

1846

St. Louis

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1850



if necessary prefatory remark.

I beg the reader of these letters to be persuaded, that all the terms & phrases in this correspondence, which may appear to him too strong, rash or inappropriate are not at all owing to either malice or ill will, but to a conviction - perhaps an erroneous one - that if any thing at all is to be hoped from despatches to a Japanese Government they must speak very strongly. The Lochooan miniature Government in particular must plainly be given to understand, they are known for what they really are, & not taken by us for what they would put themselves off. When any western Government shall have obtained the slightest conception from Japan by paper diplomacy alone, then I declare myself quite ready to beg pardon from the Lochooan mandarins for any term in my letters, they might choose to declare as offensive to their smooth hypocrisy.

August 5<sup>th</sup> 1850

W. J. Beechey



It is necessary to understand the

I beg to remind of these letters to be forwarded, that all the letters  
 & papers in his correspondence, which may appear to him to be  
 not in appropriate one or all of the way to being written or  
 the will, but to a conviction - perhaps an erroneous one - that  
 if anything at all is to be taken from his papers to a paper  
 these Government the most of which are now  
 between ministerial Government in particular must finally  
 be given to understand, but are known for what they really  
 are, & not taken by us for what they would be considered of.  
 when any Western Government has been obtaining the right  
 that conception from Japan by paper differences alone,  
 then I believe myself quite ready to say London  
 from the tobacco manufacturing for any time in my  
 terms, but might choose to believe as otherwise to his  
 most respectfully.

10.8. 1944

0324 N. 2. 100 gms

Letter 3 1

The happy minor, <sup>3</sup> Petching the physician, makes his humble com-  
pliments to the (middle mountain office) central vice general Gov-  
ernor's bar. - The dwelling, by your order & permission, but a comforted me  
I have seen and found very comfortable (safe), but having once  
settled down quietly, I should not like to remove to another place;  
therefore it would be necessary early to remove the Godimaps  
from my residence, & to find a place for them somewhere else.  
I want that room for myself; as long ~~until~~ <sup>as</sup> I remain in this  
many bonzes will have to go to & fro, and I would hardly be  
able to write, read, examine patients (the fules), and prepare me-  
dicines. Pray make me happy and bestow immediate answer.

This urgent (verzoekend) letter is presented & lifted up to the General vice-governor, and signed by

(The Date is wanting in the copy, but is probably May 1846.)

The English Physician  
Petersburg

As I knew next to nothing of the Chinese language on my arrival here, I had very little to do with style or phrase in my letters addressed to the Loochooan Government during the first year, or eighteen months, though my share in them gradually grew as my knowledge in the Chinese grew. All these letters were then written by my Chinaman, to whom I had had words to explain my thoughts, he being then as ignorant of our as we were of his language. - All present I consider some of these early letters, as very bad, <sup>Chinese</sup> compositions, though the tenor of all is un-  
mistakably clear. I did not choose to allow even one single character, but the copies should correspond exactly to the originals in the hand of the Loo-  
chooan Government.



1. I understand

General Rice - Governor, and turning the  
this agent (Government) letter is presently & lifted up to the  
River. (Don't make me happy and broken immediate answer.  
able to write, read, examine patients (the paper) and prepare me  
many degrees with leave to go to & for, and I would think be  
I want that room for myself; as my wife with remain in town  
from my residence, & to find a place for them to reside out  
where it would be necessary early to remove the Godinaga  
to be done quickly, I have not time to remove to another place;  
I have seen and found very comfortable (safe), but having more  
my box. - The building, by your order & permission had & containing me  
himself to the (middle mountain office) Captain Vice General Govt  
The building minor? (Detailing the fortification, within his humble com-

Detaching  
the English version

The date is written in the upper left corner, and the page number is written in the upper right corner. The text is written in a cursive script.

[illegible]

more favorable public opinion.  
in the immediate way. Now we can say, it will be absolutely certain and undisputed by universal public opinion.

(As will appear from the following letter, there is a letter or two wanting, copies of which I could not find, but the object of which was, permission to hire female servants.)  
Letter II.

