

Private Letter Book

Volume II

From the 20th December 1860

To the 11th August 1861

Penang 20 Decb.1860

My dear Braddell,

Although I shall be very sorry to lose your services at the present moment and am afraid I shall have some little difficulty in making satisfactory arrangements for the performance of your duties during your absence from Office, under the circumstances of the case I should be most unwilling to know {place?} of any obstruction in the way of your fully qualifying yourself for the appointment to which you have such reasonable grounds for aspiring and wh I sincerely trust you may obtain and will therefore be happy to give your application for leave favourable consideration. I will of course be necessary for you with reference to the order on the subject to shew officially good grounds for preferring the request.

Yours sincerely,

(True Copy)

MP sd O Cavenagh

4/12/60

Penang

December 21st 1860

My dear Goodwyn,

By the last mail I received a letter from Mr Stirling stating that he had been made acquainted with the contents of your office letter No 4764 of the 4th September last to my address offering himself as a candidate for the appointment of Engineer to the Municipal Commissioners and referring to the Secretary to Govt. P.W.D. for a recommendation. Now although the Commissioners will hardly accede to the terms he has proposed they are willing to give a very liberal salary but before making any agreement on the subject they are naturally anxious to be made acquainted not only with Mr Stirling's qualifications as a Civil Engineer but also with the circumstances under which he has quitted the Services of Government and have begged me, if possible, to obtain the necessary information for them; I shall therefore feel much obliged for any light that you may be able to kindly throw on the matter. It certainly seems strange that a person should, after a long service, leave the Employment of Govt. and seek office under a Municipal

body, whilst my own impression of the working of the iron bridge yard department is not a very favourable one, as I have a lively recollection of the defective night carts, bedsteads, etc. However these defects may have been owing to causes over which Mr Stirling may have had no control. Etc etc,

(sd) O C

Extract from a letter to Dy Secy to Govt .D.P.W.

My dear Sconce,

Accept my best thanks for a copy of the draft of the proposed Bill regarding the lands at Malacca which will I think if passed fully answer the desired purpose though there are two additions I should be glad to see made; one of the words "other than such quit rent as may be specified in the deed of transfer" to Sec. v. And the other of a district {distinct?} Section to the Effect that nothing in the Act is to preclude the Assessment and Collection of Municipal rates and taxes under the provisions of Acts xxv and xxvii of 1836. The former is necessary to enable the government when it may appear advisable to subject the land to a small quit rent as done in some cases both at Singapore and Penang. The charge would not be deemed unreasonable as it is almost invariably demanded in the Straits by private Proprietors when disposing of their Estates and moreover whilst increasing the annual revenue it acts as an inducement to a Purchaser to be careful of his property and render it as valuable as possible; the latter is required to remove doubts with respect to the liabilities of the landed proprietors. Many of them cannot understand the difference between Govt demands and Municipal rates and are under the impression that if they have satisfied the claims of the State the Municipal Commissioners are precluded from levying any assessment and unless the new Act contains a distinct clause to the purport I have mentioned, there will be constant disputes which it is most desirable to avoid if possible, both the Commissioners and the people being too poor to be able to indulge in the luxury of carrying on Expensive law suits. I sincerely trust that Government will not defer the discussion of the Bill until the decision of the question of the Transfer, for the Act is urgently needed if Malacca is even {ever?} to be rendered a prosperous and thriving Settlement.

Sd O Cavenagh

Penang (True Copy)

21st December 1850 MP

To A Sconce Esq., member of the Legislative Council of India, Calcutta

Penang Hill 26th Decr 1860

My dear Colonel,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge three of your budgets and will take up the questions alluded to therein seriatim.

i. An official has been sent to Man requesting him to take measures to cause the

\$1200 to be received from the Hospital Committee and paid to the P.W.D.; his reply has not yet been received.

ii. You will receive from Macpherson the expense of filling in the swamp with a small extra sum for erecting the Fountain, but there is no extra assignment of Theatre money, the above amount being obtained from that source.

iii. As regards the hill near Cantonments being occupied by a grog shop, the very day Europeans enter Tanglin, under the Act on the subject all grog shops will be prohibited within a mile perhaps two from the Barracks; the existence of this Act may not be known to Sir R. Napier, though Palmer might have told of it as I mentioned my intention to him with reference to that very hill and the probability of the owner wishing to make a little money out of the men by the sale of liquor.

iv. As regards Light Apparatus I can only say that on my visiting Birmingham and inspecting large factories of all sorts, I found that no allusion was ever made to receiving an advance for work to be executed; all that was required was a satisfactory reference for payment on delivery of any article ordered; however as before mentioned the building cannot possibly be ready for the Apparatus before another 8 or 9 months so that in the event of Collyer's stating officially that an advance is necessary a remittance can be made in good time.

v. It is not necessary that an application for extension of leave should be made thro' the Home Administration, but it is the Home Administration alone that determines the question as to the forfeiture of Appointment. The Home authorities do not interfere; they merely grant the leave. There was, if I mistake not, a recent stringent order on the subject published by the Supreme Government. I should be very glad to give Collyer the memo you recommend but his appointment is made by the G.G., not by the Straits Government, and consequently it might possibly not be deemed sufficient.

vi. I told Mr. Evans when he spoke about the want of horizontal sections, to prepare them from the plan, and if he had any doubts as to their accuracy, to submit them to you with a request that you would kindly point out any errors. He has leant a great deal too much upon Collyer and Macpherson.

vii. I hardly think your sketch of the Malacca river is very correct and your intimation is the first I have ever received of Collyer's intention of altering the Sea Wall: This would include the removal of the present covered lading place and the cost would be enormous; as well as I remember the river runs thus,

and Collyer wished, by erecting a pier shewn by the dotted lines D to prevent the stream forming a back water in front of the Town, thus bringing its whole force to bear upon the bar at its mouth, which it would then sweep away; however you will be better able to judge by paying Malacca a visit. I have no objection to the proposed change in the bridge provided it does not involve increased expenditure.

viii. As regards Mitchell's position with request {regard?} to the Resident Councillor, I had received a communication from Man; I had referred him to Sec 2, Chap iv and Para 16, Sec I Chapter viii of the Code which clearly define the power of Civil Authorities. As Superintendent of Convicts, Mitchell is of course responsible to Man with regard to the discipline of the convicts and the internal economy of the Jail.

ix. The line of road mentioned to me ran direct to Tasseh through Batoe Gajah; it is very heavy as far as Batoe Gaja, and from thence to Tasseh runs through a dense forest and deep swamp; the road the villagers ask for is the lower road through Sabatu to Sunghie Rambie. Evans has gone over this line and thinks it would be cheaper and more beneficial to the people than the new direct road. Macpherson's sketch is not quite correct; the village of Marlimo is between the old line of road and the sea, the Government Bungalow alone standing on the side of the new road; the distance between the two roads is, as far as I can judge about - a mile.

x. I spoke to the Police before I left about having a tank in the spot you mention between the Hospital and the Barrack Plateau, something of the sort will be required to drain the ground in that direction.

xi. With regard to Govt. Canning Hospital, nothing can be done until the arrival of the two Companies of European Artillery, when, in accordance with the order of Supreme Government, it will be handed over with the Barracks; it will of {course?} be furnished out of the supply of Hospital furniture received from Calcutta.

xii. It is a matter of no importance, the want of Maps from Penang and Malacca. I never intended them to be furnished from your Department and Moniot received orders some time ago to furnish the Supreme Govt with Maps of all the Stations in the Straits; by this time I fancy they must have been despatched; that of Singapore was sent up to Calcutta before we left.

etc. etc. etc.

Yours sincerely

Penang (True Copy) O Cavenagh

27th Dec. 1860 MP

To Colonel Faber, Offg. Ch. Engineer, Singapore

Penang Hill

27th December 1860

My dear Macpherson,

Many thanks for your three letters: the last containing the information regarding Dunman's intended departure has somewhat taken me aback though I cannot say that I ought to be surprised

at it as he has not been looking well for some time past. According to the Official List in my Office Braddell became a Member of the Uncovenanted Service in 1857 and Willans in 1856, the former is therefore the Senior but he has already applied for a year's leave on Private affairs which I have promised to grant in the event of my being able to make arrangements for relieving him which I had intended doing by promoting Willans. This plan is of course now upset for although I shall be glad to advance Robertson he must serve for a year or two longer before he can be made Comr, hence Willans has deservedly the first claim to succeed Dunman and will consequently be put in as soon as I can manage about his successor and on this point I want your candid opinion. Mr Smith is a most worthy man and an old and faithful servant of Government and I am consequently anxious to advance his interests; from the state of his health I am doubtful however how far he wd. Be able to perform the arduous duties of Police Magistrate at Singapore without breaking down, and if he were to break down it would be absolutely necessary to remove him for Singapore could not be left with an inefficient Magistrate. If I felt satisfied as to Mr Smith's being strong enough to discharge the duties of Magistrate, little Mr Gottliebe, if he could obtain release from his present office as Dy. Sheriff of the Insolvent Court might be appointed to officiate as Commissioner of the Court of Requests. As Dy. Sheriff I fancy he could easily be replaced but Sir Richard might not be able to spare him from the Insolvent Court. Perhaps you will kindly speak to him on the subject after thinking over the matter of Mr Smith's fitness for the Magistracy. Willans being disposed of Earl would naturally look forward to acting for Braddell and might be successful {succeeded?} in the province by Captain Smart, Lewis's son in law, who is I am told an intelligent man and ought to know something of Malay having been stationed in the Straits. If after due consideration you come to the conclusion that Mr Smith would break down and know anyone available really qualified for the berth I shall feel obliged by your bringing his name to my notice. If Mr Smith had a trial it would be advisable to make the arrangement a temporary one in the first instance, so that he might be relieved without being as it were superseded. We now come to the Marine Magistracy; this must now be filled up but it must be held by an independent man and if Mr Wilkinson does not wish to give up his map selling etc. he must be passed over and I shall feel obliged by your letting me know of any eligible candidates; if Mr Wilkinson is anxious for the situation on the above terms I have no objection to Mr Wahab's appointment as his Deputy; presuming his removal from the Sailors' Home was caused by the wish to effect salutary reforms and not in consequence of any fault Sir Robert says that Gilpin must go home in the "Esk" and could only accept the permanent berth, so that he is not available. If Dunman's sick certificate is an urgent one he must be allowed to leave and Robertson directed to officiate as a temporary measure.

How are the works at the old Police Office getting on? I hope the alterations will be nearly finished before I return; with regard to the additional prison accommodation required at the present Police Office if I remember right, there is a range of Stabling not used in any way, that might perhaps by the addition of strong wooden bars in front be converted into temporary lockups to be used in cases of emergency. Will you kindly look at the range and if it will answer order whatever may be requisite; the Expense ought to be within your limits.

etc. etc. etc.

Yours very sincerely,

True Copy (sd) O Cavenagh

27/12/60 MP

Penang 28th Dec

My dear Burn,

---The question with respect to the rates on Wan Chili's land was rather a complicated one and it certainly struck me that the valuation put upon it as annual rent was rather high tho' it was clear that the assessment in force was too low; of course as the Country improves the value of the rent of the land will increase and as you are at liberty to revise your assessment yearly you can always obtain your just rights by varying your assessment to make it keep pace with the rise in the value of the property. I do not know exactly what the proportion of the rent to the value of produce is in the Straits but I should imagine rather more than a tenth. I should have been inclined to estimate it at about one fourth, but with Wan Chili the difficulty is that he is not a proprietor; he has only a right to demand a tenth of the produce and therefore strictly speaking the additional assessment should fall on the cultivators who after all are the real proprietors. I have asked Mr Sconce to insert a clause on the subject in his Bill. I hardly think it is advisable for you to take any further steps with regard to the punghooloos of Gading, the village may remain attached to Padang for some time longer; it is only in special cases that you allow the people to actually elect their own Punghooloos. Generally speaking he should of course be appointed by you without reference to them; it is merely necessary that you should satisfy yourself that the person you are about to appoint is a man of good repute amongst his neighbours and not likely to abuse his authority; the position of Punghulu is very different from that of an Imam or Khatib; you appoint the one who is a Government servant, you merely confirm the appointment of the other who is the servant of his congregation.

I have the pleasure to return the old Commission you sent me some time ago in the amended form and a Malay translation at the foot. I have no objection to your issuing one to any Imam who may be selected.

By the bye, with regard to applications from Residents of Malacca for appointment it might perhaps be as well for you to let the people know that no person can be employed except in situations connected with the Supreme Court in any district in which he may have landed property so that if Mr Westerhout or any other person wishes to join the Police he must go, either to Singapore or Penang; the rule is a very stringent one and must be observed though hitherto I fancy it has not been in this part of the world.

I have received a letter from the Rajah of Rambow the style of which I do not quite approve and I shall now let him distinctly know that I shall put a stop to the levying of any tolls upon British subjects in neutral waters.

(sd) O Cavenagh

True Copy

MP

To Hon'ble Captain Burn

R C Malacca etc. etc.

Penang 31st Dec

My dear Macpherson,

A steamer has just arrived which is to leave again immediately so that I have merely time to write a few lines to mention that I am anxious to meet Willans' wishes but I am afraid it will be necessary for him to await the orders from Government about the Second Magistrate which will I trust be done by the next mail. With a Marine Magistrate and a district Magistrate to aid him in the discharge of his duties I think it is possible that Mr Smith might be able to get through the duties at Singapore. When Willans might be appointed to officiate for Dunman, I had intended sending Earle to Singapore and bringing Smith here but Earl has begged to be allowed to remain in the Province even though he would receive higher pay by the change and under these circumstances of course I will not move him. In Braddell's case there is no immediate necessity for arrangements to be made as he can remain quiet {here?} until the 21st arrive from Canton and Captain Smart of that Regiment, Lewis's son in law, has been mentioned to me as being well qualified to act, having a tolerable knowledge of Malay and an acquaintance with the people in the Straits from having been quartered here with his Corps for 3 years. Robertson should submit his application for privilege leave at once to enable the order to be gazetted. Man would be very glad of Moniot's services if you can spare them; the Steamer might also stay a couple of days at Malacca to enable Burn to have the benefit of his advice which I know he needs sadly.

Might not Colonel Faber also take advantage of the opportunity to visit Malacca, the Hooghly taking him up on the return trip.

The Sir Hugh Rose Steam gun boat has been ordered to be commissioned immediately and placed at my disposal instead of the "Clyde" against whose coming I protested as Haughton informed me she was useless. I am afraid the "Hooghly" will hardly be available for the Rajah unless he either remains some time at Singapore or starts for Sarawak at once. Etc. etc.

Yours sincerely,

(True Copy) (sd) O Cavenagh

MP

To The Hon'ble Capt. Macpherson, R C S'pore

My dear Col. Faber,

I do not see how it is possible for us to build the Light House without having a good road to the summit of the head land; the space for the site and in its vicinity must be cleared and accommodation must be prepared for the workmen and overseer; under these circumstances, you have my full permission to make arrangements with the Rajah's brother for the performance of the work. You might report the circumstances officially for record alluding to instructions demi-officially received.

(True Copy) (sd) O Cavenagh

Penang M.P.

31st Dec 60 To Col Faber

Offg. Ch. Eng.

Penang 12th Janry

My dear Brigadier,

Your official letter on the subject of the colors of the Volunteers has somewhat puzzled us; it affords no information relative to the source from which the colors are to be obtained, etc.

Colors are not granted by Government to Volunteer Companies nor have they ever to the best of my belief been issued even to any of the new Volunteer Battalions, in some cases, if I recollect right, I have seen notices of Colors having been presented by the ladies of towns to Volunteer Companies but this is of course a matter over which the Government exercises no control, nor is the presentation recognised in any Official Notification. I shall of course be happy to do anything in my power to meet the wishes of the Volunteers but I am afraid for the reason above stated I shall however delay sending you an official reply, until the receipt of information as to the circumstances under which that request has been prepared.

Believe me

Yours sinly

Sd O Cavenagh

PS I hope you have had no trouble with the Troops passing through, and that if any horses have been landed you have arranged for their accommodation either at the P & O Company's or the Convict {Customs?} sheds.

To Brigadier Burn

Comy Troops in the Sts

etc. etc.

My dear Colonel,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letters of the 30th Ult. And 8th Inst. I am somewhat as to your remarks with respect to Officials being

If you will refer to my demi official of the 20th Ult. You will see that an express allusion is made to a reference having been made to Man on the subject of the money received from the Wyang; he has been directed to recover it and pay it to the executive Engineer unless he can prove that he had authority for paying the amount to any other person; he has been compelled to make a reference to Singapore and this will cause some little delay in the final settlement of the question.

