

PUBLIC NOTICE.

CONVEYANCE OF MAILS.

TENDERS will be received at the Post Office, Lyttelton, until noon on TUESDAY, the 12th day of February, 1861, for the conveyance of the undermentioned mails:—

LYTTELTON & CHRISTCHURCH MAIL.

For the conveyance of a mail between Lyttelton and Christchurch, and the delivery of letters daily on the line of road between the two towns, and at the residences either in Lyttelton or Christchurch, of the persons who are addressed, for 12 months, from the 1st of April, 1861.

The mail to start from Lyttelton daily (except on Sundays) at 9 o'clock a.m., conveying letters and Post-office newspapers, for delivery at the Post-office, Christchurch, and an open bag persons living on the road side along the line of route.

Another mail to start from Christchurch daily (except on Sundays) at 9 o'clock a.m., conveying letters and newspapers for delivery at the Post-office, Lyttelton, and an open bag containing letters and newspapers for delivery to persons living on the road side along the line of route.

Twelve mails are expected to come from England via Australia. The contractor to undertake to convey any such mail or any colonial mail brought by steamers to Port Lyttelton out to Christchurch, to start whenever required, at any time between the hours of 6 o'clock a.m. and 8 o'clock p.m., from Lyttelton.

Mails not to be longer than two hours and a half under any circumstances on the journey, between the two towns.

All letters and papers to be delivered on the day they are received, either at the respective Post-offices or at the residences, either in Lyttelton or Christchurch, of the persons to whom they are addressed.

This delivery to include all letters and newspapers from other Post-offices, handed by the postmaster to the contractor.

2. CHRISTCHURCH AND KAIAPOI MAIL.

For the conveyance of a mail between Christchurch and Kaiapoi daily (Sundays excepted) for 12 months, from the 1st day of April, 1861.

The mail to start from Kaiapoi every Tuesday at noon, and to leave Kaiapoi for Christchurch at the same hour.

3. KAIAPOI & RANGIORA MAIL.

For the conveyance of mails three times a week between Kaiapoi and Rangiora, for 12 months, from the 1st day of April, 1861.

Mails to start from Rangiora on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at 10 a.m., and to remain two hours in Rangiora, and return to Kaiapoi the same day.

4. CARRIAGE OF MAIL BETWEEN KAIAPOI AND SALTWATER CREEK, ONCE A WEEK.

For the conveyance of mails once a week between Kaiapoi and Saltwater Creek, for 12 months, from the 1st day of April, 1861.

Mails to start from Kaiapoi every Tuesday at 9 a.m., leaving Saltwater Creek on the return to Kaiapoi at 3 p.m. on the same day.

5. LYTTELTON & AKAROA MAIL.

For the conveyance of a mail weekly between Lyttelton and Akaroa, for 12 months, from 1st day of April, 1861, by boat to Pigeon Bay, thence by land to Duvauchelle Bay.

Tenders must provide for receipt and delivery of the Pigeon Bay mail on the journey either way between Akaroa and Lyttelton. A mail to be taken up and delivered at Duvauchelle Bay if required.

The mail to start from Lyttelton at 9 a.m. on Wednesday at 9 a.m., and return from Pigeon Bay, after a stoppage of at least one hour, on the afternoon of the same day.

6. DUVAUCHELLE'S BAY TO OKAIN'S BAY.

For the conveyance of a mail once a fortnight between Duvauchelle's Bay and Okain's Bay, for the 12 months, from the 1st Wednesday in April, 1861.

The contractor to start from Duvauchelle's Bay an hour after the arrival of the mail from Lyttelton at that place.

7. CHRISTCHURCH & WAITANGI MAIL.

For the conveyance of a mail fortnightly between Christchurch and the river at Waitangi, for 12 months, from the 1st day of April, 1861.

Except owing to unavoidable accident, the mail not to be more than three days in summer, and four days in winter on the route to Timaru, and two days from Timaru to the river Waitangi, remaining at least four hours in Timaru and the same period at the Waitangi. (Summer months to be considered from 1st day of November to the 31st day of March; winter, 1st day of April to 31st day of October.)

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Contractors will not be allowed to take up at any place within one mile of a Post-office letters or newspapers for delivery on the road side without having them taxed at the office, and in like manner will not be allowed to deliver within one mile of any Post-office letters or newspapers taken up on the way previous to their being taxed. But letters and newspapers may be carried by the contractors between places along the road which are more than a mile distant from the Post-office.

Contractors must undertake to receive and deliver letter bags at such houses or places along the road as may be desired by the Postmaster.

Contractors will be bound to proceed with mails without any undue delay or stoppage, on the subject of the carrier for half an hour after the hour of the departure of the mail.