The stupid minor, the english physician Peditions, petitions, & Shang-  
Fing-ohi. the Governor General's bar. - I have written before this to the  
vice Governor General, to be permitted to have one or two female servants.  
This is already a month & upward. and the vice Governor General does  
not choose to take notice thereof. I therefore especially petition now,  
& hope these servants may immediately be found for me, as my wife  
and children are now sick, and myself have been obliged to pass se-  
veral nights sleepless. Should no change be made, and the servants not arrive  
in a few days, I shall be obliged to inform of the case the Capt. of the  
French Frigate here, and also to entrust him with a letter to the  
english Government, to state that the mandarin has been com-  
pelled to send my wife and child to fall sick. a circumstance, that,  
I fear, may cause unpleasantness between both countries.

This respectful petition is presented at the bar of  
the Governor General by

He shipped money  
Petaling

(There again several letters, addressed to the Governor-General, the first minister of State, are wanting. Among these some were addressed (and by the Governor-General to be delivered) to the King himself. To get the authorities one way or other to listen to me, I wrote sometimes parables, and sent them in. The following is one of these, a copy of which I have found.)



to appear, and in the morning, when it was found that the ship was not coming, the people of the island were very much surprised. The ship was not coming because the captain was ill, and the ship was not coming because the captain was ill.

Letter II

The ship was not coming because the captain was ill, and the ship was not coming because the captain was ill. The ship was not coming because the captain was ill, and the ship was not coming because the captain was ill. The ship was not coming because the captain was ill, and the ship was not coming because the captain was ill.

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any thing. At night, when it was time to sleep, they were most busy. Walking on an even way, they said: "Gently! Gently! Gently!" but on rugged, rough ground, they fell and broke their noses. The natives being blind they could not travel to other countries, and ships had therefore to visit them, coming for commercial purposes from a kingdom in the neighbouring island (intended for Japan). After this country had thus existed for upwards of 2000 years, a foreign ship arrived. The King immediately sent a crowd of people to invite His Excellency (the Captain). H. E. observed: "Why do you come in such a crowd?" One of them answered: "My eyes are bad, I cannot find my way, and the next one must guide me." The next one again said the same, and likewise each of them: "I have bad eyes, I cannot find my way, and my neighbours must guide me." H. E. said: "What a stupid race! So many, & none of them finding his way!" - Next day the King commanded, the mandarins and official messengers should dress themselves in red, yellow and blue, and invite H. E. - H. E. came. But that was his surprise to find them all dressed in black and white, and each carrying a burning lamp! H. E. asked: "Why are you dressed in black and white?" The King answered: "How can you say, dressed in black and white."

The system of espionage, here carried on, never allows any man singly to be sent on any message. But there is a usual excuse is: They feel their own stupidity, and must therefore rely on the advice of their companions. & white, or a kind of deep colour, is here as in China, a sign of mourning.







3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 840. 841. 842. 843. 844. 845. 846. 847. 848. 849. 850. 851. 852. 853. 854. 855. 856. 857. 858. 859. 860. 861. 862. 863. 864. 865. 866. 867. 868. 869. 870. 871. 872. 873. 874. 875. 876. 877. 878. 879. 880. 881. 882. 883. 884. 885. 886. 887. 888. 889. 890. 891. 892. 893. 894. 895. 896. 897. 898. 899. 900. 901. 902. 903. 904. 905. 906. 907. 908. 909. 910. 911. 912. 913. 914. 915. 916. 917. 918. 919. 920. 921. 922. 923. 924. 925. 926. 927. 928. 929. 930. 931. 932. 933. 934. 935. 936. 937. 938. 939. 940. 941. 942. 943. 944. 945. 946. 947. 948. 949. 950. 951. 952. 953. 954. 955. 956. 957. 958. 959. 960. 961. 962. 963. 964. 965. 966. 967. 968. 969. 970. 971. 972. 973. 974. 975. 976. 977. 978. 979. 980. 981. 982. 983. 984. 985. 986. 987. 988. 989. 990. 991. 992. 993. 994. 995. 996. 997. 998. 999. 1000.

