by Thau Houchie and the Likin Board that four towing boats have been licensed to operate between Macao and various locations on the west coast and West River. He and Hillier are both favourable and have instructed Mr. Drew to research the matter further. They also propose that Lappa be given the supervision of these licenses and the right to enforce Chinese customs duties upon cargo. Until the rules are formalised Piry intends to enforce them anyway and he draws attention to the fact that the above proposals made by Portugal and the towing concessions will mean that Customs shall operate in essentially Treaty Port conditions in Chinese waters.

MS 19/2/60 19/09/1898.

Extract 'of a letter from Mr Commissioner Piry to Mr Commissioner Drew.

Two copies of the same extract, both on single sided folios.

Piry asserts that the "Frey Lui" should be refused the status of 'Coastal Steamer' under the 'Steam Traffic Rule'. He cites the complications caused by the location of Canton beyond two colonial possessions but that traffic between her and either of the Treaty Ports cannot be assessed in the same manner as that solely between two Treaty Ports.

MS 19/2/61 21/09/1898

S/O. No.66 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Two double sided folios.

Piry has been late with his correspondence due to a lack of significant business to report and a heavy load of routine office work. This situation has been aggravated by being one member of staff short and by the extended sick leave of Nolasco da Silva. Although labelling his illness the result of 'evident indiscretion' and calling him a 'not very interesting invalid' Piry laments that da Silva is losing his stamina before he could acquire 'any valuable qualification'. Also, a 'phantom' ship, the "Pasig" or the "Abbey", appeared not far from the Customs Station at Lappa on the 18th and was

later discovered to be engaged in 'a fine game of contraband'. She was apprehended near Manila.

The Likin office have instructed Hongkong and Lappa Customs officials to collect a new tax known as Chingfei. Representations against the levy were made to the Viceroy two months ago but have met with no response. Upon further investigations by Mr. Wang Liunshau its imposition has been confirmed and Piry asserts that he shall make an official report regarding the matter due to its harm to the junk trade. The question of what constitutes Inland Waters Navigation has become more complicated. The point of uncertainty was whether Canton, a Treaty Port unique in being behind the territorial waters of Hongkong and Macao, could issue permits for coastal launch traffic before such vessels had been cleared by the Customs officers of Kowloon and Lappa to pass through colonial waters. The matter was referred to Peking for clarification and Piry believes that a ruling in Canton's favour would mean a loss of control for the Customs offices at the coast, especially over the traffic of opium. Such a ruling would also be an encouragement to smuggling between the coastal colonies, even to Singapore. Piry also suggests that such a measure should be saved to be used as a 'concession' by the Chinese in the event of difficult negotiations over other matters in the future. He is adamant that Kowloon and Macao, as the two 'gateways' through which colonial and lower river junk trade already pass, should also serve the same function for launch traffic. That coastwise launch traffic between these two colonies is not yet permitted is the fault primarily of the colonies themselves. Both Mr. Hillier and Mr. Drew are in agreement Piry on this matter, although Mr. Drew may succumb to pressure from foreign consuls. An 'authoratative statement' from Peking would help settle the matter.

Piry also comments on receiving rumours about the death of the Emperor.

Letter from Piry to Sir Robert Hart.

One single sided folio.

Mr Laurence has recently been employed by Lappa Station. A young man who had come to the Far East to seek his fortune, he appears a highly capable man with a strong education and 'distinguished manners'.

S/O. No.67 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double and one single sided folio.

Piry notes that owing to Hart's stay in 'Peitaiho' he has been making his reports to Mr. Bredon and thus 'without the pleasure' of corresponding with Hart himself. He hopes that Hart has been heartily reinvigorated, especially since he is hearing rumours from North indicating 'that a strong hand is more than ever needed'. Piry brings to Hart's attention the complication during his absence of the Inland Navigation regulations and the complications surrounding the status of Canton and Lauishui.

Piry details the role of Macao in the reform movement growing in China, referring to "The Reformers China", published in Macao and owned by Kang Yu Wei. He and his family are linked with Lu Kau and Fantan Fauner, wealthy Macao residents of mixed



MS 19/2/62 04/10/1898

MS 19/2/63

Portuguese and Chinese origin and unable to go to China 'for fear of being brought to book'. Illiterate as they are they have also been sponsors of Sun Yet Sen.

Nolasco, the recently employed officer, remains quite ill and requires hospitalisation.

Otherwise business at the Station is running smoothly and the opium revenue is 'brightening up' so that although the other sources of income have declined there should still be a healthy return.

MS 19/2/64 04/11/1898.

S/O. No.70 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double sided and one single sided folio.

Hart has inquired of Piry the particulars of 'Brandenberg's case', details of which Piry has already supplied in S/O 68 and in a 'wire'. He regrets that Brandenberg appeared to Hart as 'the gentlemen he was not'. Piry had made investigations through Hillier into the man's character, with Hillier consulting the Colonial Secretary and the Police Magistrate on the matter. Brandenberg had been spying in both Macao and Hongkong, although for whom is not mentioned. Piry makes plain that all foreign staff had been made aware that such conduct was forbidden, especially in Hongkong. Since his arrest Brandenberg has 'become a lunatic'. Mr. Manners has also had cause to write to the Editor of the "Daily Press" in Hongkong, who published an article detailing Brandenberg as a 3rd Class Tidemaster, No.4, at Lappa. Manners asserts that the only position ever held by Brandenberg in the Customs Service was that of Station Watcher on probation.



S/O. No.71 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double sided and one single sided folio.

Governor Galhardo of Macao has departed for Siam where he intends to present his credentials, although he is yet to do so at Peking. Piry has also received representations from the Chienshan Magistrate that the Portuguese are conducting building work on Wêngcum. Piry advised the Magistrate to pass on this information to the Viceroy at Canton. Although Piry plans to take no involvement in the matter he intends, on his next visit to Canton, to mention the proceedings to the Viceroy. Having made his own investigations Piry was unable to see any such construction work but has been informed of contracts being passed to build quarters for soldiers. He has noticed other building work that he cannot account for and resolves to monitor further activity. In pursuing the matter though Piry will prompt the Magistrate to take the lead. The financial affairs of Pao Hong Bank, the bank used by the Customs Service, have become a matter of concern since it has recently suffered from bad speculation. Fernandez, a Portuguese bank, are also involved and Piry worries that in a worst case scenario restitution would be hard to obtain from Portuguese bankers. As such the established monthly Customs' remittances shall now be processed weekly. Piry enquires whether Mr. Laurence has arrived in Peking yet and affirms that Laurence is a highly capable and dedicated employee and is flattered that Hart has placed strong faith in his assessment of him.

MS 19/2/67

09/01/ 1899

S/O. No.73 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

One double sided and one single sided folio.

Governor Galhardo has replied to the Viceroy's allegations by asserting that the alleged sentry boxes are merely columns used for surveying purposes. The Viceroy appears satisfied with this explanation and no further correspondence has taken place. Piry had a very cordial meeting with Galhardo over the New Year's period although Macao is quiet as the Governor recovers from sea-sickness.

There has been trouble with some of the Customs staff at the frontiers, requiring a reallocation of men and duties to ensure suitable supervision and results. While expressing regret at involving Hart in matters of local organisation Piry requests transfers for Sinclair and Ferguson due to their poor work at Lappa. He also recommends a promotion in grade for Mr. Wolfe due to his 'valuable qualifications' and notes that Nolasco has returned to work, although still an invalid. The revenue is anticipated to reach 'normal' levels, with opium forming the most significant component.

MS 19/2/68

13/04/1898

S/O. No.54 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

Four single sided folios.

The content of this document is essentially the same as that of the draft (See MS19/2/20), differing in reference to the density and poverty of the Chinese population in the vicinity of Lappa Hospital. There is also a claim that attempts to interest the Chienshan Magistrate in the issue are hindered by either his fear of the Portuguese or bribery. Instead of acting he 'slips away with childish excuses'. When Piry approached Galhardo to suggest the erection of barrack-hospitals the Governor 'wanted to know in what quality' Piry made the proposal. Piry proceeded to portray himself in a "helpful neighbour" role. The Governor came to see the issue as one between Chinese officials and Piry now saw an opportunity to push the Magistrate towards applying pressure on the gentry to assist in establishing a barrack-hospital and in closing 'the Lappa plague-establishment'. He also plans to bring to the attention of the Viceroy the behaviour of the Portuguese and Magistrate in this matter. Piry has met Pichon, new French Minister.

MS 19/2/69 15/04/1898

S/O. No.55 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

Three single sided folios.

The Macao gentry have not yielded to official pressure 'regarding the Wanchai Hospital question' and Piry has resolved to proceed no further. He shall make no further reports to the Viceroy unless directed by Hart to do so. He suggests that the local officials are reluctant to sponsor any reform for fear of displaying any incompetence to the Viceroy. Their participation in reform would require the influence of a strong agent behind them, but Piry considers them to be under the influence of the ambivalent Galhardo. The status of Wanchai Hospital itself is ambiguous, being

owned by a Macao institution but located on Chinese territory. Not even matters of public health have enticed the Chinese officials to concern themselves with it and the only action Piry is now prepared to take is to relocate some of his own Wanchai staff. Despite the fact that plague is three times as bad in Macao as in Hongkong the Portuguese continue to deny its presence.

In the course of moving a sentry box at Anhang (Yin Kêng), in Lappa territory, Piry discovered that a block of houses on the water frontage was the property of 'the Macao Bishop'. Since then ('a few weeks ago') Portuguese officials have 'ostentatiously occupied themselves' in taking measurements in the area as a means, in Piry's opinion, of displaying the authority of the Bishop. This mood of expansion will be difficult to combat, especially since the 'two local officials in the vicinity' both live in Macao and would be afraid to pass on any relevant information for fear of exposure. Piry seeks Hart's confirmation that a policy of inaction is the best approach.

MS 19/2/70 19/04/1898



S/O. No.56 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

Five single sided folios.

A weekly newspaper in Macao, the "Independento", has published an article attacking Customs. Piry has sent a translation to Hart for his own reference but credits it with little worth. In the article the permanent hospital which Piry considers inadequate for the present plague crisis is labelled as a barrack-hospital. The article also makes an issue out of the recent flag question, whereby the Portuguese flag flying over the hospital was removed at the Magistrate's request. More significantly the presence of the Customs head office in Macao is labelled a "national disgrace". However the opening of West River to trade and steam traffic will mean a decline in commercial activity in the Macao area and the strength of some of its monopolies. While Piry views with some satisfaction this vulnerability in an almost self-assured way, he is likewise confident that the 'intelligent portion of the colonial public' view the position of the Customs office in a more rational manner.

Piry expresses doubts about the reliability of the Magistrate and Jussú of Chienshan. He has recently discovered through his Chinese staff the existence in Macao of a "political intelligence committee" consisting of; the Colonial Secretary; Messrs.

Nolasco da Silva, Basto and Pacheco (a lawyer); Lu Kau and Ho Linwong, both of whom are 'wealthy Portuguese protégés' with one serving as banker for the Customs. When local difficulties arise this group meet and the 'protégés' further call in the Magistrate and Jussú. Together this body resolve matters of concern without official reference to the Customs Service. The Jussú is also the 'sworn brother' of Mr. Wang Jiunshan, 'the virtual Viceroy of Canton'. Lu Kau and Ho Linwong have acquired Wanchai Hospital, meaning to bestow it upon Macao to secure Portuguese Honours. Similarly a Roman Catholic priest is 'doing the same with missions' money for a site on the water frontage.'

MS 19/2/71

05/08/1898

S/O. No.63 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Two single sided folios.

Contrary to reports made on 28th July the Governor proves evasive regarding the 'allimportant duty question'. Piry remarks that business and treaties 'are not His Exc.'s strong points' and that the programme of discussion laid out by the Governor's advisors avoided explanations requiring more negotiations with Peking. In response Piry has provided his superiors with possible arguments to be used to justify a negative reply to the Governor's proposals. Likewise he has suggested some 'noncommitting concessions' that Customs may use as negotiating tools. Hongkong will present greater difficulties in negotiations as the British will use more 'common-sense and real commercial interests' than the Portuguese. The concession of some form of Treaty Port status to either Macao or Hongkong would mean a scattering of southern China's trade and discontinue its centralisation in Canton. This would mean a profound alteration of the position of the Customs Service, increased competition for native shipping business, a loss of revenue for Customs and a corresponding decline of its political influence at Canton. Concern for position is evident in Piry's rhetorical question 'can we ever be at Hongkong but humble servants?' Whether Inland Navigation status would begin at Hongkong or Canton remained the central issue and its resolution either way will determine the strength of the Customs Service.



S/O. No.64 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

One single sided folio.

Piry has obtained Hillier's agreement on the content of despatch No.2672. Hillier does however note that the granting of "privileges 1 and 2" would cause Hongkong to immediately claim the same. Hillier advises restraint to allow time to assess Hongkong's position. Piry concludes that as such the two privileges he mentioned 'should not even be granted but with extreme reserve'.

MS 19/2/73 27/10/1898

S/O. No.69 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Two single sided folios.

A recent request by a Canton merchant for a permit to 'navigate the W.C.' [West Coast] has prompted Piry to reflect on the general question of Inland Navigation. He asserts that Macao should be granted no concessions 'without due return'. Piry thinks a negotiating tactic might be to highlight that an extension of Inland Navigation privileges to the 'W.C.' without Macao would damage Macao's 'native trade'. He questions however if even this demonstration to the Portuguese of their own national interests will be enough to dampen their national pride and desire for a wharf in Macao.

Piry disagrees with Mr. Drew's proposed solution for the 'Gaemoon' question. Piry maintains that Inland Water launches should pass through the Bogue and the natural waters between Hongkong and Macao in order to avoid smuggling. This would

require a readjustment of the nature of the permits issued by Mr. Drew's office for Inland Navigation.

MS 19/2/74 17/01/1899

S/O. No.74 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

Four single sided folios. Severely faded handwriting.

Mr. Hiller will soon be sending to Sir Robert notes compiled by Piry regarding the question of opium in Macao. The two men have also liaised with British officials in Hongkong with a view to combating opium smuggling there but such action will be futile without co-operation from Macao. Customs should offer no apology for a change in policy, the situation has evolved and the existing approaches would not provide a 'remedy'. A more 'thorough' approach is needed, based on an assessment of Macao's attitude over the previous twelve years and enabling a clarification of China's own position. British co-operation, which may be likely, could help China resolve the unpleasant opium business altogether. The worst result would be a few years of difficulty but it would be worth it for the potential advantages China might secure; 'complete check and integral collection of opium revenue with the honest and effective so-operation of England, with next to no cost, no friction, and a minimum of preventative service expenditure. But, for that England and China should stand alone in the business.'



China's interest in such form is justifiable as pecuniary pressures necessitate maximisation of revenue. In addition the extension of free navigation requires clarification of other trade matters in advance. The extension of Hongkong's boundaries 'makes it absolute to deal in a definitive manner with opium on arrival', and in this Britain is willing to participate. British support might also be obtained by stressing the loss to Indian opium revenues by adulteration of product quality inherent in smuggling. Macao could raise no objection to an engagement with these issues beyond self-interest and the move of the Kowloon stations would provide the best opportunity for raising these issues. Piry describes his own approach as 'for once I have tried to think independently and survey the scene beyond long beaten tracks, but I am for calm waters if they can be left undisturbed, particularly in lovely Macao!'

MS 19/2/75 07/02/1899

S/O. No.75 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Three single sided folios.

Piry's correspondence has been delayed by routine matters but has nothing significant to report anyway. In this report he enclosed the Chinese correspondence that passed between the Viceroy and Macao regarding the 'landmarks' at Macarina and Wêngaun. He believes that the explanations made by the Governor for these features could be used to China's advantage in 'future eventualities'. Piry's recent trade report indicates that the 'Pee goods' trade in junks has decreased by one half in one year but that the junk opium trade exhibits an abnormal increase, mainly the result of local competition. The Portuguese seem unaware of the effect this will have upon Macao's trade.

Piry has received Hart's approval and suggestions for the "joint proposals" regarding the new frontier arrangements. He intends to begin inspections for a suitable new site for a new station in the area of Moto and Mangchao. In response to Bredon's enquiry Piry states that a former Watcher called Mr. Lewis resigned from the Service two years ago and has since been heard from in America. He also undertakes to pass on this information to the family, presumably that of Lewis.

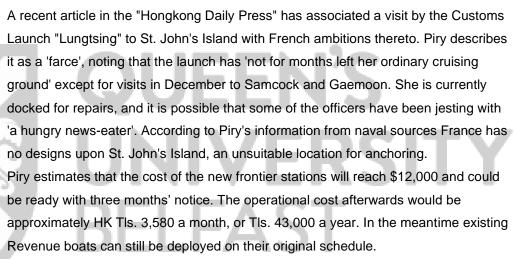
Proceeds from the sale of confiscated rice have been 'enormous' and while Tls. 12,000 has already been remitted a further Tls. 8,000 remains in account B. Piry suggests that the matter of remittances be simplified instead of having to seek authorisation from Peking for every such transaction.

The office will begin its Chinese New Year holidays on the 8th, lasting until the 12th.

MS 19/2/76 22/02/1899

S/O. No.76 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Four single sided folios.



Mr. Hillier has been approached by the Governor on the question of opium and in the course of discussion informed Galhardo of Piry's thoughts on the matter. Piry had made known to Hillier 'some time ago' enquiries made by the Dutch government through an informer regarding the smuggling of opium from Macao, Hongkong and Southern China to Java. Dutch revenue of eight million dollars from Indian opium entering Java through Singapore has been suffering from a clandestine trade operated by Chinese settlers in her territories. One means of evading customs has been to conceal the drug inside firecrackers. This suggests that 'Native Opium' accounts for a greater proportion of the general supply than previously estimated and is consequentially hindering Chinese and British revenues more than surmised. Piry is currently labouring under a heavy work load and neither of his two English assistants are as capable as hoped. The two Portuguese men in the office may be competent but are unsuitable to the confidential work Piry needs performed. The Service in general is short of reliable men.

Piry has recently discovered that the Christmas cards he had sent to Peking on 7th December must have been tampered with and lost. Others in the office complain of



similar losses, the general conclusion being that the staff in Macao post-office are pilfering the mail.

MS 19/2/77 03/03/1899

S/O. No.77 See following letter also from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Three single sided folios.

The joint report regarding the establishment of the new stations is now only awaiting the signature of Mr. Drew before it is officially submitted. Piry has recently visited Motomoon Likin Station and its standards of administration have moved him and Hillier to schedule its closure to coincide with the opening of the new stations. He fears that such 'parasitic bureaus' would reflect unfavourably upon the Customs Stations and expose the Service to unfair criticism.

Piry has wired to Peking information that Macao officials have 'keenly' felt last year's trade depression and Pedro Nolasco, Galhardo's advisor on business matters, declares that the 'Kiaochow precedent may any time be acceptable.' Piry seeks advice of appropriateness of entering new negotiations. If so he will insist upon 'Customs' warehouse and examinations in Macao, junks included if possible, safe transit of goods and foreign duty on steamers'. However he seeks clarification of what the official policy will be towards steamer traffic with Kongmoon and Kiunchuck, the west coast and inland waters. Nolasco has told Piry that Galhardo 'is ready to concede the warehouses'.

Hongkong's own recent dealings with Customs as well as that of Kiaochow have illustrated two possible approaches to Macao. The lack of direct foreign trade and being only a secondary entreport make Kiaochow's example the more relevant. The development of Hongkong's harbour facilities could be turned to Macao's advantage if 'customs facilities are secured and are made to foster steamer traffic'. Having the nearest Customs House to Hongkong will not harm the British colony but will aid Macao, 'especially if inland steam traffic privileges can in portion or in whole be added - which is probably not impossible'. Even discounting the might of Britain in the area Portugal has a powerful rival in the presence of Germany. As such Macao needs to give up the 'prejudices founded on vanity' or 'submit to annihilation'.



MS 19/2/78 12/03/1899 (Sunday)

S/O. No.77 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Both this and the previous document have been labelled such, although this one has been marked so in red at a later stage.

Six single sided folios.

Further to correspondence on 10th March Piry details the development thus far in the case of the contraband rice junk. In an interview with Galhardo regarding the matter the Governor was amicable and assured Piry the junk would be returned to Lappa Customs after his own enquiries into the matter had been concluded. He also undertook to send 'the Procurator of Chinese affairs' to collect Piry's evidence. The Procurator never arrived though, and Piry discovered that he was in fact engaged in establishing 'the case for the

judicial court'. In response Piry wrote to the Governor, informally, expressing his concern for the 'danger' such an approach entailed and detailing the facts of the situation as he knew them. The Governor's attitude had changed, insisting that the four Lappa Customs men remain in Portuguese custody. While accepting the charge of piracy did not stand and also asserted that Article 3 of the Convention, which provided for 'a determined proceedure etc', did not apply in Portuguese waters. Galhardo further stated, confidentially, that even if the Chinese seizure was proven to be legitimate the junk would not be returned.

Having obtained the legal opinion of Mr. C. Ewens Piry then sought that of Mr. Pedro Nolasco. Unknowingly both men reached the same conclusions and Nolasco advised that diplomatic action be taken based on the legitimate seizure by Customs. It was also Nolasco's opinion that although Galhardo was both badly advised and 'too obstinate to listen to simple reason', he would eventually return the junk. Mr. Basto, a professional lawyer, has been engaged by Customs and concurs with the interpretation of the other two lawyers. With their guidance Piry has 'drafted and sent a formal claim to the Governor'. Further action shall only be taken at the direction of Hart. A potential difficulty in further negotiation may be the classification made by the arresting police officers in Macao that designated the junk as a fishing vessel. Under Article 12 of the Opium Convention licensed fishing junks are exempt from Customs formalities, although in this situation Macao 'extends its protection to a fishing junk with a cargo on board, and a cargo of contraband rice!'

An official report will not be made by Piry until he certain what way the case will proceed. In the meantime he has provided a summary of the legal opinion of Ewensin a supplement to this report. Similar attachment detailing the of the territorial waters in the area, statements of the facts made by Piry to Governor Galhardo, a copy of the formal claim sent by Piry to the Governor and a translation of an article from the "Echo Macaoise", a Macao newspaper which seemed to verify Customs' representation of the case were also despatched. The whereabouts of these items is uncertain.



MS 19/2/79 12/03/1899

S/O. No.78 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon

Two single sided folio sheets.

Notes made by Piry regarding smuggling at Macao now seem applicable in the rice junk dispute as the vessel may be labelled a 'smuggling agent' but the exemption under Article 12 of the Macao Opium Convention for fishing junks provides an opportunity for smugglers to evade detection. While Macao might have claimed in the past not to condone such abuse the affair of the rice junk demonstrates the need for a clarification of policy. Galhardo has posed the question of why fishing boats should be prevented from engaging in whatever business they find profitable. To Piry's

response that they are not meant to carry cargo and that this policy should be enforced in the harbours Galhardo replied that it was the responsibility of Customs to ensure such, not the harbour authorities. Greater diligence is exercised by the local authorities in Hongkong and Piry suggests that when an opportunity arises reform should be initiated at Macao.

MS 19/2/80 20/03/1899

S/O. No.79 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Five single sided folios.

Piry undertakes to be guided entirely by Hart in the rice junk dispute with Macao and acknowledges that given her weakness it may be advisable for China not to peruse the issue. Had the Governor agreed to a quick release of the captured Customs officers and withdrawal of charges of piracy Piry would have taken no further action. He maintains that he was obliged to 'take official notice' by the Portuguese stance.

Piry uses this 'confidential letter' as an opportunity to express opinions he could not vent in his official report on the matter. He suggests that 'this case is a made up affair!' Galhardo is ill-trained for the position he holds and has been swaying between the various factions in the colony. He may even feel his actions are a positive engagement with the Chinese prohibition on the export of rice. He has been developing his approach to the situation as it progressed, aided by the circumstances of the original seizure, information received from the original smugglers and the statements made by the Lapps Customs officers while in custody and their possible 'treason'.