2. No acknowledgement is ever sent of the receipt of a Budget as it would be a waste of time, at the same time you must be aware of its having reached as one or two memos have been forwarded to you relative to inaccuracies discovered in it; I am only sorry to say there were several; some viz: the omission of all items on account of convict labour in the Penang Division ? have been able to correct here, but there are one or two wh. cannot be corrected until a reference has been made to you regarding them. I shall not however detain the Budget on this account and have already drafted my transmitting letter.

{3.} At para 7 of my letter of the 26th I have duly answered your query with respect to the Malacca Bridge so that you need not require any further instructions but can act according to your own judgement. It is as I have stated immaterial to me which plan is adopted but no additional expense beyond what has already been authorized can be incurred.

4. Collyer's scheme for altering the mouth of the River cannot as far as I am able to judge be carried out except at great cost and is not therefore likely to be sanctioned for some time to come.

5. I directed in the first instance the Surveyor General as to the proper authority to forward to the Secy D.P.W. Calcutta several Maps of each station in the Straits Settlements and these have I believe been duly transmitted; my own opinion is that the "s" at the end of the word "reference" is a misprint; if not it would be necessary to send up fresh general maps with each successive Budget; the whole letter has been very carefully written which you will perceive by reference to the 1st paragraph where the Governor of the Straits is alluded to as a third person. I am the more confirmed in my opinion because some time ago a similar letter was received relative to Province Wellesley and the plans were then supplied by Moniot.

6. Cape Rachado is as you have accurately stated 350 feet high so that the length of road will certainly be considerable; on my making a remark on the subject of the amount of labor that would be required I was told that the cost to the Rajah would not be much as the work would be executed by his own people who would merely receive their food whilst thus employed.

7. I am very sorry to learn that Mr Patmore has proved a failure; it is a pity that he did not avail himself of my offer of the berth at Labuan; at that time however Bennett was not desirous of parting with him; by the next mail I will enclose a letter from mr Edwards. I have no time to write by this the Steamer having taken us quite by surprise.

8. I am very glad the road making rules are in the press; they will I am certain be found very useful for the guidance of D.P.W. officers.

9. I see an estimate has been received from Penang on account of a punkah and mat to an Officer's quarters. The former will be sanctioned but the latter cannot be so as such articles are not supplied at the expense of the State. Indeed sunshades are not authorized in Officers' Quarters at Fort William, we had to buy them. I then made a strong appeal on behalf of Officers doing Regtl Duty but it was not there attended to nor do I think they have hitherto been allowed.

10. Many thanks for looking after Govt. House and the stud. I am rather amused at Mr Schreiber's supposing that I intended to lay out Govt money for his benefit. I would sooner remain at Malacca or this place.

Sd/ O Cavenagh

To Col Faber

Offg. Ch. Engineer,

Singapore MP

Penang

12th January

My dear Macpherson,

The Mail has arrived a day before her time hence I can only send you a few hurried lines.

2. I was delighted to hear of the successful result of the on Pulo Tinghie, and sincerely trust that we shall be able to obtain a conviction against the prisoners.

3. You were quite right to reply to Mr Aitken with regard to Mr Toomey's case; if Mr T has been guilty of malpractices he cannot be allowed to remain in the Government Service, if on the contrary he is innocent his innocence should be made as public as the reports that have been circulated to the detriment of his character. I am somewhat surprised at the Judge's remarks on the prosecution, had he reflected for a moment he would have known that the course pursued was perfectly legal. Only recently in Penang an indictment was prepared against a witness in Court and he was tried on a charge of theft for which he had never been committed by the Magistrate though called upon to give evidence in the case against another person.

4. I shall be glad to meet Willan's wishes as regards the Magistracy. He will at once be gazetted to act for Braddell but with orders to remain in Singapore and I will write to Govt. to sanction his receiving the higher allowances. Capt Smart will be appointed here on the arrival of the 21st, Mr Gottlieb acting in the meanwhile. Mr Robertson will act as Comr of Police in addition to his other duties as a temporary arrangement only. I hardly think that it would be advisable to make

Mr Playfair Comr. I should be glad for many reasons to advance his interests but until he has quite reformed as respects his general habits I could not put him into a place of trust. He must be aware of my knowing his fault, it having been alluded to in the Medical Certificate sent in when he applied for Sick Leave.

5. If the Tharmah is not urgently required its construction can be delayed until I return but I rather think the point you have selected is too far as it would entail the necessity of prolonging the road for a considerable distance; perhaps there is some good site between Passir Panjang and Ayer Rajah.

6. The two sampans as you will perceive by referring to your official records are to be manned by the Lascars from the Police Gunboat ordered to be laid up so that no additional expense is to be incurred.

7. Ere this the name of the Muicipal Comrs. Ought to have been gazetted as the necessary order was directed to have been sent down by last mail; we need not appoint a substitute for Dunman until the date of his intended departure is fixed.

8. With respect to your want of funds you must draw bills at the best possible rate procurable. Rupees can I fancy duly be sold at a heavy discount; you can draw Bills both upon Calcutta and Bombay and also upon the Eastern Stations by giving due notice to the Acft. Genl. I shd think bills on Rangoon and Arracan wd sell very well at present.

etc. etc.

(sd) O Cavenagh

The Hon'ble Capt. Macpherson

etc. etc.

My dear Grey,

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 21st Ult0 and the news regarding the gunboat. I have little doubt that with her aid I shall be able to keep the Straits and the Entrance to the China Sea perfectly clear of Pirates more especially as she will in all probability be commanded by Lieut. Woods who is a very good Officer. As I presume she is to be permanently placed at my disposal as soon as she arrives I shall recommend the disposal by sale or otherwise of the Gunboat "Singapore" as with two steamers available she will not be required and we cannot afford any unnecessary expense. I am glad to say that we have succeeded in capturing three miscreants the heads I fully believe of a Piratical Gang at Pulo Tinghie; they were concerned about two years ago in the cold blooded attack and murder of the whole of the crew of one boat belonging to Singapore and the plunder of another; regarding the first we have I am afraid only hearsay and circumstantial Evidence and possibly we may not be able to bring them to trail on that charge tho' there is no doubt of their guilt; as regards the second, we have one or two witnesses who were in the boat when she was plundered, one of them having been wounded by the pirates so

that we ought to obtain a conviction though English Law is very uncertain. In this quarter we have had no more cases of petty piracy since I caused the neighbouring Islands to be searched. The last letter sent to the Rajah of Perak too has been effectual as the Resident Councillor informs me he has received a reply to the effect that we are to consider his territories as under our own and take such measures as we may deem necessary for the apprehension of offenders within them.

I see by the last Overland Paper that the despatch of the Electric Telegraph Cable for the line between Rangoon and Singapore has been postponed. I do not know whether this line is to be Executed at the expense of the Indian or Home Government and moreover have until this last intelligence considered the matter of the Sub Marine line almost a fair accompli and consequently one regarding which it would be useless to offer any suggestions but as there now seem to be some doubts on the subject and the war with China having terminated the urgent necessity for the line has ceased, I think it right to mention that as far as the Chiefs thro' whose territories it would run are concerned I have reason to believe that there would be no obstacle to one carrying down the line the whole way by land; there may be natural obstacles but I should think they might be overcome however on this point no certain information can be obtained and a survey of the country wd. Of course be required to determine the question we might enlist the interest of the Chiefs in the work by allowing them a small annual sum for taking charge of the line and giving either to them or to some of their creatures contracts for supplying timber for the Posts, independent of the measure being one of economy for Marine Lines are I fancy very expensive and attended with great risk of failure it would I think perhaps prove beneficial in a Political point of view by strengthening our connections with our neighbors and by increasing our influence in the Malayan Peninsula enable us to exert that influence to the benefit of themselves and their subjects and induce them to follow the example set them by Rajah Inmahat {Jumaat?} of Lookoot who is the only one of all the Chiefs who has attempted to improve his country; however I am afraid we cannot boast of having done much in this respect either at Singapore or Malacca.

As regards the latter place I have by the bye just submitted a representation as to the necessity for getting the long promised Land Act passed, a representation which I hope you will support for I truly believe if it is much longer delayed we shall soon have great difficulty in collecting any Land Residence {rents?}, whilst the Settlement which ought to be capable of paying all its expenses and yielding a surplus besides, will from the want of capital to bring the waste lands under cultivation and of any energy amongst the present landholders become gradually mined {ruined?} in spite of all the exertions of Government to render it flourishing and prosperous. If we could sell the lands in fee simple there are many capitalists, Europeans and Chinese, who would be induced to purchase and lay out large sums in the cultivation of Sugar and Tapioca but they will not of course invest money in Estates to which there is any chance of their titles being hereafter disputed. Burn is active and intelligent as well as very zealous and will make a first rate Resident Councillor but at present he can effect but little with such an incubus as our land system to weigh down all his efforts to improve his District.

From all I hear the date of the Transfer of the Straits to the Colonial Office seems as distant as ever and India may still be burthened with the payment of a deficiency for sometime to come so that it is the more necessary that the Legislative Council should move in the matter. Mr Sconce

has prepared a Draft Act with one or two slight additions which I have pointed out will I think answer the purpose and remove all existing doubts etc. etc. (sd) O Cavenagh

Penang (True Copy)

18th Janry/61

To W. Grey Esq., M Protheroe

Secy to Govt Home Dept Offg Secy

Calcutta

Penang 24th Janry

My dear Smith,

In the early part of this year I addressed the Government on the subject of the introduction at the Mint of Dollar coinage for the purpose of meeting the wants of the Straits Settlements where at present we are perfectly dependent upon a Foreign Coin for use in all monetary transactions and as respects the Government often suffer heavy loss by the difference of exchange between dollars and rupees; the intended transfer of the Straits to the Colonial Office I imagine prevented the matter being taken into consideration but as this transfer now seems as far off as ever and I am still inclined to believe that the Establishment of a British dollar and half dollar currency would be profitable to the State and a great convenience to the Community at large I am thinking of resubmitting the question and before doing so should be glad to be favored with your opinion on the subject and therefore enclose for your consideration a copy of a note received from a member of an influential Firm at this Station specifying the intrinsic value of the Mexican Dollar and its cost to the Merchants in the Quarter.

Extract.

"In looking over a large number of our dollar Shipments from London I find the average outturn to be about \$1151 to the 1000 ounces; by last Mail we are advised that the Mexican dollars were selling at 62 ¹/₈ per ounce which makes these dollars laid down here (not including 45 days of interest) cost 4/8 464

1150

oz oz

1 : 62 ¹/₈ :: 1000

62 ¹/₈

2000

6000

125

62125

add 4 - per cent for charges. 2795 d

\$1151/ 64920 / 56 464

5755 1150

7370

6906

464

d

The intrinsic value of the Mexican dollar is 51.79 the Standard silver being 62 pence, Bar silver was selling at 61 ¹/₄^d per ounce this will bring up the Margin to at least 5^d on the dollar a sum somewhat smaller than I had looked for when I commenced the calculation.

Were the Straits and Hongkong Governments to support the Mercantile Community I think there can be no doubt but that the British dollar would speedily become a currency and favourite coin and if I recollect right both the S.pore and Penang Chambers of Commerce Expressed the same opinion.

Yours etc.

Penang O Cavenagh

24th Janry/61 To Coll Smith C.B

Mint Master

Calcutta

(True Copy)

M Protheroe Lt

Ag. Secy.

My dear Lineman,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 23rd Inst. As you apparently have grounds for supposing that your conductor interfered with contractors, H H the Governor would wish you to make further enquiry on the subject with a view to the truth or otherwise of the Allegations against Mr Gilby in the petition from the ex writer I sent to you the other day being ascertained.

Yours sincerely

Penang M.Protheroe

25th Janry 1861

To Captain lineman

S. Asst Comy Genl

Singapore

Penang

24th Janry/61

My dear Macpherson,

I was very sorry to hear the Pulo Tingey case had been postponed until next Sessions as it is impossible to say what influence may be brought to bear upon the witnesses in the meanwhile. I am however in hopes that they will remain staunch as the conviction of these prisoners would probably break up the Pirate Haunt and enable our traders to pursue their avocations in that quarter in peace. I never thought a true bill would be found for murder, the evidence being chiefly hearsay but if the witnesses are to be believed there can be no doubt as to their having committed Piracy.

You will receive an official on the subject of Mr Toomey's case, which if you have taken no steps towards his prosecution on the bail bond charge, will determine the question. Had he been brought before the Grand Jury and the Bill thrown out I should have considered it just to abide by their decision and to have permitted Mr Toomey to rejoin his appointment; as it is accusations have been distinctly made against him which he has taken no trouble to refute; he has entirely lost my confidence and I have therefore determined upon dispensing with his services under the authority vested in me by the Police Act; he will of course receive his pay up to the date on which the notification is published in the Gazette, as a servant of the State he is bound to obey the orders of Government etc. etc.

You were quite right to order the Enquiry into the cause of the loss of the "Herculaneum", the proceedings should be sent to me for confirmation and then published in the Gazette; in special cases a copy is sent through the Master Attendant to the board of trade. etc. etc.

(sd)) O Cavenagh

True Copy

M Protheroe Lt

Ocg. Secy

To the Hon'ble Captain Macpherson R.C. Singapore

Penang 25th Janry 1861

My dear Colonel,

Your second Budget has arrived and fully explains the cause of your having such great reason to suppose your former letters had received no consideration.

2. Regarding the relative position of the Ex Eng. Penang with R.C.
3. Regarding the Plans of P.W. Island to accompany the Budget of 61/62.
4. The amount of convict labour to be devoted to different works at Penang was entered in red ink in the Budget.
5. Position of the Overseer's Quarters on the Bluff at Rachado.
6. Regarding Overseer Scully's Appt.
7. The arrangements regarding the location of Olive at Cape Rachado are entirely in your hands and I agree with you in thinking it would be better for him to remain there permanently until the work is completed than merely to pay the Cape Rachado temporary visits. Burn will be requested to let him have as far as practicable the services of the gunboat.
8. regarding the Malacca Bridge.
9. Regarding the sum allotted for Malacca communications.
10. Objecting to supervision of the R.C. over the Executive Eng. Malacca.
11. I am very glad to hear of the success of our boring Experiment in Fort Canning; this removes all fear of a want of water for the Garrison.
12. As there is a standard plan for a Conjee house it had better be adopted. I fully agree with Palmer as to the necessity of having brick walls and tiled roofs for a row of cells to be occupied

by refractory European soldiers if the money will only admit of 10 cells being erected the building should be so planned as to allow of an addition being made hereafter.

13. Regrets he did not inspect the Roads at Malacca.

14. Requests him to speak to his clerk about the carelessness in copying letters.

(sd) O Cavenagh

True Copy

M Protheroe Lt

Ocg Secy

P.S. If you require Mitchell to have his specifications and Completion Reports always signed by the Civil or Military Authorities you will effectually prevent any complains from them as to the work being improperly executed.

Extract from a letter to the R.C. Malacca — 25th Janry/61

If the Overseer is to be stationed at the Cape as long as the work is in progress which appears the best arrangement you must as far as practicable let him have the Assistance of the gunboat in getting up supplies etc.

(sd) O.C.

True Copy

M Protheroe Lt

Ocg Secy

My dear Lord,

Your kind letter of the 3rd inst only reached me yesterday, and as the Calcutta Mail is now hourly expected I hasten to send a few lines in reply. I cannot but believe that inadvertently Mr. Nicholson has somewhat misrepresented the nature of the difference of opinion between himself and the Ch. Engineer, and therefore deem it right to make you acquainted with the facts of the case as far as I am myself aware of them.