I have humbly received your several letters, and fully per-  
 used. Concerning the topic of physician, I have to say: The  
 medical art in China is very inconsiderable, poor the vice-  
 roy Kiating, in Canton. When indisposed, calls in an English phy-  
 sician. There are also in Shanghai and Ningpo great  
 hospitals, in which hundreds of Chinese patients are under  
 the superintendence of English physicians. He, who does not un-  
 derstand the machinery of a watch, cannot repair it when it  
 is spoiled. Now the Chinese doctors have no notion of the in-  
 terior of man. How should they cure him when sick? Sometimes  
 even an old woman may effect a cure, but is she therefore a  
 physician? - As to Geography and Astronomy, every one  
 knows, the Chinese have been taught in these matters by dis-  
 ciples of Jesus, but as yet their progress is small, and  
 the Teacher being deficient, the disciples (the Confucians) are still  
 more so. How can a ship sail, whose master knows nothing  
 of Geography or of Calendar calculations? - As to the  
 study of the English language and writing, no doubt  
 both English and American ships, will soon have to  
 touch here in considerable numbers, and it would be  
 strange, none should be able to speak, and a loss if none  
 could do any business with them. Studying 1-2 years

The morning (offering) of  
 the English physicians  
 is  
 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.

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 touch here in considerable numbers, and it would be  
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Letter. III.

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 could do any business with them. Studying 1-2 years

It will be seen from this letter, that several others, in which  
 I have offered my services to this country, both as physician,  
 schoolmaster & missionary, are waiting to complete the copy  
 of my correspondence with government. After several months  
 waiting an answer came, to which this letter is a reply.



III. *uskel*

I have been reading your review lately, and fully agree  
with you concerning the topic of education. I am to say: the  
movement out in China is very considerable, about the size  
of teaching in Canton. When inquiry, such as an English boy,  
there are also in Shanghai and Ningbo great  
schools, in which hundreds of Chinese patients are under  
the supervision of western physicians. The whole has an  
interesting character of a world coming again to itself  
is testified. Now the Chinese doctors have no notion of the im-  
portance of man, how things can turn out when tried? sometimes  
even an old woman may affect a cure, but it is the teacher or  
physician? - As to geography and astronomy, every one  
knows, the Chinese have been taught in their schools by the  
gifts of books, but we get thin progress is made, and  
the teacher being deficient, the student (the schoolmaster) over this  
more so. There was a ship sailed, whose master knows nothing  
of geography or of celestial calculation? - as to the  
study of the English language and writing, the Board  
of Education and American ships, who come here to  
trade, are in considerable numbers, and it would be  
true, were there be able to speak, and a lot of more  
could do our business with them. Teaching 1-5 years

It will be seen from this letter, that several others, in which I have offered my services to his country, both as physician, & schoolmaster & missionary, are wanting to complete the copy of my correspondence with Government. After several months working on various cases, to which this letter is a reply.

One may acquire a very good knowledge of the English language and writing, and he, who knows the English letters can therewith improve in writing the language of any country. There are here so many literati and young men, who have no business whatever, why should they not study? In China there are many schools, in which English masters teach children. — On Gou's Excellency's own showing, the people here are very stupid. Alas, this is unmistakably true! He who does not understand any European language, will never have a good book to read, to become enlightened. Chinese books contain only old fabled sayings, of science & arts they contain little, but there is still another subject to be touched upon, graver than all the aforegoing, and this is: Jesus taught us, that if a man does not know, and profess the religion of the true God, he cannot prosper, and must after death go into hell. What is a man profited, if he gain the whole world & lose his own soul? There is only one true God, who made all things, and he commands all men to believe and follow the religion of Jesus, and all men must follow it. Jesus commanded his disciples and said: Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth



and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned." and in accordance with this command the religion of Jesus has already spread to the East and West, South and North. All the Kingdoms that follow this religion, are enlightened and happy. The disciples of Jesus love all men as themselves, and are kind both to their souls & bodies. It is impossible, there should be another religion in China, and another in Europe. There is only one God. a man has only one soul, and the religion of all must be one. All men have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. They can establish no claim to merit, and lying in sin, they must remain unsaved. Therefore God in his tender mercy, sent his only son Jesus down to this world. He died on the cross, to expiate for the sin of men and save their souls. On the third day he rose again from the grave, and ascended into heaven to intercede for men, and shall come again to judge the living and the dead.

Mahometanism, Buddhism and Confucianism, are systems invented by men. But every man is fallible, and their religions are therefore erroneous. No man has ever seen a soul, how should he know (discover) a religion for it? God alone, who created the soul, can establish laws for it.

The people here mock and laugh at, and reject God made of wood & stone, and little

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