However Galhardo has little legal justification for his course of action. His exercise of "right of capture" implies a "state of war" unless a case of piracy can be proven. Since neither of these conditions exist the only available justification is that of providing asylum, an inapplicable action towards a Chinese vessel persued by Chinese Customs in peacetime. In response to the posture adopted by the Portuguese Piry has adopted a position of conciliation, remaining open to legal enquiry based on presentation of the evidence. The Governor has essentially accepted the facts presented but insists on applying them as though a state of war existed, possibly in the context of new interpretations of international law made by an advisor recently arrived from Portugal.

Piry regrets that the weakness of China has exposed Customs to 'arbitrary' treatment in the course of exercising its legitimate business and that the very Governor of Macao has acquiesced in this process, much to the praise of the Portuguese community in Macao. Piry comments that 'historical Portugal of which we read with sympathy and admiration is far from us here. It would be an illusion to think that its presence on these coasts has advanced civilisation and done good to China. Portugal has no commercial interests here, but has passed treaties and conventions



for the protection of the worst class of Chinese traders or refugees. Concessions and facilities are asked: we may well take note of what sort of people they will apply to if ever granted. We should think of recalling, not of extending, our concessions in commercial matters.'

MS 19/2/81 23/03/1899

S/O. No.80 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart

Five single sided folio sheets.

Piry asserts that Josè Brandáo is to be exempted from the usual qualifications criteria for a Tidewaiter posting due to him being 'a fine-looking fellow, intelligent, and well connected'. He recommends him along with Cunha for special attention given the need for extra men. The advancement of these two Portuguese men in Customs would prove the fairness of the Service to the authorities in Macao. However any promotion they received should also involve a transfer due to their connection with the local water-police who are in turn associated with smuggling. At least one officer in the past was dismissed for such links.



The affair of the rice junk has not meant a loss of prestige for Customs, except 'with a certain class of scribes.' Two local newspapers in Macao, the anti-Galhardo "Echo Macaoise" and its opponent "Lusitano" are 'crossing swords' on the matter. As Pedro Nolasco and Basto are the only two reputable men of standing in the colony in sympathy with Customs Piry has resolved to remain aloof. Nolasco suggests that Hart should inform Minister Roza in Paris of the Governor's arbitrary handling, believing that Galhardo has acted through sheer ignorance. Nolasco also maintains that the Governor lacks support among 'thinking and business people' who desire reform to improve Macao's trade and image.

MS 19/2/82 27/03/1899

S/O. No.81 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart One single sided folio.

Debate between the "Echo Macaoise" and the "Lusitano" continues and Piry has included with this and previous letters translations of some featured articles. One has been composed by Pedro Nolasco with the assistance of Mr. Basto and states the case in purely judicial terms that Piry believes 'quite capable of turning the tables in our favour' even in Lisbon. He further suggests that these men should be aided in their endeavors 'by a gentle move in the right direction' that could 'make the day manifestly ours'.

MS 19/2/83 29/03/1899

S/O. No.82 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart

One single sided folio.

'I considerably hesitated to send you the enclosed - a translation of a sickening article in the "Lusitano", yet, it is well you should know the tone and moral principles assumed by the friendly organ of Colonel Galhardo.

Modesty obliges me to leave out of my translation the beginning of the article: a reference is made to a matter - equally vile and false - which I wrote about in my S/O No.56 of 19th April 1898, - the Lappa hospital question at the commencement of the plague last year.

I am enough of a philosopher to attach no importance whatever to such articles: their authors, Professor Vasco and Dr. Passanha, have not many admirers in the leading class here.'

MS 19/2/84 06/04/1899

S/O. No.83 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

Two single sided folios.

Piry thanks Hart for having notified him of his intention to refer the rice junk case to Lisbon, adamant that the situation is crucial in relations with Macao. A new stamp duty throughout the Portuguese territories is being enforced in Macao, much to the agitation of the local traders. 'The leading Chinese merchants have had consultations together and laid their objections before the Governor, who won't give way.' In response the Chinese are publicly floating the idea of relocating their junk agencies to British territory. The possibility of trouble may be the cause for an increase of one hundred men in the Macao garrison.



A French gunboat (the "Bengali") has recently visited and there are reports that difficulties with the local people around Kuangchow Bay have calmed. A French 'administratour des affaires Indigénes, Missuer [sic] Masse is enquiring into the possibility of commercial ventures in the area. Meanwhile the dispute between the "Echo Macaoise" and the "Lusitano" newspapers has 'degenerated into personal questions' which Piry is not involved in.

MS 19/2/85 11/04/1899

S/O. No.84 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon.

Two single sided folios.

Piry contends that securing the services of Mr. Basto in the aid of Customs in the rice junk case was his 'master-stroke' in the affair. The work of Pedro Nolasco has also been beneficial and the presentation that both have made of the Customs case will mean help prevent an awkward situation developing in Macao now that the matter has been referred to Lisbon. Piry believes that the result of this extension of enquiry will be favourable to Customs because Galhardo will be shown to have acted arbitrarily. As 'his friends are no longer in power, the result is not doubtful: his recall.' A new Governor in Macao will bring a new situation and Piry, referring to his S/O No.77, seeks clarification of what policy towards Macao exists.

MS 19/2/86 09/06/1899

S/O. No.95 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Sir Robert Hart.

Three single sided folios. Some of the writing is faded and has at some point been rewritten in a different hand.

Piry refers to a joint telegram sent by himself and Mr. King to Hart the previous day after a meeting with the yamên. They have reestablished good relations with the

Governor and 'his support seemed to a greater extent than I dared to expect for some time to come'.

Mr. King has now embraced the work 'with a will' and will be informing Hart of his mpressions of their discussions with His Excellency. Previous to meeting with Governor Galhardo Piry had sent him a report that 'focused matters' so as to speed the proceedings and help ensure results. This helped resolve the matter of 'supplementary or branch' stations so that Customs are left open to allow these outposts to perhaps 'supercede the main ones'. Likewise the matter of guard-houses at 'various entrances of the West River' was not objected to, leaving Customs open 'to set to work and establish our preventative cordon as originally intended'. However the position of the land frontier stations is to be left alone, due to potential complications envisioned by both Piry and the Governor. However the amiability of the Galhardo was used by Piry to attain an alteration in the administration of the existing land frontier stations. This was to eliminate the position of "weiyüan", or deputy, who in Piry's estimation have been 'an impediement to speedy work'. Although Mr. King is keen to commence building work at Chekwan, on the mainland, Piry is hesitant due to military conflict in the area in the past. In the course of negotiations Galhardo was 'mercilessly down on Hiller' but Piry made plain that he did not consider his colleague at fault. The Viceroy however went on to say that Hiller would be liable for 'the revenue lost at the stations prematurely surrendered by him without authority'. Piry and Mr. King are embarking on a trip from Laimin through to Jungho with a view



Customs Memorandum

Addressee unknown but composed in Piry's handwriting.

to exploring the possibilities of extending Customs patrols westwards.

The listing on this document details that Macao wants Kongmoon designated as a Treaty Port with 'the removal of the Customs yoke'; a scaling down of Customs operations; delimitations based on the 1894 proposals inclusive of Taipan, Colowan Islands and potentially greater concessions.

MS 19/2/88 07/09/1899

Letter to Sir Robert Hart.

Not signed by Piry but in his handwriting.

Piry has been pleased to report to Peking the 'successful termination of the negotiations' with the 'old Kowloon stations' being 'relinquished' in favour of new post, one of which will deal exclusively with junks. The Viceroy, who may also be hoping for a British withdrawal from Sanchün, is pleased with the progress made and has given a ""carte blanche" regarding the details of the impending change.' Likewise Piry has obtained a 'free hand' in establishing guard stations at Kowloon.

Governor Galhardo 'has alienated all sympathy' in Macao through his 'crude' policies which, along with other scandal, may lead to his downfall soon.

MS 19/2/89 13/09/1899

Note.

In Piry's handwriting addressed to Mr. Bredon.

Piry has sent Bredon details of Portuguese plans for expansion, an agenda which he asserts has become more 'insidious' by drawing on dubious historical arguments. The driving force behind these Portuguese ambitions is the head of the Finance Department in Macao

MS 19/2/90 07/10/1899

S/O. No.108 from Piry at Lappa Customs House to Bredon

One double sided folio.

Piry reports that Jungho Customs Station shall open on the 8th of October and that the new buildings, of solid stone or brick, should be functional for twenty years. In the process of such transfers Piry has liaised closely with both Brennan and the Viceroy while provincial authorities have also had to be dealt with. As of yet the 'old stations' have not been assigned a particular use and in Hongkong the authorities are claiming jurisdiction over them. The reluctance of the Viceroy to act will make opposition unlikely. The British may want compensation for a withdrawal from Shamchün, however if action is not taken soon they might continue to occupy the site. If China negotiates well she might gain the advantage in a settlement.



In Macao Governor Galhardo is ill and the "Posvir" failed to publish an article by Mr. Nolasco that refuted an attack on Customs made by the "Lusitano". Piry has been assured that it will appear in the next edition, a copy of which he intends to send to Bredon.

MS 19/2/91 05/08/1896

Letter from Hart to Piry.

This letter is almost illegible although Chinese ambivalence towards the choice of sight for a new Customs Station can be discerned. Hart also suggests that something is affecting Piry's English 'a little'.

MS 19/2/92 20/10/1896

Letter from Hart to Piry.

Large portions of this letter are illegible but the general content is one of Hart advising Piry on his conduct in Macao. He suggests that while living there Piry will need to asses the local political situation for himself and make his own decision on if or how to be involved.

MS 19/2/93 11/12/1896.

Letter from Hart to Piry.

Hart requests Piry's assistance in finding 'good houses' in Macao for Chinese friends of his who wish to move there. He details quite thoroughly the style required, even including a rough sketch map of Macao to indicate suitable locations. He advises Piry to be discreet about acting on behalf of Chinese and concludes with a brief reference to the amount of work he is currently undertaking.

MS 19/2/94

15/01/1897

Letter from Hart to Piry.

Hart advises Piry to be careful in his dealings with the Portuguese in Macao, noting that the potential to offend both Chinese and Portuguese sensibilities. The colonial authorities are trying to extend their influence and the potential effect to Chinese sovereignty is noted. Hart suggests that a compromise might be reached through a lease of more territory the Portuguese, a measure that would satisfy their expansionist while in theory maintaining Chinese sovereignty.

MS 19/2/95

27/02/1897

Letter from Hart to Piry.

Hart is surprised at Piry's assessment of one of the younger Customs employees. Hart is unable to provide Lappa Station with the men Piry seeks and advises him to make do with the staff he has available.

MS 19/2/96

25/03/1897

Letter from Hart to Piry.

Hart has become involved in the recent dispute between Lappa Customs and the Macao authorities. To that end he has corresponded with Baron Roza with a view to reaching a settlement with the Lisbon government. He notes that relations with the Portuguese have been generally peaceful for the last ten years and that they should concern themselves more with the prosperity of their colony rather than provoke diplomatic disturbances. Military defeat by Japan however has left China vulnerable and might encourage other powers to act aggressively towards her if she attempts to react strongly.

On a personal level Hart refers to the departure of Alphonse, Piry's son, and notes that such is the lot of all parents (presumably western) in the East.

MS 19/2/97

28/03/1897

Letter from Hart to Alphonse Piry.

Hart wishes Alphonse well for his studies in France, advising him that such times are the happiest in one's life. He encourages Alphonse to take on as many studies as possible to broaden his perspectives.

MS 19/2/98

19/07-08/1897 **Letter from Hart to Piry.**

Large portions of this letter are illegible but the general content can be ascertained. Hart believes that a resolution to recent problems with Macao has been brought about by pressure through London and Roza but notes the potential for further Portuguese encroachments. There is also reference to new staff.

MS 19/2/99

18/10/ 1899

Letter from Hart to Piry.

Hart is glad that the Viceroy has compromised on is recent policy, noting that Customs have an onerous enough duty in collecting revenue. He notes the special circumstances faced by Stations in remote areas or dealing with colonial territories and of the difficulties in obtaining financial support from the yamên for their efforts to combat smuggling. Despite potential problems such as opium smuggling and the potential for more trouble with Macao Hart is optimistic about the future. He believes Customs situation to have improved but is still anxious regarding the health of the staff. Reference is also made to Canton's revenue and alternative arrangements for work at Lappa and Kowloon.

MS 19/2/100 11/11/1899 **Letter from Hart to Piry.**

Hart instructs Piry to remain at Lappa over the winter and regrets that he will be unable join him in Peking. Much of the rest of the letter is illegible although reference is made to acceptance by the Viceroy of the Customs position.

MS 19/2/101 10/06/1899 **Letter from Hart to Piry.**

Most of this letter is illegible although Hart thanks Piry for some photographs. Reference is also made to the Viceroy.



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Vasco, Professor MS 19/2/83

Viceroy MS 19/2/15, MS 19/2/46 - MS 19/2/51, MS 19/ 2/53, MS 19/2/61, MS 19/2/68,

MS 19/2/69, MS 19/2/75, MS 19/2/80, MS 19/ 2/86, MS 19 2/88

Portuguese activity at Macarina and Wêngcum MS 19/2/65, MS 19/2/66, MS 19/2/67

'Virtual Viceroy of Canton' MS 19/2/70

Walsham, Percy R (Acting Private Secretary Inspectorate General of Customs) MS 19/2/4 - MS 19/2/31, MS 19/2/33, MS 19/2/34,

Wanchai (See also Hospitals) MS 19/2/15, MS 19/2/49, MS 19/2/50, MS 19/2/52, MS 19/2/53, MS 19/2/55,

MS 19/2/68, MS 19/69, MS 19/2/70

Wanchow Affair MS 19/2/57

Wang Jiunshan MS 19/2/55, MS 19/2/61, MS 19/2/70

Wangmoon MS 19/2/77 Wangon MS 192/87

Waters, Foreign MS 19/2/60, MS 19/2/61 Weather MS 19/2/61, MS 19/2/67

Weiyüan MS 19/2/86

Wêngcum MS 19/2/75

Portuguese Building Operations (See also Colowan and Macarina) MS 19/2/65, MS 19/2/66, MS 19/2/67

West Coast MS 19/2/59, MS 19/2/73, MS 19/2/77

West River MS 19/2/5, MS 19/2/59, MS 19/2/70, MS 19/2/75, MS 19/2/84, MS 19/2/86

Williams, Mr. (Customs Officer) MS 19/2/46, MS 19/2/54

Wolfe, Mr. ("Lungtsing") MS 19/2/67

Woosung River MS 19/2/66

Yamên MS 19/2/58, MS 19/2/59, MS 19/2/86

Yessin's Serum MS 19/2/54

Yin Kêng MS 19/2/69

ESTP1845

MS 19/3 Folder Three – Letters, Peking to Lappa

These documents, thirty-five in total, consist mainly of letters sent from Peking to Lappa and are signed by Robert .E. Bredon. Many have also been written by Alfred E. Hippisley and Percy Walsham (the latter acting as Private Secretary to Hart or Bredon). They are mainly replies to Piry's S/O reports from Lappa, giving him instructions on policy and answering his queries. Among them is a manuscript text of a "Convention entre la France et la Chine relative à la concession de Kivar-Chou Wan" (a ninety-nine year lease for the establishment of a naval coaling depot), and "Memorandum on the proposal of the Hongkong Government to undertake the bonding of Opium and to prevent the smuggling of the drug into China". This memorandum, dated Kowloon, 18th January 1899 and signed by Hillier, is a poor, but readable, damp-copy on flimsy paper.

There are also 11 short manuscript letters or notes from Hart at Peking to Piry at Macao, dated between 05/10/1896 and 13/10/1899

MS 19/3/1 07/06/1896

Letter from Alfred E. Hippisley, at the Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking, to Piry, Lappa Customs House

One single sided folio.



Hippisley contends that a decline in the opium revenue collected in Macao is not the result of lower consumption of imported quantities but rather 'to supplies being obtained through sources other than Macao'. During his own time at Lappa he uncovered smuggling through Saitung and Hongkong which he sought to check with the aid of the Viceroy. The results were not 'so much from punishment inflicted on the offenders as from the large sums which had to be spent to buy whitewashing reports'.

The route along which the smuggling takes place now is in question. Customs officers have been successful in combating illicit imports into Hainan from Singapore, raising the question of what alternative routes are now being used. Hippisley suggests that the smugglers may have reverted to Saitung and Hongkong, relying on their previously established trade networks in those areas. Captain Reid of the "Lungtsing" should be set to determine the veracity of this, being an officer of proven capabilities.

Hart has been unable to take his trip South but his health has improved. Also he has realised that there are limits to human strength and has begun delegating some of his work to the Chief Secretary.

MS 19/3/2 09/08/1896

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One single sided folio.

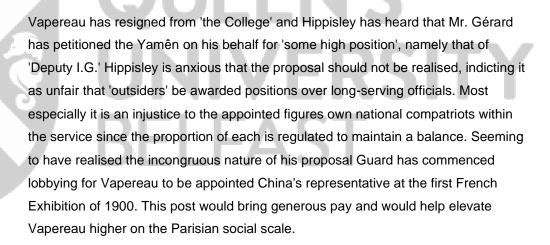
Walsham has been directed to inquire into the performance of Mr. Moreland and the nature of the work to which he has been assigned. He also reiterates that Moreland's appointment was for specifically frontier duty.

MS 19/3/3 20/09/1896

Letter from Alfred E. Hippisley, at the Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking, to Piry, Lappa Customs House.

Hippisley replies to Piry's request for advice regarding a furniture allowance. He recommends that Piry apply for an allotment from funds allocated for such purpose, as only formal requests for such are awarded. The application should specify the items intended to be acquired as Hart will soon be receiving a report recommending purchases to be granted or refused funding in an effort to reduce present confusion.

Hippisley has a 'ton of stories' to send onto Piry but has been unable to due to the postal situation. Over Tls.300 worth of items have disappeared within the mail, presumably stolen by postal workers as they were not handled by Customs men. There were other items though that seem to have been pilfered by Customs staff and to compensate for the loss a member of staff was dismissed. A delay in transport ensued and aggravated by a flood that further prevented the mail from being dispatched. The Customs boat however is once again operational and Piry's mail has been sent, the cost of the freight being deducted from 'the value of the things' Piry had 'left behind'.



Hart's health has been improving but usually does in the summer months. The winter cold will be more of a strain for him but Hippisley maintains that there cannot be 'much radically wrong with him' otherwise he would not be able to endure the 'long hours of work so well as he does'. Hippisley offers Piry his assistance in his new post and notes his surprise at recently discovering that Piry has a son who works as an interpreter in Hongkong.

30/04/1896 MS 19/3/4

Letter from Alfred E. Hippisley, at the Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking, to Piry, Lappa Customs House.

Hippisley requests that Piry send a duplicate of his dispatch No.2322. The original sent by Piry has been taken by Hart for his own reference but a copy is also needed for the archives. Count Cassini has departed an overland for Russia and shall be greatly missed for his charm and sympathy. Mr. Pavlov remains in his place.



MS 19/3/5 30/09/1896

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

One single sided folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.11. 'with two enclosures from Dr. Yersin, both of which are herewith returned'.

MS 19/3/6 16/10/1896

Letter from Piry, at Lappa Customs House, to Alfred E. Hippisley, at the Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking

In reply to Hippisley's 'friendly notes of 20th September' Piry expresses thanks for advice received regarding the furniture allowance and expresses his belief that Rule 93 (Circular 666) is too restrictive regarding moneys for repairs. As such he has endeavoured, without success, to have it amended. In this he has had the agreement of Hart but along with the issue of the furniture allowance itself it has become quite complex and Piry is eager to avoid any unnecessary revival of the subject.



Piry is not surprised by the ambitions of Vapereau or the support he has received from Gérard, having heard the rumour before he left Peking. He finds it remarkable though that they still aspire to such, the nominee being unlikely to be seriously considered by even the Frenchmen in the service. Piry also comments that Gérard does not really understand the nature of the service but is eager to exploit the influence he perceives Hart to have in the yamên for French benefit. However Hart's own handling of the situation is 'the cleverest trick' he has ever played, allowing the situation to dissipate in its own course. The most serious aspect of the problem is, in Piry's opinion, the lack of a nominee from Hart for the position of Deputy Inspector General. A man long established in such a position would have been an asset to both Hart and the service. Likewise the possibility of an inappropriate appointment would have been diminished. The existing situation intensifies the need for Hart to make his own nomination of such a man rather than to 'allow matters drift' towards unfortunate results, such as the manipulation of Customs to serve the national interests of the foreign powers.

MS 19/3/7 30/09/1897

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking, to Piry.

One single sided folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.40. The correspondence in question pertained to the West River Regulations and in consideration of this topic the Governor Galhardo has also written. Hart's answer regarding developments at Kongmoon will be sent through Piry but furthermore he doubts the benefit of establishing stations at Wongmoon and Wongchow. They would be of little use but of great expense.

MS 19/3/8 07/10/1897

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking, to Piry.

One single sided folio.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of letter S/O no.41. Clarification is sought as to if it was the Chinese or the Portuguese who withheld from Piry a petition to the Governor.

MS 19/3/9 24/02/1898

Letter from Piry to Bredon

Piry expresses his pleasure on the return of Mr. Bredon to China and more specifically congratulates him on his recent appointment as Deputy Inspector General of Customs. Piry declares his undoubted confidence in suitability of Mr. Bredon for the position and the urgent need of the service for such an officer at 'this critical junction'.

MS 19/3/10

13/03/1898

Letter from Bredon to Piry.

Bredon thanks Piry for his recent letter of congratulation regarding his appointment as Deputy Inspector General of Customs. He claims that his return to China was motivated by the belief that he 'would serve a good purpose'. If however he is unable to perform the task bestowed upon him he shall willingly step aside in favour of somebody more suitable. While recognising the 'present position' of Customs as needing improvement he declares himself to lack 'much power to better it'.



Sir Robert has borne the winter well and is in better health than expected. His ageing is commented upon and he begins to look pale. At the same time he works as he has for many years and is solely responsible for the arrangement of the recent loan. In security for this loan revenues valued at nearly seven million taels a year, drawn mainly from salt, are to be placed under the control of Customs for forty-five years.

There are to be new stations at Chetuaing, Liaug Keaug and Liaug Hu. Like Kowloon and Lappa they shall be fully controlled by Customs. This would however mean 'much trouble, probably more men and I hope a handsome addition to the customs allowance'. The main staff transfers have not yet been announced but some decisions have been made and the general component of the staff is to Bredon's satisfaction.

MS 19/3/11 17/03/1898

Letter from Bredon to Piry.

Bredon has been considering the rice question in view of the information contained within Piry's S/O No.52. He agrees with Piry's suggestion of permits, proposing that by issuing to the government of Macao licenses for a set quantity of rice imports the matter would cease to be China's responsibility. In such a situation the Viceroy would no longer need to take an interest in the matter and could not be criticised. The Macao authorities could issue or sell their own licences publicly or surreptitiously and

it would essentially be an internal issue. If for some reason rice became scarce there would still remain the option of foreign imports. However due to fear of popular discontent the Portuguese would see the necessity of managing the situation properly. Also, coming to an arrangement with China on the matter would be good for relations with the Chinese in Macao from both a food supply and diplomatic perspective.

MS 19/3/12 16/08/1898

Letter from Bredon to Piry.

Bredon has received Piry's note of 28th July regarding the question of Inland Navigation and 'other matters'. Likewise the Governor of Macao has also written to Hart and the issue has been referred for Bredon's attentions. His response has been to reply that neither the time nor the information has yet surfaced upon which to make a definitive decision. He is currently 'in the middle of negotiations with the yamên' which he hopes will result in a workable solution. In addition to this situation Customs are involved in negotiations with Hongkong regarding general revenue questions. Until these are concluded 'the bulk system will be very inconvenient to the Chinese merchants' until a more expedient jetty is in place. Bredon has also sent Piry a copy of Governor Galhardo's dispatches for confirmation.