Some years ago a monument to the memory of General Butterworth, a former Governor of this Settlement, was forwarded from England to my predecessor with a view to its being erected in the Church at Singapore; the building however had either been dismantled or was in course of being so, and the monument with several other tablets that had been removed during the process was accordingly deposited in the governor's Office, where it remained until within the last few

months. When the new Church was near completion the Chief Engineer represented that in order to prevent the disfigurement of the building, it was advisable that the tablets that had been placed nominally under my charge should be made over to the P.W.D. in order that they might be put up previous to the walls being plastered; this arrangement was sanctioned but he was, at the same time instructed to act in communication with the Residency Chaplain and with the relatives of the deceased parties where their relatives were still at the Station; Mr. Nicholson in corresponding with Col. Faber on the subject stated that the arrangement proposed by the latter was unobjectionable but that before the erection of General Butterworth's monument it would be necessary to obtain a faculty and pay a fee of 50 Rupees; to this the Chief Engineer contended that the building was still in his hands and he was acting under the orders of the Local Government; he could not be called upon by the Ecclesiastical Authorities to pay a fee for permission to carry out such orders; that in fact the actual Charge of the Chaplain over the church did not commence until it was completed and made over to him by the Ex. Engineer, from which date he was vested with the power to sanction the Erection of Tablets and monuments in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the P.W.Code; in this view of the case when it was brought to my notice I certainly concurred with Coll. Faber. Had Mr. Nicholson expressed any doubts as to the propriety of erecting the monument in the position selected, or even expressed a wish to refer to your Lordship on the subject before giving his opinion, in accordance with the orders received by Colonel Faber, orders which distinctly recognised the claim by courtesy if not by right of the Chaplain to be consulted in all matters connected with the Erection of an Edifice intended for divine service, no further steps would have been taken by that officer until the receipt of your reply, but as the question at issue apparently had reference only to the payment of a fee, and its solution would have involved the necessity of a reference to England in order that Mr. Butterworth's wishes on the subject might have been ascertained, I saw no reason for my interference and permitted Coll. Faber to continue the work which would otherwise have been countermanded and which it was an object at that time to complete with the least practicable delay as there was reason to hope that the painted windows would have arrived in time to admit of Service being performed at Xmas day; this hope however I am sorry to say, thro' some neglect on the part of Agents in England has not been realized and the building is still in an unfinished state, as the windows however, are I understand now on their way, I trust that it will be completed before we shall have the pleasure of seeing your Lordship. The position selected for General Butterworth's monument exactly fronts the space occupied by a large tablet erected to the memory of the only Chaplain whose death has taken place at S.pore and does not in any way interfere with that reserved for the Creed and Commandments; as a work of art it deserved a more prominent place but from the nature of the architecture of the church, a sufficiently flat space could not be found for its reception elsewhere, except by disfiguring one of the handsome pillars along the Aisle.

Your Lordship will I am sure be much pleased with the building; I have seen few in India to equal it, and it reflects great credit both on the architect by whom it was designed, and the Officer by whom that design has been carried into execution. It is much to be regretted that owing to the fear expressed by Capt. Collyer with respect to the soundness of the foundation we have been compelled to deviate from the original plan and substitute a Spire for the proposed tower, for the latter would I think have been more in keeping with the remainder of the edifice.

In conclusion I need not say that whatever may be the decision of the President in Council on the General question, it would at all times afford me sincere pleasure to meet your Lordship's wishes with regard to any matter connected with the Ecclesiastical Establishment in the Straits, whilst there was certainly no intention on my part and equally so I venture to state on that of Col. Faber to dispute the propriety, in the event of the Chaplain as your representative here deeming it necessary, of your being consulted with respect to the arrangement of the tablets in the new Church, but on this point certainly no stress appears to have been laid by Mr. Nicholson and the question he mooted seemed simply that connected with the payment of a fee. etc.

Yours very sinly

True Copy (sd) O Cavenagh

To the Right Revd M Protheroe Lt

Lord Bp. Of Calcutta Offg Secy to the Governor SS

Penang 28th Janry 61

My dear Sir Robert,

I duly received versions of the Muka {Mukah} affair both from Mr Edwardes and Capt Brooke but I am sorry to say these letters are in my desk at Singapore and I am consequently unable to refer to them but as far as I can judge the circumstances of the case are as follows.

In July 1859 Messrs Fox and were murdered; suspicion fell upon a native chief as the instigator of the base act, an attempt was made by the Sarawak Authorities to seize him on his being summoned to attend at the residence of the administrators of the government, the attempt proved unsuccessful and the Chief escaped and sought refuge in Bruni; an application was made by the head of the Govt. at Sarawak for his surrender. This application was submitted by the Sultan to Edwardes as Offg. Consul General. After due enquiry he came to the opinion - whether right of wrong I do not presume to say - tho' I am convinced it was his honest opinion that the Chief was innocent of the charge preferred against him, and that the attack that had been made upon him in the Sarawak River was most unwarrantable. He therefore advised the Sultan to decline compliance with the application and upon this advice the sultan acted; some time after the chief, if I remember right, proceeded to the Muka and it was reported exerted his influence amongst the petty chiefs in that quarter to induce them either to entirely put a stop to the Sago trade down the River or else levy heavy transit duties upon it; on this point I am not quite certain; as Sarawak depends in a great measure upon its sago trade, the movement of the Chiefs naturally proved extremely prejudicial to the interests of the Settlement consequently a large Expedition was organized for the purpose of reopening by force of arms if necessary the trade of the River and destroying the forts that had been erected along the bank

Upon hearing of this Expedition the Sultan appealed to Edwardes as the British Representative of {at} his Court to protect his territories from invasion by a force headed and raised by Englishmen. On the receipt of this appeal Edwardes determined upon proceeding in person to the

Muka and ascertaining the Exact state of affairs; he accordingly embarked on board of the "Victoria" and on arrival at the mouth of the River he found a large Force consisting both of Europeans and Natives under the Command of Capt. Brooke preparing to force the entrance. Edwardes immediately prohibited te attack; Capt. Brooke acknowledged his right to exercise authority over all British subjects and offered to withdraw with the Europeans leaving the Natives to fight the battle by themselves, but Edwardes would not agree to this arrangement and intimated his intention of issuing orders to the commander of the "Victoria" to fire upon any portion of the Expedition that might attempt to enter the River and Capt, Brooke consequently retired with his Whole Force, Edwardes however promising that he would cause the trade of the River to be reopened and the Forts destroyed.

If Sarawak is to be looked upon as a British Settlement there can be no doubt that Edwardes was perfectly justified in pursuing the course he adopted and that Capt. Brooke had no power in his capacity as governor to attack the territories of a Foreign Prince, with whose country we are at peace, without having in the 1st instance solicited redress for any grievances thro' the medium of Her Majesty's representative at the Sultan's Court; if on the contrary Sarawak is to be considered as a Native State Edwardes had no right to interfere further than to prohibit British Subjects from taking an active part in any operations that might be carried on, on the Bruni side of the Boundary River, hence I am inclined to believe that he exceeded his authority when he intimated his intention of firing upon the Natives even although the Europeans had retired. If the Muka is the boundary between Sarawak and the Sultan's territories its navigation according to the Law of Nations should be free to the inhabitants of both States and Capt. Brooke was fully justified in insisting upon the rights of his people being recognised and maintaining these rights by force if necessary, but he certainly either as a Governor of a British Settlement or as a ruler of and independent State was not justified in commencing active operations until he had caused the usual representation to be made to the Sultan and had reason to believe that this representation had failed to receive proper consideration and that his demands would not be acceded to. There can I believe be no doubt that the trade at Sarawak has suffered, tho' to what extent I am unable to say; if I remember correctly Capt. Brooke in the first instance asserted that Edwardes failed to fulfil his promise with regard to causing the river to be reopened and the Forts destroyed. However, when the "Victoria" returned to the Muka I believe all difficulties had been removed and the trade was again free. Sarawak is certainly an anomaly at present and it is a pity that its position either as a British Settlement or an independent State is not more clearly defined. I treat it as the latter and merely consider myself responsible for affording protection to the lives of the British Residents if attacked, in the same way that I should do in the Event of an insurrection in Java and the lives of the British inhabitants in Batavia being thereby endangered. etc. etc.

Yours sincerely,

(sd) O Cavenagh

Penang True Copy

28th Janry 1861 M Protheroe

Offg. Secretary

Penang 28th Janry 1861

My dear Macpherson,

I have the pleasure to enclose for your perusal the reply received to my Letter to Goodwyn relative to the application made by Mr Stirling and shall feel obliged by your communicating its purport to the Municipal Commissioners and making me acquainted with their wishes on the subject to enable me to answer Mr Stirling's letter. I certainly should not feel justified in recommending the acceptance of his offer. Your Funds are hardly in a position to enable you to make heavy disbursements just by writing to England to secure the services of an efficient Civil Engineer on a salary of £500 per annum to be increased to £600 provided he gave satisfaction after two years' trial; however this is a matter for the Commissioners to decide.

I hope you will send me your amended Police disbursements Estimate by the first opportunity to enable me to make the usual requisition for the monthly payments. I am really much puzzled with respect to the Police Commissionership. Playfair I am afraid would break down, whilst Robertson although intelligent wants judgement and will be hardly fit to exercise the controlling power over a large body for another year or so. Some two or three months ago Read spoke to me regarding a Mr Cruickshank who had charge of the police at Sarawak and was anxious for employment in the Straits; could you ascertain whether he has a good knowledge of Chinese for if so I should be inclined to offer him a berth.

The Grand Jury are a little late in their suggestion regarding Chinese Interpreters. I have been corresponding with the Supreme Govt on the subject for the last three or four months. I believe they will give me one as an experiment, but these measures cost money and I do not exactly see how the Straits people are to expect that India is to pay for the improvement of their institutions.

The question of the fees for the Shipping Office has not yet been decided but I cannot help thinking that the whole of the fees will be allowed to the Acting Officer, in which case Mr Wilkinson would receive one half his salary, as Deputy, one half of Mr Vaughan's salary as Master Attendant and Marine Magistrate and 200 Rupees, and one half of his own salary would remain available for the Offg. Deputy; are you aware of anyone who would be glad to accept the latter berth on those terms, if so, and you can recommend him, I might, in the event of Mr Wilkinson's giving up the sale of his Charts, publish the appointments in the Gazette immediately on the issue of the next commission of the Place which might include Mr Wilkinson's name, so as to enable him to perform the duty of Marine Magistrate. I have applied for Capt. Stuart's services and a commission will be issued as soon as they are placed at my disposal.

The order for the additional Magistrate for S'pore will I hope arrive by the next mail as the last reference made by the Supreme Government for further information was answered in December just before I left Singapore.

I fully approve of your plan for converting the Gunboat into a Government barge, for such a boat is much required on the occasion of the arrival of Foreigners of distinction, and it is just as well

to make use of her. Excluding the governor's pay you ought to have plenty of money to meet the Expense of keeping up the sampans. Men for duty at the new Thanahs of Changhai and Passir Panjong were duly included in the Police return for last year; there is always a tendency on the part of the Commissioner to raise the Police Expenditure; it is natural but it must be guarded against and checked.

You have ere this received an Official on the subject of drawing bills upon Calcutta and Bombay so that you need not hesitate about making arrangements to procure whatever you may require.

Yours very sincerely

(sd) O Cavenagh

True Copy

M Protheroe Lieut

Offg. Secy

To

The Hon'ble Capt Macpherson

R C Singapore

Penang 28th Janry

My dear Sir Hercules,

It is not unlikely that ere long I may have one or two vacant appointments in the Police and Magistracy at my disposal and as none of the officials at present under my orders understand Chinese, I am desirous if possible of obtaining for the anticipated vacancies the services of officers who may have a competent knowledge of that language and I shall esteem it a favour if you will kindly let me know whether there are any gentlemen at Hongkong who have acquired that knowledge and are qualified for public employment in other respects, who would be willing to accept Office in the Straits; the salary of a Dy Comr of Police is in the first instance Rs 250 per mensem; the highest appointment to which he can succeed, viz that of Commissioner of Police at Singapore being 800 Rupees; the lowest salary of a Magistrate is Rs. 500 and the highest viz Police Magistrate Singapore 700 RS. Candidates are appointed on probation in the first year and at the expiration of that period are expected to be prepared to undergo an examination in the Acts of the Legislature of India affecting the Straits and in the Malay language; the examination is not a strict one and in general knowledge of the purport of the Acts and a colloquial knowledge of the Malay dialect is all that is required. I have recently applied to the Supreme Govt to allow me to have the services of one or two student Interpreters similar to those attached to the Consulate in China, to train up to succeed to appointments in the Police and

Magistracy as they become vacant; the application has been favourably received but the want of funds will I am afraid prevent the measure being sanctioned etc. etc.

Yours sincerely

(sd) O Cavenagh

To: His Excellency Sir Hercules Robinson

Governor of Hongkong

True Copy

M Protheroe :ieut

Offg. Secretary

My dear Colonel,

Your note of the 24th Inst. Has this moment come to hand.

1. As regards the Press there can be no doubt as to its being Government property and it therefore must be resecured(?) but I think Mr Keasberry is fully entitled to reasonable notice before being called upon to stand and deliver.
2. With respect to the bridge, in the event of there being a chance of your being able to use your credit on that account this year, it appears to me that the proper plan would be for you to report the non-arrival of the Iron guiders {girders} and request in consequence that you may be permitted to transfer that credit either in the Lighthouse to enable you to make a remittance or to any other work within my sanction and authorized for next year; this would enable you to save the money which would then be available for the bridge in 1861/62 when you might submit a fresh estimate provided it did not exceed Rs 5,000 for my sanction.
3. The plan of receiving the Venetian windows to the Chow huts(?) if neatly done is

I think upon the whole preferable to that of having fixed bars which would give the building rather a prison-like appearance. You can therefore issue the necessary orders.

Yours sincerely,

(sd) O Cavenagh

Penang

28th Janry True Copy

M Protheroe Lt

Offg. Secy

To Colonel Faber

Chief Engineer

Extract of a letter to the R.C. Penang

dt Janry 29th 1861

"I hope that there has been no misconduct on Mr Gottlieb's part with regard to the amount of his salary as of course whilst acting for Williams he only receives William's pay, the latter having that forfeited by Braddell etc. etc.

(sd) O Cavenagh

True Extract

M Protheroe Lt

Acg. Secy

(inserted letter) Penang Janry 31st 1861

(Copy)

My dear Brigadier,

Many thanks for your note relating to the Volunteers' colours. I certainly was not aware before that there were any in existence, hence your official letter on the subject rather puzzled me. I have been trying to discover precedents for authorizing officially the desired Motto to be born upon the Colors and Appointments of the Corps, but have been unable to find a single one. In England as I before mentioned the colors are generally given by the Ladies and of course no Official Certification is issued, though I dare say many of the Volunteer Regiments have assumed their courtly Mottoes and Devices; in India, also under recent regulations it is clear that Volunteers are not to be provided with colors by the State, hence equally with their brethren in England they are entitled to select their own Regimented {Regimental} Mottoes, and any interference on the part of the Government might be deemed improper. The corps seems to be getting on so well, that it would be a pity to take any steps that might subject it to remarks in the Papers, etc., and as you know there are people glad to cast remarks upon their neighbours if any opportunity is afforded for doing so.

I have no power to authorize the building in the Fort to be used as an Arsenal, it having been converted into a hospital by the express order of the Supreme Government and contrary certainly to my wish, the transfer of the stores as a mere temporary arrangement would entail great expense for carriage, otherwise I should not have hesitated about according the desired permission. I should have been very glad to have seen Col Walker but his stay here was too short to admit of his coming up the Hill. With the ladies' kind remembrances

Believe me etc.

Orfeur Cavenagh

(end of inserted letter)

Penang 2nd Feby/61

My dear Sir Benson,

I have the pleasure to enclose for your perusal a letter received from Sir R, McCausland on the subject of the revision of the table of fees to be granted to the Law Agents practising in the Court. Although perhaps it is advisable that there should be but one table of fees for both divisions of the Court it does not appear to me that such an arrangement is absolutely necessary, as with reference to Clause two Page 4 and clause 36 Page 23 of the Charter it is apparently competent for each Recorder to frame a table for his own Division.

I should have forwarded the Enclosure earlier but I have been absent in the Province for the last few days.

Yours sincerely

To Sir P B Maxwell O.C.

Recorder of Penang

True Copy M.P.

Penang 3rd February 1861

My dear Burn,

2. By the next Mail I hope to receive an official from Coll Faber on the subject of the clearance of the Sungey Bidarah, as he has written to me to state that there is an assignment of \$900 from the Budget of 1860/61 available for the purpose so that the work may be commenced in the course of this month.

3. It is clear that proper rules must be established both for the collection of the dues

on {or} tenths and for the remuneration of the Punghooloos and other Village officials. I have alluded to the subject in my official the {to?} Government recommending the proposed increase to your Surveys {and?} Land Office Establishments and shall be very glad to receive and expositio of your views as soon as you may have sufficient data to work upon. I agree with you in thinking that it would be advisable to give salaries to Punghooloos and to permit them to retain but a small quantity of rent-free land. Mr Sconce's Bill has passed one reading so that there is now really a hope of its becoming law, in which case this question becomes of more importance than ever. In my opinion tenths ought to be paid upon produce of all descriptions.