Contractors will have to find securities for the performance of their respective contracts.

Penalties for breach of contract will be enforced as well by deduction from the amounts due to contractors as also by putting their bonds in suit.

Tenders will be received for either service separately, or for two or more services together.

F. E. WRIGHT, Postmaster.

Post Office, Lyttelton, Jan. 3, 1861.

CANTERBURY BREWERY.

DURING the summer months the undersigned intend to deliver their ALES, in large or small quantities, within a distance of three miles from Christchurch, by the following rates:—

Double diamond ... 3s. 6d. per gallon
First class ... 3s. 0d. do.
Second class ... 2s. 6d. do.
Terms made for agricultural produce, lumber, &c. CROFT & WARD.

GREAT LANE SALE.

M. R. THOMSON will offer for sale, early in February, at the Town Hall, Christchurch:—

Various lots of Town, Suburban, and Rural Lands: all as to be described in future advertisements.

Public.

THE BATTLE OF THE ISLANDERS.

On Island, when the sun was low. The people didn't know where to go. And cried, "Oh, dear, 'tis very sore! A dull poor place, decidedly."

But Island saw another sight. The water went out at night. For o'er the river flashed the light Of Kaiapoi in its revelry.

Then shriek'd the fiddle, roll'd the drum; The Kaiapoians said, "they come to get us." They took some very sternly glum, And growled at Kaiapoi revelry.

"What! Join the Northerners in their spree! Sully our honor! No, not we. Never! White reigns o'er the victory."

From fire to sea a stern beck. Lives as a watchword in their breast: "For self and Dobbs towns do your best, And smash the Kaiapoi revelry!"

WEAKA.

KAIAPOI, New Year's Day.

CHINA.

THE CAPTURE OF PEKIN.

(From the China Overland Report, October 28.)

THE last issue of this report was dated the 13th instant. It was then advised that upon the 19th of October, the British army, consisting of 12,000 men, under the command of Lord Elgin, had entered Pekin, an entire fortnight had been spent in negotiations with the Chinese commissioners, who again became the exponents of the perfidy of their Government, by finally offering their hands to the British army, on terms that had concluded. That consequently a portion of the allied force had been marched upon Tungchow, a city which forms the northern terminus of the Grand Canal, and which is situated on the banks of the Yellow River. The way there occurred two collisions with Tartar troops, who were repulsed with heavy loss, including all their artillery—the loss of the allies being the merest bagatelle. That, in pursuance of the terms of the Convention, the Chinese were taken by the allied authorities to prevent their troops committing any of those excesses which usually characterize the march of an invading army. That, in order to carry out this policy, Mr. Harry Parkes, late consul, and presently Commissioner at Canton, had been employed, with the concurrence of the mandarins, not only in making commissariat arrangements, but also in selecting suitable spots for the allies to encamp. That while the army was in camp, and several officers were with him, civil and military, had been made prisoners. That at date of latest advice from head quarters (say on the 23rd ult.), the allied army had passed Tungchow without incident, and had resumed its march between that city and Peking, at a distance of seven miles from the latter and four from the former—where it was reported that negotiations had commenced, the Emperor's brother having been named as one of the commissioners.

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was taken possession of; and yesterday, Mr. H. S. Parkes and Henry Loch were liberated and returned to the embassy. On the 5th the allied forces were on the march to the Summer Palace. The route was supposed to be in great numbers about four or five miles off. In front of the two armies stretched over a large extent of country but the enemy was not seen, nor any sign of an abandoned camp visible. We halted at 1 o'clock. Reconnoitering parties were sent out at night, and they fell in with the Tartar pickets, who fired three shots at them. On the morning of the 6th we were again on the move at an early hour, but on reaching the ground where the palace was situated we were met by several very high brick kilns, from which several gates and other structures within the walls of Pekin, were distinctly seen about five miles distant. Still in pursuit of the retreating enemy, we marched on through a thickly wooded country until within half-a-mile of the earthwork which extends along the north side of and distant one mile from the capital, where some Tartars were seen among the houses close to. The King's Dragon Guards went in at them, and they fled, leaving eight dead or disabled, and one of the dragons was wounded in the skirmish. In a short time after, the earthwork was reached, and a gap of 60 or 80 yards opened upon a straight road to the city. The troops entered by this gap, and wheeling to the right halted where we now are, within the earthwork—an embankment 40 to 80 feet high, which would be a strong defence in the hands of efficient troops. The British army, consisting of 12,000 men, under the command of Lord Elgin, had entered Pekin, an entire fortnight had been spent in negotiations with the Chinese commissioners, who again became the exponents of the perfidy of their Government, by finally offering their hands to the British army, on terms that had concluded. That consequently a portion of the allied force had been marched upon Tungchow, a city which forms the northern terminus of the Grand Canal, and which is situated on the banks of the Yellow River. The way there occurred two collisions with Tartar troops, who were repulsed with heavy loss, including all their artillery—the loss of the allies being the merest bagatelle. That, in pursuance of the terms of the Convention, the Chinese were taken by the allied authorities to prevent their troops committing any of those excesses which usually characterize the march of an invading army. That, in order to carry out this policy, Mr. Harry Parkes, late consul, and presently Commissioner at Canton, had been employed, with the concurrence of the mandarins, not only in making commissariat arrangements, but also in selecting suitable spots for the allies to encamp. That while the army was in camp, and several officers were with him, civil and military, had been made prisoners. That at date of latest advice from head quarters (say on the 23rd ult.), the allied army had passed Tungchow without incident, and had resumed its march between that city and Peking, at a distance of seven miles from the latter and four from the former—where it was reported that negotiations had commenced, the Emperor's brother having been named as one of the commissioners.