MS 19/3/13 18/11/1898

Office that Vapereau be Director in Chief and that only French or Chinese people be connected with the Exhibition Commission. This would mean a recasting of the whole Exhibition, due to the exclusion of J.D. Campbell, which would require the direction of the I.G.

The Paris Exhibition has become complicated by insistence from the French Foreign

Letter from Bredon to Piry.

Bredon has received Piry's S/O No.69 of 27th October regarding 'I.W.S.N. [Inland Water Steam Navigation] traffic to the West Coast'. He has received similar correspondence from Mr. Drew, who 'has actually refused to issue an I.W pass to a British owned steamer'. Bredon suspects that Drew considers 'our unofficial approval of your measures near Macao may be taken as an indication that the restriction of the privileges of the Regus to meet local requirements is not unjustifiable'. Furthermore 'I.W. Regus do not authorise trade by steamers directly between inland places and Macao and your not unreasonable means of securing that that instruction was not made a dead letter is of course intelligible, but that Customs should refuse a foreign vessel a pass she is by the letter of the rules entitled to is quite another matter.' These regulations have been agreed upon by the yamên and the Ministers and attempts by local officials to deviate from their strict and assumed application would provoke hostility. In her present weakness China can ill-afford such a situation. Some reform will be needed and Bredon hopes that Wang will soon realises the need for its speedy enactment.

Bredon thinks that Macao will want an extension of the I.W.S.N. system over herself because as a small power Portugal 'cannot afford to be less sensitive than the Hongkong papers make Great Britain out to be in matters of Chinese Customs stations. But when she realises that the trade of Macao can only be kept going by working with us, and when she sees that German is ot afraid of us in Kiaochow, a way of appeasing Macaese pride may be found. In the meantime decissions if made at all must be made from here and not locally.

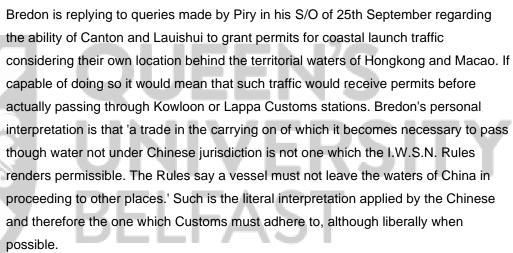
MS 19/3/14 29/11/1898

Note from Walsham, acting Private Secretary to the Inspector General, from Peking, to Piry at Macao.

Piry is informed of additions to 'the code'. These are abbreviations such as 'alnage' for 'alongside'.

MS 19/3/15 10/10/1898

Letter from Bredon to Piry



Bredon has been advised by a foreign merchant from Canton that the closing to Hongkong and Macao of inland navigation 'will be a serious blow to the colonial trade facilities'. Bredon foresees fiscal difficulties arising out of the situation and suggests it will require a recasting of 'revenue policy and traffic in Canton province'.

MS 19/3/16

Identical in content to MS19/3/15.

MS 19/3/17 12/12/1898

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

Document of receipt from Inspector General's office to Lappa Customs House acknowledging arrival of Piry's letter dated 27th November. Walsham has been instructed to advise Piry that the only action that can be taken in regard to Portuguese activity in 'Wongcum' is for the local Chinese officials to monitor such and report their findings to their superiors, whose responsibility any further response will be. Walsham also concurs with Piry's caution regarding the holding of money in the apparently unsteady Customs Bank.

MS 19/3/18 28/02/1899

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

Walsham has sent for Piry's perusal a letter received from Isabel C. Da Silva Yelles? Brandáo in which she requests the promotion of her son Jose Brandáo to the rank of Tidewaiter. The I.G. seeks Piry's opinion on the matter. This letter is not enclosed with the document as found in the archive, but a note in Piry's handwriting is present. In it he praises Brandáo and Cunha as Watchers and as at 'nearly the standard required of permanent staff' but questions their reliability.

MS 19/3/19 28/02/1899

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking

In regards to Piry's letter of 12th January in which he makes reference to the conduct of Mr. Irvine it is the I.G.'s opinion that appointed officers 'should be able to behave themselves properly wherever stationed' and failure to do so could lead to dismissal.

MS 19/3/20 n.d.

No addressee but signed Hart.

Verbatim Transcript

'When you see Governor or Colonial Secretary say you are appointed to carry on the work predecessor left till further instructions; until it is settled what is really to be land frontier you cannot place frontier guard (iHq) [sic]; keep guard in land and (awe) [sic] do not let it disband, for (hiv) [sic] its training and experience will be useful. Regarding three island stations kvq [sic] collect what people ktg [sic] lay but bmp [sic] avoid any action likely to excite colony or furnish arguments for legal proceedings; we are there only on sufferance and must be very prudent.

Consult Piry and decide next step with him i.e. to visit Viceroy alone or in company. Recent colonial military proceedings will vex Viceroy sorely: How does he take it and what is he doing? Nevertheless revenue considerations make it advisable to prepare new stations forthwith, but we cannot act without Viceroy's co-operation. Hart'.

MS 19/3/21 08/06/1899

Copy of telegram from Mssrs Piry and King to the Inspector General after joint interview with the Viceroy held at Canton, on 8th June, 1899.

Verbatim Transcript

Hart Peking.

Joint interview very satisfactory. Suggested new sea stations approved generally. Viceroy instructs us proceed forthwith erection temporary dwellings at Saman and Lintin on west and Jung Ho on south. Magisterial assistance received in lieu of deputies! Land frontier stations await respective Governments settle definite boundaries meanwhile guards well in Land. Viceroy in despatch to Hongkong Governor quotes convention and maintains previous views re Kowloon. No reply! Viceroy more reconciled to inevitable changes and we feel he places reliance in us. Piry King Customs House.

MS 19/3/22 21/06/1899

Letter from Percy R. Walsham, acting Private Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking, to Piry, Lappa Customs House.

The I.G. acknowledges receipt of Piry's S/O No.94 letter dated 29th May in which had also been sent a translation of an article in the "Echo Macaeuse".

MS 19/3/23 25/07/1899

Letter from Bredon to Piry.

Bredon has received Piry's correspondence of the 4th July. He has read all such material pertaining to 'the Kowloon Customs business', which he calls a 'very unpleasant business' and feels it is being handled in a manner that leaves 'much to be desired'. Further difficulties lay with the ability of the Hongkong government 'to legalise in a manner sufficient to improve full confidence on the Chinese side so long as the interests of the opium farmer have to be so delicately handled in the interests of the colonial treasury'. Bredon regrets the departure of King, 'a good business man in handling details'.



At present there is difficulty in determine the northern frontier and Bredon has heard suggested that the Governor of Hongkong would like it placed north of Lau Chun. However Customs guards must be placed in accordance to the Viceroys wishes. Bredon also thinks that Customs would be justified in occupying territory previously unoccupied by the colonial authorities and use the terms of the Convention as justification. In such circumstances it would be difficult for the Governor to remove them.

Bredon supposes that the Portuguese approach to the issue of the land frontier is to make use of the border delineated in 1887 while also exploiting the circumstances of 1899. This situation needs to be dealt with delicately since 'equity does not seem to count for much sometimes'.

Hart 'is away at Peitaiho' and Bredon fears he is not enjoying it

MS 19/3/24 31/07/1899

Letter from Piry at Lappa to Mr. Bredon at Peking

Piry wishes to add to his S/O 100 that the contraband rice junk from last March has not yet been returned. It is being kept by the Harbour authorities at the cost of one dollar a day and implies that Governor Galhardo's decision has not yet received metropolitan approval. Piry is aware that Hart had been liasing with the Lisbon authorities on the matter, and wonders if that in connection with the border issue are responsible for the appointment of a Portuguese Minister in Peking other than Colonel Galhardo. The Governor himself has alienated the 'thinking' classes of Macao, as well as the Navy, who are as powerful in the colony as his own supporters. His survival has been the result of patronage from the King, the most significant element in maintaining his career.

China's grievance in the matter of the rice junk is of the 'first order' and China should not ignore Portuguese aspirations. The treatment that China has received and endured is exceptional under international standards and the potential for action beyond diplomacy should be considered.

MS 19/3/25 10/08/1899

Letter from Bredon at Peking to Piry at Lappa.

Bredon has been hurrying with proposals for the customs stations in the hope that they will be operational by 1st October or earlier. Hart however advises strict adherence to the schedule laid down by the Viceroy for withdrawing from the existing stations. To do otherwise would raise suspicions in the Chinese mind about why action was being taken before being necessary. Bredon however believes that a quick change of premises will be better for the service and would create a good impression in Hongkong. He suspects that Sham Chuu will not be evacuated by the British until Customs have relocated all their stations, and that Kowloon will never be because it 'is being held hostage for their reasons'.



Hart believes that in discussing the stations with the Viceroy he should portray them as 'more or less provisional so if future changes are desired he will be at least partially prepared. Hart will write to the Viceroy to pacify his former reluctance regarding the evacuations and to forestall any attempt he might make to inflame the issue of the land frontier. Bredon suspects that the Viceroy was not properly pacified in previous negotiations on these matters. Likewise he was not included by the yamên when making concessions to Britain from fear that he would further complicate the situation. Having been thus relegated in the past the Viceroy may consider this a time to assert himself, causing severe complications for Customs staff in the process. Bredon has no knowledge of a Portuguese legation having arrived but will enquire about such with Senior de Cologou.

MS 19/3/26 15/08/1899

Letter from Bredon at Peking to Piry at Lappa.

Bredon has feared that Piry and Brenan were having 'differences of opinion' even before receiving letters confirming it. He was considering sending telegrams stipulating that 'the lines you after consultation with others had arrived at were to be followed'. When about to do so he received a telegram from Piry detailing that Brenan had been at Macao and they were 'working on the programme laid down'. Bredon thus assumed that Piry and Brenan had come to an understanding and to avoid offending Brenan simply wired him to say that he should consult with Piry and accept his guidance. The sanction of the Viceroy for the West River Delta stations, which will one day be important positions, may be an indication of a willingness to co-operate with Customs.

None of the diplomats in Peking have any information regarding the appointment of a Portuguese Minister.

In response to a paper Piry had sent him Bredon asserts that the Chinese will resist a lease of Hstang Shan Lsieu, being just as prepared to resist Italian as well as Portuguese ambitions. The paper also speaks of a diversion of income elsewhere, but 'Macao's proximity to Canton always gives it an advantage in that sort of business, especially as long as Hongkong makes some effort at being respectable in some ways, if unfortunately not in all'.

MS 19/3/27 14/09/1899.

Letter from Bredon at Peking to Piry at Lappa.

Bredon congratulates Piry on his good luck and management in negotiations with the Viceroy regarding the movement of Customs stations. Furthermore he is glad that the yamên followed on his advice and persuaded 'our old friend' to take an approach that would be amiable and also allow him to keep face. The I.G. wanted to wait until 'near the end' but Bredon agreed with Piry that an early start would allow time to deal with any difficulties. The I.G. has sent Bredon Piry's confidential memo regarding control of the stations and Bredon agrees that there are sound economic arguments for 'reducing our establishments'. In the meantime the task is to remove from Hongkong and find a suitable site for relocation. Help from Hongkong in doing so is unlikely and the new name for the station may cause some controversy. If so it will afford an opportunity to revise the whole situation and possibly obtained funding from Macao



Convention between France and China regarding 'Kivar-Chou Wan'.

In French

The Articles of this Convention include a lease of ninety years to the French Government for a naval station and coal depot and an agreement that this lease will not affect the sovereign rights of China in this territory. Enough land and sea are to be made available for the security and supply of the French establishments and the extent of the French concession is detailed. French administration shall be the sole recognised authority for ninety-nine years to avoid any confusion but the existing status of the residents and their property rights shall be respected. France reserves the right to fortify the territory and exercise military freedom as well as to undertake railway and telegraphic construction and operation. Such spending will be funded with French money and such services shall be made available to Chinese users. This convention is to have immediate effect and will be ratified by the Emperor and President. Multi-language copies of the Convention shall be issued but in cases of contestation the French version will be used.

MS 19/3/29 05/02/1900

Letter from Jose Brandáo, Watcher B at Lappa, to the Tidesurveyor, Lappa.

Due to financial circumstances Brandáo requests a transfer to Wangmoon. The dependence of his mother upon him strains his existing income and such a move would increase his pay by \$15 a month over the present \$50. In five years of service in Customs he has on occasion been ordered to serve under officers junior to him in

experience and train them 'in their duty'. His experience has left him well acquainted with the requirements of station and frontier work, a fact to which his superior officers will testify.

MS 19/3/30 21/08/1899

Letter from Bredon at Peking to Piry at Lappa.

Bredon has enquired of the yamên if it has received any information from the Viceroy regarding Customs move from the old to the new stations at the end of the next month. They claim to have received no communication 'for a long time' to which Bredon suggested they should wire a 'surprise question' to the Viceroy on the state of affairs. Bredon stipulated that no mention of Customs officials should be made, that the question should appear to come from the yamên alone. He thinks they will take up the idea, believing 'they don't want any argument with the old gentleman'. The Viceroy will probably forward the telegram to Piry and may provide an opportunity for him to take a new position.

The yamên are not aware of the appointment of a Portuguese Minister and Bredon has informed them of the suggestion of such by the Macao press. He has also warned them that 'the piracy of the Portuguese' is a bad preparation for negotiations.

MS 19/3/31 16/11/1899

Customs Memorandum from Brazier at Peking Custom House to Piry.

Brazier enquires why Pinkerton has not been 'submitted for confirmation' while more than twenty of his juniors have already been 'confirmed'.

MS 19/3/32 25/01/1900

Letter from Bredon at Peking to Piry at Lappa.

Bredon acknowledges receipt of Piry's letter of 2nd January and has shown it to the I.G. Opposite the paragraph in which Hart suggests that his dispatch to the Viceroy regarding the rice junk will 'probably be a lengthy document' Hart has written "ought to be short!".

MS 19/3/33 13/01/1900

Letter from Bredon at Peking to Piry at Lappa.

Bredon acknowledges receipt of Piry's letter dated 23rd December. Bredon notes with interest the content of the Macao newspapers regarding the status of the colony and its ambitions for expansion. Such ideas are especially interesting in the context of Portuguese power, the capacity of Macao to influence the Chinese and the financial situation of the colony. He does not desire to receive an advance copy of the Pao Chia dispatch which Brenan and Piry propose to address to the Viceroy. Piry is aware of the local conditions and of the most appropriate ways to secure Customs goals; 'a sufficient hold on junk trading out of China' to ensure Chinese ability to enforce her trade regulations against potential offenders. The most important means by which this goal can be reached is by enforcing an effective system of registration.

Bredon anticipates that Piry will find Li quite different to work with in comparison with Yau. Li is a man of great energy considering his age and intends to employ Wang

Jsun Shau, 'a clever and capable man but the Viceroy knows he has to keep a tight hand on him'. Wang will be 'a different man under Li than what he was under Lau'. Piry should introduce Li to the Viceroy at an early date, perhaps after the Chinese New Year.

MS 19/3/34/i 13/03/1900

Letter from Bredon at Peking to Piry at Lappa and Letter from Hart to Piry.

Attached is a receipt acknowledging the arrival of Piry's letter dated 8th February and addressed to Bredon.

Bredon acknowledges receipt of Piry's letter of 28th February. He suggests that Piry's account of his meeting with Chang J'ang conforms to the personality of the man. Apparently Chang enjoys nothing more 'than a rough joke at Customs expense' but probably realises the reality of the Customs often difficult position. Likewise he is aware of the value of the Customs service to China in her present condition.

Bredon informs Piry, privately, that the I.G. has told the British authorities that if Li is willing to allow a West River passenger carrying trade from designated places he will 'not stand in the way'. Bredon feels that the trade should be regulated so as to maintain Customs' influence and that only a limited number of specifically identified destinations should be included within such services

MS 19/3/34/ii 13/03/1900

Letter from Hart to Piry (Illegible)

MS 19/3/34/iii 26/02/1900

Receipt from Bredon to Piry

Acknowledges the arrival of his letter addressed to Bredon dated 8th February.

MS 19/3/35/i

05/10/1896-13/10/1899 Letters or notes from Hart at Peking to Piry at Macao

Manuscript.

There is an envelope containing 11 short manuscript letters or notes from Hart at Peking to Piry at Macao, dated between 05/10/1896 and 13/10/1899

MS 19/3/35/ii 18/01/1899

Memorandum on the proposal of the Hongkong Government to undertake the bonding of Opium and to prevent the smuggling of the drug into China

Eleven single sided folios in a separate folder MS19/3ii

Hillier lists potential measures for the Government to take in order to maintain control and regulation of the opium trade. These points detail the procedures for the import, storage and export of opium, the quantities to be dealt in and regulations regarding its transportation. He also suggests the possible effect of various approaches and their financial impact upon the Government. Hillier proposes that an abolition of the opium farm and establishing a scheme in the interests of both China and 'the colony' [Hong Kong]. In the colony this could lead to a more effective regulation of the trade, possibly bringing in greater revenue for the Government through direct involvement in its marketing. Figures pertaining to opium exports, associated income, rate of

consumption and applicable taxes are used to estimate profits to be made in the trade. Also covered is the issue of smuggling and means by which it has been combated in the past and can be reformed in the future to be both effective and acceptable to merchants, Government and the general community. The temptation to smuggle could be countered with a restructuring of the pricing and taxing system that would remove the financial incentive to do so. Revenue could still be maintained though by the proposed modifications to 'farming' and reduced expenditure on preventing contraband trafficking.

MS 19/3/33 13/01/1900

Letter from Bredon at Peking to Piry at Lappa.

Bredon acknowledges receipt of Piry's letter dated 23rd December. Bredon notes with interest the content of the Macao newspapers regarding the status of the colony and its ambitions for expansion. Such ideas are especially interesting in the context of Portuguese power, the capacity of Macao to influence the Chinese and the financial situation of the colony. He does not desire to receive an advance copy of the Pao Chia dispatch which Brenan and Piry propose to address to the Viceroy. Piry is aware of the local conditions and of the most appropriate ways to secure Customs goals; 'a sufficient hold on junk trading out of China' to ensure Chinese ability to enforce her trade regulations against potential offenders. The most important means by which this goal can be reached is by enforcing an effective system of registration.

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Bredon anticipates that Piry will find Li quite different to work with in comparison with Yau. Li is a man of great energy considering his age and intends to employ Wang Jsun Shau, 'a clever and capable man but the Viceroy knows he has to keep a tight hand on him'. Wang will be 'a different man under Li than what he was under Lau'. Piry should introduce Li to the Viceroy at an early date, perhaps after the Chinese New Year.

MS 19/3/34/i 13/03/1900

Letter from Bredon at Peking to Piry at Lappa and Letter from Hart to Piry.

Attached is a receipt acknowledging the arrival of Piry's letter dated 8th February and addressed to Bredon.

Bredon acknowledges receipt of Piry's letter of 28th February. He suggests that Piry's account of his meeting with Chang J'ang conforms to the personality of the man. Apparently Chang enjoys nothing more 'than a rough joke at Customs expense' but probably realises the reality of the Customs often difficult position. Likewise he is aware of the value of the Customs service to China in her present condition.

Bredon informs Piry, privately, that the I.G. has told the British authorities that if Li is willing to allow a West River passenger carrying trade from designated places he will 'not stand in the way'. Bredon feels that the trade should be regulated so as to maintain Customs' influence and that only a limited number of specifically identified destinations should be included within such services

MS 19/3/34/ii 13/03/1900 **Letter from Hart to Piry**

(Illegible)

MS 19/3/34/iii 26/02/1900 Receipt from Bredon to Piry

Acknowledges the arrival of his letter addressed to Bredon dated 8th February.

MS 19/3/35/i 05/10/1896-13/10/1899 Letters or notes from Hart at Peking to Piry at Macao

Manuscript.

There is an envelope containing 11 short manuscript letters or notes from Hart at Peking to Piry at Macao, dated between 05/10/1896 and 13/10/1899

MS 19/3/35/ii 18/01/1899

Memorandum on the proposal of the Hongkong Government to undertake the bonding of Opium and to prevent the smuggling of the drug into China

Eleven single sided folios in a separate folder MS19/3ii



Hillier lists potential measures for the Government to take in order to maintain control and regulation of the opium trade. These points detail the procedures for the import, storage and export of opium, the quantities to be dealt in and regulations regarding its transportation. He also suggests the possible effect of various approaches and their financial impact upon the Government. Hillier proposes that an abolition of the opium farm and establishing a scheme in the interests of both China and 'the colony' [Hong Kong]. In the colony this could lead to a more effective regulation of the trade, possibly bringing in greater revenue for the Government through direct involvement in its marketing. Figures pertaining to opium exports, associated income, rate of consumption and applicable taxes are used to estimate profits to be made in the trade. Also covered is the issue of smuggling and means by which it has been combated in the past and can be reformed in the future to be both effective and acceptable to merchants, Government and the general community. The temptation to smuggle could be countered with a restructuring of the pricing and taxing system that would remove the financial incentive to do so. Revenue could still be maintained though by the proposed modifications to 'farming' and reduced expenditure on preventing contraband trafficking.

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MS 19/4 Folder Four – Memoranda 1898-1902: mainly concerning Macao

Concerned mainly with Macao, these papers consist of manuscripts or printed copies of memoranda (mostly drafts with corrections) and corrections dating between 1898 and 1902. They cover issues such as the Chinese Customs House in the colony and Portuguese negotiations with the Yamên. Portuguese attitudes towards navigation regulations figures largely and there are also documents concerned with Tsingtao and Canton.

MS 19/4/1 29/96/1902

Note on Memorandum re Chinese Custom House in Macao.

One single sided folio.

When Inland Steam Navigation was first initiated Macao sought its extension to her steamers so they would be able to trade in the Delta. That led to a proposal for Macao to receive Treaty Port Status with no alteration to the existing arrangements for junk trade contemplated. To alter the existing arrangements for junks and examine their cargos in the Inner Harbour would be a serious change. The Macao Police will always take an interest and the sheer logistics will be aggravated by the need for the junks to communicate with the shore. In such circumstances Macao must be prepared to accept special conditions laid down by Customs. Among these will be the requirement of the junks to work within only two parts of the harbour; two Customs junk anchorages near Barra Fort and Green Island. Both will be under the supervision of the Harbour Master alone and vessels will only pass through after their papers have been inspected.

Customs would give withdraw from Malochow and Chienshan stations and maintain a reduced 'preventative' land force along Lappa shore, at Kuanchap near Porta Cuco, and on water at Malowchow Pass east of Nine Islands. If Macao undertook to effectively control water traffic the sea preventative service could be 'almost given up entirely'. A Customs barrier at Kuanchap would check overland activity.

MS 19/4/2 n.d. Memorandum regarding Etablissment d'une Douane Chinoise dans Macao (Establishment of a Chinese Customs Station in Macao).

In French.

Rough notes. Handwritten.

This memorandum specifies that the Customs buildings are to face the harbour and are to serve as offices and warehouses. Special arrangements are to be made for the anchoring, loading and unloading of junks.

MS 19/4/3

In French.

Identical to MS/19/4/2

MS 19/4/4 n.d.

Memorandum for proposed agreement re Chinese Customs House at MACAO.

One single sided folio.

This memorandum provides guidelines for the construction of new Customs buildings in Macao, including information on the site and nature of the buildings and the administration of the Station. The means by which merchandise shall be handled is detailed, including the levying of duties and likin. The relationship between Customs officials and Macao authorities is outlined, as are the arrangements for the closure of other Stations.