4. As regards Mr Evans's Bills for travelling allowance I have some idea that by a

recent circular you are authorized to decline attaching your signature unless you are satisfied that the charge is correct; that in fact your signature is considered as a voucher with respect to his being entitled to draw the allowance.

5. Although I am anxious that as far as possible the feelings and wishes of the

people should be consulted in the appointment of Punghooloos it is advisable that they should be made distinctly aware that this is merely done as a favor. The Punghooloo is a Govt. Servant and therefore his appointment rests entirely with the Government and that whenever there is any attempt to throw obstacles in the way of your selecting a good man you purpose exercising your power of selection without reference to any other person.

6. It might be as well for you to make some enquiries regarding the with a view to

measures being adopted to prevent the wholesale destruction....

7.Regarding Enchi Boojal

8. Regarding cattle stealer

9. Commissionership of Police Singapore.

10. Non-appointment of one Hoopain as Punghooloo

11. Interview with the

12. I cannot help thinking with you that there has been some underhand dealing on the part of your Clerk with respect to the Wood and it is impossible that so great a rise could have taken place in the price in so short a time; perhaps Sergeant Boyd might be able to give you some assistance towards defeating any intrigue that may be carried on in this matter. Coconut oil is now supplied on contract to the Commissariat at Singapore for \$10 per Picul and Tulman will be able to supply you at that rate plus the amount of boat hire from one Station to the other. I should hardly think the charge in one of the Schooners for a picul of oil would be more than one\$. When

I return to Singapore I will take up the subject of supplying oil through the Commissariat Dept. for all the Lights.

13. I have been thinking a good deal of late regarding the necessity for legalizing gambling and am afraid it cannot be avoided, though not in the shape of a Gambling Law or for the purpose of making a Revenue. If legalized it must {be?} by means of licenses granted by Commissioners and liable to be withdrawn at a moment's notice, a heavy fee to be paid for Each License, one half of the amount thus realized being devoted to the Encouragement of Female immigration and the other half to the Municipal Land {Fund?} for Public Improvements and to meet the expense of the additional Police Peons employed to maintain order amongst the habitués of the gaming house.

14. Mr Young has certainly managed to deprive the State of the greater portion of its Revenue and to make the land question at Malacca more complicated than ever; however with reference to the order from the Court of Directors it is clear that the applicants are entitled to obtain renewed leases on payment of the prescribed fee so that they must be granted.

Yours very sinly

Sd O.C

To the Hon'ble Capt Burn

R C Malacca

P.S. You omitted to insert any item for Income tax in your sketch estimate. Up to the present I have received no application from you ror money for your Police for the current year. I shall require a statement of your expenditure for the past year for publication in the Gazette.

/sd/ O.C.

True Copy

4/2/61 M Protheroe Lt

Offg. Secy

Precis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt Macpherson R C S'pore

Thinks that no application has been made for the Office of Offg. Dy Shipping Master Singapore and states it might be as well that Mr Anderson shd submit an application to be considered as a candidate for the appointment. Wishes the Grand Jury when suggestive {suggesting} reforms would recommend some sort of taxation to meet the additional expense likely to be incurred; was surprised to hear from Dr Rose that a committee had been ordered upon Apothecary Watson without sanction being first obtained; enquires how Mr Robertson is getting on with the Police; hopes he will send his estimate for this year's expense and statement of expenditure for last year

by next mail; considers that means have been adopted to prevent witnesses from coming forward in Toomey bribery case; requests him not to detain the Hooghly longer than he can help. etc.

Penang M.P.

4th Feby 1861.

My dear Sir Richard,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your note together with the proposed table of fees for Law Agent practices {practising} in a court under clause 2 Page 4 and 36 page 23 of the Charter. It appears to me that although it may be advisable to establish the same practice in both branches and consequently to consider the revised table in concert, in point of form the two Divisions of the Court should act separately, each Recorder being vested with full power to control the fees granted to the Agents attached to his own Division. In this opinion Sir Benson coincides, at the same time he would be glad to be favored with your views upon the subject after you have considered the table now submitted and decided upon the Alterations you purpose making; he is inclined to concur as to the propriety of having a higher and lower scale of costs in accordance with English precedent but before expressing any decided opinion intends consulting the Registrar. etc.

Sd O Cavenagh

True Copy

M. Protheroe Lt

Penang Ag Secy

4/2/61

To Sir R B McCausland

Recorder of S'pore

Penang 4 Feby 1861

Letter to Col Faber stating that there are several defects in the Police Stations at Province Wellesley and requesting information regarding the progress of the Sea Wall

M.P. (sd) O C

My dear Colonel Faber,

I am somewhat disappointed to hear such unsatisfactory accounts regarding the iron work for the Malacca Bridge. It does not say much for the advantage of the system of making remittances in

advance advocated by Collyer and I think yourself. When an order given in Decr 1859 is not completed by Febry 1861 you may depend upon it that cash payment on delivery is the same principle upon which all commercial dealings should be based. I suppose the iron work can be hardly expected before June so that little can be done before this further Mail to purchase Material for which your cash credits for \$480 for 60/61 will be found useful.

3. St Andrews Church, windows, lights, etc.

4. Rachado Lighthouse

5. I am very sorry to hear of your being in a fix about the sea wall. One thing is

certain that we must not if we wish to preserve our credit as for seeing men abate one inch in the breadth of the road Way along the Quay. In Singapore there is the traffic that will pass along it will be immense. Hence if there is any complaint on part of the proprietors of the adjacent lots it must be met by a further Expenditure of convict labor so as either to carry out the wall as noted in Moniot's plan provided there is no risk in doing so or else render the pro rate private contributions with reference to the reduction to be made in the area to be recovered. I have desired Protheroe to return you the plan if it is still in the Office.

6. Inspector of D.P.W. accounts Straits

7. I have sent up the plan and Estimate for the Spire of St. Andrews Church to the Supreme Govt. requesting it may be returned with the least practicable delay; by the bye there is there is an error of 100 tons in calculation {of the} weight wh. is estimated at 342 insterad of 442 etc. You do not in your transmitting letter make any allusion to the capability of the foundation to bear the proposed superstructure.

8. Mr Evans has applied for another appointment. We must eventually have an officer of higher Departmental rank at Malacca if the new land act is passed and if McNair were returned to duty I shd be glad to offer the appt to Bennett. The report regarding bennet's qualifications is required 6 mos having elapsed.

Sd O.C.

P.S. Glad to hear there was no foundation regarding the Statement made at the time regarding work done on Sundays. A.B.C. Bridge was the work that ought to have been specified in the letter about the Budget.

To Col Faber

My dear Macpherson

2. The coal sheds at Campong Malacca belonging to the R.N. and not to the Local Govt no steps can be taken by by the latter to repair them.

3. Hooghly to be sent back from Penang on the 20th in time to take the Recorder to Malacca.
4. Police Estimate sanctioned; Mr Robertson to be cautioned not to allow his zeal to out balance his judgement. His notification regarding fire works ought not to have been issued.
5. Proceedings of Court of Inquiry to be printed.
6. Approval of choice of Mil. Comrs of Engineers.
7. Mr Wilkinson's name to be included in next Commission of J.P.s
8. Question regarding the Income Tax Commissionership to be referred so that it may be submitted to Sup. Govt for orders.
9. Advantage to be taken of the favourable opportunity to obtain money to vent future demands.
10. Regarding Rajah Brooke and Governor Edwardes.
11. Although I can hardly suppose the Sultan wd. Be fool enough to act in opposition to our wishes he may perhaps unwittingly be made a tool in the hands of others and I am sorry therefore that you gave him permission to proceed to Muar; it wd. Have been better if you had referred him to me more especially as he has failed to answer my letter; tell him that I hold him responsible for any disturbance created by persons acting under his authority or in his name Mr Smith may be able to give you some useful information; therefore thank him for wh. he has told you and mention that you will be glad to hear anything he has to say at any future time; you must keep a sharp look out on the Sultan and his followers and if the former has not left, I think you might intimate to him that I am much displeased at not having received a reply to my letter and consequently you must withdraw the permission you had given him to leave for Muar.
12. Appointment of Comr. Of Police and salary to be drawn by Mr Robertson.
13. Mr Smith entitled to the usual fee while acting as Magistrate on Ct. of Enquiry.

(sd) O.C.

To The Hon'ble Capt Macpherson M.P.

R.C. Singapore

My dear Burn,

1. Relative to contingent bills
2. Conduct of the Hadjee at Looboo China

3. Protection of the Frontier and removal of Punghulus, also employment of Assistant R.C. in the District

4. Recognition of assistance received from Syed Saban.

5. Offer of reward of Rs 500 for the apprehension of the persons concerned on {in} the attack on the Jacoon.

6. Difficulty about appointing Mr Evans Dy. Comr of Police.

P.S. Payment of Mr Toomey to date of his discharge.

Sd O.C.

To Capt Burn R.C. Malacca Penang 14th Febry 1861

My dear Brigadier,

My time was so fully occupied getting off replies to the numerous official communications received from S'pore and Malacca by the last steamer that I was unable to answer your note on the subject of the Singapore Rifles. I have despatched a letter to the Supreme Govt recommending to favourable consideration Davidson's proposition for arming the Corps with Terry's breach loading Rifles and I have issued a notification appointing Sergeant Mantell Drill Instructor. I delayed this latter measure under the impression that some distinct order wd be issued in the Military Dept relative to the pay of Instructors to Volunteer Regiments, but as this has not been done pending any further orders on the subject Mantell will be entitled to the sum specified in your Official Communication though without the prospective increase.

2. The Volunteer Force at this station is progressing satisfactorily and the members are very attentive to their drill. Sixty Europeans well armed and disciplined would prove a very useful body in the event of an emeute.

3. Probability of the 99th Rt being sent to Singapore.

4. Returns papers connected with Terry's Rifles.

(sd) O.C.

To Brigadier Burn,

S.V. Rifles True Copy

M Protheroe Lt

Ag Secy

Precis of a letter to the Hon'ble Captain Macpherson R C S'pore of 21st Febr 1861

Acknowledges receipt of his official regarding the affairs of Muar, considers Mr Aitken's statement somewhat of an exaggeration and deems it advisable that he should have a personal interview with the Sultan and point out to him the risk he was under the provisions of Act X of /39, he being at present resident within English territories and subject to English Laws; requests him to explain to the Sultan that if information were lodged before the Magistrate it would be his duty to cause the Law to be carried into effect. Directs a strict supervision to be kept over the Sultan and his followers with a view to the prevention of any armed men proceeding from S'pore to Muar.

Requests him to order the "Hooghly" straight on to Penang after visiting Tanjong Gading so that if necessary she can take him (the Governor) down the Straits at once and desires him to send the "Hugh Rose" if arrived to cruise off the entrance to the Muar River.

(sd) O Cavenagh

M Protheroe Lt

Offg Secy

Penang

25th Febr 1861

My dear Grey,

With reference to my official on the subject of Chinese interpreters I deem it right to enclose for the information of Government an Extract from a letter this moment received from the Governor of Hongkong, by which it will be perceived that I have no chance of aid from that Quarter.....

Admiral Hope has started with an expedition up the Yangtze; he has I am afraid detained the steamers "Tonze" and "Mhor"; I purpose however writing him a few lines regarding them as they are at present much wanted in the Straits; owing to their light draught they will be able to run up the frontier Rivers at Malacca and overawe our neighbours in that quarter, many of whom are little better than Robber Chiefs and evidently they connive at the depredations committed by their subjects on our territories. I have had a report regarding the intentions of the Sultan of Johore to endeavour to regain possession of his country from the Tumongong. I hardly think there can be much truth in it, still the Sultan is an imbecile and may be led away by the designing men about him. I have warned him against the consequences of disturbing the Peace of the Peninsula and will have him well looked after. On this subject you will receive an Official in due course.

(sd) O Cavenagh

True Copy

M Protheroe Lt

Offg. Secy

Extract from a letter to Colonel Faber Offg. Ch. Engineer

at Penang 24th Febry 1861

I have sent Mitchell a memo regarding the defects in the different buildings and in the Province and have little doubt he will endeavour to rectify them; the Bukit Tamboon station is the only one creditably executed and even in that I noticed a little bad work and material. I am sorry to say I have not formed a very high opinion of Mr. Scully from the result of my interview with him at the Juru Bridge; he has rather too good an opinion of his own abilities as an engineer and ascribes all shortcomings to the want of proper tools; a really good workman should pride himself upon turning out excellent work notwithstanding the badness of his tools; we don't want fine gentlemen in the Straits. Little has been done with regard to the bridge further than laying in a store of stone at the convict station about a mile and a half distant and commencing to put down the piles for the coffer dam of one of the buttresses. I heard some complaints regarding the foundations of the new road from Neebong Tubal to Jawi. It is an important line of communication and Mitchell should take care to make it substantial; his attention has been called to it demi-officially..

From your letter I was led to believe that you not propose commencing the Spire until the 1st of May. I should be quite prepared to sanction the work at once but I thought it right to let the Supreme Govt have a look at the design. I requested that it might be returned with the least practicable delay and by one of Jardine's steamers and not via Point de Galle, so that it will I hope be returned next month.

(sd) O Cavenagh

True Extract

M Protheroe Lt

Ag. Secy to the Gov.

Penang

27th February/61

My dear Sir,

The Indian Government having placed at my disposal the Services of the Bengal Steamers "Tonze" and Mhor, as soon as they can be dispensed with in China, I am induced to request that

you will kindly oblige me by sanctioning their departure for Singapore on the Earliest possible date consistent with the interests of the Public Service. Owing to their light draught they will be of the greatest benefit in the Straits as they will be able to cross the bar by which the mouth of almost Every one of our Rivers is obstructed and thus pursue to their most distant haunts, the pirates or as they ought rather to be called the petty sea robbers by which the coast of the Malayan Peninsula is infested. They will also be very useful in overawing some of the neighboring chiefs who are occasionally tempted to interfere with the traders on the Frontier rivers and levy unauthorized tolls; indeed on this account their services may at any moment be urgently required at Malacca, where our relations with one of our neighbours are not at present very friendly. At the above station also a small steamer is now much needed to keep up the communication with Cape Rachado where we are building a Lighthouse, the Sailing Gunboat being almost useless for that purpose.

(sd) O Cavenagh

To His Excellency

Admiral Sir J Hope, K.C.B.

Comg in the China Seas

Shanghai

True Extract

M Protheroe Lieut

Offg. Secy to the Gov S.S.

My dear Macpherson,

2. As regards the Police there can be no doubt that with respect to the treatment of Mr Fish he should have been dismissed at once for breach of discipline no reference to me on the subject being needed; with regard to the others although the evidence as to their having connived at gambling is very strong, it might not be sufficient to secure conviction and therefore if they give no cause for complaint in other respects it might be advisable to retain their services for the present, keeping a good look out on them and not allowing them to remain long at one station. At the same time I am quite prepared to support Robertson's authority should he deem it necessary to dismiss them also. I do not issue any distinct orders regarding them because my doing so would be opposed to the Police Act, the Commissioner having full power to discharge any member of the Force. Mr Toomey's case was a very different one; he was not as a Deputy Commissioner liable to be dismissed by anyone but myself and moreover having ceased to belong to the Singapore Police Force, he could not be tried under Sec xiii, of this the Recorder was well aware for I had spoken to him on the subject. I have just drafted a long letter to accompany the proceedings of the Committee to Calcutta; in it I have recorded a strong opinion as to the inexpediency of the present laws against gambling and though I have expressed an

equally strong opinion against the Establishment of a Gambling farm as a matter of Revenue, I have advocated the grant of licenses under proper restrictions; the money to be received in fees to be appropriated part to the Municipal Commissioners and the remaining and largest portion to the introduction of a proper system of female immigration so as to meet one of the present most crying wants of the Settlement.

1. I am glad to hear that the Sultan is still at Singapore and trust that your

remonstrance has had the desired effect; if he leaves he certainly will not do so with my sanction and his pension will be forfeited, moreover if an information were laid before the Magistrate, and you may be certain the Tumongong's party will take advantage of Act X of 1839 and {if} they think it necessary, nothing could prevent his being arrested and compelled to give security against his proceeding to Muar, for as long as he resides at Singapore and receives a pension from our Government the Court will look upon him as a British subject. Burn has given you no information regarding the state of affairs at Tanjong Gading because there was none to give, Inchie Boojal being somewhere about the Kassang; the Dhatu Klana has been rather afraid of a move in his direction.