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palace Zo-ho, in Tartary, where Lord Macartney was received. He has thirteen wives with him. "No description can give an idea of the splendour of the Summer Palace. The entrance to the recreation hall is paved with marble, and painted with gold, azure, and scarlet, in the most gorgeous style. The throne of the emperor is of beautifully carved dark wood, and the cushions, embroidered with gold dragons, attracted general admiration. The emperor's gold crutch supposed to have been used by the emperor; every inner chamber and saloon was very handsomely fitted up. The jade stone and china were of great value, and some Sevres china of Louis Quatorze would have been worth the price of many a curiosity fancier, and a presentation sword with the English coat of arms studded with gems, and evidently of antiquity, gave rise to some speculation.

All ladies had disappeared, but their little Japanese dogs, something resembling a King Charles spaniel, were running about in a distracted state. Mr. Wade secured some valuable books and papers, some we believe for the British Museum. The Emperor had left the day before. "C."

A letter of the 13th October says:—

Last evening nine Sowars of the Sikh cavalry were released and came into the camp. They bring intelligence that the British army, consisting of 12,000 men, under the command of Lord Elgin, had entered Pekin, an entire fortnight had been spent in negotiations with the Chinese commissioners, who again became the exponents of the perfidy of their Government, by finally offering their hands to the British army, on terms that had concluded. That consequently a portion of the allied force had been marched upon Tungchow, a city which forms the northern terminus of the Grand Canal, and which is situated on the banks of the Yellow River. The way there occurred two collisions with Tartar troops, who were repulsed with heavy loss, including all their artillery—the loss of the allies being the merest bagatelle. That, in pursuance of the terms of the Convention, the Chinese were taken by the allied authorities to prevent their troops committing any of those excesses which usually characterize the march of an invading army. That, in order to carry out this policy, Mr. Harry Parkes, late consul, and presently Commissioner at Canton, had been employed, with the concurrence of the mandarins, not only in making commissariat arrangements, but also in selecting suitable spots for the allies to encamp. That while the army was in camp, and several officers were with him, civil and military, had been made prisoners. That at date of latest advice from head quarters (say on the 23rd ult.), the allied army had passed Tungchow without incident, and had resumed its march between that city and Peking, at a distance of seven miles from the latter and four from the former—where it was reported that negotiations had commenced, the Emperor's brother having been named as one of the commissioners.

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paths and antagonisms. We observe the Raja of Kupoorthulla is a candidate for the honour of becoming a mason. They are evidently going ahead in the northwest, and doing more towards bringing round a friendly feeling than at a greater distance from the scene of the late rebellion.—*Englishman*, Oct. 26.

First Army.—Revolutions in the army of India have already been commenced. A notification appears in the 'Madras Government Gazette' that three cavalry regiments will be struck off the military establishment of that Presidency, and that every Native Infantry Regiment will be reduced to 600 men—the retiring privates being pensioned or receiving donations according to a specified scale.—*Bombay Gazette*, Nov. 10.

Disruptive.—Our latest advices from the scene of the disturbance in Kattiwada are up to the 4th instant. They are confirmatory of the news which has already appeared in this journal. After leaving Korimar the Wahgurs broke into bands and dispersed all over the country. A camel corps of 100 men, under command of Lieut. Newton, has gone to intercept them en route to Okhmandel, and we have no doubt that this duty will be satisfactorily performed should the freebooters dare to present themselves. The plunder at Korimar was not so extensive as at first stated, having only amounted to two lakhs of rupees. The British rifles which they were alleged to have helped themselves to were few in number, and were it not for re-opening discussions which had better be forgotten, we should have been glad to see their possession.—*Bombay Telegraph*, Nov. 13.