MS 19/4/5

In French

This is identical to MS/19/4/2 but with additional information concerning fees applicable for junks permits, tariffs on imports and re-exports and regulations for trade in Opium. Also present is a breakdown of authority between colonial authorities in Macao and Customs officials with reference to the sovereign rights of both parties. The establishment of a Station in Macao is portrayed as allowing for the closure of others but most shall remain operative at Chinese discretion

MS 19/4/6 n.d.

Portuguese Minister's Memo to the Yâmen.

In French

Galhardo refers to 'Protocol' and the consequence of its application, noting that Portugal did not take part in the discussion. As such he claims Macao will be exempt from tariffs on imports and shall be bound by the Treaty of 1887. Macao feels that recent Chinese policy has directed many prejudicial articles against her commercial interests and believes a revision of her status is needed. In return she would afford China assistance in the combating of piracy and in opium smuggling

MS 19/4/7 n.d.

Note. Chinese Customs in Macao.

No author or addressee is present.

The Note is a commentary upon Macao's hopes for a revision of the Inland Steam Navigation regulations and outlines the potential problems that such measures could cause.

MS 19/4/8 28/09/??

Letter from Hart to Piry

Regarding negotiations to be conducted with Macao regarding the operation of Customs Station in the colony.

MS 19/4/9 05/05/ 1899

Circular No. 894, Second Series. From Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking.

In this circular Hart details the opening of a Customs House at Kiachow in Tsingtao. He outlines the policies under which it shall operate, with reference to the rights of the German authorities within the Leased Territory. The duties and taxes to be levied, the means by which trade shall be conducted and the general administration of the Station are all referred to.

MS 19/4/10

n.d.

Memorandum regarding the 1887 treaty of commerce between China and Portugal

In French.

This agreement guarantees Portuguese acceptance of Chinese rules regarding the trade of opium between Macao and Chinese ports and to this end an Opium Convention shall be annexed to the Treaty of 1st December 1887. An agreement shall be reached regarding the regulation of junk traffic in Macao waters and although the Macao Customs House shall be operated differently to others this will not mean Treaty Port status. Since Portugal will probably seek such an allowance the purpose of this agreement is to pre-empt their aims.

MS 19/4/11 30/07/1898

Manuscript translation of an important despatch by the Governor of Macao

Begins with a detailed listing of the rank and honours attained by Governor Colonel Galhardo and is addressed to 'Prince Ching and other illustrious members of the Tsung-li yamen [sic]'.

Galhardo acknowledges his receipt of a despatch from the yamên dated 3rd June. His interpretation of its contents is that the yamên is informing him that from 'having recognised the ever increasing advantages of the commerce of the open ports on the coasts of China... it [the yamên] has resolved to open, for the same purpose, some cities bathed by its great rivers'. He then refers to his receipt of the nine articles for inland steam navigation agreed upon by the yamên and the Inspector General of Customs, affirming that he shall forward it to the Portuguese government and relevant Portuguese parties in China. His advice to Portuguese nationals shall be to adhere to the terms found therein 'when in them is not to be noted any contravention to what is

disposed on the Luso-Chinese treaty of amity and commerce'. Of particular irritation is the exclusion of Macao from 'the advantages conceded to the open ports', resulting in what Galhardo suggests would be an imposition of bureaucratic obligations that would obstruct her trade. This is a contravention of the Luso-Chinese Treaty of 1887 but Galhardo suggests that it can be rectified by an extension of the license granting powers of the Customs officials at Malowchow.

MS 19/4/12 29th April 1898 Circular No. 823. Second Series. Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking. To The Commissioners of Customs

Although a change in status of various ports has taken place it has not yet been commented upon by the Yamên or the Legations. To avoid complications in the treatment of vessels in these ports they should all be regarded as trafficking with Treaty ports. Proper status will be ascertained and applied in due time, but meanwhile Customs should not attempt to fully enforce the power of their remit. To do so might create the impression of pettiness in light of China's recent concessions.



In French

No addressee or author present.

On behalf of the Portuguese authorities in Macao Senhor de Castelho Branco is prepared to make three concessions to China. These are the implementation in Macao of the Protocol concerning tariffs, a revision of the Opium Convention and to regard the Customs in Macao in Treaty Port terms. In return Portugal asks for the control of Lappa or at least the use thereof. She also seeks the right to build a railway from Macao to Samshui and have the use thereof for between forty to ninety nine years, after which it shall revert to China. In addition there should be a system of Drawbacks applied on opium exported from Macao or consumed there. Also the Imperial Customs House should be located near Barra Fort and all Customs searches shall be conducted autonomously. Tariffs set by the Treaty will override native ones.

MS 19/4/14 n.d.

Note in Hart's handwriting.

Regarding the operation of Customs duties in accordance with the regulations formulated in 1887 and the difficulty of dealing with the Portuguese. Hart also comments on the possible effects of Treaty Port status for Macao.

MS 19/4/15i 07/1897

Duty Rule; West River Trade. Canton Custom House.

This document details rules for the application of tariffs to native and imported goods and the operation of inward and outward transit documents for the provisional period of one year.

MS 19/4/15ii 07/1897

Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Provisional Regulations of Trade on the West river.

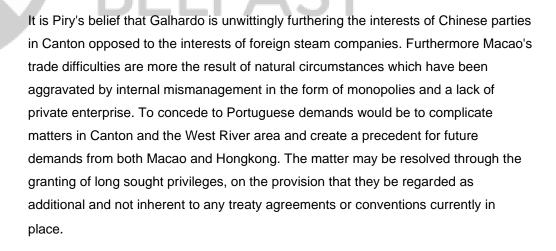
These Regulations set forth the general conditions under which vessels of different classes are permitted to trade on the West River under the Special Article of the British Treaty of 4th February 1897. They are in five sections:

- I Regulations for Foreign vessels holding National or Colonial Registers
- II Regulations for /foreign vessels not holding National or Colonial Registers, and allowed to trade under West River Certificate
- III Regulations for Steamers and Launches under the Chinese Flag
- IV Regulations regarding Towage
- V Duty Rules

MS 19/4/16 02/08/1898

Letter from Piry to Hart

Piry acknowledges receipt of Hart's despatch No.1062 in which he received a copy of the correspondence between Hart and Governor Galhardo in reference to Macao's trade situation. Piry details his own meeting with Galhardo, in which the Governor articulated his dissatisfaction at the exclusion of Macao from the privileges conceded by China in the matter of inland steam navigation. In response to Piry's interpretation of the situation Galhardo insisted upon Macao being treated as a Treaty Port, suggesting a restructuring of tariffs and regulations accordingly but without adequately assuming the obligations such status carried. Furthermore Galhardo seems to either lack an understanding of or is not prepared to acknowledge the various grades and applications of tariffs for different sectors of trade. He has likewise misrepresented the content and application of previous agreements between China and Portugal, in the process inappropriately depicting Macao as an aggrieved party.



MS 19/4/17 n.d.

Memorandum on the keeping of Books and the preparation of Returns at Lappa.

A partial list of the Returns and Reports made by Lappa as an office collecting Provincial taxes.

MS 19/4/18 n.d.

Memorandum on the keeping of Books and the preparation of Returns at

Lappa.

A complete list of the Returns and Reports made by Lappa as an office collecting Provincial taxes, with a summary of the different sources of income; the manner of their collection and recording kept; an explanation of the figures used; the banking and remittance of moneys collected; the role of various officers and their tasks; and reference to smuggling and other forms of revenue evasion.

MS 19/4/19 01/04/1898.

Author and Addressee unknown.

In accordance to the request made in despatch No.1036 of the 14th March this document is a survey of the systems of duty collection in practice at the Customs stations in the Lappa district, 'enclosing specimens in triplicate of the various forms in use, both there and at Head office'. Special emphasis is placed on staffing arrangements and office routine. The main issues considered are the making and handling of applications for landing, shipping or duty paying; duty memos; the levying of duties and the distribution thereof; Customs banking practice; examination of cargo; time required for transacting a junks business; outside supervision and status of employees at stations; the origins and variability of tariffs; opium; a listing of the types of paperwork completed at Customs stations; the functions of the different grades of officers within the Customs stations.

MS 19/4/20 25/10/ 1893

Memorandum; Canton practice for the treatment of Steam-Launches etc. Custom House, Canton

The memorandum is divided into the subsections of Chinese Registered Launches and Certificated Tugs, with an explanation of the status of Hongkong and Macao vessels. Detailed are the proceedure to followed by such vessels upon arrival; their registration requirements; the fees to be applied and their determination; the recording of vessels that dock and the different categories under which they are entered; the various reports compiled for the different status of boats; the permits and certificates required for particular destinations and rank of vessel; the chartering of vessels by Customs officials; search of monopoly farmers; the regulation of tugs and the fees to which they are liable.

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Folder 5 - Draft Dispatch

Rice exports to Macao, and the prohibition thereof is the main issue in this Folder. The origin of prohibition and possible alternatives are discredited.

MS 19/5/1

06/04/1898

Draft despatch, typewritten and unsigned (but drafted by Piry) and addressed to the I.G.

Two single sided folios.

ESTP1845

The despatch refers to the withdrawal, on the part of the Canton authority, of the prohibition placed a few months previously on the export of rice to Macao. The Kowloon and Macao offices (respectively run by Messrs. Hillier and Piry) were instructed by the Chinese authorities that the rule limiting the annual export of rice from Kuantung to Hongkong and Macao to 500, 000 piculs, should now be exported in 'proportional quantities' month by month to those stations. The scheme has come under threat from members of the Chinese gentry who have persuaded the Viceroy to again prevent any exports in view of the present shortage and expected poor harvests. In response Macao has imposed its own ban on rice exports.



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MS 19/6 Folder Six – Hongkong Junk Trade, Implications of New Navigation Regulations

The Hongkong Junk Trade and the implications of new navigation regulations are covered by the two documents in this Folder. There are two draft despatches addressed to Sir Robert Hart by Messrs. Drew, Hillier and Piry jointly (Commissioners at Canton, Kowloon and Lappa respectively).

MS 19/6/1 01/03/1899 Addressed to Sir Robert Hart.

One single sided folio.

Contains the Commissioners' joint proposals regarding a suggested 'System of dealing with the Hongkong Junk Trade'.

Hart has requested estimated costings for these proposals, making his own additions to suggestions he received regarding the placing of stations and guard boats. Piry replies to some of these suggestions, making his own based on local circumstances and providing an insight into conditions and practises. He counsels on suitable locations for the stations, their different classifications and functions, and their design and cost. Also considered is the need to secure proposed sites for stations, their staffing arrangements, functions and the use of cruisers and launches.

MS 19/6/2 19/12/1898 Signed 'T.Piry' and addressed to Sir Robert Hart.

The Commissioners present their joint proposal for a system of dealing with Hongkong junk trade. This includes 'measures to be taken in the event of the evacuation of the present stations around H Kong [sic], for an effectual control of the junks etc passing

to and from Hongkong through the various entrances of the Canton and West Rivers, and to and from the West Coast'. The location of possible new Customs Stations is also discussed.

Also considered are proposal of a preventative cordon between the two foreign colonies and China and the most effective positing of stations in consideration of the flow of traffic, the cost of construction and maintenance. Reference is made to the erroneous impression created by some existing maps of the geographical and subsequent demographic situation in the area and the Commissioners have undertaken their own investigations into the course and suitability for navigation of various rivers. In addition measures will be taken in the regulation of junk traffic that 'will greatly facilitate the control of Steam Navigation on the West Coast which is a question of considerable moment'.

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QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

The largest item in the Folder is a manuscript entitled 'Hupeh Salt Likin Collectorate. Hupeh. Report on Native Opium. 1901' that deals with the particulars of the opium trade in that province. Also present are an array of documents in Chinese, including matters concerning the practice of traditional Chinese medicine.

MS 19/7/1

06/04/1901

Hupeh Salt Likin Collectorate. Hupeh. Report on Native Opium. 1901.

Fifteen double sided folios.

This report details the distribution of opium production and consumption within the province as well as its spread. It is divided into subsections under the headings including Production, Consumption, Method Of Transport, Taxation, Trade Routes, Smugglers Routes, Kinds and Prices of Native Opium. Among the issues raised is the difficulty in getting accurate information about levels of production and consumption although estimated figures are given for such as well as the trade in general. The applicability of various taxes, duties and other levies is noted, as is the manipulation of such by the authorities to stimulate business.



The classification of different grades is covered, as is the involvement 'hong's within the trade. Smuggling is dealt with is, as is the use of opium as currency by some. There are suggestions for reform of the trade, with proposal for a 'Government Opium Monopoly' involving a registration and monitoring of growers. The Government has shown itself to be unable to deal with the

problem in its present form and higher opium revenue though would be of enormous benefit to China in her present financial difficulties.

MS 19/7/2

n.d.

Formal letter from the Chinese Treasury to the Emperor.

In Chinese

The Treasury notifies the Emperor that it does not have enough money to fulfill payment of the Xinding indemnity. As payments cannot be suspended the Treasury appeals to the Emperor for a restructuring of payments to reflect current capabilities.

MS 19/7/3

n.d.

In Chinese

A listing of collection points for tax collection in Hupei province.

MS 19/7/4

n.d.

In Chinese

An account of tax evasion by a medical practitioner. Both Western and Chinese medicine are regulated by a licensing system.

MS 19/7/5 31/01/1900, 18/02/1901

Enclosure 2.

Estimated Collection by Provincial Native Opium Offices and Barriers in the Province of Hupeh during the 26th year of Kuang Hsü A breakdown of the revenue collected at the Nan Lu, Pei Lu, Lung Lu and Hong Chüan Offices and Barriers.

(31st January, 1900 @ [sic] 18th February, 1901).

MS 19/7/6 n.d.

In Chinese

Practitioners of traditional Chinese medicine in a small Han township have agreed upon a set of regulations for their profession.

MS 19/7/7 n.d.

In Chinese

A license by which traditional Chinese medicine may be practised legally.



Sketch map of Hupeh with place names in both Chinese and English.

Labelled 'Enclosure 5' and dated '6.IV.1901'

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Chang Tê Fu MS 19/7/1

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MS 19/8 Folder Eight – Trade of Pakhoi 1879

A report on the trade of Pakhoi for the year 1879, Pakhoi Custom House, 1880.

MS 19/8/1 1880 Report on the trade of Pakhoi for the year 1879.

An account of the operation of the Treaty Port since 1st April 1877 and detailing the growth of its foreign trade. Included in this is an account of the use of steamers and the role of opium. A breakdown of imports and exports is given along with information on the various certificates and permits required by traders. There is some brief detail on the internal trading relationships within the area and some general remarks on the Pakhoi region.

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BELFAST

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Report on River Launch "Cumsing"

MS 19/9/1 16/04/1900 Report on River Launch "Cumsing"

Tidesurveyor's report, manuscript, signed and dated Custom House, Lappa, 16th April 1900, describing the decayed condition of the river launch "Cumsing", just back from Hongkong. The Tidesurveyor proposes a refit of the hull, estimating the cost at \$600 to \$700. A sketch of the launch appears on the reverse of this report.



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Mud Dock

Wanchai



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MS 19/10 Folder Ten – History and Administration of the Chinese Postal Service

The Memorial within this Folder concerns the history and administration of the Chinese Postal Service.

MS 19/10/1 02/06 Memorial

Presented by the Board of Posts and Communications petitioning that a date be set for the Board to take over control of Posts.

Five single sided folios, translation signed "A.D.B." (i.e. Arthur Dickinson Blackburn, T. Piry's son-in-law) on official British letter-heading stamped with a Lion & Unicorn crest.

The author of this Memorial, Sheng Hsuan-Huai, after briefly retracing the history of the Chinese postal administration, sets out a series of new measures to improve and up-date the Administration. Chief amongst these is the appointment of Théophile Piry ("Mandarin of the Second Grade, decorated with the Order of the Third Class of the Second Division) to be Postmaster-General, vacating his former post of Commissioners of Customs. We know that Piry was appointed to be Postmaster-General in May 1911.

The Commission of Constitutional Reform has on a previous occasion obtained Imperial consent for the centralisation of all postal matters under the Postal Bureau of Posts and Communications. The current administration of the Post Office by a Commissioner of Customs (Piry) means that it is 'eminently necessary that the charge of such matters should revert to the Board of Posts and Communications'. Control by a Commissioner of Customs was intended as a temporary measure but now that 'special officers' have been appointed the Board should be allocated more responsibility. The Board itself has made representations to the Throne on the matter and a schedule has been decided upon for the handing over of control.

The origin of the Postal Service lies in two Edicts from 1896 and 1898 and was intended to facilitate greater communication. Sir Robert Hart was appointed to supervise its foundation and he selected Piry to be Postal Secretary. The Postal Service now has c600 offices and more than 4,200 agencies throughout China. It runs at a loss and Hart secured a subsidy of Taels 720,000 a year to be guaranteed by the Maritime Customs. The figure actually paid has varied.

Both Hart and Piry have performed admirably. However the service needs to be expanded to include telegraphs and Savings Banks for communal benefit. The administrative effects of transferring control of Posts to the Board are discussed and recommendations are made for administrative structure and suitable officials. Li Ching-fang is suggested to be placed temporarily in charge of the Postal Bureau.

Cheng Chih Kuan Pao, 2nd June

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MS 19/10/1 EENSITY BELFAST

MS 19/11 Folder Eleven – Chinese manuscript history of U-Tchau (Chinese Postal Service)

Chinese manuscript history of U-Tchau (Chinese Postal Service).

(Indexing is yet to be undertaken.)

MS 19/12 Folder Twelve – Map of the Trans-Siberian Railway

A map of the Trans-Siberian Railway is the sole feature here and hails from the voyage of a Mr. Jadot between 18th May and 10th June 1902.

MS 19/13 Folder Thirteen – Trans-Manchurian Railway, Chinese Eastern Railway

China's position vis-à-vis the Postal Union in regard to Trans-Manchurian Railways is considered here, as are the terms under which the Chinese Eastern Railway shall operate. Treaty negotiations between Japan and Russia are also detailed, as is their mutual interest in Manchuria.



MS 19/13/4

27/04/1909

Treaty of Peace between Japan and Russia.

The Articles of the Treaty acknowledge the primacy of Japan in Korea, the equality of Russians in Korea with those of 'the most favoured nation' and the immediate evacuation of Manchuria by both Japan and Russia, with special provision being made for Liaotung Peninsula. Full Chinese administration is to be recognised in Manchuria, and Russia denies any claims to territorial advantages or preferential concessions. Russia transfers to Japan her lease from China of Port Arthur, Talien and all adjacent waters and territories along with railway and related coal rights. Both parties are bound to pursue economic interests only with their railways in Manchuria, strategical purposes being specifically forbidden.

Signed at Portsmouth, U.S.A. August 23rd 1905. Ratified November 5th, 1905.

MS 19/13/2 6 or 19 02/1909 "Arrangement conclu avec la Compagnie du Chemin de Fer Chinois de l'Est, pour le transport de corresponances de la Poste Impériale Chinoise".

Signed by R. Barbier acting for the Chinese Eastern Railway Administration, and by J. Korostovetz, Russian Minister, on the one hand, and by T. Piry, General Secretary of the Imperial Chinese Post Office, and by Robert E. Bredon, Inspector-General on the other.

MS 19/13/3 "Contrat pour la construction et l'exploitation de Chemin de Fer Chinois de l'Est, signed at Berlin 27th August / 8th September 1896".

"Regulations of the Chinese Eastern Railway Company".

Singed Korostovetz, (Major General Horwatt), Yü Ssu Hsin, Shih Tsao-tze, Liang Tung-

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yen.

In virtue of the Agreement concluded between the Imperial Chinese Government and the Russo-Chinese Bank on 27th August 1896 the Chinese Eastern Railway Company is formed by the latter. It will undertake the constitution of a railway line from Heilungkiang province to Kirin province and connecting lines with the Trans-Siberian and South-Ussuri railways. It shall operate as a joint stock company and is authorised to work coal mines and other mineral, commercial and industrial activity either in connection with its rail activities or otherwise. Only Russian and Chinese subjects may be shareholders, the Concession is to last for eighty years and Russian rail gauge is to be used. The obligations placed upon the Company and the rules by which it is to be regulated are laid out in specific detail.

MS 19/13/5 n.d.

"Status de la Société du Chemin de Fer Chinois de l'Est. Annexe III.

MS 19/13/6 n.d.

"Effet de l'entrée de la Chine dans l'Union sur les Services d'Echange".



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MS 19/14 Folder Fourteen – History of Foreign Post Offices in China

The history of foreign post offices in China is retraced here, with detail provided for individual states.

MS 19/14/1 n.d. Foreign Post Offices in China, 'Historical Development'.

Translated by C.T.D. Neil.

Twelve double sided folios.

A brief background to China's relationship with the 'Occident' and synopsis of how each power came to establish its own postal network in China. The main business of the Post Offices of each power is discussed along with the means by which it is conducted. Also mentioned are Chinese attitudes to the operation of these services.

A brief history of China's own postal services, their development (including both state and private networks, their operation and fees) is also given. The involvement of foreigners in the development of the Chinese Imperial Post Office is discussed and an internal ranking of



Chinese Post Offices is provided. UNIVERSITY BELFAST

MS 19/15 Folder Fifteen – Chinese Postal Service

Over one hundred and thirteen separate documents are contained in this Folder, all concerning the relationship between the Chinese Postal Service and foreign postal networks within China and Chinese admission to the Universal Postal Union.

Piry is in Europe at this point negotiating China's admission to the Union so much of the correspondence is a matter of H. Picad Destelan keeping him informed of developments. Destelan's letters illustrate the numerous routine matters, appointments, dealings with the Chinese authorities, etc. involved in running the Chinese Postal Service.

(The French documents in this folder have been translated verbatim.)

MS 19/15/1 n.d. Newspaper cutting from January.

Reports on proposals to transfer control of the Imperial Chinese Post Office from the Piry and the Maritime Customs to the Ministry of Communications and 'the notorious Minister Chen-pi'. Such a transfer would mean either the dismissal of all foreigners or the primacy of the French Government in decisions of staff appointments.

MS 19/15/2 13/06/1914

Letter from Directorate General of Posts, Chief Secretary's Office, Peking, to Piry. Destelan sends a copy of the 'Lsiang to the Ministry' for Piry to sign and return. Destelan informs Piry that Yeh Kung Cho has been appointed to the Rice Ministry and undertakes to send Piry cuttings from articles in the Peking newspapers that might be of interest to Piry. He makes reference to correspondence from von Dewall to Piry on the matter of Hsün t'iao and also requests Piry's telegraphic address in Paris for speedy contact. In addition, he has sent a sketch of the Postal flag as proposed by Liang for

MS 19/15/3 16/06/1914

Letter from Destelan, Direction Générale Des Postes, Bureau du Postmaster Générale, Pékin, to Piry.

In French.

obtain Piry's opinion.

Destelan thanks Piry for a recent allowance and informs Piry of the recent promotion of Mr. Estrade. There is also information regarding general office administration, promotions, and restructuring within the department. Furthermore, an enquiry has been made by the Japanese regarding the promotion of Mr. Romanoff over a Japanese national [Mr. Kato] and an investigation is currently under way into the misappropriation of some commemoration postal stamps.

MS 19/15/4 27/05/1914

Letter to Piry, author unknown.

In French

This letter concerns parcel exchange with other countries, the tariffs to be applied thereto and the effect of the situation in Manchuria upon exchange. The inability of the Chinese office to act as an intermediary for others is noted as is the need to reach an agreement with the United States of America. Communications have also been taking

place with the Netherlands regarding mails to and from Penang and Singapore and the author is surprised that Piry's proposal for a Chinese postal service Hongkong was refused.

MS 19/15/5 n.d. Agreement between China and France for parcel exchange.

In French

Regarding the adherence of China to the International Convention signed in Rome in 1906 for parcel mail and indicating the rues to be adhered to, the weight of parcels and the fees to be applied. Reference is made to the French system in Algeria.