(sd) O Cavenagh

Penang

27th Febr 1861 (True Extract)

M Protheroe Lt

Offg. Secretary

Letter from H.H. the Governor to Captain Fraser Bengal Engineer superintending the Erection of a lighthouse upon Alguado Reed near Moulmein informing him that every assistance possible will be granted by this Government towards the furtherance of the work. M Protheroe Lt

Penang 27th Febr 1861 Offg, Secy.

(insert)

Precis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt J Burn R.C.Malacca

Issues certain instructions with regard to the Employment of the Hooghly and the P & O Company's tongkang in the conveyance of Material for the Erection of a Lighthouse on Cape Rachado; intimates the resignation by Dr Fraser of any claim to the appointment of Civil Assistant Surgeon at Malacca and requests him to ascertain his brother's views with regard to the above mentioned appointment.

M Protheroe Lt

Off. Secy. To the Gov.

(end of insert)

Singapore

March 23rd 61

My dear Yule,

On my last inspectional tour through Malacca I was far from pleased with the work of your Department, in fact it is clear to me that the Assistant Supervisor Mr. Evans though attentive to his duties and well up to his office work is not qualified from the want of professional knowledge for the charge of {a} large District which, with the chance of the Land Act being passed, is likely to become a very important settlement and in which already a considerable expenditure is being made on account of Public Works; to give you an idea of Mr. Evans' qualifications I may mention that on my finding fault with the brickwork of the new Jail, the pointing of which was execrable, he told me that it would appear all right when the plaster was put on. As long as the Resident Councillor was an old Ex. Engineer and there was a Chief engineer who frequently visited Malacca and in fact prepared all Plans and Estimates Mr. Evans answered very well as his accounts were always in good order but now that he is left to his own resources he proves a failure. I can however provide for him in a Post which he will be glad to accept and if there would be no objection to the arrangement as soon as the Tanglin Barracks are sufficiently advanced to enable me to dispense with the continued presence of an officer on the spot I propose appointing Mr Bennett to Malacca and allowing Palmer with a smart Asstt Supervisor to have the charge of the whole Singapore Range until Capt McNair returns; this would cause no additional expense whilst it would make the Establishments at both Stations efficient. At Malacca in addition to the numerous roads and bridges we have the Cape Rachado Lighthouse an important work in progress; the new Barracks to be commenced in 1861/62 and I hope the screw piled Lighthouse on the 2¹/₂ fathom bank in 1862/63 and none of these works could be entrusted to any but a really efficient Engineer; as it is I was obliged yesterday to send Bennett off in the Hooghly with a large native boat in tow full of Material for the Rachado Lighthouse in order to set the work fairly agoing, for up to the present the progress has been far from satisfactory.

A problem has lately been submitted to me which I am unable to solve and I should be much obliged if you could give me your opinion on the point. Does the rule in Para 49 Page 264 P.W. Code apply to Officers acting for {as?} Ex. Engineers in the Straits, such Ex. Engineers being also Superintendents of Convicts and Assistant R.Cs? Under the rules of ordinary Staff Employment an officer draws half staff {pay?} for 6 months and full staff for the remainder of the period of the permanent incumbent's leave of absence, but under the Para quoted no Offg Ex Eng can draw more than Rs 200 per mensem etc. etc.

To Lt. Col Yule

Secy to Govt of India P.W.D.

True Copy

M.P.

Precis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt Man R.C.Penang

Permits him to take 5 copies of Logan's Work and desires him to refer the applicants for the Interpretership of the Registrar; in case Mr. Van Someren is appointed he is to be warned that his previous service will not be allowed to count towards the Interpreter's pension.

M Protheroe Lt

Ag. Secy.

Resident Councillor Malacca

(Precis of a letter to) d/ 26th March

Returns Mr. Evans' and Quinton's reports relative to the damage done by the recent inundation and considers that a comprehensive scheme is necessary for the General Improvement of the drainage of Malacca. Encloses a list of Palms to be procured in Malacca.

M.P.

My dear Macpherson,

The Tumongong promised to pay \$1000 per annum to Mr. Keasberry's school if the Government of India would grant a similar sum. This was consented to and consequently as long as Malays are educated at Mr. K's school to the satisfaction of Government he is entitled to receive \$2000 viz \$100 {1000} from Govt. and \$1000 from the Tumongong. I suppose the latter pays his quota into the treasury. I can find no sanction for a larger sum. The extra \$500, with \$500 additional from the Tumongong, is to be expended on ordinary Vernacular Schools of which that at Tullok Blangah is one particularly specified by the Tumongong in his letter. You had better let Mr. Keasberry know this and also that the allowance is granted solely for the education of Malays.

Yours very sinly

(sd) O Cavenagh

True Copy M.P.

To The Hon'ble Captain Macpherson R.C. Singapore

March 28th / 61

My dear Colonel,

In a letter I received from Man he gives a bad account of the new Hospital; in the house of correction the wood has a good deal shrunk and the flooring will require to be caulked whilst in one plank the dry rot has shown itself. I did not approve of the work when I saw it, but Mitchell told me that he would get some of the wood to which I objected changed. Yet three months have now elapsed and apparently nothing has been done. Will you kindly call Mitchell's attention to this?

The great fault in the Penang circle is the want of proper supervision over Contractors; their work requires as you know as much if not more looking after than work done by day labour, but from what I saw in my tour I am led to believe that they do as they please until the work is finished when they naturally rebel against having to remove wood etc. which ought to have been rejected before it was used, and the removal of which will put them to great expense. I don't mean to say that they are in any way justified in using bad materials but there can be no doubt that prevention is better than cure and therefore it is always advisable to take measures to prevent bad materials from ever being made use of. Please send Mitchell a memo on the subject and oblige

Yours very sinly

(sd) O.C.

To Col Faber

Offg. Ch. Eng. M,P.

Singapore

28th March 1861

My dear Man,

Thanks for your hint regarding the house of Correction Hospital. From what I saw of the working of the D.P.W. in the Pinang circle I am of the same opinion as yourself that there has been a want of supervision over work Executed by Contractors, although such work should really be more looked after than work done by daily labour; the removal of beams etc. after a building is finished is always rather an expensive undertaking and a Contractor generally demurs to carrying out his agreement in this respect and often disputes the right of the Executive Officer to compel him to do so, whilst he can hardly object to changing raw material when it is objected to. I have written to Col Faber to address Mitchell on the subject.

2. I have passed the revised plan for altering the Jail; it will be a great improvement.

3. The charge for shoeing certainly is most exorbitant but with the convict Establishment on the decline it would hardly be worth while to organise a body of Farriers tho' if there happened to be a Farrier amongst the convicts he might be allowed to shoe horses at a moderate fixed rate.

4. I have told Macpherson to send you a memo of the cost of the stamps issued to

Offices at your Residency; you had better collect the amount and remit it direct; it will save time and trouble and Macpherson can then remit for S'pore and Malacca.

5. Regarding the Court Interpreter (Tamil) etc.

(sd) O Cavenagh

To The Hon'ble Capt Man

R.C. P.W Island M.P.

Extract from a letter to Captain McNair,

Ex Engineer Singapore, East India Army Agency, #

No 55 Parliament Street,

London d/ 8th April 1861

"Your letter of the 24th Janry reached me just as we had returned from Penang, when I was of course very busy and consequently obliged to put it on one side. As the question of the grant of a Charter would have to be referred for the decision of the Supreme Govt it is out of my power to answer the first of the list of queries forwarded and to enable me to submit a proposition on the subject it would be necessary for to Company to make an Official application mentioning the terms which they are willing to accept for lighting Singapore with gas; any reasonable proposal I shall be happy to support with my recommendation. Provided any Government land is available in a suitable locality the necessary grant would be given; this was promised to the Company of which Mr Rigg was the Agent; under section xviii of the Municipal Act the Commissioners are bound, out of the Funds now at their disposal to make arrangements for lighting the Public Streets and Roads. No special rate therefore could be sanctioned for this purpose. Both the Govt and Municipality would, I believe, be willing to contract with the Company for lighting Public Buildings, Streets etc. I have asked Protheroe to obtain from Rigg a copy of the list of Public lights furnished to him a few months ago; if received in time it will be enclosed. I would I think be advisable for the intending Gas Company or rather its Managers to place themselves in communication with the Directors or Agent of the Labuan Coal Company to ascertain on what terms the latter would be willing to supply the coal required. I do not know how far the Labuan Coal is well adapted for the purpose of making gas but doubtless full information upon that point can be obtained in England. etc. etc.

(sd) O.C.

True Extract

M P

Memo of lights required

at Singapore

Govt Nightly 122*

Occasionally 184+

Municipality Nightly about 150

*not inclusive of Barracks in Fort Canning

+ Church, Court House and Post Office

Singapore

8th/4/61

Précis of a letter to Capt J Burn, R C Malacca

States that no scheme has yet been submitted by Col Faber for the revised disposition of his subordinates, but will do so when the result of the Court of Inquiry upon Mr Olive is known. Intimates that the "Hooghly" should make a trip to Rachado with the tongkang in tow on her way to Penang and another from Malacca on her return. Regrets yo hear such unsatisfactory accounts of the state of the Courts; considers that the new road beyond Merlimo ought to give employment to a good number of men in that direction; does not intend to propose an inspector of schools as the arrangement would be too expensive. Fears there will be some difficulty about the Fair and thinks it would be better to try and establish it at Singapore where the Malay population could remain in their boats or find accommodation in the numerous houses available. Does not recognise Mr de Wind's right to receive the Official papers about the Malacca lands; considers that he has no claims and that no protest now urged will be listened to. Requests him as R.C. to bring to his notice any points regarding which it will be necessary to issue rules, as a code will be drawn up after the Bill becomes an Act. Intimates that the Ct of Inquiry could have assembled in Mr Olive's case at Malacca tho' the Rajah could not be summoned as it is in accordance with the Code Page 189 there will be nothing to act upon except Mr Evans' statement.

M P

Précis of a letter to Capt Man R.C. P.W.I dated 9th April 1861

Makes certain remarks regarding the opium farms at Penang and S'pore. Considers his arrangement with Lt. Jackson a good one and hopes it will be acted on as it would be a pity to lose the opportunity of obtaining a good survey of the Quedah coast; states that he has directed Col Faber to point out to Capt. Mitchell several errors connected with his department. Remarks on directions issued to Capt Mitchell regarding the interior reconstruction of the New Tharmah at

Ayer Etam. Expresses surprise at the delay in the completion of the Central Police Station. etc etc.

(sd) O.C.

13th April

To H B M Consul Batavia,

Java

My dear Sir,

When your predecessor, Mr Fraser, passed thro' Singapore en route to Calcutta he was kind enough to promise to procure for me a copy of the Enactment in force in Batavia for regulating the transfer of landed property; in the hurry of leaving the Calcutta steamer having only remained a few hours he possibly forgot to write to you on the subject and I am consequently induced to trouble you with these few lines to mention that should it be in your power to obtain for me a copy of the above regulations I should esteem your doing so a great favor as I am led to believe that the introduction of some of its provisions into the Straits Settlements may be attended with a beneficial result both to the people and to Government.

Sd O.C.

True Copy

15/4/61 M P

My dear Sir Richard,

I have the pleasure to enclose for your perusal a letter from Burn reporting an attempt made by several prisoners to escape from Her Majesty's Jail at Malacca and shall feel much obliged by your kindly letting me know whether in your opinion the case of Rengassawmee, the prisoner who gave the alarm is deserving favourable consideration. His name is the 8th on the Calendar and I find that he was sentenced to transportation for seven years for obtaining goods under false pretences, and that a true bill for larceny was also found against him. The utmost favor that would of course be shewn upon him would be a reduction of one year in the term of his transportation, possibly 6 months would indeed be sufficient.

Yours sincerely,

True Copy O.C.

20/4/61 M.P.

To the Hon'ble Sir R B McCausland

Recorder of Singapore

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt. Man, R.C. Penang

Dated S'pore the 22nd April 1861.

Informs him that his letter d/ 27th ulto was carried on by mistake to Hong Kong and only came to hand yesterday. Thinks that perhaps the mistake occurred in the Pinang Post Office and requests him to inquire into the Matter; does not consider it would have been wise to grant any remission of payment to the Pinang opium Farmers, as they would make similar application yearly; directs him to submit the usual Indent for the Volr Rifles and on their receipt return the present arms into store. Requests to know whether anything has been done regarding the Poor house at Pinang.

M.P.

Extracts from a letter to the Hon'ble Capt Burn R.C. Malacca d/ 22nd/4/61

When the new jail is ready I shall be quite prepared to sanction some extra establishment but I think there ought to be a reduction in the number of Peons allowed to the Dy Sheriff at Penang. There are only two and the work cannot be very hard at Malacca. I have not yet received your letter on the subject of the payment of the Convicts sent(?) to the Munls Department. I must confess I entertained some doubts whether it would be possible for the Commissioners to liquidate the amount due. In your letter to Protheroe of the 16th inst you ask whether the road Commissioner in the Sections to be kept in force of Act X of 1837 applies to the R.C. or to the Surveyor with reference to the Expression "persons" used in Sec vii of the new Act. I should imagine that it will apply to both as both would be appointed Commissioners for the purpose set forth in the instructions for your guidance prescribing that the final decision under Sec viii shall always rest with the R.C..]This will enable the Surveyor to compel people to give him the requisite assistance in marking out the land, whilst in cases of dispute the matter would be referred for your adjudication.

Of course in selling any land during the current year the purchaser would have to take over all existing claims so that the Farmers of Revenue might not suffer; as regards rights to mineral wealth I am inclined to believe that it is right that Govt should insist upon a tenth of the tin as a Royalty. As regards the Munl Assessment upon land in the Country you forget that the Commissioners have to pay for the Police throughout the whole Settlement, so that it right that they should levy a tax upon all for the protection thus afforded; of course Govt aid will cease so that all your extra Income will be soon swallowed up. As regards your intended proceedings with regard to the lepers, I believe you will be quite justified in removing them from the House of correction to the Leper Hospital, applying however as is done here to cue for a pardon on the condition of their proceeding to the Hospital. I was much interested in your journal. Have you by the bye copies of the different treaties defining our boundaries; if not I think I had better tell Protheroe to furnish you with them.

(sd) O.C.

True Copy

M.P.

Précis of a letter to W.Grey Secy to Govt of India, Home Dept. 22/4/61

Encloses a memo showing the increase of work in the Police Magistrate's Office and hopes that he will advocate the appointment of an Assistant Magistrate; states that if there is any likelihood of obtaining a Chinese Scholar, the berth might be made an acting one so that he might step into it as soon as he is qualified. Trusts that the "Pluto" will be sent down as she would really pay in the Straits. Reports a rise in the Revenue and the separation from the Tumongong of Johore in the sale of the opium and spirit farms.

M.P.

My dear Macpherson,

I have the pleasure to return the translation of the Bandahara's letter. I have pointed out to the Tumongong that he has no right to interfere. If he wishes his son to return in our gunboat there can be no objection to his doing so; indeed perhaps the measure is advisable. I have written about the five Chinese; our right to interfere is indisputable. Aitken could not deny it yesterday. I am not really sorry that they have been punished; it will enable them to appreciate the blessings of our mild rule.

Yours etc.

Sd O.C.

True Copy

M Protheroe

To: The Hble Capt Macpherson

R.C.Singapore

25/4/61

Singapore

29th April 1861

My dear Colonel,

Having noticed in a recent number of the Calcutta Review a report as to the successful result of attempts to introduce the cultivation of cotton into Pegu, as the soil and climate of two of my

stations Malacca and Province Wellesley cannot differ materially from the soil and climate {of?} Burmah, I am induced to write these few lines to beg the favor of your kindly furnishing me with any information on the subject of cultivating cotton that you think likely to prove useful to intending planters in this Quarter; at present our Staple articles are Sugar and Tapioca, both of which produce in considerable quantities, but we have plenty of waste land for cotton and if I can only find that there is a prospect of its cultivation proving remunerative, I have little doubt but that there are plenty of speculators, European and Chinese, who would be quite prepared to buy the Experiments. That cotton will grow in the Straits there is little doubt, but owing to the difference between the seasons being, as I believe is the case in Pegu, so ill defined, the tree appears to put forth its pods at all times of the year, and consequently it is necessary to maintain a large permanent Establishment upon every plantation, as if the pods are allowed to remain unplucked when they are ready for removal, they might at any time be destroyed by a shower of rain to which the Straits are liable in all months of the year tho' there is less rain during April, May, and June than at other times' the Expense of keeping up a large Establishment in a settlement where labor is dead {scarce?} is of course great, hence hitherto the cultivation of cotton has not proved a good speculation and it has been consequently given up, but the late crisis in America is of course causing attention to be again given to the subject, and I cannot help thinking that by a proper system of pruning etc. it would be possible to cause the trees to put forth their pods at about the same time, to make in fact a cotton season. It is stated by Col. Law in his work upon the Straits that the staple of the cotton grown in Province Wellesley was considered of a very good description. etc. etc,

Yours etc.