CEYLON.

Point de Galle, Nov. 21.

Our new ruler, Sir Charles Macarty, has not entered upon his duties under the most encouraging circumstances. On his way to his new Government he was taken ill by dysentery, and his arrival in the colony he has been seriously unwell. The statistical statements and estimates laid before him are not of the most prepossessing character and the all-engrossing railway question is still undecided. The Governor, however, is naturally desirous to appear in public shortly. There is no doubt that Sir Charles would be glad to get rid of the railway company and the agreement with them, which, in the capacity of Colonial Secretary, he has so strenuously supported. It will be under the command of the Forces, has also arrived, as well as Mr. Temple, the second justice. Another protest against the bad accommodation on board the peninsular and Oriental Company's steamers has been forwarded by the arrival in the colony of the steamer Columbian, headed by the signatures of Lord Powerscourt, General O'Brien, and Mr. Justice Temple. The bishop of the Anglican church will shortly arrive, and will be under the command of the Forces, has also arrived, as well as Mr. Temple, the second justice. Another protest against the bad accommodation on board the peninsular and Oriental Company's steamers has been forwarded by the arrival in the colony of the steamer Columbian, headed by the signatures of Lord Powerscourt, General O'Brien, and Mr. Justice Temple. The bishop of the Anglican church will shortly arrive, and will be under the command of the Forces, has also arrived, as well as Mr. Temple, the second justice. 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silk and gold thread, in the imperial dragon pattern. Boots, head dresses, fans, &c.; in fact, rooms all but filled with them. Store rooms of manufactured silks in rolls, such as may be bought in Canton at 20 dolls. to 30 dolls. per piece. By a calculation made in the rooms, there must have been 70,000 or 80,000 pieces. Hundreds were thrown down and trampled on, and the floor covered thickly with them. Men were throwing them at each other, and all taking as many as they could carry. They were used instead of rope to secure the loading of carts filled with them. Throughout the French camp were hundreds of pieces, some heaped up, others used to make some tents or beds and coverlids. In the afternoon yesterday a party of French went through the apartments with sticks, breaking every thing that remained, mirrors, screens, panels, &c. &c. It is said that they did so in revenge for the barbarous treatment their countrymen, the prisoners, had received. A treasury containing a large quantity of gold ingots and sycee silver is under charge of a guard, and is to be divided between the English and French. The total value of property destroyed would amount to a large instalment of the indemnity claimed.

"In one of the ante-rooms of the state bed room at the summer palace the treaty of Tientsin in English and Chinese, signed by Lord Elgin, was

INDIA.

REBELS IN GWALIOR.—A large number of rebels assembled on the southern frontiers of Gwalior, who were defeated by the Gwalior army. We hear that the Governor-General has called on the Durbar to state why they did not keep the British Government informed of all these movements.—*Englishman*, Nov. 7.

FEROZ SHAH.—We are informed that **Feroz Bukht**, one of the princes of Delhi, has surrendered himself to the authorities at Goruckpore, who have requested instructions as to his disposal. It is not said whether this is the same prince, named **Feroz Shah**, who escaped to central India, or not.—*Englishman*, Nov. 5.

BOMBAY.—There is every appearance of the approach of a more than usually cold season in Bombay. It is now only the 9th of November, and the temperature is as low as we usually find it in the middle of December. The thermometer, at daybreak, in a sheltered locality of the island, stood as low as 60 deg. The Broda railway works have been summarily suspended, and all the establishment dismissed. There are several rumours afloat as to the cause of this suspension, but nothing is known with certainty, and the Government guards this information with the most jealous care.—*Bombay Times*, Nov. 10.

arrived here on the 26th, and is fully engaged on the southern coast bringing in the wool.

The ship *Lady Egidia* is now shortly expected from the Clyde with upwards of 400 souls on board. She is said to be a splendid vessel.

The Council are still sitting and busy with the estimates. I believe nothing will be voted but what is absolutely necessary. A memorial to the Governor, praying for an enquiry into the boundaries to be fixed in case of the South obtaining separation, has been adopted.

A Bazaar was held in Dunedin on the 31st, in aid of the Port Chalmers Manse Fund. It went off much better than was anticipated, upwards of £200 being realized.

The weather is now fine, and there is every probability of a good harvest.

MAORI MARAUDERS AND MAORI DETECTIVES.—Some instances have occurred of late of small parties of natives having annoyed and robbed some of our southern out-settlers, in the Mangatawhiri district; among them, Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Baines. Happily, owing to the self-possession of these settlers, no active violence was resorted to. Each case has been reported, not only to the native office, but to chiefs professing friendship; and investigation has been promptly made. From these inquiries it appears that there is one troublesome native at large in the