MS 19/15/6 16/06/1914 Letter from Destelan, Peking, with no addressee named.

In French

This is a reply to a letter of 27th May and refers to the potential function of the Chinese postal service as an intermediary for Hongkong and 'Indo-Chine'. An agreement with USA is also mentioned, and a settlement is about to be concluded in Madrid. Further negotiation is required with France on parcel weight and rates.

MS 19/15/7/1 20/06/1914 Letter from Destelan, Directorate General of Posts, Peking, to Piry.

In French with a Chinese enclosure

Estrade will be nominated for promotion but is afraid the Ministry will make complications and Lung will probably retire to become chüchang. The issue of payment for rail freight remains unresolved and the question of Kirin is now in Tokio's hands.

MS 19/15/7/2 n.d. Chinese Enclosure.

Letter from Mr. Liang Shui Yi (粱士詒) to Mr. Bo (帛).

Liang acknowledges receipt of Bo's letter in which the latter makes known that he will be travelling away from Peking to attend negotiations.

MS 19/15/8 23/06/1914 Letter from H. Picard Destelan, Directorate General of Posts, Chief Secretary's

Office, Peking, to Piry.
In French

Destelan regrets that the decision to promote Estrade as a representative of China was refused because he was a French representative at Madrid.

MS 19/15/9 22/06/1914 Letter from W. Henne, Tientsin Post Office, H. Picard Destelan.

Henne seeks the promotion of a member of his staff, being surprised that he was recently omitted from such.

MS 19/15/10 23/06/1914 Letter from Destelan, Peking, no addressee given.

In French

Destelan discusses the postal route to Canada and the benefits of such for parcel post traffic with Europe. The opening of the Panama Canal has been announced for spring

1915 and will provide a serious rival to Suez.

MS 19/15/11 1914

Memorandum from the Department of Public Traffic (中華民國交通部郵政局, a section of the Postal Service).

In Chinese

A postal service employee called Bo Li (帛黎) will go to Europe for business purposes and in his absence an appointee will be assigned to fulfill his duties.

MS 19/15/12 12/06/1914

Receipt.

A receipt made out to Madame Piry for the development of camera film from "Camera Craft Co.", Peking.

MS 19/15/13 2/06/1914

Receipt from Comptoir National D'Escompte de Paris to Piry.

In French

An acknowledgement of receipt of Piry's signature upon documentation concerning his connection with the company.

MS 19/15/14 02/06/1914

Receipt from Comptoir National D'Escompte de Paris to Piry.

In French

A receipt regarding the issue of a cheque book.

MS 19/15/15 24/06/1914

Letter from H. Picard Destelan to Piry.

In French.

Regarding routine Postal Service administration.

MS 19/15/16

24/06/1914

In French

- 1. Von Dewall has shown me a letter that you wrote yesterday. The proposal to appoint another French government official in the place of Mr Estrade is novel: you will be no longer to remain to judge if it is a solution, that I am not myself in agreement with. I have not seen Mr Conty since your departure; if he requests me on the nomination of Mr Estrade... I will avoid the proposal to act...because his intervention is not desirable at the moment.
- 2. A little time before your departure, a steam-launch for the Hsiakwan-Pukow service...requested by the secretaries. The Shanghai steam launch is too aged to continue for a long period doing the service...The steam launch in question is already insufficient for the needs of Shanghai and will be again after another effective entrance into the Union...is approved by all the secretaries. If you want my permission, I will request the authorisation of the minister necessary.
- 3. We have received today an official dispatch of the administration of the Tokio Japanese writing in French!

MS 19/15/17 27/06/1914

In French

- 1. I am busy with questions regarding sites for the post of Hankow; construction of a post at Harbin on the terrain that General Horvath wishes. Remuneration for the companies for the transport of dispatches.
- 2. I have exchanged with the minister on the subject of the import of the complaints by the Tutuh of Szechwan against McDowall. Complaints of the Tutuh regarding the postal service continuous lateness. The real reason is without a doubt that McDowall did not listen/converse with the Tutuh. He was lacking in tact with the Chinese government officials but his capacity is not in doubt. Impossible to leave McDowall in Chengtu, Liang Tun himself will speak to Wang. Summers and myself have the same thoughts on the subject of the successor to McDowall. If you approve of the nominations, I request that you send telegraphs so that I with the ministers the impending change of McDowall.



- 3. Homer Wang is coming to inform me confidentially that Alfred Sze, named minister of China in London requested him to accept a post on the legation to London. He has the intention of refusing, initially because he had promised you here during your absence.
- 4. Enclosed copies of articles from Chinese newspapers.

MS 19/15/18 01/07/1914

Letter from Destelan to Mr. Lowder.

Destelan replies to correspondence from Lowder to Piry which, in accordance to his instructions, he has opened and read. Destelan regrets that a position within the Postal Service cannot be found for Mr. Lowder's son.

MS 19/15/19 25/06/1914

Letter from E. Gordon Lowder, Offices of Chinese Maritime Customs for Kowloon and District, to Piry Lowder seeks an appointment for his third son in the Postal Service.

MS 19/15/20 n.d.

A listing of telegraph addresses.

MS 19/15/21 04/07/1914

In French

- 1. Copy of my response, dated today, to a letter from Mr Estrade on 13 June.
- 2. I am sending you a list of additions regarding the telegram code.
- 3. The young man that we have requested from Mr Estrade for our Union bureau, and perhaps find you a good candidate...we do not want to reserve this place for an Italian.

- 4. The planned changes in the ministry have not yet been completed. We have seen in the newspapers without doubt the difficulty that Liang Tun yen has to defeat the resistance of the clique of chiao t'ung pu.
- 5. Conversation tonight with Mr Hirota on the subject of the exchange of Japanese dispatches with Kirin.
- 6. Tollefsen will come back from holiday...We have decided that Tollefsen will stop at Manchouli or at Harbin and stay there for some days, the time necessary in order to run it, and at the same time to be aware of all that is taking place in that section if important.

4th July 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/21 n.d.

Additions to Telegraphic Code for Dr. George Mark (Mai Hsin-chien) and C.K. Yün (Yün Ch'ang-k'un)

MS 19/15/22 07/07/1914

In French

- Question of the transmission of the Japanese dispatches with Kirin is settled, after long and laborious negotiations. Von Dewall has helped me and assisted with the last meetings with Mr Hirota. Despite the demands of the Japanese we have entirely kept to the arrangement...I have hopes that you will approve of this solution to the delicate situation.
- I announced to you in my last letter, Comencini has sent his resignation dated 10
 August. I have sent Beytagh in his place. Ritchie has given him good notes and he will be under supervision in Hangchow.

7th July 1914, Peking



MS 19/15/23 07/07/1914

Letter from H.P. Destelan to Yukichi Obata, Chargè d'Affaires of Japan, Peking.

Destelan has sent Obata recommendations from Piry regarding the questions of Japanese mails to and from Kirin and recognition by Japanese authorities of the Chinese agencies at Kuokiatien and Fankiatun.

MS 19/15/24 07/07/1914

Confidential letter from Destelan to Mr. Tolliday.

Relates to settlement between China and Japan of 'the outstanding Kirin & Kuokiatien and Fankoatun questions'. Of concern to the Japanese has been the safety of mail-exchange.

MS 19/15/25 8/07/1914

In French

1. The gazette this morning announced the appointment of Mr Lung Chien-chang in his capacity as Tao yin au Kweichow. This news caused a general surprise and it is said that Mr Lung did not know until yesterday. A taoyin has a position similar to that of a taotai under the Ancien Régime; it seems that it is a disgrace for Mr Lung.

Nevertheless, it is said that he will soon be appointed civil governor of the province of Kweichow. 8 July 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/26 1914

Memorandum from the Prime Minister of the Kuomintang Government and issued under the seal of the President (中華民國國務卿徐世昌).

In Chinese

The President orders that the military budget be reduced and also approves several new appointments to the Postal Service and Police.

MS 19/15/27 1/07/1914

Letter from Jeoli General Post Office in Manchuria.

In Chinese

The Japanese authorities in the area wish to include their concessionary territory within their postal network. This raises issues of sovereignty and the Chinese Postal Service refuse to comply until a diplomatic settlement has been concluded.

MS 19/15/28

4/07/1914

In French

- 1. I have received your telegram of 12 [July] approving the transfer of McDowall in Autumn.
- 2. Von Dewall departs tonight. During his absence, Nixon will have a heavy responsibility and at the suggestion of von Dewall, I request that you would please authorise me to raise Nixon's allowance from Tls 50 to Tls 75 per month during von Dewall's absence.
- 3. Regarding the reorganisation of the ministry, there will be six 'ssu' of which the Yu Ch'uan Ssu who will consist of the Post and Telegram and Navigation. The Ssu Chang has not yet been appointed. Mr Chow Wanpeng, the former director of telegraphs in Chekiang, is being spoken of for the post of Ssu Chang of Yu Ch'uan Ssu. In addition to the Yu Ch'uan Ssu, there will be a Yu Ch'uan Kuei Chi Ssu particularly in charge of the investigation of the Yu Ch'uan Ssu's post. Mr Lung...has told me that the minister wishes that he stays another year if possible or at least six months but that otherwise the president wishes to see him returning to his post as early as possible.

4th July, 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/29 n.d.

Addition to Telegraphic Code with an entry relating to Chow Wan-p'eng

MS 19/15/30 15/07/1914

In French

In my letter yesterday, paragraph 2, I requested you to arrange the office allowance of Nixon at Tls 75 instead of Tls 50 during the absence of von Dewall. But I see that in his letter, No. 6, von Dewall suggested that Nixon receive Tls 100. I thought however

that we would agree on the subject and it is possible that an error was made on the part of von Dewall. I would request you to arrange Nixon's allowance at Tls 75.

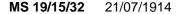
15th July, 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/31 17 or 18/07/1914

In French

- 1. The correction of the examinations of the Chinese clerks and assistants take up a large part of Parnell's time and for help in the work and support every day, I sent for Molland Junior of Tientsin for at least six weeks.
- 2. Shields is recommended to look after Bottu to Swatow as his experience is suited for the work of exchanging on 1 September.... I have informed Shields of that decision.
- 3. I have received yesterday morning your telegram of 15 [July]: Estrade resigned French appointment, is willing to join us. Do all you can to support. On receipt of the telegram, I wrote to Dr Mark who is Liang Tun yen's right arm. Dr Mark responded...the response [was] passed on by an intermediary of Mr Lung. Wang telephoned yesterday from Waichiaopu...on my request he telephoned again tonight and he has confirmed this information ...is worthy of faith.
- 4. The postal administration of Japan is being indecisive about the attitude taken in view of our entry into the Union...Mr Hirota came to see me this morning to inquire why we have notified only the Japanese administration and not the other administrations. I responded to him that the other administrations were also notified and that several had already responded...He told me that the question of the entrance of China into the Union is a great matter for Japan.
- 5. The appointment of the Ssu chang is still awaited...a number of former comrades of the Liang Tun yen have arrived and are going to receive positions in the ministry. The position of Liang Tun yen is going to be very difficult...It is not without apprehension for our situation that I see this concentration of forces...under the direction of the ministry.

17/18 July, 1914, Peking



In French

- 1. The list of the Ssu Chang has been made official, but without specifying the offices of those affected. Chou Wan-peng and Chiang Tsun-wei will be appointed Ssu Chang of Yu Ch'uan Ssu and of Yu Ch'aun Kuei Chi Ssu.
- 2. A telegram yesterday from Tai Ch'en-lin recommending the appointment of Mr Estrade was received yesterday. I have given, by the intermediary of the





vice-minister, Dr Mark, all the information and arguments in favour of this appointment.

- 3. The matter of the commemorative stamps... of the destruction of the fire of Shanghai is closed for the moment.
- 4. On the revolution that has broken out in the Hunan...the newspapers are sparing of information. 21st July, 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/33 28/07/1914 In French

- 1. Decision regarding the appointment of Mr Estrade.
- 2. Gayen requests permission to get married immediately.

28th July, 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/34 17/07/1914

Letter from A.H. Haslund, Harbin Post Office, to Destelan.

Haslund forwards a letter from Mr. P. Gayen who seeks permission to marry a Russian woman. Mr. Gayen's present work means that a period of absence on his part will be acutely felt and Haslund has already sought advice from von Dewall on the matter.

Letter from Peter Gayen, Harbin Post Office, to H. Picard Destelan

Gayen requests permission to marry his fiancée of more than one year, citing that his parents have already approved and that his intended bride is aware of the duties entailed in his employment.

Letter from H. Picard Destelan to Haslund.

Destelan states that Gayen must postpone his intended marriage in accordance with Service regulations.

Cutting from the "Peking Daily News".

The article details changes in personnel in various governmental ministries and lists the new appointments being made, including a brief background of the

nominees.

MS 19/15/38 22/07/1914

MS 19/15/37

In French

- 1. Receipt of letter of 12th July.
- 2. Nanking will not have need of a steam-launch.
- 3. McDowall maintains that the telegram send by the Tutuh to the minister did not come from the Tutuh himself but was sent by an irresponsible person out of vengeance or malice.



07/1914

- 4. Chou Wan-p'eng, the new Ssu Chang to be appointed at the same time Chu Chang or to complete the functions of Chu Chang.
- 5. Mr Tai has sent a telegram to request the appointment of Mr Estrade.
- 6. Summers is going to Pehtaiho to rest for a week then there will be the tour of Bauer.
- 7. The young Almeida ex-postal officer who is in charge at Jardine to Foochow, has written to me to request that he could recover the post.

22nd July, 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/39 28/07/1914



- 1. This concerns the decorative insignia of Chia Ho which were to be sent to Mr Blackburn.
- 2. Lung Chien-chang is coming this morning to visit...He departs on 10 August but the question of the Chu Chang will have settled before that date.
- 3. Regarding correspondence and communications with the minister and directed towards the Tsung-Wu Ting, the Secretary General of the minister.
- 4. The clerks of Hankow have requested a special allowance because of the high cost of living. They are demanding also to be paid the currency of Hk tael, like the customs clerks. I have responded that the actual practice must continue. It is not expedient to settle that question for Hankow only.
- 5. This concerns the business of the commemorative stamps.

28th July, 1914, Peking



MS 19/15/40 n.d.

Newspaper article.

A report on how commemorative postage stamps depicting Yuan Shih-kai and Sun Yat-sen had illegally entered into circulation after being ordered destroyed by the authorities

MS 19/15/41 n.d.

"Translation of Hsiang to Ministry I.e. Commemoration stamps case."

An account of the initial attempt to destroy a set of commemoration stamps, the means by which they were surreptitiously salvaged from the furnace and how their circulation was subsequently reported to the police.

MS 19/15/42 n.d.

Newspaper article.

Charting the growth and function of the Chinese Postal Service and its relations with foreign post facilities in China.

MS 19/15/43 29/07/1914

In French

- 1. Tai Ch'en-lin has passed on to you the contents of the telegram that he had addressed to the minister on the subject of Mr Estrade.
- 2. This concerns the appointment of the Ssu Chang.

29th July, 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/44 n.d.

Copy of telegram from Mr. Bo in Paris.

In Chinese

Mr. Bo is currently engaged on business in Europe and has requested that Ai Sidachun (艾司達純, probably a Sinofied name of a western official) come to assist him.

MS 19/15/45/1 1/08/1914



- 1. From the point of view of the Chinese post, our service would be completely disorganised by the departure of the mobilized different nationalities.
- 2. Chou Wan-p'eng appointed Chu Chang and is also Director General of Telegraphs.

1st August, 1914, Peking

1 August, 1914, Pe

Copy of a business letter.

In Chinese.

The President has approved the appointment of Zhou Wan Peng (周萬鵬) as Postmaster General.

1st August 1914.

MS 19/15/46 11/08/1914

MS 19/15/45/2 1/08/1914

In French

Responded to telegram, 'service assured despite the departure of 12 reservists or officials'. There are 13 leaving so far.... Russia has received a command from the Consul to remain. To those who are departing, I am giving three months holiday without pay with the stipulation that this holiday will not be taken into account in the retiring allowance. The customs officials who are leaving in order to rejoin their regiments have got to tender their resignation. Chou Wan-p'eng wants to turn all upside down but faces strong opposition.

11th August, 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/47 18/08/1914

In French

The Chinese government admitted the possibility of the granting of holidays without pay to the foreign employees in China. It is hoped that it will be possible to reintegrate our French at the end of the war.

Regarding the intervention of the Japanese and the ultimatum sent to Germany...We have taken all the necessary measures for the evacuation of our bureau at Tsintao.

18th August, 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/48 26/08/1914



Despite the departure of our foreign personnel for the reservists of different nationalities, work continues steadily. Kingham and Merrien are also leaving to rejoin their regiments. To replace those who have left, I have not so far engaged a foreigner, though a Norwegian...is recommended by Munthe. I am sending him to Tientsin where he will replace the young Molland who will be attached here temporarily.

Our bureau at Tsintao is closed and the personnel have retired temporarily. The Chinese government it seems fears a revolution and Shanghai is in a state of siege.

26th August, 1914, Peking



In French

We have not yet news of the subject of the exchange with the other companies or railways. The administration of the Russian Post has announced that the dispatches via Siberia are to be routed through Sweden or Odessa (Russia) on destination to France and England.

The relations of the bureau with the minister are good. Chou Wan Peng is always on holiday because of sickness and Wang officiates with success in his place.

The financial situation of China will become worrying if the war continues for a long time.

2nd September, 1914, Peking

MS 19/15/50 10/09/1914

In French

The precise instructions given to the central bureau of Tsinan on the subject of the movements and the precautions are to be taken in view of the occupation by the Japanese of certain villages in the hinterland of Tsintau. Instructions are given after consultation with the minister and reference is made to correspondence between the governor of Sinkiang and the minister regarding the province of Sinkiang.

10th September, 1914, Peking

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Newchwang MS 19/15/42

Newspapers MS 19/15/2, (Peking Gazette, Journal de Pekin)

 Nixon, Mr.,
 MS 19/15/41 p.1

 Obata, Yukichi,
 MS 19/15/23

 Paotingfu
 MS 19/15/9

 Peking
 MS 19/15/42

 Peking Gazette
 MS 19/15/2 p.1

Pernitzsch, M. German Assessor MS 19/15/40

Piry

Telegraph Address MS 19/15/2

Paris MS 19/15/2 p.2

Post Offices

British Post Office, Shanghai MS 19/15/42 Japanese MS 19/15/24

Post Office Supply Department, Shanghai MS 19/15/40, MS 19/15/41

Postage stamps MS 19/15/40, MS 19/15/41

Chinese Government Stamps MS 19/15/40
Chinese Post Office Stamps MS 19/15/41

Commemoration Stamps MS 19/15/40, MS 19/15/41

Postal Agreements

Sino-Japanese Agreement MS 19/15/24

Postal Commission, Shanghai MS 19/15/40

Postal Flag MS 19/15/2

Postal Service Regulations MS 19/15/36

Postal Staff

British Staff MS 19/15/19 Staff Promotions MS 19/15/9

Parker, E.H. MS 19/15/42
Police MS 19/15/41

Railway

Directors of Government Railways MS 19/15/37
Peking-Hankow MS 19/15/37
Peking-Mukden MS 19/15/37
Shanghai-Nanking MS 19/15/37
Tientsin-Pukow MS 19/15/37

Rice Ministry, MS 19/15/2 p.1

Shanghai MS 19/15/42 Shanghai Post Office MS 19/15/40

Sheng Chi

Director of the Department of Railway Construction MS 19/15/37

Shroff, Post Office MS 19/15/41

Sieh Fu-cheng MS 19/15/42

(see also Minister to Britain)

S.S. Kinling MS 19/15/41

Stamp Custodian MS 19/15/41

(see also Baker)

Sterling, Mr. John (Postal Commissioner) MS 19/15/40

Sun Yat-sen MS 19/15/40 Supply Department, Shanghai MS 19/15/40

Taotai, Shanghai Customs MS 19/15/42

Tseng, Garrison Commissioner at Shanghai, MS 19/15/41 p.1, MS 19/15/41 p.2, MS 19/15/41 p.3

Tientsin MS 19/15/9, MS 19/15/42

Telegraph Office, Shanghai MS 19/15/41

Telegraphic Code

Additions MS 19/15/21

Teng Wei-ping

First Class Postmaster at Paotingfu (Promotion) MS 19/15/9

Tolliday, Mr. MS 19/15/2

Trade Commissioner MS 19/15/42
Tseng, Garrison Commissioner at Shanghai MS 19/15/41

Tseng Kun-hua

Co-Director Peking-Hankow Railway MS 19/15/37

Tseng Kuoh-tsuan MS 19/15/42

(Viceroy at Nanking)

Tsing Tseng-wei

Director of the Department of Postal and Communications Accounts MS 19/15/37

Viceroy

Nanking MS 19/15/42

von Brandt MS 19/15/42

(German Envoy)

von Dewall, MS 19/15/2, MS 19/15/34

Wang Ching chun

Director of the Department of Railway Accounts MS 19/15/37

Wang Wen-wei MS 19/15/41

Wong, Magistrate MS 19/15/40

Wu Ying-k'o

Director of the Department of General Audit MS 19/15/37

Yamên 15/42

Yeh Kung Cho

Appointment to Rice Ministry MS 19/15/2 p.1

Yuan Ling (Director of the Department of Railway Administration) MS 19/15/37

Yuan Chang-k'un

Director of Telegraphs in Shanghai, appointed as Director of Tientsin Pukow Railway MS 19/15/37

Yuan Shih-kai MS 19/15/40

Yün, C.K. (Yün Ch'ang-k'un)

Telegraphic Code MS 19/15/21

Yünnan Case MS 19/15/42

(Margary Case)

Yuan Shih-kai MS 19/15/40

MS 19/16 Folder Sixteen

One hundred and thirteen files are contained herein regarding the operation of the Chinese Postal Service and its relations with foreign powers.

MS 19/16/1 23/06/1914

Ministry of Posts and Communications Correspondence No.1

Two single sided typed folios.

Letter from Wolf von Dewall, Directorate of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry.

Von Dewall discusses potential changes to be made in departmental administration and the possible appointments to be made as departmental heads. His own work has recently involved 'sending out detailed Memos. of Instructions to all Exchange Offices" and the recent Hsüntiao sent out by the office deals with the matter of Chinese sovereignty. He advises Piry not sign a parcel agreement with France just yet, but rather wait until the Congress has met, the proposals for which von Dewall is preparing.

Mr. Estrade's appointment is being blocked by the Ministry and will require negotiation but von Dewall has recently been promoted in Chia Ho rank, a bid by the Ministry to ensure that he would not attend the Congress bearing a rank lower than his compatriots.

MS 19/16/2 n.d.

Receipt for Dutch telegram.

One single sided handwritten folio.

Author and addressee unknown.

MS 19/16/3 10/07/??

Rough notes concerning the appointment of Mr. Estrade as a plenipotentiary representative to the Madrid Congress.

In French

One single sided handwritten folio.

Author and addressee unknown

MS 19/16/4 n.d.

Rough notes concerning the appointment of Mr. Estrade as a plenipotentiary representative to the Madrid Congress.

In French

One single sided handwritten folio.

Author and addressee unknown.

MS 19/16/5 1914

A cover note for special letters regarding the Madrid Congress of 1914.

In French

One single sided handwritten folio.

Author and addressee unknown.

MS 19/16/6 n.d.

Memorandum from Postal Service.

In Chinese

Author and addressee unknown.

One single sided handwritten folio.

A suggestion that according to International Postal Union Rules Japanese attempts to extend their postal network in Manchuria can be accommodated. From a postal perspective metropolitan territory and colonial possessions can be regarded uniformly.

MS 19/16/7

26/06/1914

Copy of Telegram sent to Mr. McDowell.