Sd O.C.

To Colonel Phayre

Governor G1 Agent.

My dear Sir Richard,

If you have determined the number of copyist clerks to be allowed to the Registrar, will you kindly let me know in order that I may forward the required report to the Supreme Government so as to admit of the Civil Auditor receiving orders to pass the Court Establishment bills. In their comment upon the Administration Report last year some of the papers alluded to the fact of there being no returns given of the amount of work performed in the Supreme Court and expressed a hope that in future reports the omission would be rectified; if therefore you have no objection and consider that the information is really likely to prove of general interest, I should be much obliged if you would kindly direct the Registrar to prepare a simple return showing the number of Cases, Civil and Criminal, brought before and decided by the Court during the past year; as well as I remember Sir Benson in one of his remarks expressed his regret that no such record was furnished so that I presume he would not object to causing one to be prepare for his Division of the Court.

Yours etc.

April 30th/61 Sd O.C.

True Copy

M.Protheroe

My dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your note and however painful it may be, deem it right to state in reply that although it is my desire to show due courtesy and attention to all who may do me the honor of calling at Government House, I cannot consider myself justified in re-introducing into the Society of Singapore anyone who may apparently have been excluded by general consent

What may have been in your case the cause of the Exclusion, it is not my wish nor is it indeed within my province to enquire but, as on my arrival here I found that you were never seen as a guest at the houses of the old residents, I regret to say that I felt that it was out of my power to sanction your name being placed in the Government House list.

I remain

Yours faithfully

(sd) Orfeur Cavenagh

May 7th/61

True Copy

M.Protheroe

Og Secy

To H.A.Allen Esq. M.D.

Singapore

My dear sir,

In reply to your note I beg to state that having ascertained the mere fact of your not being in Society at the time of my arrival here I have purposely refrained from making any enquiries as to the circumstances that may have previously led to your apparent exclusion; on this point therefore it is out of my power to afford you any information, and I can only express my regret at my inability to invite you to Government House until I am satisfied that you are received generally at the houses of several residents of standing at Singapore.

Yours faithfully

Sd O.C.

8/5/61

To H A Allen Esqre M.D.

True Copy M.P.

Singapore

8th May 1861

My dear Collyer,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your last letter and shall be glad to welcome you on your return to Spore. It will be necessary for you to come on to Singapore to take up your appointment, as although had you arranged with Col Faber to meet at Penang, I should have had no objection to your doing so I cannot of course order him to leave Head Quarters on this account and you cannot be recognised as having returned to duty until you have received over charge of your office. etc. etc.

(Sd) O.C.

True Copy

M.P. To Lt Col Collyer

Pinang

Singapore

8th May 1861

My dear Man,

Many thanks for your last two letters. I am very glad to hear that you have taken up the question of the border forays and called the Rajah of Quedah to account. If he does not exert himself a little more to preserve the peace it may be necessary to suspend the payment of his allowance as done on a former occasion. I should of course be sorry to adopt so stringent a measure without good cause but our subjects must be protected from these inroads, and if the Rajah cannot keep his people within bounds we must do so at his cost. I am afraid you have infringed the Law in surrendering criminals without any order but I am convinced that you would not have done so without good grounds. In reporting the matter therefore you must go into details so as to justify the measure and enable Protheroe to diarize your letter fully. As you will have my sanction to the measure I fancy you will be quite safe against any legal steps being taken against you ---The Supreme Court with reference to Willan's letter has asked me for an exposition of the views of

Officials generally relative to the introduction of the Penal Code into the Straits Settlements. I must confess I consider any well devised code must be superior to our present laws which may generally be read any way and with advertence to the great latitude given to judges given under the Charter may be construed differently at different Divisions of the Court, I fancy the Criminal Code will shortly be followed by one for Civil Law which ought to simplify the administration of justice materially. etc. etc.

Sd O.C.

To the Hon'ble Capt Man

R.C.Pinang

True Copy M.P.

My dear Sir Richard

The Madras General order has been returned to Major Hervey, otherwise I should have had much pleasure in sending it to you with his letter which I now enclose and which I shall feel obliged by your kindly returning at your leisure for record in the office.

Guards to the Judges of the Supreme Court and the Members of Council have been abolished in India for years, and there is no authority for their being continued in the Straits. Man and Macpherson dispensed with their guards some time ago on the reduction of the strength of N.I.Regiments and Sir Benson Maxwell has never I believe been allowed one. Hence although I can assure you I should certainly never have raised the question, on the matter being submitted to {by?} Major Hervey I had no option but to sanction with another the withdrawal of your guard, it not being required for Military purposes nor recognised by authority but merely allowed as a favor. I have for the present retained the guards at the Jail because I think it would be dangerous to guard such places with mere police, but even this I shall be doubtless called upon for an Explanation and referred to the order of the Supreme Government on the subject.

I have not the power myself to authorize any expenditure for a fixed Establishment, this can only be done by the Supreme Government even for a singly {single?} man; should you however deem it desirable to refer the subject I should be most happy to forward the reference, though under the present circumstances I should not be very sanguine as to the result for I have even been called upon to know {show?} whether the number of Chuprassies could not be reduced though I have only three between myself and secretary. etc. etc.

Sd O.C.

To Sir R McCausland Bt

Recorder of Singapore

True Copy

M.P.

Extract from a letter to the Hon'ble J Burn

R.C.Malacca d/8th May 1861

You will have received most likely ere this the order for the frontier police. This will I trust enable you to keep a tolerable look out after the Marauders from Rambow and I hope ere long to obtain the necessary sanction for the increase in your regular Police wh. would strengthen your hands amazingly. Admiral Hope has promised to send down two small steamers by the first opportunity, but I am afraid they will hardly be able to face the present Monsoon in the China Seas and their departure will have to be delayed till next season. I have recommended the proposed establishment for the Jail absorbing however one of the Dy Sheriff's Peons, as the work cannot be sufficient for them. I told Protheroe to send you the English copies of the Boundary treaties; you will find them useful perhaps; it is quite possible that in some places Quinton may have been misled and that in this respect his Map will have to be rectified; we will talk over the matter when I come up. Your account of the Nanning district makes me wish to pay it a visit; perhaps I may be able to manage it on my pony.

I am afraid you will have to give up your guard as by a G.O. issued to the Madras Troops Comg. Officers are directed with reference to the instructions from the Supreme Government to withdraw all guards not purely Military. Man and Macpherson have both given up theirs and I have been obliged to sanction the withdrawal of Sir Richard's. I have retained the guards over the Jails because if called upon for an Explanation I can justify the proceeding with reference to the danger of allowing such places in the Straits Settlements to be under the charge of Police.

"Regarding tin farms" I hear from Macpherson that deputations are likely to be sent from several of the Native States to intercede on behalf of the Sultan. Have you heard anything on the subject? I should hardly think that he has sufficient influence to induce any Chief to take the trouble on his behalf tho' the question of his present position as compared to that of the Tumongong doubtless often forms the topic of conversation among Natives. (Considers that the annex to Mr De Wind's appeal fully disproves his right to be considered the proprietor of the land).

Man's plan is not I think a bad one of having a Government melting house similar to the Mint in Calcutta where all ore is to be melted and dues paid according to a fixed percentage. A considerable expense would be saved to the Miners as the expense of such an Establishment worked upon proper principles would be far less than that of numerous small furnaces; of course the Establishment would have to be organized somewhere in the neighbourhood of the mines.

There can be no doubt that after converting the Leper Hospital in to a temporary house of Coreection you will be fully justified in removing lepers to it under any sentence awarded by the Magistrate; my sanction alone is necessary for fixing a place of imprisonment except as regards Supreme Court Prisoners, for their confinement an order in council is required.

(informs him that the palms have been made over to the Secy A.H. Society, intimates that no detailed report regarding the nurseries is required and that only the serious Police cases need be noticed in his annual report.)

sd. O.C.

True Copy

M.P.

My dear Greenshields,

I am much obliged for the copies you have kindly sent me of the memo drawn up by the Chamber of Commerce. On many of the points referred to I fully agree with the opinion expressed by the Chamber and have placed my views on official record.. I have advocated 2 small Corps instead of one large one as more efficient and not much more Expensive. I am afraid in Estimating the cost of a Corps the Chamber has not taken into consideration the Expenditure required for clothing, arms and ammuniton and for Pensions. Native troops in the Straits cost much more than in England under any circumstances. With two Corps I arranged for the Military duties at Labuan, the cost of the detachment there being of course debited to that Colony, but even with the Local Corps a small European Force of Artillery would be needed in the Straits as a point d'Appui in case of a riot and to uphold our influence amongst the neighbouring Native States for which this Govt. is responsible. The cost of our Naval force when revised and put on a proper footing would I think be somewhat less than it is at present.

As the Attorney General will be the chief legal adviser of Govt. the Colony should endeavour to secure the services of a man of high legal attainments. I believe it would have been a better arrangement had his salary been fixed at £900 or £1000, a corresponding reduction being made in that of the Public Prosecutor at Pinang, who would naturally be one of the practising lawyers and his Government duties restricted to conducting all Public prosecution in the Criminal Court and the very few civil cases in which the Government is concerned. I have a case against a Contractor now in Court at Pinang which is the first I have ordered since I became Governor, so that the work there is not heavy.

I am sorry the Chamber did not advocate some slight increase to the Expenditure on account of Education; it is I assure you much needed and a very small sum might I believe effect much good. I have recommended a smaller salary for our Chinese Interpreters but to make up for this I promise them, provided they prove themselves fit for the duty, the first vacancy either in the Magistracy or Police so as eventually to ensure all our Public Servants having a competent knowledge of Chinese.

If the Indian Government with the mere cost of feeding and clothing the convicts and the Local Govt with that of the Establishment by means of which they are rendered useful to the State, we should make a good bargain in keeping them. Of course we should have to pay in the same way for our own convicts at Bombay. We have another Lighthouse to build, another Sea Wall to be thrown up and diverse Public Works to be carried out which can only be done well by convict

labor because with convicts you can select your own hours, a matter of much consequence to the execution of all works affected by the tide; the greater portion of our Expenditure this year is for Civil Works, amongst them Supreme Court, Second Magistrate's Court, addition to the Post Office and Marine Magistrate's Court, the new road from Tanglin to New Harbour etc. and with the exception of a Magazine and the Military bridge across the River which latter will be generally useful I do not think we have any fortifications or other Military works in hand. The Tanglin Barrack account is kept separate because it is not known whether the buildings were to be debited to the India or Home Govt.

(sd) O.C.

11th May 1861

PS I recommended the R.C. should be ex officio Colonial Secretary and that there should be an Accountant General on a smaller salary, the Governor's A.D.C. being ex Officio Asst. Colonial Secretary, so as to enable the work to be carried on whilst the Governor is on his tour of inspection.

To J.J. Greenshields Esq.

Singapore

11th May 1861

My dear General,

I think it right to send you these few lines in explanation of my having ordered the minute guns to be fired as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Duchess of Kent. On the orders of the Admiralty being submitted to me by the Senior Naval officer with the view of arrangements being made for the frequency of the Marks of respect simultaneously by both services I contented myself with ordering the royal Standard to be hoisted half mast high from Fort Canning, being under the impression that before the expiration of the prescribed period, seven days, the Calcutta Mail then hourly expected would bring me the Governor General's orders. When however the Mail did arrive I found that the intelligence had only reached Calcutta about 24 hours before the Steamer left and even the news was only conveyed by a Telegram from Galle so that no Gazette could have been issued; this being the case I could only either act upon the Admiralty order or wait for another month when the next Calcutta Steamer might be anticipated; on consideration I decided upon the former course for the following reasons.

1st. That I did not think that the Governor General wd. Be pleased to hear that there had been any unseemly delay in paying respect to the memory of our Sovereign's Mother in any part of the British territories under his control.

2. because in a Port frequented by Foreigners of all Nations and where there generally is a Foreign Man of War at anchor I did not deem it right to give occasion for remarks to be made regarding the apparent want of arrangements under which the marks of respect to the memory of

a deceased member of the Royal Family were not paid by the Batteries until a month after they had been shown by the Navy. As it was the "Charybdis" fired at the minutes and our Batteries at the half minutes, both ceasing at sunset when the Royal Standard was lowered

In giving the order on my own responsibility I know that I have laid myself open to censure for having exceeded my authority but the above explanation will I think shew that I did not do so without a cause and that I acted to the best of my judgement.

We are hourly expecting the Loodianah regiment en route to Calcutta and the 21st M.N.I. en route to Madras. As far as I can tell no European Regt. Will be stationed here before the end of the year. I am not sorry for that as the Barracks will be non complete and I trust that before that time some arrangements will be made for providing the men with proper rations; the beef now issued is not good and no charge is allowed. I have kept a piece of ground available shd the Supreme Govt sanction the Establishment of a Commissariat cattle yard and grazing land. Bullocks can be procured in the neighbourhood and perhaps the Calcutta Steamers may be willing to bring us down a few sheep monthly. It wd be a great boon to the men if they only received Mutton once a week and salt Beef once a week as a change.

(sd) O.C.

To Maj G1 Sir R Birch K.C.B

Secy to Govt Mly Dept

Singapore

May 15th 1861

My dear Man,

Thanks for your letter of the 12th. I am glad to find that you are all right as regards the surrender case. The Act i of /49 to which you allude is one of those mentioned in the List of Acts published in the Gazette. I had a copy of this list printed separately for reference and if you think the arrangement might be advantageous we might have a few copies struck off at the Press and circulated for the use of Officers generally.

By this mail you will receive copies of the new form of Returns, they are somewhat less complicated than the old ones. By the bye I should wish Earle to attach an N.B. to his return showing the working of his District Courts at Penaya and Bukit Tamboon, so I may have occasion to remark on them in the Administration Report.

Do you know whether the cotton I procured some time ago for the Rajah of Quedah has succeeded? I am anxious to ascertain the result of the Experiment, as if successful in Quedah it is only natural to suppose that it would be equally so in Province Wellesley and Malacca, and it would be necessary for us to endeavour to encourage its cultivation.

(Précis of remainder of letter). Explains his view regarding the income tax; forwards two copies of a Memorandum drawn up by the Singapore Chamber of Commerce and points out an error therein committed, the Colony having been credited with Rs 96,000 for postage stamps; desires to know how the district dawk to Bukit Tamboon has answered; considers that the Schroff in the Pinang Court is underpaid but points out the difficulty in the present state of the Exchequer to obtain an increase for him.

Sd O.C.

To The Hon'ble Capt Man

R.C.Pinang M.P>

Singapore

18th May 1861

Dear Sir,

With reference to the intention expressed by the Society in March last to distribute to applicants a quantity of cotton seed received from the Manchester Association, I should be much obliged should you still have any seed on hand, by your sending me down a small supply for trial in the different stations in this Settlement; there appears to be no doubt as to the possibility of introducing cotton into the Straits and the

only objection I have heard stated against its cultivation is the Expense, as owing to our seasons not being sufficiently well defined there is no certainty as to the time in which the Pods may ripen and consequently it is necessary to keep a large permanent Establishment to be ready to pick them at any moment. By paying a little more attention to its culture probably however the objection may be removed. The Sea Island cotton would I presume be the best suited for the Straits. The paper published by the Society on the cultivation of cotton has only just been brought to my notice, otherwise I should have addressed you earlier.

Yours etc.

Sd O.C.

To the Secy A.H. Society

Calcutta True Copy

M.P.

My dear Captain Keane,

There are some disturbances at present going on in the neighboring Native State, which it is for many reasons advisable should be put a stop to, before they extend to other parts of the Peninsula. Two Chiefs are contending for power over a certain portion of Pahang styled Endow. One of them was warned by my predecessor that he wd. Not be allowed to attack his relative but in the even of his having any real grounds of complaint, he must submit his case for the decision of this Government. Upon this he retired and until his recent move has been remaining quiet in the adjoining State of Tringanu. He has now returned and stockaded himself at the mouth of the Endow River, where he is blockaded by his Enemy's 'prahus'. Each party is of course exerting himself to obtain assistance from other Chiefs and there is a good deal of excitement throughout the Peninsula. I am thinking of leaving this {port?} in the "Hooghly" on Monday, proceeding to the scene of action, prohibiting any more fighting and intimating to both parties that they must abide by my decision. To enable me to do so with success it is advisable, as in Mr Blundell's case, that I should be accompanied by a man of War to cause my decision to be respected and I should consequently be much obliged if you would run up with the "Charybdis". I do not anticipate a longer absence than 4 or 5 days.

Yours etc.

(sd) O.C.

To the Hon'ble Capt Keane

22/5/61 H.M.S. "Charybdis"

My dear d'Almeida

It is not I believe usual either in India or elsewhere to send invitations to Consular Officers as the Representatives of certain countries, that distinction being reserved entirely for Ambassadors who on their cards never mention their names, Ambassador for England or France as the case may be, being all that is written. At the same time the Governor requests me to mention {that he has?} never been at a Queen's birthday Ball as yet where he met a Consul except in uniform. Lieutenants of the Army and Navy, officers of yeomanry etc. are never asked officially, yet at the Palace of {or?} a Govt. House Official Ball they would all appear in uniform as a matter of course. At Govt House Consuls General and Consuls are allowed the rank prescribed by Regulations, viz the former as majors and the latter as Captains.

Yours etc.

23/5/61 M.P.

My dear Almeida

With reference to our conversation of yesterday evening I have the pleasure to send you the British Consul's Manual in which at p.280 you will perceive the rank allowed to our Consuls by Govt.

24/5/61 Yours sincerely,

M.Protheroe

My dear Cochet,

As his Honor the Governor will appear in full dress this evening it is only natural to suppose that his guests will do so also.

Yours etc.

M.P.

Précis of a letter to Capt Burns R.C. Malacca

Informs him that nothing can be done with respect to the Budget as long as the present system continues; thinks that Mr Evans is almost the sole cause of the work not being commenced; does not consider that he has the power of sanctioning monthly contribution but will recommend the grant to the Supreme Govt; states that Playfair's case will be submitted with a favourable recommendation; requests him if he wants any work to be executed in the way of drainage to direct Mr Evans to submit the usual plan and estimate; enquires whether he has looked over the boundary treaties.

(insert)

To Lt Col Collyer Ch Eng d/ 4th June 1861

When you have had time to attend to the Budget Letter I wish you would kindly prepare a revision of our budget so as to bring our Expenditure within our income.

The reserve allowed for Minor and Petty Works should of course be reduced to Rs. 37,500, one tenth of the total sum. This will give us a little money towards the water supply which I trust we shall be able to commence this year. At Malacca with the Rs. 10,000 we might perhaps be able to

build one Barrack which is all that is urgently required. And some of the Roads and Bridges put down in Part 1 might be classed as Minor Works which indeed they are.

I hope you will allow me to nominate you as a member of the Central Committee for making a Collection for the Great Exhibition.

Yours etc.

(sd) O.C.

(end of insert) True Copy M.P.

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble J Burn R.C.Malacca

d/ 6th June 1861

Expresses his views regarding Capt Burns's Furlough; states that he will try to meet his wants in the P.W.D. for roads and Bridges out of the allotment for Minor P.W. and relates the result of his trip to Pahang.

M.P.

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt Man R.C.Pinang

d/ 7th June 1861

Relates the result of his trip to Pahang; states his readiness to pay the reward of \$50 to the convicts if they can kill the tiger on the hill; asks if he has done anything with regard to organizing the inhabitants of the villages to assist the Police in the suppression of dacoity; is anxiously expecting his returns for the Administration Report.

M.P.

My dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to enclose for your perusal a copy of the instructions issued by the Government of India relative to the Collection to be made for the great exhibition of 1862. A Committee of which I am President has been formed at Singapore and I need not say we shall

feel very obliged for any assistance which it may be in your power to kindly render us in procuring from the Govt and individual Chiefs at the Court of Bangkok works of National Industry or Art deserving of Exhibition.

Trusting you will excuse my thus troubling you.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

Sd O.C.

To Sir R Schomburgk

H.M.'s Consul General

Bangkok

My dear Mr Smith,

I have the pleasure to return "Temple's Practice of the Calcutta Court of Small Causes" with many thanks. As far as I am at present able to judge it appears to me that the whole of the provisions of Act vii of 1849 and of Secs 24, 47, 48, 50, 51, 58, 59, 60, 69, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 102, 103, 104, 105, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111 of Act ix of 1850 should by enactment be rendered applicable to our Small Cause Courts if the jurisdiction is to be extended to \$100; this would still have {leave?} a few rules with regard to procedure etc. to be introduced by the Governor in Council under the power given by letters patent, and we might therefore issue a revised code of Regulations in conformity mutatis mutandis with those in force at Calcutta. I shall be glad to receive your official on the subject thro' the Resident Councillor and after consultation with the Hon'ble the Recorder will address the Legislative Council. A simple clause to the following effect would I fancy be sufficient.

"The provisions of Act vii of 1849 and of Sections.....and.....of Act ix of

1850 are hereby declared applicable to the Court or Courts for the recovery of

Small Debts established in the Straits Settlements".

This would limit the jurisdiction as regards distraining for rent to Rs 100 but I presume that would be sufficient to check the injustice you have brought to my notice.

Sd O.C.

True Copy — M Protheroe

ToJ C Smith Esq.

Comr Ct of Requests

June 18th 1861 Singapore

My dear Collyer,

If the Supreme Govt purpose building an Artillery Hospital, I would wish to remove the Arsenal into the building in the Fort; if on the contrary no hospital is to be built the above building must be used as a hospital, as room for a Dispensary Apothecary etc. and a female ward will be required it will not be too large for two Companies of Artillery. In that case I should recommend the removal of the Arsenal to the Barracks on Pearl's Hill; in the event of an Emeute, it is a far better position in a Military point of view than that it now occupies, being close to the Infantry Barracks and fully defended by the Guns from Fort Canning; the Commissariat might eventually be moved into the present Hospital. Even in case of an attack by an Enemy's squadron it would be tolerably safe and could not be reached until our shore batteries had been taken. Whilst it is very centrally situated for supplying them with ammunition etc., for which Fort Canning is not well adapted, even if it fell into an Enemy's hands they would gain little by it, as we should keep a good supply in store in the Fort and it contains no spare guns that could be used against us, and it is to be hoped we should be able to spike or otherwise disable them in the Batteries.

Four months will enable me to receive an answer from the Supreme Govt. and also admit of the Barracks being as you say completed for the Artillery.

Yours sinly

True Copy (sd) O.C.

M. Protheroe

Singapore

June 20th 1861

Précis of a letter to Col Yule of India P.W.D.

Acknowledges the receipt of his letter of the 20th Ult; states that it will be necessary to obtain some allowance from the Reserve fund for the completion of Barracks to enable the Tanglin Contractors to be paid off, otherwise action will be brought against Government in Court and serious loss will be sustained by allowing the works to remain unfinished; hopes to send up the report regarding Tanglin Bks. by this mail; states that the letter regarding Fort canning has never

reached him and supposes that he was of his way of thinking as regards the operation of the Code with respect to the Offg Ex Eng, but that a letter from his office has ruled differently; was glad to hear from Bennett that he was satisfied about the Church and hopes to see the stained glass windows in the course of next month; reports that as a temporary arrangement he was obliged to allow the Ch of Eng to assume charge of a Dision but that Bennett will take charge shortly.

(PS insert)

PS to letter to Col Yule Secy to Govt P.W.D.

When Goodwyn wrote the 5th para of his letter No 877 of the 23rd March 1861 was he aware that the Mortars at Mount Faber are on the very summit of the Hill near the Signal Flag and consequently though commanding the New Harbour a long pull from the shore the other Battery is near the foot of the Hill.

(end of insert)

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt. Man R.C. Singapore {sic}

d/ 21/6/61

Agrees with him in the views he has expressed with regard to the part which should be played by the British Govt in the Archipelago; hopes his annual reports will be sent in quickly; considers that if Mr Evans (?) does not give satisfaction he should be removed at once; requests to know what time shd be fixed for Exhibition {exhibitors?} to send in articles for the Committee as it must be specified in the Gazette.

M.P.

Singapore

My dear Grey,

Many thanks for your letter of the 16th Ult; with reference to the proposed extension of the jurisdiction of the Courts of Requests in the Straits previous to its receipt I had written an official pointing out how imperatively the services of another Magistrate to be also a Commissioner of the Court would be needed. So it is owing to my some time back having appointed the present Commissioners an extra Police Magistrate to enable him whenever he has leisure to give Mr Willans a little assistance I have managed to get the work performed, but even now if there is a serious case to be investigated prisoners must necessarily be detained in the Police Lockups for some days before the charge against them can be disposed of, and were either Mr Willans or Mr Smith to be placed for any length of time upon the Sick list the whole machine of justice at

Singapore would come to a dead lock. I believe that by the return to the system of fixed payments to the Court Establishment we shall realize by the excess to be received in fees a sufficient sum to cover all Expenses attached to a second Police Court, but it is of course out of my power to state positively that such will be the case, as the Registrar during the past two years has been raising {reaping?} such a harvest that possibly for a short time there will be a decrease in litigation,. He acknowledges to having received upwards of Rs 200 per mensem, and report says that he might have substituted Dollars for Rupees and not been beyond the mark. With exception of the first and last sections which I cannot complete for want of some returns chiefly from Penang not yet received I have written my Administration report, but as I cannot get it off by this mail, as I observe that the Reports are to be printed and sent home separately I propose, in order to save time to print it at the Press in the Convict Lines and send you a dozen copies which I presume will be sufficient. I have gone this time a little more into detail as regards our receipts and disbursements, so as to give as far as possible a true account of our Actual position; our Revenue is certainly increasing though but slightly in 1862/63; of {if?) the Malacca Land Act is passed and a few energetic proprietors established in that district, we may I think hope to make a good start but in the meanwhile, some little money may be required to be expended in roads and bridges.

I am sure the G.G. will be pleased to hear that there is a prospect of my being able to introduce the cultivation of cotton into the Straits; for some time past I have had my attention turned to the subject and have written to Phayre in Burmah to get some hints from him as to the management of the Plant in that country. About a month ago an American Gentleman from South Carolina waited on me at Office and stated that he had been travelling about with the view of Establishing a cotton plantation, that, from what he had seen of the Straits he believed that the soil was adapted to the cultivation of cotton and he therefore wished to know whether there would be any objection on the part of Government to his obtaining a grant of land and settling as a Planter; of course I told him that no objection whatever existed; I gave him all the information I had collected regarding rates of labor, changes of season etc. and shewed him some cotton grown in my garden of which he said the staple was far superior to the Indian cotton. I advised him to commence operations in Province Wellesley and furnished him with letters to the Officials there mentioning the object of his visit, and requesting them to afford him any assistance in their power. He is now in the Province but I have not heard whether he has succeeded in procuring a suitable piece of ground, though he has written in a very sanguine spirit to the American Consul here, who has taken a share in the enterprise and has just left for Pinang. He told me before his departure that they intended commencing with fifty acres. If the speculation failed, they would lose about \$3,000; if it answered, they would go whole hog next year and in all probability make their fortunes. I am sure I heartily wish them success.

I see by the speech on the Budget that Mr. Laing has condemned the Income Tax as unsuitable to India. He seems to entertain the opinion that I have all along expressed. And which was embodied in the Official letter I sent to you in April, viz that a graduated Capitation tax or as he called it a Licence tax would be far more appropriate, and equally profitable. I mentioned my idea to one or two of the leading merchants in the Straits, and, although naturally enough they did not recognise the necessity for any taxation at all, they acknowledged that a tax such as I proposed could not be deemed objectionable.

I am sorry to say I have not yet received a copy of the Transfer of Property Law from Batavia, tho our offg consul wrote some time ago to say that he would procure one for me. I find that a similar law is in force in Adelaide. It was of course strongly opposed by all the Lawyers of the Settlement but the commonsense of the public carried the point. It has wonderfully diminished litigation and law expenses and gives general satisfaction as well as yields a Revenue.

The chief Ahmed is again giving trouble, as Mr Blundell's letters regarding him were unanswered I have no exposition of the views of the Supreme Govt to guide me but I presume that I am quite right in adopting measures to prevent the peace of the Peninsula from being disturbed. He has now taken up a position at the furthest extremity of Pahang, out of which the "Charybdis", with the aid of one of the small steamers, could turn him in a few minutes and disperse his whole party. Had the Pahang people not allowed him to get away, I should have settled the affair when I went up. I believe he would gladly agree to the terms offered but is prevented from doing so by his followers, and not unlikely by advice from Singapore.

Yours etc.

(sd) O.C.

True Copy

M.Protheroe

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt. Burn R.C. Malacca

Requests an official report on the present state of the Police Force at Malacca showing the probable increase to Revenue that would accrue from the location of the Force at now unprotected points. With regard to his proceedings re the considers he had better be guided by Nam Chuan's advice. With regard to Mr Westerhout's state visits it might be advisable to remind him of the Police Act.

"As respects the disinterment of a body unless the case were one of a very grave nature and the Examination of the body absolutely necessary I think it is advisable to avoid raising the question, and this may possibly be effected by issuing stringent orders to the Punghooloos and the Police not to allow the burial to take place until the coroner's sanction had been received, and by a judicious hint to the above officer to endeavour to ascertain the feelings of the relatives before giving any instructions for the exhumation of the corpse etc. , that he may not be brought into collision with them until he may have had time to consult with you on the subject. If it were really supposed that the refusal to allow the exhumation arose from wish to screen the murderer, I think you would be justified in compelling obedience to the Law but not in any other case"

Informs him that there is no news from Cornwall regarding the Tin Company and hope he can send an abstract of his Trade Returns for 1860/61 for the administrative report.

(sd) O.C.

True Copy of Para. Précis of remainder.

25/6/61 M.P.

My dear Collyer,

Apparently the G.G. only entertains doubts about the corrections of the views expressed with regard to the Mortars at Mount Faber but issues no orders for their removal. They should therefore remain for the present. The Mortar at Fort Fullerton shd be moved to Fort Canning.

(sd) O.Cavenagh

Singapore

28th June 1861

My dear Grey,

Many thanks for your letter of the 19th inst this moment received. The information upon which any application for Chinese Interpreters was based was a statement in one of the overland papers to the distinct effect that several Gentlemen who had qualified themselves for appointments in China by acquiring a knowledge of the Chinese language at King's College London had been disappointed with regard to obtaining employment owing to a reduction in the Consular Establishment. I was not the only one here by whom the paragraph here was noticed. Sir Richard McCausland also observed it and mentioned how glad he was to hear that I had taken advantage of the opportunity apparently offered to obtain the services of competent Court Interpreters.

I have just read the Despatch on the subject of my application for the services of the "Pluto". Rennie may be quite right as to the respective measurements of the "Hooghly", "Tonze" and "Mohr", but he does not give the respective number of superficial feet in each and would find himself at a nonplus to accommodate either the Recorders or any other Establishment on board, or send up a detachment of sick Europeans from Singapore to Pinang etc. When I received the Bendahara on board the "Tonze" at Pahang we had considerable difficulty in arranging the sitting accommodation, though I had only two officers, Captain Keane and my A.D.C. with me and the Bandaharah was only accompanied by one or two Chiefs of rank. The following will give you an idea of the respective shapes of the Vessels.

Hooghly Tonze or Mohr

I have the pleasure to enclose a memo of the payment received at Singapore during this year from the "Hooghly" under the old rates, a tolerable proof that we realize more than 8,000 Rs. Per annum with the revised rates and a proper vessel. The "Hooghly" being always half the time under repair instead of making her regular monthly trips to Malacca. I suppose under any circumstances I am quite right in putting the different sailing gunboats out of employ. Next year I hope we shall be able to commence on {a?} Screwpile lighthouse to replace that useless and expensive vessel the "Torch", and for this work the Services of a large steamer would be required, as it is this year in the P.W.D. We have taken a good deal of work out of the "Hooghly" in carrying the materials for the Rachado Lighthouse.

(sd) O.C.

True Copy

M Protheroe

28th June 1861

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt Man R.C.Pinang

If the Tulloh Raini's building is available will be prepared to consider the matter of Earle's house; sees no objection to the clerks being classified but no extract {extra?} expenditure can be allowed; cannot say much for the interest evinced by Mr. Rodyll {Rodyk?} in the well being of the lepers under his charge as Secy to the Hospital; if possible will endeavour to relieve the opium farmer in the way pointed out; requests him send the Educational returns as soon as possible.

M.P.

Précis of a letter to the R.C.Malacca

D/ Singapore July 2nd

Expresses annoyance at the non-receipt of the Police returns from Malacca, as the want of them is delaying the whole Administration report, and states that he will not accept want of leisure on the part of the Magistrate's Clerk as an excuse unless it can be proved that the Magistrate himself had no leisure.