One single sided typed folio.

Destelan instructs McDowell to take no local action since it 'is absolutely necessary that postal chiefs maintain good relations with all officials'. There is also some Chinese content within this document in which a Szechwan postal official called Ma Dao Er (馬道爾) is labelled unfit for the work he has been given. A delay in the despatch of some important military documents on his part has had serious repercussions.

MS 19/16/8

27/06/1914

Ministry of Posts and Communications Correspondence No.2

One single sided typed folio.

Letter from von Dewall, Directorate General of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry.

Von Dewall reports on changes taking place in the Ministry and speculation regarding the appointment of a Chüchang. He also undertakes to send Piry the details of his proposals for the Madrid Congress. Enquiries have been made by the Moukden and Harbin offices regarding policy for after 1st September and other offices are expected to follow suit.

MS 19/16/9

Identical to 16/6.

MS 19/16/10 01/07/1914

Ministry of Posts and Communications Correspondence No.3

Four single sided typed folios.

Letter from von Dewall, Directorate General of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry. Von Dewall expects the promulgation of the 'reorganisation scheme' today, creating new positions for Liang Tan Ya to fill and von Dewall speculates about potential appointees. Enquiries have been made with Hongkong regarding the Parcel Agreement and the reply received requires further clarification. Russian Customs appear to be acting in accordance with instructions although complaints have been made about interference with the mails and a dispute with the Japanese regarding access to statistical information has prompted the Japanese not to accept any more deliveries. Furthermore, Egypt has enquired into 'our exchange system and made some queries re steamers which we intend to use'.

MS 19/16/11 29/05/1914

Letter from A Raminovitch, Postmaster, Priamurski District of Posts and Telegraphs, Manchouli [Post Office No.5185]

One single sided typed folio.

Translation

Letter from A Raminovitch, Postmaster, Priamurski District of Posts and Telegraphs, Manchouli [Post Office No.5185], to 'The Assistant of the Deputy Commissioner of the C.P.O. at Harbin. Translation made by G. Tomaeff of Letter.

Raminovitch replies to the letter of 19th May, explaining that in compliance with the 'International Rome Convention' his office had returned mail received from abroad that contained dutiable items.

MS 19/16/12 04/07/1914.

Ministry of Posts and Communications Correspondence No.4

Two single sided typed folios.

Letter from von Dewall, Directorate General of Post, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry.

The new appointments to be made have not yet been resolved and von Dewall has sent his proposals for the Madrid Congress. Likewise, he has sent details of a complaint made by a German merchant at Ugra about Russian interference with mails.

MS 19/16/13

08/07/1914.

Ministry of Post and Communications Correspondence No.5

Two singe side typed folios.

Letter from von Dewall, Directorate General of Post, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry.News of Mr. Lung's transfer has caused further speculation regarding Ministerial appointments. Estrade has suggested that there are grounds for 'action against the Japanese', who have acted inappropriately in their attitude towards the Chinese Postal Service and the Congress may provide clarification on the points of dispute. China's proposed exchange service has been received seriously by France but nobody else. Also the Japanese have decided to conduct their correspondence with the Chinese Postal Service in English and French.

MS 19/16/14 08/01/1915.

Memorandum from Sun Pao (孫寶琦) Qi, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

One single sided handwritten folio

In Chinese

Sun Pao Qi sanctions the Chinese Postal Service to recognise the authority of the Japanese postal administration in Manchuria.

MS 19/16/15 n.d.

Chengtzu re Leased Territory of Kwantung

One single sided typed folio.

Author and addressee unknown.

Japan has decided to apply of Article 27 of the Principal Convention to its postal services in its Chinese territories.

MS 19/16/16 01/07/1914

'Kung-han from Ministry

One single sided typed folio.

Author and addressee unknown.

An assertion that Article 27 of the Principal Convention cannot be applied to Kwantung due to its status as leased territory.

MS 19/16/17

18/01/1915

'Translation of despatch from the Wai-chiao-pu' dated'

One single sided typed folio.

Memoranda from the Ministry of Communications concerning Japanese intentions in the Leased Territory of Kwantung. Addressee unknown.

Japan claims that the terms of the International Treaty for Wireless Telegraph Service and precedent established by the Postal Congress at Rome validate her stance on the application of Article 27 in her Chinese territories.

MS 19/16/18

14/07/1914

Ministry of Post and Communications Correspondence No.6

Two single sided typed folios.

Letter from von Dewall, Directorate General of Post, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry.

Von Dewall has received permission for leave as requested and shall depart for Berlin and the proceedures of administration to be followed during his absence are here detailed. There have recently been changes in administrative structures recently and some staff appointments. Enquiries have also been received from Berlin regarding tariffs.

MS 19/16/19 18/07/1914

Ministry of Posts and Communications Correspondence No.7

One single sided typed folio.

Letter from J.A. Nixon, Directorate General of Post, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry. Nixon makes reference to the question of narcotics distribution through the post and negotiations with the French regarding the 'Exchange List' i.e. locations designated for the transference of mail.

MS 19/16/20 18/07/1914 Directorate

Directorate General of Posts Memorandum.

One single sided typed and handwritten folio.

Letter from J.A. Nixon, Acting Assistant Secretary, Union Department, Directorate General of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to T. Piry, Esquire,

Postmaster General.

Affirmation that all future correspondence to 'European Administrations' shall be sent 'under flying seal' to Piry.

MS 19/16/21 01/09/??

Tableau

Five double sided handwritten folios.

In French.

A table listing of postal despatches to be exchanged between France and China from the following 1st September 1914, including a listing of destinations and points of origin.

MS 19/16/22

25/06/1914

Letter from Ministre du Commerce, de l'Industrie, des Postes et des Télégraphes, to le Postmaster Général, Ministère des Communications de China, à Pekin.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

Cover note for the table in 16/21.

MS 19/16/23

18/07/??

Official Memo.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

Letter from H. Picard Destelan to Ministre du Commerce, de l'Industrie, des Postes et des Télégraphes, Paris.

Destelan informs the Minister of alterations to the tables of despatches between France and China.

MS 19/16/24 21/07/1914

Ministry of Communications Correspondence No.8

One singe side typed folio.

Letter from J.A. Nixon, Acting Assistant Secretary, Union Department, Directorate General of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to T. Piry, Esquire, Postmaster General.

Nixon comments upon the progress being made in publishing the conclusions of the 'Principal Convention', the demand for mail services in Germany and Scandinavia and requests made by officials in Berne for lists of parcel offices and Customs Declarations.

MS 19/16/25 04/071914 Letter from Ruffy, Le Directeur, Bureau international de L'Union Postale

Universelle, Berne, to le Postmaster Général, Peking.

One single sided typed folio

In French

Ruffy has sent a circular regarding postage rates to be fixed between China and

Switzerland and proceedures regarding the exchange of parcels.

MS 19/16/26 2/07/1914 Letter from Ruffy, Le Directeur, Bureau international de L'Union Postale

Universelle, Berne

One single sided typed folio sheet.

In French

Addressee unknown.

Ruffy lists items not to be sent in the post to China and details the weight limits for

posted letters.

MS 19/16/27 30/06/1914 Letter from Ruffy, Le Directeur, Bureau international de L'Union Postale

Universelle, Berne, to le Postmaster Général, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

This item is a table of international postal exchange rates, with detail on international

currencies.

MS 19/16/28 26/06/1914 Letter from Ruffy, Le Directeur, Bureau international de L'Union Postale

Universelle, Berne.

One single sided typed folio.

TP1845 In French

Addressee unknown.

Chinese adherence to the Parcel Convention of Rome and negotiations regarding the

application of such are detailed in this document.

MS 19/16/29 01/07/1914 Letter from Knof, le Secrétaire d'Etat, to le Minstère des Communications,

Direction Général des Postes à Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

Knof consents to a direct exchange of despatches between the 'our two services' [a

literal translation]. A listing of relevant Chinese offices in which such exchanges could

take place follows.

MS 19/16/30 n.d. **A Tableau**

Five double sided handwritten folios

In French

Author and addressee unknown.

The role of Germany as a mail intermediary is detailed with a listing of places for which Germany serves such a purpose.

MS 19/16/31 22/07/ 1914

Letter addressed to Piry but authors name is not present.

One single sided typed folio sheet.

Information has been sent to Berlin regarding Exchange Offices to be used for separate mails to some European destinations. The recent dispute with the Japanese has been resolved but steamboat companies are insisting that some Chinese letters pass through the British Post Office. The possibility of 'Bureaux Flottants' has been raised.

MS 19/16/32 22/07/1914

Letter from H. Picard Destelan, Postmaster Général, to le Secrétaire d'Etat, des Postes de l'Empire d'Allemagne, Berlin.

Two single sided typed folios.

In French

Destelan comments on the despatch of mail from China to Germany and the instructions to be given to the offices concerned.

MS 19/16/33 16/07/1914

S.O. No. 206. Letter from F.B. Tolliday Post Office, Moukden, to Destelan.

One single sided folio.

A satisfactory conclusion has been reached with the Japanese, although the Japanese seem to be attempting a local agreement in Changchun.

MS 19/16/34

14/07/1914

Enclosure in Manchuria Despatch No.1499/2397 of 1914.

Two single sided typed folios.

Letter signed K. Tijima, on behalf of the Postmaster, Imperial Japanese Post Office, to the Postmaster General, Chinese Post Office, and Changchun.

A listing of the desired modes of procedure to be employed by the postal service in Changchun [see MS19/16/36].

MS 19/16/35 22/07/ 1914

S.O. No. 265. Letter from H.P. Destelan to Tolliday, Moukden.

One single sided typed folio.

In regards to the Japanese request to deal directly with the postal trains at Kirin and the concession of a Sub-Office there to facilitate such, Destelan asserts that the recent agreement between China and Japan over mail exchange does not need local ratification.

MS 19/16/36 16/07/ 1914

Letter from F. Tolliday, Acting Postal Commissioner.

One single sided typed folio.

No addressee given.

Tolliday outlines the arrangements made at Changchun and Kirin for mail exchange with the Japanese.

MS 19/16/37 23/07/ 1914

Letter from Nixon to Piry.

Three single sided typed folios.

Nixon forwards to Piry despatches he has received from Berne regarding the enclosure of money within envelopes posted; the possible policies China might follow; the liabilities inherent; the specifics of what could be allowed in terms of specie in particular categories of post. Also discussed is Hongkong's approach to 'contract steamers' in postal service.

MS 19/16/38 08/07/1914

Letter from Ruffy, Le Directeur, Bureau International de L'Union Postale Universelle to Le Postmaster Général, Peking.

One singe sided typed folio

In French

Ruffy refers to items forbidden to be sent in the post and the lack of compliance on the part of the Chinese postal service to the rules laid down by the Rome Convention.

MS 19/16/39

07/04/ 1914.

Letter from Ruffy, Le Directeur, Bureau International de L'Union Postale Universelle.

One singe sided typed folio.

In French

Addressee unknown.

Items forbidden to be sent in the post are mentioned cited with reference to the sending of valuable papers such as banknotes, coins, jewellery, foreign lottery tickets, postal stamps and state papers. Also further clarification is needed from Brazil regarding its own postal procedures.

MS 19/16/40

08/07/1914

Letter from Ruffy, Le Directeur, Bureau International de L'Union Postale Universelle to Le Postmaster Général, Peking.

One singe sided typed folio.

In French

Ruffy comments upon items forbidden to be sent in the post, with reference to the need for declarations of the value of any money sent and the need for adherence to the Rome Convention on this matter.

MS 19/16/41 04/07/1914

Letter from Knof, le Secrétaire d'Etat, to Ministère des Communications, Direction Générale des Postes, à Peking.

Two single sided typed folios

In French

Knof makes proposals for a harmonisation for postal exchange between the two administrations, with reference to parcels, weights and prices.

MS 19/16/42 14/07/1914

S.O. No. 254. Letter from C.H. Shields, Canton, to Destelan.

Two single sided typed folios.

The treatment of parcels to and from British Agencies has been clarified with Mr. Wolfe although a difference of opinion regarding procedures for payment persists. Wolfe questions the financial health of the Chinese Postal Administration and his request for a list of Chinese Contract Steamers or Companies has been ignored. Shields 'gathered from a remark made by Mr. Wolfe to his accountant that Hong Kong will bring up the question of subsidised and contract steamers at Madrid, or Berne, and the British representatives will be coached by Hong Kong'.

MS 19/16/43 16/07/1914

S.O. No. 257. Letter from C.H. Shields, Canton, to Destelan.

One single side typed folio.

Negotiations with the Canton Navigation Co. for mail carriage have been completed but their fees shall be high and terms unaccommodating.

MS 19/16/44

29/07/1914

Letter from Nixon to Piry.

Two single sided typed folios.

Nixon refers to details of parcel rates with 'Indochine'[sic] and procedures of exchange with India. Also mentioned is the use of German steamers, free of charge under the terms of the Inland Water Steam Navigation Regulations, in mail traffic between Tsingtao and Sinpu. German attitudes of the autonomy of their own mails in such a situation and the possible handling of such is speculated upon.

MS 19/16/45 20/07/1914

S.O. No. 250. Letter from Schaumlöffel, Tsinan, to Destelan

Two single sided typed folios.

The sea service between Tsingtau, Haichow and Hsinpu is being expanded due to the presence of German steamers who, under the terms of the Inland Water Steam Navigation Regulations, will be obliged to carry the mail for free. The procedures to be followed however for mail exchange has provoked differences of opinion. There are currently at least ten foreigners as well as missionaries are resident in the Haichow, involved in a Government survey into improving communications facilities in the area. Increased economic activity in the area may lead to increased postal business.

MS 19/16/46 27/07/1914

S.O. No. 254. Letter from Schaumlöffel, Tsinan, to Destelan

One single sided typed folio sheet.

Schaumlöffel seeks guidance on German entitlement to prepare closed mail in a German Port [Tsingtau].

MS 19/16/47 30/06/1914

Letter from Hollard, Hanoi, to 'le Commissaire'.

One singe sided typed folio.

In French

The need to increase the rates applied for parcels sent to Canton is mentioned as is an increase on postage rates for parcels from China to Indochina as of 1st September.

MS 19/16/48 05/06/1914

'Extract from Yünnan S/O. 159 of 5th June 1914'.

One single sided typed folio.

Signed H.V. Poullain, addressee unknown.

his extract relates to the Parcel Arrangement with Indo-China [sic] and rates and fees for railway transport; practices of the Indochinese Administration and the stipulations of the Rome Convention. Additional charges that need to be applied in Chinese territory are also referred to.

MS 19/16/49 12/07/ 1914

'Extract from Yünnanfu S/O No. 164 of 12th July 1914.

One single sided typed folio.

Signed H.V. Poullain, addressee unknown.

Details on rates to be charged for parcels posted to Shanghai

MS 19/16/50 01/08/ 1914

Letter from Nixon to Piry.

Two single sided typed folios.

Nixon advises Piry that correspondence will be sent in duplicate due to the situation in Europe. Also, negotiations with Hong Kong about directing mail have continued as have those with steamboat companies on the service they are to provide and at what cost. The matter of their insisting on working through the British Post Office has been raised, as has the issue of sovereignty in Hong Kong. Parcel charges for post with 'Indochine' has yet to be fully resolved.

MS 19/16/51

A listing of Hotels in various European cities and the cost of their suites.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

MS 19/16/52 n.d.

Miscellaneous

One single sided typed folio.

Author and addressee unknown.

Address for Jesús M. Gutiérrez Vierna

MS 19/16/53 21/07/1914

Letter from Wolfe, E.O., General Post Office, Hongkong, to the Postmaster General of China, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

This brief letter concerns internal communications between the postal service offices.

MS 19/16/54 21/07/1914.

Letter from Wolfe, E.O., General Post Office, Hong Kong, to 'The Postmaster General of China, Peking'.

One single sided typed folio.

According to Wolfe there is no need to abrogate the Parcel Agreement of 1909 between China and Hongkong in light of the acceptance by Wolfe's 'Administration' of suggested amendments of letter of 10th June [No. 1808/317]. He seeks further clarification however of the situation between the British Post Office Agencies in China and Chinese Post Offices regarding the exchange of parcels.

MS 19/16/55 21/07/1914

Letter from Wolfe, E.O., General Post Office, Hongkong, to 'The Postmaster General of China, Peking'.

One single sided typed folio.

Wolfe agrees to continue the established procedures for the exchange of 'letter packets from and to private agencies' for the immediate future, pending a final solution.

MS 19/16/56

21/07/1914

S.O. No. 260. Letter from C.H. Shields, Canton Post Office, to Destelan.

Four single sided typed folios.

Negotiations have been conducted with the Chinese Steamship Co. regarding their fees and the establishment of a floating post office. The company's terms are not acceptable so the Steamboat Co. have been approached. A final settlement is being delayed by the need to finalise the rate of pay per weight of cargo and terms of service. According to Shields Hong Kong authorities are complicating the situation by being obstructive and trying to assert its own authority.

MS 19/16/57

24th July 1914 S.O. 262. Letter from C.H. Shields, Canton Post Office, to Destelan.

One single sided typed folio.

Negotiations with the Steamboat Company are hindered by their reluctance to take on 'carriage of mail by Dayboat' and their rivalry with the Canton Navigation Co. Also to be resolved are matters of accommodation for men working night shifts or possible allowances in lieu of.

MS 19/16/58/1 17/07/1914

Hong Kong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. Limited. Memorandum.

One single sided typed folio.

Letter from E.A. Stanton, Canton, to Shields.

Stanton requests more detail on proposals for travelling post office, particularly the cost, staffing and relations with the administration in Hongkong.

MS 19/16/58/2 21/07/1914

Hong Kong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. Limited. Memorandum.

One single sided typed folio.

Letter from E.A. Stanton, Canton, to Shields.

Stanton inquires on behalf of Arnold for details on the weight of mail carried between Canton and Hong Kong in order to verify the figures claimed by the steamboat operators. These figures will also be used in consideration of an extension of postal operations.

MS 19/16/59 09/06/1898

Convention for the Extension of Hong Kong, 1898.

One single sided typed folio.

Author and addressee unknown.

The extension of Hongkong through the addition of leased territory for ninety-nine years is discussed here, although the exact limits of the colony shall be determined by officials appointed by both Governments. Chinese officials in Kowloon shall continue to exercise jurisdiction so far as it is consistent with the military security of the colony. The rest of the colony shall be under British jurisdiction only.

MS 19/16/60 04/07/ 1914

Letter from Slafer, Ministre I.R. De Commerce, Vienne, to la Direction Générale des Postes, à Pékin.

One single sided typed folio.

In French.

Discussion of the consequences of Chinese admission into the International Postal Union.

MS 19/16/61 15/08/1914

Ministry Communications Correspondence. No.13

One single sided typed folio.

Letter from Nixon, Directorate General of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry.

In spite of the war mail for Europe are being sent from Shanghai via America or Suez. The Postal Union Congress has however been postponed.

MS 19/16/62 29/07/??

Letter from Destelan, to F.A. Aglen, Inspector General of Customs, Peking. One single sided typed folio.

Chinese entry into the Parcel Post Convention has prompted the International Postal Bureau in Berne to enquire how this shall be accommodated with the operations of the Chinese Customs.

MS 19/16/63 05/08/1914

Letter from Cecil A.V. Bowra, Chief Secretary, Inspectorate General of Customs, Peking, to the Postmaster General, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

Customs reserves the right to an independent course of action should it feel its revenue interests to be undermined by policy on parcel postage.

MS 19/16/64 08/08/1914

Letter from H. Picard Destelan to Director General of Post and Telegraphs in Tokio.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

The deviation of the existing agreement between the two countries from the stipulations of the Rome Convention is noted, as is the need to address this by 1st September. The Chinese Postal Service remains open to suggestions from Japan.

MS 19/16/65 01/09/1914

Letter from the Postmaster General's Office.

Five single sided handwritten folios.

In Chinese

The Postmaster General asserts that due to Chinese entry into the International Postal Union an alteration in established relations with the Japanese network must occur. The Japanese however have reacted unfavourably and have requested a special arrangement to avoid inconvenience on their part.

MS 19/16/66

08/08/1914

Letter from H. Picard Destelan to Director General of Post and Telegraphs in

One single sided typed folio.

In French

The deviation of the existing agreement between the two countries from the stipulations of the Rome Convention is noted, as is the need to address this by 1st September. The Chinese Postal Service remains open to suggestions from Japan.

MS 19/16/67

20/08/1914

Ministry of Posts and Communications Correspondence No. 14.

Two single sided typed folios.

Letter from Nixon, Directorate General of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry.

Making arrangements with Berlin is proving difficult and negotiations with America for parcel postage have led to suggestions of amendments to the Parcel Convention between America and Hongkong. Sailings to Europe have resumed and the Japanese have delivered an ultimatum to Germany regarding Tsingtao. Russian decision regarding the operation of frontier Stations in the current situation is still awaited.

MS 19/16/68 17/08/??

S.O. No. 305. Letter from Destelan to Rousse

Four single sided typed folios.

Negotiations are being conducted with Berlin regarding the mail and parcel exchange situation in the present situation. A settlement is difficult to accept because of level of German requests and a brief account listing of counter proposals is made.

MS 19/16/69 20/06/1914

Letter from Knof, Secretary of State, Berlin, to the Minister of Communications, Peking.

Two single sided typed folio.

In French

China has agreed to provide the countries of the Union international standard services for post amenities. Knof will send a table in German regarding the international exchange of mail and makes reference to the procedures to be followed for Customs declarations for parcels and their addressing.

MS 19/16/70 26/06/1914

Letter from Knof, Berlin, to the Minister of Communications and Post in China, Peking.

Three single sided typed folios.

In French

Detailed are the conditions under which the exchange of correspondence between the administrations will take place from 1st September. The entry of China into the Universal Postal Union may mean significant changes to existing, but satisfactory arrangements between the two countries. The importance of safeguarding the interests of the public is noted, as is the regulation of transit charges by international agreement. A comparison of German and Chinese charges is made and Knof asserts that German offices in China will not accept mail for Chinese destinations not covered by the German network there.

MS 19/16/71

01/07/1914

From Knof, to the Minister of Communications, Peking.

Two single sided typed folios.

In French

ESTP1845

The composition of despatches is considered as is the sending of despatches to directly Scandinavia when volume is sufficient to justify. Further decisions are to be made regarding German despatches.

MS 19/16/72 04/07/1914

From Knof, Berlin, to the Minister of Communications, Peking.

Three single sided typed folios.

In French

Knof considers the position between the two administrations regarding the exchange of parcels, their weight, tariffs and conditions of transport. Procedures for the return of undeliverable parcels are noted, as are the charges on the exchange of parcels between Chinese and German offices. Where such exchanges will take place is mentioned, as is the international rates for parcel post and carriage through Siberia.

MS 19/16/73 30/04/1914

Letter from Piry, to the Secretary of State of Posts, Germany.

Three single sided typed folios.

In French

Piry informs the Secretary of State that as of 1st September Union rules will apply in full to Chinese postal services and makes suggestions regarding their application. He considers transport through Siberia, sea routes, and the means by which Chinese coastal offices shall send their despatches. Also mentioned are despatches to be sent to Germany, German intermediary service and conditions for letters and postcards. The exception of Manchurian post is noted while reference is made to the centralisation of provincial mails in particular offices.

MS 19/16/74 19/05/??

From Piry to the Secretary of State of Posts, Germany.

Three single sided typed folios.

In French

Piry discusses the adhesion of China to the Rome Convention regarding postage of parcels while also considering measures to ensure the continuation of services under existing standards until adherence to Convention takes full effect. Also considered is postage to the Chinese interior, tariffs to be levied on post and potential action to be taken after 1st September if Convention procedures cannot be implemented.

MS 19/16/75

14/07/ 1914

Letter from H. Picard Destelan, to the Secretary of State of Posts, Germany.

Two single sided typed folios.

In French

The importance of safeguarding the interests of the public is noted, as is the application of the Principal Convention upon postal relations between China and Germany and the regulation of transit costs.

MS 19/16/76

22/07/1914

Letter from Destelan to the Secretary of State of Posts, Germany.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

Destelan informs the Secretary that Chinese post offices shall be instructed to make despatches to specific locations in Germany (e.g. Hamburg) and for the Scandinavian countries when the volume of post thereto warrants such.

MS 19/16/77 09/08/1914

Letter from Hanniger, Councillor of German Post, Shanghai, to the Postmaster General in Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

This correspondence concerns the difficulty of concluding a quick agreement between Germany and China regarding postal exchange and the need for provisional measures.

MS 19/16/78 26/08/1914

Ministry of Posts and Communications Correspondence No.15

Two single sided typed folios

Letter from Nixon, Directorate General of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry.

Nixon is anxious regarding China's maintenance of neutrality in the present war.

Negotiations with the British have ended in their acceptance of Chinese proposals for exchange procedures, potentially setting a precedent for other cases. The Russian frontier Stations are still awaiting instructions but Suez is open to British and French vessels.

MS 19/16/79 n.d.

Letter from Nixon but with no addressee.

One single sided typed folio.

Arrangements are being made for the transfer of staff out of the German enclave of Tsingtao and their replacement with neutral nationals there to maintain service. Contingency plans are being formulated in the event of a blockade and the issue of mail for prisoners of war is raised. Otherwise there is a normal operation of services with Hong Kong and Indochina.

MS19/16/80

11/08/1914

Postmaster General's Memorandum from the Ministry of Communications.

One single sided typed folio.

Signed H. Picard Destelan, Chief Secretary for Postmaster General.

Destelan specifies the exemption from all charges of mail sent to Prisoners of War.

MS 19/16/81

28/07/1914

Letter from E.W Farrall, General Post Office, London, to the Postmaster General, Directorate General of Posts, Peking.

Three single sided typed folios.

Discussion on Chinese proposals to alter the nature of the service between China and the United Kingdom, South Africa and the West Coast of Africa with British counterproposals noted.

MS 19/16/82 25/08/ 1914

Letter from Destelan to the Postmaster General, London.

Two single sided typed folios.

In accordance with the request made mail from China to the United Kingdom, South Africa and the West Coast of Africa shall be directed to London.

MS 19/16/83 21/08/1914

S.O. No. 347. Letter from C. Rousse, Postal Commissioner's Office, Post Office, Shanghai, to Destelan.

Two single sided typed folios.

Negotiations with Mr. Henniger regarding the handling of German mail and the status of the German postal service in China. Also considered is the safe handling of German mail and the possibility of a French change in her postal rate to China.

MS 19/16/84 24/08/ 1914

S.O. No. 310. Letter from Destelan to Rousse.

One single sided typed folio.

Asserts that pre-established relationship with Germany regarding mail exchange shall be continued.

MS 19/16/85 31/07/1914

Letter from F.B. Tolliday, Acting Postal Commissioner, Moukden Post Office to The Postmaster General, Directorate General of Posts, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

Refers to a reply made to a letter from the Habarovsk Postal Director.

MS 19/16/86

07/07/1914

'Translation Russian Letter'

One single sided typed folio.

Signed N. Reich, Chief of the Priamurski Posts and Telegraph District, to the Vice-Comissar of the C.P.O.S. in Heilungkiang Province.

Reich seeks greater clarification of information he has received concerning the exchange of mail between specific Chinese and Russian Post Offices.

MS 19/16/87

29/07/1914

Enclosure in Manchuria despatch No. 1514/2419 of 1914.

Two single sided typed folios.

Signed A.H. Haslund.

Clarification of the exchange of mail between specific Chinese and Russian post offices.

MS 19/16/88 06/08/1914

Letter from H.P. Destelan to the Postal Commissioner, Moukden.

Two single sided typed folios.

Destelan has compassed a draft reply to the Postal Director of Habarovsk in which he outlines the suggested proceedures and locations for mail exchange.

MS 19/16/89 01/09/1914

Letter from Destelan to the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, Tokio.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

Destelan discusses breaking the 1910 postal agreement between China and Japan and the implementation of the Rome Convention with immediate effect. The lower tariff post between China and Japanese territories shall cease accordingly although this tariff shall be provisional implementation for one year to facilitate administrative adjustment

MS 19/16/90 01/09/1914

H.P Destelan, Peking, to The Postmaster General, Hongkong.

One single sided typed folio.

Destelan relates the effect of Chinese entry into the Principal Convention of Rome, the abrogating of previous agreements between China and Hongkong this entails and the subsequent reduced postal tariffs between the administrations. He proposes however a delay of tariff reduction.

MS 19/16/91 03/09/1914

Ministry of Communications Correspondence No. 16.

Two single sided typed folios

Letter from Nixon, Directorate Genera of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, to Piry. Negotiations are taking place with Hongkong and Tokio regarding the temporary retention of reduced tariffs. The Japanese refusal to participate in direct exchanges while the Russians seem willing to cooperate and the situation with Indochina awaits is still uncertain. Due to the war the Siberian route is being used for mail transport, except for despatches destined for Germany and Austria.

MS 19/16/92 28/08/1914

Letter from Henniger to the Postmaster General of Chinese Post, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

Hanniger makes proposals regarding the tariff between Chinese and German offices of Tsingtau until a final tariff in accordance with Union regulations can be implemented.

MS 19/16/93 28/08/1914

S.O No.225. Letter from F.B. Tolliday, Moukden Post Office, to Destelan.

One single sided typed folio.

There has been a delay on the part of Japanese authorities in implementing a change in mail exchange procedures in Manchuria.

MS 19/16/94 21/08/1914

Letter from the Director of Posts and Telegraphs of Indochina, Hanoi, to the Postmaster General, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

The exchange of direct despatches between China and Indochina is discussed and the proceedures to be followed from 1st September. The means of addressing to be employed is noted, as is the delay in implementing the new proceedures until postal communication in the China Seas have been more regularised.

MS 19/16/95 n.d.

Tableau pour l'acheminement des correspondences originaires de la Chine à destination de l'Indochine ou en transit par cet.

MS 19/16/96 01/09/1914

Letter from F.B. Tolliday, Acting Postal Commissioner, Moukden Post Office, to the Postmaster General, Directorate General of Posts, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

Attempts to enforce the international postal regulations in the exchange mail with the Japanese has met with refusal.

MS 19/16/97 01/09/1914

Enclosure 2 in Manchuria despatch No. 1570/2488 of 1914.

One single sided typed folio.

Letter from F.B. Tolliday, Acting Postal Commissioner, Moukden Post Office, to The Director, Imperial Japanese Post Office, Moukden.

For the sake maintaining service Japanese refusal to conform to international postal rules shall be accommodated, but only temporarily and under protest.

MS 19/16/98 01/09/1914

Enclosure 1 in Manchuria despatch No. 1570/2488 of 1914.

One single sided typed folio.

Letter from F.B. Tolliday, Acting Postal Commissioner, Moukden Post Office, to The Director, Imperial Japanese Post Office, Moukden.

For the sake maintaining service Japanese refusal to conform to international postal rules shall be accommodated, but only temporarily and under protest.

MS 19/16/99 10/09/ 1914

Letter from Nixon, Directorate General of Posts, Postmaster General's Office, Peking, to Piry.

Two single sided typed folios.

Nixon discusses communications with Egypt, 'Indochine' and Batavia and the discord between Germany and Russia regarding mail for Urga. The Japanese continue to attempt an imposition of their own will upon the exchange of mails and there is reference to the rates to be paid for postage to Russia.

MS 19/16/100 22/07/1914

Letter from A. Goldstein, Acting Postmaster General, General Post Office, Alexandria, to The Director General of Posts, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

Goldstein suggests the establishment of direct postage exchange between the two countries and requests a list of suitable locations for doing so.

MS 19/16/101 08/09/1914.

Letter H.P. Destelan, Chief Secretary for the Postmaster General, to The Postmaster General, Alexandria.

Two single sided typed folios.

Destelan accepts the Egyptian proposal and provides the appropriate information.

MS 19/16/102 08/09/1914

Letter from H. Picard Destelan to The Director of Posts and Telegraphs of Indochina, Hanoi.

One single sided typed folio.

In French

Destelan refers to the exchange of mails between China and Indochina.

MS 19/16/103 30/07/1914

Letter from the Director General of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones of the Netherlands Indies, Batavia, to the Postmaster General, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

In French.

The Director General seeks confirmation of details for the exchange of mails between the two authorities in Singapore.

MS 19/16/104 15/08/1914

Letter from Walter zur Nedden, Urga, Mongolia, to the Postmaster General, Chinese Postal Service, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

The passage of post from Europe to Urga and the difficulties between the German and Russian postal services is covered here, along with the application of Russian duty on postage in transit through Russian territory on its way to Urga.

MS 19/16/105/1

29/08/1914

Letter from F.B. Tolliday, Moukden Post Office, to the Postmaster General, Directorate General of Posts, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

Tolliday reports on the exchange of mails with the Japanese along the Changchun-Kirin railway.

MS 19/16/105/2

25/08/1914

Letter from H. Muboto, Imperial Japanese Post and Telegraph Office, Changchun. To The Postmaster, C.P.O. Changchun.

One single sided typed folio.

Muboto requests a special arrangement in the exchange of mails destined for Tao Do Kow.

MS 19/16/105/3 08/09/1914

Letter from H. Picard Destelan, Chief Secretary for Postmaster General, to The Postal Commissioner, Moukden.

One single sided typed folio.

The exchange of mails at Changchun Station Sub-Office must continue to take place despite Japanese counterproposals.

MS 19/16/106 04/09/1914

Letter from W.W. Ritchie, Postal Commissioner, Hankow, to The Postmaster General, Peking.

One single sided typed folio.

Ritchie discusses the need for a direct exchange of mails with Japanese steamers at Hankow and the means by which it should be arranged.

MS 19/16/107/1 02/09/??

S/O 228.

No signatory or addressee present.

This S/O details the disallowance of direct exchanges of mail with the Japanese on the South Manchurian Railway and the difficulties with the Japanese over Chinese closed mails for Dairen and Exchange Offices in Japan. Possible Chinese retaliation is considered by refusing direct exchanges at Changchun.

MS 19/16/107/2

02/09/??

S/O 229.

No addressee and signed 'F.B.T.'

The Japanese have accepted of closed mails for Vancouver and San Francisco, suggesting that they seek only to cause differences in the direct exchange of mails destined for Japanese territories. Local solutions will not suffice and negotiations between the 'Head Offices of the two Administrations' are required.

MS 19/16/108 04/09/1914

S/O No. 352. From Postal Commissioner's Office, Shanghai,

(No signature), to Destelan.

The Japanese have interference with closed mails but positive negotiations have taken place with Mr. Sugimoto on the matter. Some mail is being sent direct on P. & O vessels and intermediate steamers may set a useful precedent. Parcels to Canada are being sent through Japanese agencies and the terms and conditions of weight and costing are mentioned.

MS 19/16/109 02/09/??

C. Rousse, Shanghai.

No addressee given.

The effect of Chinese entry into the Union upon exchanges with Japan is noted, along with the difficulties caused by the Japanese insistence of adhering to established proceedures. A courteous meeting with Mr. Sugimoto has taken place in response.

MS 19/16/110/1

01/09/1914

Letter from K. Sugimoto, Director Imperial Japanese Post Office, Shanghai, to The Postal Commissioner, C.P.O., Shanghai.

As no alternative instructions have been received from 'Tokyo' the Japanese will not accept Chinese closed mail despatched to Japanese territories.

Japanese mail steamers are under instructions to refuse to accept any such cargo.

MS 19/16/110/2 02/09/?? Letter from C. Rousse, Chinese Post Office, Shanghai.

No addressee but appears to be a reply to 16/112/1.

Rousse acknowledges receipt of Sugimoto's letter and indicates that he shall

be compliant only under protest.

MS 19/16/111/1 07/09/?? Letter from C. Rousse, Postal Commissioner's Office, Post Office,

Shanghai, to The Director General of Posts, Peking.

Rousse forwards the details of his recent communication with Japanese

postal authorities.

MS 19/16/111/2 07/09/1914 Letter from K Sugimoto, Director, Imperial Japanese Post Office,

Shanghai, to The Postal Commissioner, Chinese Post Office, Shanghai.

Japanese authorities in Tokio will not object to receiving Chinese closed mails but do not accept Chinese proposals regarding 'direct loading and

disembarkation'.

MS 19/16/112 28/08/1914

Letter from Jiro Tanaka, Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, Tokio, to the Postmaster General, Peking.

In French

Tanaka considers the application of Articles 29 and 21 of the Principal Convention of Rome to the relationship between China and Japan and the effect of such on existing tariffs between the two postal services. Compromise however is possible.

MS 19/16/113 18/09/??

Letter from J. A. Nixon to Piry.

A parcel agreement has been concluded with Germany, applying the rates of the Parcel Convention of Rome. However, the Germans subsequently asked for these to be applied only temporarily awaiting further negotiations. Relations between the German and Japanese Post Offices continues to be an issue and private letter box privileges have been withdrawn from German firms in Hongkong owing to the war. The jurisdiction of foreign mail agencies on foreign operated railways in China is considered and Hongkong has agreed to tariff proposals made by the Chinese postal service. Disagreement between the two administrations continues however in regards to the collation of statistics. An accord has been reached with India regarding mail and parcel exchange and direct exchanges with foreign agencies continues to be contentious. The war has resulted in an isolation of Tsingtau from the rest of China.

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MS 19/17 Folder Seventeen – Postal Working System and Duties

The four draft memoranda in this Folder relate to the postal working system and duties.

MS 19/17/1 n.d.

'Postal work. Mr van Aalst's memo on work'.

In Piry's handwriting.

The numbering of despatches to and from different departments is referred to here, as are; Special allowances, postage rates, postage stamps, Franco-Chinese arrangement, U.S.A, smuggling, ambitions of the French for inland postal domination, the difficulty of spelling Chinese names on staff lists, difficulty of getting payment out of Japanese, 'international competition and jealousy' preventing one country gaining firm control of Chinese postal service, cost of rail transport, difficulties caused by Russians in Manchuria, the condition of some of the stations and the performance of their operatives, postage rates, delayed caused by the war in reaching an arrangement with USA, difficulties caused by the Russians in the Newchang Winter Mail Service, and the means by which despatches are composed (avoiding use of pronoun 'I' or 'you').

MS 19/17/2 n.d.

'Memorandum on work of Assistant in charge of General Office'.

Signed by both Nolasco da Silva and Thèophile Piry.

A listing of the books and documentation kept at the office covering themes such as opium, rice, dues and duties, import and export figures, pass permits issued and passenger traffic. The routine followed in acquiring such information and the means by which it is recorded is detailed and there is some brief information on the nature of opium and rice imports and exports and the manner in which they are exported.

MS 19/17/3 21/08/1899

'Kowloon and Lappa Stations: can the working system of the Stations and

Frontier be simplified. Confidential memo

Details the cost of the upkeep of the station, the revenue figure collected and a general breakdown of the sources. There is commentary from Piry on the purpose of the stations and their future administration and suggestion for efficient operation, including reductions in expenditure and scale of operations. Piry also discusses the Customs position in Hongkong and Macao and some of the long-term effects of the rice junk case.

MS 19/17/4 n.d. 'Duty Rules, West River Trade'

Details the tariffs to be applied on goods from particular sources to certain destinations, Inward Transit Passes, Native Produce, the application of 'Ordinary Treaty Rules' and levies on foreign goods and what is categorised as such.

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MS 19/19 Folder Nineteen – China's Entry into the Universal Postal Union

This section of the archive consists of two files entitled 'Union File 1' and 'Union File 2'. They contain eighty-six and thirty carbon copies respectively of correspondence between Paris, Peking, Berne, and other capitals dating from 1913-15 regarding China's entry into the Universal Postal Union. The documents are all in French but have been catalogued at an earlier date with brief descriptions of each item. Most of these summaries were composed in English, although some were given in French. What follows here is a verbatim transcript of the contents pages of both files and due to the fact that all the letters are in French an Index has not yet been constructed. Contained here is a Table of Units of Postage of Various Union Countries, dating from c. 1910 and detailing rates of post to overseas destinations.

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Special File China Joining the Union: Concerning.

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MS 19/19/1/3	29/11/1913	Telegrams to and from Paris - date of joining.
MS 19/19/1/4	02/12/1913	From Paris, re date etc., of entry.
MS 19/19/1/5-6	02/12/1913	To Paris, re formalities of joining and annulling former Conventions and telegraphic
		reply.
MS 19/19/1/7	n.d.	Draft of Memo reentry into the Union. (Sent 02/12/1913 in pencil)
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MS 19/19/1/13	23/12/1913	Note to Paris, re Trans-Siberian Service.
MS 19/19/1/14	23/12/1913	Note to Paris, re exchange Service and telegraphic reply.
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MS 19/19/1/18	28/12/1913	From Paris, adhesion to Detailed Regulations necessary (reply to No.11).
MS 19/19/1/19	n.d.	China's dispatch to Berne notifying her adhesion to Principal Convention and Detailed
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MS 19/19/1/20	30/12/1913	From Paris, sending the proposed text of Art. XLIV, as to be altered on France's
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MS 19/19/1/26	07/02/1914	To Paris, acknowledging No. 25 from Paris and asking questions re train de luxe Sud-
		Express
MS 19/19/1/27	10/02/1914	To Paris, sending note on 'Transit postal sur les chemins de fer russes et japoinais en
		Mandchourie'.
MS 19/19/1/28	n.d.	Japan's proposal on 'secret des correspondances'.

MS 19/19/1/29 n.d.	Note released Territory of Kwantung.
MS 19/19/1/30 14/02/1914	Lettre de Renseignements pour Berne
MS 19/19/1/31 17/02/1914	Two letters to Paris re lettre d'adhésion and other questions.
MS 19/19/1/32 05/02/1914	From Paris, reply to No. 21 re abrogation of former agreements with foreign agencies
	etc.
MS 19/19/1/33 n.d.	Art. XLIX as proposed by France vide letter of 6.2. from Paris.
MS 19/19/1/34 21/02/1914	To Paris, sending note on Transit Statistics.
MS 19/19/1/35 27/02/1914	To Paris, sending note on Compagnies de Navigation.
MS 19/19/1/36 n.d.	History of the Development of the South Manchuria Rlwy from its inception, 1906, up
	to June 1911.
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MS 19/19/1/39 23/02/1909	Berne circular re statistics taken with Russia and Japan as regards their respective
	Rlwys in Manchuria.
MS 19/19/1/40 25/02/1914	From Paris re Trans-Siberian Transit, tariff of foreign agencies and Delegates.
MS 19/19/1/41 01/03/1914	From Paris re Kwantung, Manchuria Rlwys etc.
MS 19/19/1/42 13/02/1914	From Paris re Unions Restreintes.
MS 19/19/1/43 04/03/1914	From Paris sending plan of exchanges.
MS 19/19/1/44 11/03/1914	From Paris, re May statistics relations with foreign agencies transit charge, etc.
MS 19/19/1/45 27/03/1914	To Paris re withdrawal of recognition of foreign agencies, refusal of transmission of
	foreign agencies closed mails by couriers Manchurian Rlwys, adhesion to Parcel Post
	Convention and international Parcel tariff.
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MS 19/19/1/47 15/03/1914	From Paris, re Navigation Cos.
MS 19/19/1/48 04/04/1914	To Paris sending notes re Navigation Cos. and Statistics.
MS 19/19/1/49 07/04/1914	To Paris, sending note re Hong Kong
MS 19/19/1/50 24/03/1913	From Paris re notification of China's entry into the Union and steps to be taken by
	France.
MS 19/19/1/51 14/04/1914	From and to Paris re certain misunderstandings, to Paris re opening of discussions
	concerning exchange services.
MS 19/19/1/52 01/02/1914	From Paris, sending note re Navigation Cos., certain documents concerning
	exchange services.
MS 19/19/1/53 21/04/1914	To Paris re importance of Trans-Siberian route, and asking whether individual
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MS 19/19/1/54 n.d.	Correspondence exchanged between Mr. Hooweiteh and the Swiss Federal Minister
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MS 19/19/1/56 24/04/1914	Confidential memorandum of instructions concerning negotiations with Hong Kong.
MS 19/19/1/57 10/04/1914	From Paris re attitude of French Foreign Office, certain parcel questions, statistics,
	exchange services, & c.
MS 19/19/1/58 12/04/1914	From Paris re withdrawal of recognition of Foreign Agencies Parcel Convention, & c.

MS 19/19/1/59 1914	Diplomatic note re China's adhesion to the Parcel Post Convention.
MS 19/19/1/60 17/04/1914	From Paris, re rate on parcels and other questions concerning the Parcel Post
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MS 19/19/1/67 18/05/1914	Telegrams to and from Paris re manipulation of Chinese mails on foreign mail
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MS 19/19/1/4	02/12/1913	From Paris, re date etc., of entry.

MS 19/19/1/5-6 02/12/1913	To Paris, re formalities of joining and annulling former Conventions and telegraphic reply.
MS 19/19/1/7 n.d.	Draft of Memo reentry into the Union.
MS 19/19/1/8 n.d.	P.M.G.'s Memo to Ministry reentry into the Union.
MS 19/19/1/9-10 09/12/1913	To Paris, sending part II of Memo to Ministry and telegraphic reply.
MS 19/19/1/11 12/12/1913	To Paris, sending Note re Art. XLIV of Det. Reg. and foreign Agencies.
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MS 19/19/1/34 21/02/1914	To Paris, sending note on Transit Statistics.
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		Lettre à Petrograd, Tokio et Londres.
		Extrait des questions posées par le Directuer de l'Office allemand de Shanghai.
MS 19/19/2/15	26/01/1915	Paris. Réponse à la 2. <u>ème</u> Note (No. 3)
MS 19/19/2/16	05/12/1914	Pékin. 3. <u>ème</u>
		Note de M. Piry.
		Tableau A de la Chine.
		Surtaxe de 25 centimes
MS 19/19/2/17	14/01/1915	Paris. Réponse à la 3. <u>ème</u> Note. (No. 2)
		Liste des rectifications au Tableau A.
		Lettre pour Berne.
MS 19/19/2/18	15/12/1914	Lettre pour Berne. Pékin. 4.ème
MS 19/19/2/18	15/12/1914	·

	Copies de	lettres èchangèes avec les Offices de l'Union.
MS 19/19/2/19 16/12/	1914 Pékin. 5. <u>è</u>	<u>me</u>
	Note de M	. Piry.
	Agences a	inglaise en Chine. Colis postaux.
MS 19/19/2/20 17/03/	1915 Paris. Re	éponse.
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	Comptes	de transit des Colis postaux.
	Taux de la	Convention ou des Arrangements?
MS 19/19/2/22 15/04/	1915 Paris. Re	éponse à la 6. <u>ème</u> Note (No. 7)

Informations et remarques sur la situation postale actuelle en Chine.

Taux des accords. Par ecrit. Par ecrit. Agences peuvent être mentionnées par ecrit.

Projet d'arrangement avec France pour Colis de 5 à 10 kilos.

MS 19/19/2/23 20/01/1915 Pékin. Lettre No. 5. Tariff domestique des Colis postaux.

MS 19/19/2/24 06/03/1915 Paris. Réponse à la lettre No. 5. (No. 5)

Memoire sur le tariff domestique des Colis postaux.

MS 19/19/2/25 22/02/1915 Paris. Copie des rectifications au Tableau A. (No. 4)

MS 19/19/2/25 22/02/1915 Paris. Copie des rectifications au Tableau A. (No. 4)

MS 19/19/2/26 18/03/1915 Pékin. Lettres Nos. 88 et 89 au B. I.Berne.