M.P.

4th July 1861

My dear Mr Baningarten, {Baumgarten?}

Mr Robertson has shown me the depositions in the case of the Queen versus Tan Ah Pong and Tan Yong Tean. As I think there can be little doubt that the assault and robbery was committed solely with reference to the feud that has long existed between the two rival Chinese societies, a feud that has now been brought to a termination and which might be reopened in the event of the Prisoners being prosecuted, provided that there is no legal objection to the arrangement, I should be glad if the charge could be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,

(sd) O.C.

My dear Sir Richard,

Enclosed is a letter from Dr Robertson on the subject of Medical testimony adduced before your court and the draft of the proposed reply. If you concur in the opinion expressed in the latter will you kindly oblige me by returning it to Protheroe with a view to the fair copy being prepared in the office for his signature. I need not say that if you consider any special order regarding the attendance of a second Judicial Officer in Court necessary, it will at once be issued, but I have always been of opinion that every medical officer of Govt is bound to attend to any requisition from the Court and consequently, tho' not ordinarily summoned to be present the Senior Surgeon's services are available whenever you may require them,

Yours very sincerely,

(sd) O.C.

6th July 1861

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt Burn, R.C. Malacca, 11th July 1861

Acknowledges receipt of Police returns; informs him that a printed copy of the Proceedings of the Central Great Exhibition Committee will be forwarded to him; and with regard to the Inquiry about the Pirates considers that all the Commander of the "Tonze" can do would be to call upon them to give an account of themselves, and if their account proved unsatisfactory direct them to proceed to Malacca and watch them on their way; if they fired upon him he would then be all right but not without, a single shot however would entitle him to open upon them; permits him to order Wright to run back to the Callum {Klang?} Straits to search for these pirates if necessary; states that the Siamese Princes may be expected here about the 22nd or 23rd inst and will receive the salute due to distinguished foreigners and be invited to dinner.

M.Protheroe

Letter to the Consul of {at?} Batavia of 15th June {July?} 1861

Acknowledges receipt of papers relative to the tenure of Land in Batavia and thanks him for the same

My dear Sir Richard,

I have been so busy all the morning with a somewhat important Despatch to the Supreme Govt that I have been hitherto unable to give the case of Mr Todd the serious consideration it demands, and I observe that your recommendation is based not upon your own opinion as to the merits of the case but merely upon the fact of the recommendation of the Jury being opposed to their verdict. I should really feel obliged by your kindly allowing me to peruse the Proceedings of the trial before coming to a decision. I need not say that the matter shall have my early and earnest attention.

Yours very sincerely

19th July 61 True Copy sd O.C.

M.P.

To Sir R McCausland

Extract from a letter to Capt McNair d/ 20th July 1861

"I was very glad to receive your letter of the 18th ult and to learn that the information I had afforded as to the support that any gas company would meet with from the Government had been considered satisfactory. It is but right to mention that the company from which the first overtures were received is apparently still in the field and have written out to Mr Rigg to state that a definite proposition will be shortly submitted for my consideration. I believe most of the intended shareholders are connected with Singapore but possibly you may be better acquainted on this point than I am, as the question was discussed before you left.

True extract M.P. (sd) O.C.

Singapore 22nd July 1861

My dear Grey,

By this Mail I have forwarded an official on the subject of our Marine Establishment and I sincerely trust that it will have the effect of preventing our being deprived of the "Hooghly" until the Services of Another Steamer are placed at my disposal. When Capt. Rennie perused his remark on the subject of the relative accommodation of the "Hooghly" and the small gunboats it is evident that he could never have been on board the latter. The "Hooghly" is not exactly a Frigate and we are certainly obliged to take all our meals on deck, but her poop is of very fair size, sufficiently high to be always tolerably dry and containing a comfortable stern cabin with two berths for passengers. Now in the Small Steamers there is no accommodation whatever except for two very small recesses, for they cannot be called Cabins, for the Officers, so that any Government Officer proceeding on duty, and he can reach Malacca by no other way, must be merely a Deck Passenger, whilst I do not see how he is to be accompanied by his Family as there are none of the conveniences which in such a case are absolutely necessary.

For my own part I should prefer travelling at my own expense by one of the P. & O. Company's Steamers to Pinang to allowing Mrs. Cavenagh to go on board, but this will of course prevent one visiting Malacca and our stay at the latter place is I trust generally productive of some little good, as in addition to encouraging sociability by bringing people together, which is always part of a Governor's duty, I make a point of visiting the whole of the interior, and as far as possible making myself acquainted with the wants of the Settlement. Of course, if there was any Emergency I should not hesitate about running up in the Gunboat, but when I make my Annual tour as Governor it is naturally expected that I should entertain and for this I require all my Establishment. The Judge too has now been joined by his wife and daughter and might certainly

reasonably object to the accommodation offered on board the "Tonze" or "Mohr". Indeed the same might be said of All other Officials who are married and expected to make tours of inspection.

Independent of this however there is a much more important consideration which induces me to beg that the small Steamers may be stationed at Pinang and Malacca and a separate Steamer maintained for Singapore. The small boats are required to suppress petty piracy and to perform Police duty on the different Rivers in the neighborhood of the above two Settlements and the advantages likely to accrue from their employment in the Straits will be lost if they are not at hand for the Resident Councillors to despatch them at once in pursuit of any band of plunderers of whose doings he might receive intelligence.

If the Steamers were to be located at Singapore nearly a month might elapse ere he would have an opportunity of applying for their services and in the meantime, as in the case of the pirates last year at Pinang, the offenders would get off scot free. This was the great failing of the old system, that the sailing Gunboats could never reach the scene of action in time. I have put the sailing Gunboats out of Employ and am cutting down the Expenses of the Steamers, and really believe when the amount received for freight and passage is brought to credit the Expenditure of the new and efficient Establishment will not be more than that of the old and comparatively useless one, especially if the "Hooghly" were either replaced by a good steamer or furnished with new and more powerful engines, for owing to her engines being completely worn out the item on account of her repairs is a very heavy one. Her hull is in very good order and Capt. Keane told me that, fitted with proper engines, he saw nothing to prevent her effecting the Annual relief of the Detachment at Labuan or doing any other duty required of her.

The Navy having repaid in all {coal?} the advances made during the war our stock of coals at present is equal to a year's consumption, whilst at the Expiration of that period we may hope to be able to purchase Labuan Coal at a reasonable cost, and this will make a great reduction in our expenditure. The manager of the Coal Mie, Mr. Harrison, who is not at Labuan is very sanguine of success and I believe hopes to have the Machinery all up and working in the course of this month.

By this Mail I forward 24 copies of the Administration Report. They will hardly reach Calcutta by the 1st August but this cannot be helped. I have 6 more copies available should they be required, but if not I should like to distribute them amongst the heads of Departments, as the perusal would serve as a guide to show what points they ought to remark upon in their Departmental Reports. Next year, if all goes well I hope to have my Report ready by the June steamer.

There is a good deal of litigating going on just at Present in the Peninsula, emanating from the two great parties at Singapore, but I do not think either party would like to run the risk of my catching them tripping, and I {am?} consequently in hopes that nothing will come of it. We are of course reaping the fruit of the absurd policy pursued by Genl. Butterworth and Mr. Church, of which the latter repented ere he left this {place?}. As long as the Tumongong's European Friends required the support of Govt., they were naturally willing to make all sorts of professions, but when once the power was in their own hands, they used it solely for their own

benefit, much of course to the annoyance of the opposite Clique. Eventually however they encroached upon the rights of the British Government, but this I trust the Reports I have sent up this Mail will enable the Supreme Govt. to put an end to. Had the sensible plan been adopted of putting either the Sultan or the Tumongong at Johore with an intelligent Political officer to guide him, the result would have been very different. Finding that I do not favor either party, I am told there is a prospect of their becoming reconciled and a Matrimonial alliance taking place between two of the Members of their respective Families. It would be the best thing that could occur and would probably put a stop to the continual squabbles.

Is there any chance of the Malacca Land Act being passed? That one {once?} happy station is at present a regular incubus on the whole Settlement, and yet I cannot help thinking that it ought to yield a handsome revenue, if properly managed and a little money judiciously laid out upon it. I am sorry to say Burn is far from well and I am afraid he will have to take sick leave. He will be a great loss. I have received all the papers from Batavia relative to the Dutch system of registering the sale or mortgage of immoveable property. They are in French and German. The former I have translated but my knowledge of the latter language is not sufficient to enable me to prepare a translation and I must consequently secure the services of a translator. As far as I can tell the system ought to answer in our territories.

You will be glad to hear that the American has obtained a piece of land in Province Wellesley which he thinks will answer his purpose very well and has already started a cotton plantation. I know the ground he has taken and it is one of the lots I recommended him as being on the bank of the Mudah River, and thus giving him the means of communication entirely by water with Pinang. If the speculation answers Province Wellesley will become a very valuable possession. Sugar has already done much for its improvement, and every year more land is being brought under cultivation. There is one factory that cleared net Profit last year \$40,000. The Planters all cultivate their own lands and pay their coolies well, so that there is no antagonism between them and the Peasants. Indeed I may say quite the reverse, for the latter are always sure of good treatment and a fair day's wage, if they choose to go out and work at the Factory, whilst the large sums of money spent in the Province naturally benefit the people generally.

The weekly court established at Bukit Tamboon seems to answer very well as the Magistrate has always plenty of cases to settle, many of which would perhaps under the circumstances have been referred to the Secret Societies. The Magistrate also has become acquainted with many of the Residents in his District and is able to show that he takes an interest in them.

I suppose you have received no reply yet from the Home Govt. about the Geological Survey of Malacca. I received an application a few days ago for any report that might have been prepared by a govt Officer regarding the mines. The Applicant, I fancy, is thinking of getting up a company to work them, could he procure sound data to go upon.

I must now conclude this long and, you will doubtless find, uninteresting epistle.

Sd. O.C.

True Copy

M.P.

To Mr Grey Esqre,

Secy to the Govt of India, Home Dept, Calcutta

My dear Sir Richard,

I regret to state that after a careful perusal of the evidence you were kind enough to send me and of your clear exposition of the Law I have felt myself entirely precluded from acceding to the recommendation of the Jury in the case of the Prisoner Todd. The official communication on the subject is now in the course of preparation.

Yours very sinly

24th July 61 (sd) O.C.

To Sir R. B. McCausland,

Recorder of Singapore

True Copy M.P.

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt Burn R.C.Malacca

Regarding Captain Burns going home on S.C. and the Amalgamation: requests that a memo may be sent to him showing the working of the Extra Land and Survey Establishments and whether the Revenue is necessary; advance of Paddy to the peasantry a bad system to commence; sale of the Gunboat "Malacca"; opinion regarding the restitution of a stolen buffalo Playfair not justified in restoring it until the possessor was repaid the sum he had given; entertainment of men for the frontier police requests memo regarding the contemplated invasion of Pahang from his side of the Peninsula; Points out that he omitted to insert Light dues in his Statement of Receipts and disbursements.

M.Protheroe

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt Man R.C.Pinang

D/ 2nd August 1861

Informs him that 10 or 12 seers of cotton seed {seed?} have been forwarded per "Hooghly" for distribution at Pinang and requests him to send the greater portion of it to Mr Haynes; hopes that Mr Lewis has succeeded in obtaining the sanction of the Rajah Muda at Perak; states that Jackson has applied for the use of the Pinang Gunboat so that it had better be kept for the present.

M.Protheroe

Précis of a letter to the hon'ble Captain Burn R.C.Malacca

D/ 2nd Augt. 61

Informs him of the transmission of some cotton seed to Malacca for distribution and states that if Dr Rose considers that he should take sick leave it will be his duty to do so.

M.Protheroe

My dear Mr. Cochet,

Although as you must be well aware I am always most happy to see you and any friend you may desire to introduce at any hour you may find it convenient to call, yet when a visit is to be considered one of mere formal ceremony and not that of an ordinary traveller passing through Singapore I certainly expect, as has hitherto always been the case, that previous intimation should be afforded. The leaving a card at Government House at an hour when in accordance with the usages of society here visitors are not received would hardly warrant my considering the visit an official one, though it would of course entitle the visitor to receive at my hands the marks of attention which I have great pleasure in shewing to strangers of your own or any other Foreign Nation. In this case the General states that he wrote the previous day to know at what hour I would receive him and may have been somewhat surprised to find after this intimation that when he called he was denied admittance.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

Sd O.C.

True Copy

M.Protheroe

Précis of a letter to the Hon'ble Capt Man

Regarding Chinese Societies.

Informs him of the departure of the Siamese Chiefs and that a royal salute should be fired for them. Asks him if there is not a code of salutes to Native Princes in his office.

Sd. O.C.

M.P.

Extract from a letter to Capt. Hilliard d/ 7th August 1861

I am somewhat doubtful how far the decision of the question as regards your retention of appointment rests with me or with the Supreme Govt, the P.W.D. being under the latter though the nomination to appointments has generally been made by the Local head. Should I receive no special intimation on the subject I shall simply Gazette your extension of leave on the usual notice appearing in your own Presidency or the Supreme Govt. Gazette so that you would return to Pinang as a matter of course, the reasons you have resigned being I consider sufficiently cogent to warrant my granting the indulgence. etc etc.

A True Extract (sd) O.Cavenagh

M.Protheroe

Précis of a letter to the Hble Captain Burn R.C.Malacca

D/8/8/61

Considers that he should proceed to England by the first mail in September; informs him that his Calculation regarding his pay for the first 6 months is quite correct. States that if Braddell

intends returning Smart will be put in to act at Malacca as Magistrate vice Playfair who will be Ag R.C.

Sd O.C.

M.P.

Augt 11th 1861

My dear Macpherson,

Many thanks for your note which only reached me late last night. The remark contained in the enclosure is the first intimation I have even {ever?} received that Campbell expressed his readiness to allow Government to purchase the extra furniture required.

In the demi official correspondence which is I presume filed in the chief Engineer's office the calculations upon which I estimated the rent to be paid and which calculations I believe Campbell stated to be fair, reasonable and businesslike, were entirely based upon Sherwood's list of prices which I have in my possession. Subsequently, as you may remember, Campbell required {enquired?} whether I would be willing to allow him to supply the desired furniture from the present Government House, as Schreiber had consented to allow {him?} to do so, and all misconceptions as to our wishes would be then removed. This offer I accepted and the original list was slightly modified in consequence — the pair of couches, if I recollect right, being substituted for the second percival and the Sideboard for the two Whatnots. Hence I certainly could never have supposed that any articles would be either procured from Batavia or made up in the Bazaar, and until within the last few days I have been under the impression that on our removal to our new residence the articles named would be removed also. I am sure, on reflection, Campbell will himself acknowledge that, having led me to believe that such would be the case, if anything occurred to prevent his fulfilling his Engagement, he was bound in ordinary courtesy to have consulted me before making the arrangements. Had he done so, I should have asked him to procure furniture as nearly similar as possible to that we are now using, and with which no one could possibly be dissatisfied.

I certainly was considerably disappointed when I saw the new furniture the other day because it does not harmonize with the fine proportions of the drawing room or with the 2 handsome couches previously in Campbell's possession, while Schreiber's furniture would have done. Moreover I have some doubts as to Europe furniture being as durable as that manufactured of seasoned wood in Calcutta. The colour, moreover, of several of the articles is better adapted for a library or boudoir room than for a lady's drawing room, which requires to be either crimson, green or purple damask to light up well. As however I felt convinced that Campbell was desirous of meeting our wishes and consequently thought it would be ungracious to find fault, I mentioned that we should be doubtless able to arrange by bringing in the pretty little couches in the boudoir and library, replacing them by the green coloured ones from the drawing room.

As regards the percival however it could {would?} be impossible to make any arrangements, as although it would perhaps suit some other part of the room, there is nothing to supply its place and from the prominent position it is intended to occupy it should be almost the handsomest piece of furniture in the Apartment. To this only therefore did I object. The other articles specified in the small list have still to be obtained, and if they are purchased from Schreiber, as originally offered, we shall be perfectly satisfied with them, and I feel convinced that Campbell will have no reason to repent of his bargain, for the things are really good and substantial.

By the bye Mrs Cavenagh pointed out to me an objection to the bedroom's floors being varnished instead of matted. My wooden leg would ruin them in no time {as?} it did a varnished staircase we had in India.

Yours very sinly

(sd) O.C.

True Copy

M.Protheroe