20/03/1915 Echange direct. Agences étrangères.

Tariffs. Tarif réduit avec le Japon etc.

MS 19/19/2/27 03/03/1915 Pékin. Lettre No. 8. Propositions de la Russie au sujet des statistiques
Transsibèriannes de Mai 1914. Lettre envoyée en réponse.

MS 19/19/2/28 03/02/1915 Pékin. Lettre No. 6. au sujet de la Russie.

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Statistiques de Mai 1914.

MS 19/19/2/29 09/04/1914 Paris. Lettre No. 6. en réponse.

MS 19/19/2/30 15/04/1915 Pékin. Différence entre les correstions au Tableau A et la lettre pour Berne.

MS 19/19/2/31 Paris. Réponse.

MS 19/19/2/32 10/10/1914 Paris. Echange direct avec la Chine. Tarif des agences françaises. (No. 3) MS 19/19/2/33 29/10/1914 Paris. Mandats de poste. Projet d'Arrangement.

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MS19/20/1 A bilingual (English and French) agreement between China and France consisting of XII Articles, signed

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the Postal Administration of China, on the 3rd February 1900.

Detailing

I.Exchange of Mails

II.Transport of Mails

III.Remitting of Mails

IV.Postage and Delivery

V.Transit Charges

VI.Men-of-War Mails

VII. Transit Statistics

VIII.Parcel Post

IX.Responsibility and Liability

X. Notice of Changes in Organisation

XI.Extent of Present Arrangement

XII.Duration of Arrangement.

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Remitting of Mails Taxes	MS19/20 MS19/20
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Transit Statistics	MS19/20
Transport of Mails	MS19/20
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Yangtze-kiang	MS19/20

Folder Twenty-One – Postal Arrangement between China and Germany MS 19/21

MS19/21/1

A bilingual (English and French) agreement between China and Germany consisting of XII Articles, signed by Bischoff and A.V. Mumm for Germany, and by J. Van Aalst and Sir Robert Hart in the name of the Postal Administration of China, on 3rd November 1905 in Shanghai and on 25th October 1905 in Peking.

Articles consist of;

- I. Exchange of Mail
- II. Transport of Mails.
- III. Remitting of Mails.
- IV. Postage and Delivery.
- V. Transit Charges.
- VI. Men-of-War Mails.

VII. Transit Statistics.

VIII. Parcel Post.

IX. Responsibility and Liability.

X. Notice of Changes in Organisation.

XI. Extent of Present Arrangement.

XII. Duration of Agreement.

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Money Orders 16/21,

Mumm, A.V. (Envoy Extraordinary and Minster Plenipotentiary) MS 19/21

Parcel Post MS 19/21

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Piry, T. Secrétaire Général Imperial Posts) MS 19/21

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Stamps MS 19/21

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Tsingtau MS 19/21

Union MS 19/21

Way Bill MS 19/21

Weihsien MS 19/21

Yangtze-kiang MS 19/21

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QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

MS 19/22 Folder Twenty-Two – Postal Arrangement between China and Russia

MS19/22/1

Bilingual French and English Arrangement comprising VII Articles. Signatories were Golouboff and J. Korostovetz for Russia, and T. Piry and Robert E. Redon for the Postal Administration of China, on 6/19th February 1909.

Articles are;

- I. Exchange of Mails.
- II. Transport of Mails.
- III. Transit Charges.
- IV. Tranist Statistics.
- V. Notice of Changes in Organisation
- VI. Extent of the present Agreement.
- VII. Duration of Agreement.



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QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

Folder Twenty-Three – Postal Agreement between China and Japan MS 19/23

The Agreement comprises XIX Articles, signed by K Honda and H. Ijuin for Japan, and by T. MS 19/23/1

> Piry and Robert E. Bredon in the name of the Postal Administration of China, on 9th. February 1910.

Articles cover;

- I. Exchange of Mails
- II. Closed Mails by Rail.
- III. Closed Mails by Steamers.
- IV. Remuneration for Steamers.
- V. Tariffs.
- VII. Correspondence À Découvert.
- VIII. Taxed Correspondence.
- IX. Newspapers, etc., with Special Marks.
- X. Postage and Weights.
- XI. Transport Services.
- XII. Transit Charges on Closed Mails.
- XIII. Charges on À Découvert Correspondence.
- XIV. Transit Statistics.
- XV. Letters with Declared Value.
- XVI. Responsibility: Registered Articles.
- XVII. Responsibility: Closed Mails.
- XVIII. Extent of Postal Agreement.
- XI. Duration of Postal Agreement.



Bredon, Robert E. (Acting Inspector General of Customs and Posts) MS 19/23

Closed Mails MS 19/23

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Exchange of Mails MS 19/23

Honda, K. (First Secretary of the japanese Legation at Peking) MS 19/23

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 Japan
 MS 19/23

Japan MS 19/23

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QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

MS 19/24 Folder Twenty-Four – Parcel Agreement between China and Japan

MS 19/24/1 The Agreement comprises XXIV Articles and was signed by K. Honda and H Ijuin for Japan,

and by T. Piry and Robert E. Bredon in the name of the Postal Administration of China, on 9th

February 1910.

Articles are;

- I. Places of Exchange
- II. Weights and Dimensions
- III. Transmission..
- IV. Postage
- V. Insurance Fee.
- VI. Parcels to or from a Third Country.
- VII. Parcel Bill.
- VIII. Customs Declaration.
- IX. Customs Formalities.
- X. Exchange.
- XI. Transmission.
- XII. Tranist Rates.
- XIII. Way Bill.
- XIV. Quarterly Accounts.
- XV. General Annual Accounts
- XVI. Loss or Damage.
- XVII. Customs Report and Payment of Duty.
- XVIII. Duty Under Half A Tael.
- XIX. Customs Release of Parcels.
- XX. Monthly Remittance of Duty Collection.
- XXI. Refund of Duties.
- XXII. Customs Examinations.
- XXIII. Application of Union Convention.
- XXIV. Duration of Agreement.

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Customs Duty MS 19/24

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Exchange

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Imperial Chinese Post Office MS 19/24

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Way Bill	MS 19/24
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MS 19/25 Folder Twenty-Five – 'Elements of the Postal system, Telegraphs and Telephones

This section of the archive consists of a two hundred and thirteen-page book, in French entitled '<u>Elements of the Postal system</u>, <u>Telegraphs and Telephones</u>' by Marius Cunéo and André Vilar, (Paris, 1905). What follows here is a translation of the Contents page. An English Index is yet to be compiled.

First Part

District Considerations of the entire Services

(Post, Telegraphs, Telephones)

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- 1. Definitions, 1.
- 2. Postal history: Ancien regime. Edict of Louis XI. Revolution. Merging of the postal system with the telegraph, 2 to 9.
- 3. The monopoly of the state, 10 to 18.
- 4. Classified letters and telegrams, 19 and 20.

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- 1. Cabinet and personnel, 21.
- 2. Advisers. Committee and Commissions, permanent and temporary, 22.

Chapter 2 - External Services

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- 1. Service, Technique and Operating, 24.
- 2. Post Office, 25.
- 3. Itinerant Service, 26.
- 4. Maritime Postal Service, 27.
- 5. Special Services (General Inspection, submarine telegraphs, verification and reception of material, workshops. Superior professional workshops.), 28 to 33.

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- 1. Conditions of admission of personnel to production services, 35 to 37.
- 2. Conditions of admission into the administrative services, 38 to 41.
- 3. Promotion, 42 and 43.
- Article 2. Under-agents, 44 and 45.
- Article 3. Subsidiary personnel, 46.
- Article 4. Industrial personnel, 47.
- Article 5. Allowances, 48.
- Article 6. Deliveries, 49.
- Article 7. Holidays, 50.
- Article 8. Retirement, 51.

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- 2. By land, 70.

3. By sea, 71.

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- 1. Letters and postcards (Historical. Ancien Regime. Reforms from 1848 and 1878. Current rates.), 73 to 77.
- 2. Postcards, 78 and 79.
- 3. Taxable objects to price reductions, 80 to 89.

Chapter 3. - Transmission of valuables by the post

Article 1. - In the domestic service, 90 to 103.

- 1. Recorded letters and objects, 91.
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- 3. Contraventions, 95.
- 4. Articles of money, postal orders. Mandates. Postal Forms, 96
 - A. District arrangements of all the mandates, 97.
 - B. Ordinary mandates, 98.
 - C. Card mandates, 99.
 - D. Telegraph mandates, 100.
 - E. Colonial mandates, 101.
 - F. Newspaper subscriptions, 102.
 - G. Postal forms, 104.

Article 2. - In the international service, 104 to 107.

Chapter 4. – Payment of bills of exchange, receipts, invoices, etc. (Domestic service and international service), 108 to 110.

Chapter 5. – Cash on delivery. (Domestic service and international service.), 111 and 112.

Chapter 6. - Parcel post, 113 to 120.

Chapter 7. - Franchises and countersignatures, 121.

- 1. Definitions and history, 121.
- 2. Concessions and agreed franchises, 122 to 124.
- 3. Misuse and contraventions, 125.

Chapter 8. – State responsibility in postal matters, 126.

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- 1. State network, 127 to 131.
- 2. Railway companies network, 132 to 135.
- 3. Network of private interests, 136 to 139.
- 4. Submarine network, 140 to 142.
- 5. Protections of the lines and appliances, 143 to 144.

Chapter 2. - Returns, transmission and distribution of telegrams, 145 to 154.

- 1. Returns and drafting, 145 to 150.
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- 3. Copying and original communication, 154.

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- 1. Elements and tax office, 155.
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- 4. Tax refund and reimbursements, 170.

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Chapter 5. – Responsibility of the state in telegraph matters, 175.

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- 1. Rental, 184 to 194.
- 2. Conversations, 195 to 196.
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- 4. Notices, telephone calls, 198.
- 5. Telegrams and telephones, 199.

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Special Organisation of Postal services, telegraphs and telephones in the Paris region, 201.

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MS 19/26 Folder Twenty-Six – Administration of Lappa Customs Station

This folder consists entirely of Chinese documents, sixteen in total, dealing with matters of concern in the administration of Lappa Customs Station. An Index is yet to be compiled.

MS 19/26/1 Refers to the issuing of Customs licenses to trading vessels, especially junks, wand the combating of contraband trade.

MS 19/26/2 A new Inspector of Customs is to report to the Governor of Canton and Kwangsi.

MS 19/26/3 A description of the 'plague hospital' at Wanchai, Lappa.

MS 19/26/4 Customs shall undertake to issue licenses for rice exports but with monthly limitations and strict regulations regarding smuggling.

MS 19/26/5 The Inspector has written to Canton tax office in relation to the burdens on business that increased taxation will cause and suggests reductions should be implemented.

MS 19/26/6 The Inspector wants flexible regulations for small boats involved in minor trade in areas of limited economic activity in order to stimulate trade.

MS 19/26/7 Macao businessmen have written to the Inspector in protest at the level of taxes applied in Samshui in comparison with the colony. They contend that business is discouraged from operating in Macao and seek a special accommodation.

MS 19/26/8 In response to clashes between local people and British the Viceroy has issued a proclamation insisting that the public desist from such activity. Also mentioned is the hope that the rice imports will be allowed due to the winter shortage of the staple.

MS 19/26/9 Complaints have been made graves being dug too shallow. In response orders have been issued that they must be five feet in depth and covered with a stone.

MS 19/26/10 There is a need to enforce uniformity in the enforcement of taxation on trading vessels. Recent evasion of duty by a Chinese vessel as emphasised the eed for diligance.

MS 19/26/11 Plans for the relocation of the Kowloon Customs Station in 1899.

MS 19/26/12 A Chinese businessman writes to the Inspector regarding trade in arms and explosives. He had obtained a license for such but has since been levied with illegal taxes and the victim of extortion.

MS 19/26/13 Canton harbour, part of which is in the Canton Concession, is attracting local criminals who in particular target foreign vessels. In response the local Customs House has sought permission from the Inspector to regulate water traffic.

MS 19/26/14 Local people in Xinan have objected to the location of the new Customs Station in the area on the basis of *feng shui*. Th Inspector however insists that the location is fully compliant with *fen shui* principals.

MS 19/26/15 A note on the need for investment capital in export businesses.

MS 19/26/16 Orders have been received prohibiting the export of rice and flour, marking a change of policy under which limited amounts had been supplied to Hong Kong and Macao.

MS 19/27 Box 27 – Items donated by Charles Blackburn

MS 19/27/9

staff members

Items donated by Charles Blackburn (grandson of Piry) in 2012. Mixture of photocopies of originals and originals.

MS 19/27/1	Portrait of Piry, as Postmaster General (c.1911?). Colour photocopy.
MS 19/27/2	Birth certificate (21.02.1851) mis-spelt "Pirry". B&W photocopy.
MS 19/27/3	Death certificate (28.06.1918) B&W photocopy.
MS 19/27/4	Piry's "Memo of Service" – i.e. a manuscript in Piry's hand detailinghis career in the Chinese Maritime Customs, till 1902 when he was appointed to Postal Secretary, and finally to that of Postmaster General in 1911. He also lists in this document his many French and foreign decorations.
MS 19/27/5-	A small envelope containing his "Resignation Papers", chiefly concerned with his acrimonious relations with Aglen, Robert Hart's successor as chief of the Customs and Postal services, whom Piry accused of being unfair over his termination pay. Piry's plea to his former chief, Hart, now retired, met with further disappointment when Hart replied that he could no longer intervene and, in effect, refused to support Piry's claims and arguments.
MS 19/27/6	Extract from "T'oung Pao" containing Piry's obituary and listing his works and translations. B7W photocopy.
MS 19/27/7	Cutting from "The North China Herald" dated July 27th (1918) announcing Piry's death and briefly describing his career.
MS 19/27/8	Portrait of Hart in 1909, signed by him.

Two photos of small groups in Hart's garden, including Hart himself and Piry amongst male friends or

MS 19/27/10 Pale group portrait of Hart and Piry with European and Chinese staff members. Dated 22. VIII.'90, signed with hart's initial in ink.

MS 19/27/11 Fine group portrait of PIry seated with two elderly gentlemen, surrounded by 19 customs or postal staff members 9 including Piry's son, Alphonse, top row 4th from the right). Photocopy.

MS 19/27/12 Fine group portrait of members and staff, including Piry, Hart, and five or six ladies (Madame Piry at centre with neck scarf) and several Piry or other children seated. Very informal surroudings. N.B. although this scene would almost certainly be Peking. The photographer's blind stamp is that of a Shanghai photographer. Photocopy.

MS 19/27/13 Group portrait of some twenty males (including Piry). The seven front row members, including a small boy, are all holding rifles. Shanghai photographer. Would this be a post-Boxer Rebellion scene?

MS 19/27/14 "Théophile Piry (1851-1918) ou une vie hors du commun", 3-page article intended for publication in the Nivillac municipal bulletin, by a citizen of that village in Bittany, Gilbert Tendron. The latter, intrigued by the inscription on the Piry family grave in the Nivillac cemetary, had asked me for details (I enclose my lengthy reply to this gentlemen in 1997, in French).

MS 19/27/15

3-page manuscript letter by Collin de Plancy, French Minister at Seoul, Korea, to Piry at Macao. The minister regrets that Piry had refused to accept his offer to head the Korean Customs Service, after such satisfactory conditions for Piry had been agreed with the Korean government and the Russian Legation. Photocopy.

MS 19/27/16 Portrait of the Piry children, from left to right: Jeanne, Nalka (later wife of J.J. Korostovetz, Russian Ambassador), Alphonse (sometime junior member of Chinese Customs), Isabelle (later Lady Blackburn, wife of Sir Arthur D. Blackburn, JCMG, CBE, Chinese councellor), finally Théophile, seated, facing left in order not to show his facial birth marks. Photocopy.

Further reading:

Alexandre Grigoriantz: "Le siege de Pékin", Favre, 1989 (largelt drawn from early Piry papers supplied by myself).

J.J. Korostovetz: "Pre-war diplomacy. The Russo Japanese Problem", London, 1920 (author was husband of Piry's daughter, Nalka)

MS 19/28 Folder Twenty-Eight – A. Théophile Piry Letter Books

Three letter books. Typescript transcriptions.

MS 19/28/1	A.Théophile Piry Letterbook 1 1879-1891 Pakhoi, Pékin, Ningpo, Fusan, Pékin
	Copyright Régine Thirez 27 Boulevard Sebastopol F- 75001 Paris, France
MS 19/28/2	A.Théophile Piry Letterbook 2 november 1909- Avril 1912 Pékin Copyright Régine Thirez 27 Boulevard Sebastopol F- 75001 Paris, France
MS 19/28/3	A.Théophile Piry Letterbook 3 Mai 1912- Juin 1914 Pékin
	Copyright Régine Thirez 27 Boulevard Sebastopol F- 75001 Paris, France

MS 19/29 Folder Twenty-Nine – Four Notebooks in Chinese

Varia unlisted. Four notebooks, in Chinese

MS 19/29/1	Blue cloth bound notebook, in Chinese.
MS 19/29/2	Beige paperback notebook, in Chinese
MS 19/28/3	Beige paperback notebook, in Chinese
MS 19/28/4	Large blue paperback notebook in Chinese.
	TAM ONIVERSIII

MS 19/30 Folder Thirty – Three Damp-copy Letter Books

Three Damp-copy Letter books.

ESTP1845

MS19/30/1	01/12/1879 to 19/06/1880 plus rwo or three letters, 1889-1890. 460pp. Pakhoi, Peking, /mingpo,
	Fusan Páking

Fusan, Péking

MS 19/30/2 18/11/1909 to 23/04/1912. Péking 298pp.

MS 19/30/3 23/04/1912 to 02/06/1914. Peking 219pp.

MS 19/31 Folder Thirty One – Notes of 1900 Siege of Peking Legations

A large envelope containing the notes collected by Piry during the 1900 siege of the Peking Legations.

Piry was caught with his family and the Customs people in the British Legation for the duration of the Siege. He may have collected the papers to use for publication, but soon gave up the idea, possibly because his new position as head of the Postal Service (at the end of 1901) distracted him from his project. Presumably the file was gathered soon after the event. The package consists of loose sheets of paper, almost exclusively in Piry's handwriting.

The inventory of Piry's collected papers on the siege of Peking is due to the labours of Ms. Régine Thirez, who studies

The inventory of Piry's collected papers on the siege of Peking is due to the labours of Ms. Régine Thirez, who studies Piry's career in detail (especially his photographic activities in China) in her book "Barbarian Lens"

MS 19/31/1

"Mes Notes sur le Siege de Pékin" In French. MS. Tiny script but still legible, especially with the help of a detailed chronology of events. At that time, Piry had been in china 30 years, 26 of them in the customs and often in close contact with Robert Hart who was a friend of the family. He was fluent in Chinese.an interesting twist is that the Pirys almost literally arrived in Peking (from Macao?) for the opening of hostilities. At least one of the items is a letter in his wife's handwriting to their son Alphonse, then in France, which was probably never sent.

MS 19/31/2

"Notes from de Courcy's diary" In English. MS. (de Courcy was a Frenchman from the Customs, who also was caught in the siege.

MS 19/31/3

Notes. In English. MS. Translation from the "Peking Gazette" June 13 and July 19th 1900.

MS 19/31/4

Notes. In French. MS. A reconstruction of the chronology on the Chinese side from official documents and /or newspapers, and ending with the fate of the main protagonists. The most elaborate document.

MS 19/31/5

"La Regne des Poxeurs a Pekin: 1900"In French. MS. A projected article on the subject making use of Piry's understanding of the situation, but not a diary. Many pages are heavily crossed out, overwritten. It is difficult to read.

MS 19/31/6

Translation. In English. MS from Chinese documents and Peking Gazette extracts.

MS 19/31/7

Translation. In French. MS. Undated Imperial Edict.

MS 19/31/8

Translation. In French. MS Earlier draft of MS 18/31/7

MS 19/31/9

"La Chine, ses reforme et les Puissances" possibly the MS for Piry's article, "Le peuple chinois et la reforme" in Revue des Deux Mondes, 1901: 3, 656-676. (Robert Hart strongly encouraged his senior commissioners to publish, in their respective native countries, articles meant to restore faith in China and her government. This would be one of them)

MS 19/31/10

The North China Daily News. 27/12/1900 in which items are marked in pencil.

MS 19/31/11

Press cuttings on the subject. Mostly from "Le Temps" and "the London and China Express"

MS 19/32 Envelope Thirty-Two – Losses of Piry Family During Siege of Péking

MS 19/32/1 A fourteen-page manuscript by Piry listing in detail and pricing the losses suffered by himself and his family during the siege of Péking. The manuscript is addressed to S. E. Monsieur Pichon, French minister at Péking. The losses amounted to Fr. 100645,16 to Piry's calculations.

MS 19/32/2 A small bundle of Chinese documents (unclassified)

MS 19/33 Envelope Thirty-Three – Monograph by H.A. Rydings

Photocopy of a monograph by H.A. Rydings (former Librarian of Hong Kong University) published in the Journal of the Hong Kong Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society

MS 19/34 Envelope Thirty-Four – Unclassified Correspondence

Bundle of unclassified correspondence.

MS 19/35 Folder Thirty-Five – Siege of Péking Booklets

Contains various booklets relating to the siege of Peking.

MS 19/35/1 "Chuan –fei kou-huo chi- shih" (Historical account of how the Boxers "brought calamity upon themselves". 16 mo. Lithographic edition

MS 19/35/2 "Chuan –fei chi-shih" (Documentary / historical account of the Boxer movement. Compiled and edited by Sawara Atsusuke? And Ou-yin (pseudonym.) typographic edition with numerous lithographic illustrations.

MS 19/35/3 Siege de Pekin 19 juin – 14 aout 1900 par Pons- Laurent, Mme.S. Cannes. Imprimerie Louis Vidal 1900. 8vo. 20pp. Printed wrapper. The authoress of this booklet was nanny to four Piry children during the Siege of Peking. She lived in one room with Piry, his wife, Isabelle, and four children, while, next door were Robert Hart, three women, three men and two children. ((see page 4 and Letter book 1).

MS 19/35/4 A refugee's Experiences at Peking and on the Route South, Anon. (Reprinted from the North China Daily News, 1900. 8vo. 15pp. Printed in two columns, printed wrapper. (Includes some pencilled notes in the margins by Piry)

MS 19/35/5 <u>La Deliverance des Legations de Pekin,</u> Matignon, J. (Conference faite aux Officiers de la Garnison de Bordeaux le 19 Janvier 1903). 8vo.31pp.Printed wrapper. Includes several photographic illustrations.

MS 19/35/6 Le Mouvement des Boxers. Documents et etudes publies depuis la deuxieme guerre mondiale <u>Extract Revue Historique.</u> Fasc. 470. Avril-Juin 1964 30pp. wrapper.

MS 19/36 Folder Thirty-Six – Piry's Photographic Activities at Lien-chau, 1879

A file on Piry's photographic activities at Lien –chau in 1879 and their unfortunate repercussions, as described in H.B.M. Consul Stronach's despatches to Sir Thomas Wade. (photocopies supplied by H.A.Rydings to C. H.B. in March 1983)

See also damp-copy Letterbook1 MS19/30 for Piry's letters on this incident.

This incident and Piry's photographic activities in china are fully gone into by Ms. Regine Thirez in her recently published book <u>Barbarian Lens</u>.

MS 19/37 Folder Thirty-Seven

A bundle of unclassified varia, including a long draft manuscript to Piry's successor.

MS 19/37/1 A bundle of unclassified varia: A long draft manuscript, "Memo on work", to my successor, Mr. Francis

Carl (re the Lappa district).

A tidesurveyor's report (typewritten) together with a manuscript letter by the same and along document by the same translating a Chinese printed paper (also included).

MS 19/37/2 A paper on moneys at the customs Office of Lappa.



