

Topics of the Day.

THE STRAITS IN PARLIAMENT.

It used to be a common complaint among Straits residents that this Colony, with its affairs, although it is not the least valuable gem in Queen Victoria's Colonial diadem, was favoured with but scant notice and less interest by the Home Press and the Houses of Parliament. It is a doubtful question whether that complaint will not soon be exchanged for a unanimous cry of "save us from our friends," if we and our affairs are to be often honoured in either House with a notice like that of Lord Stanley of Alderley's recent diatribe in the House of Lords against our present Governor's policy and action in dealing with the Native States of the Peninsula, and against the Colonial administration generally here since the transfer. We do not know who Lord Stanley's adviser in regard to his interpellation was, nor what may have been his sources of information, but as he appears to have been posted up in our local history pretty fairly for a home politician, although evidently from a prejudiced point of view, it is important to be outspoken about the inaccuracy of his statements and inferences, especially, as it would appear from Reuter's telegram of the 7th instant, that he is resolved to keep his views before the home public. His Lordship begins by warning Her Majesty's Government against the danger they incur of "entering into equivocal and entangling engagements," if they sanction the plans of the Straits Government, and impliedly he states these plans to be the immediate annexation of Perak and Salangore, and the prospective conquest of the whole Peninsula. Knowing the horror of "annexation" and "entangling alliances" which it is the fashion for Home politicians at present to profess, this exordium was very adroit, and so was the subsequent hint about "being dragged into another Ashantee business," but it is a pity for his Lordship's political judgment that the danger is all imaginary, and that the analogy sought to be drawn between Malay and Ashantee land is as untrue as the allegation against the Straits Government. No equivocal or entangling engagements have been entered into with any Native state, no plans of annexation or conquest are entertained, or desired, or dreamt of by the Straits Government or the community, and it is an insult to compare the Malay states with the savages of Ashantee and their cowardly neighbours.

The result of Sir Andrew Clarke's peaceable interposition in Perak has been that a state of anarchy, murder and arson, which has been chronic for years in Laroot, to the disgrace of the British name, has been replaced by order and security of life and property, while the dispute about the Perak succession, which has long kept the country in a state of disquietude, has been amicably and satisfactorily arranged. All this has been done, not by force of any kind, but by personal influence, tact and diplomacy. When it is remembered that both of our present Governor's predecessors tried in vain to effect what he has done, and that his interposition was imperatively demanded not only in the interests of the trade and the very peace of Penang, but was obligatory by Treaty stipulations, one may well wonder what could have induced a man of Lord Stanley's standing and local knowledge to rise in his place in Parliament to endeavour to censure a policy which has been so beneficial and so successful, and which has met with the entire approval of the three Settlements.

Because Sir Andrew Clarke agreed to appoint a British Resident in Perak, with an Assistant in Laroot, at the express request and wish of the Sultan of Perak and the Muntri of Laroot, as well as with the general concurrence of the chiefs and people, Lord Stanley gravely accuses him of insidiously designing to annex the whole country. Because His Excellency succeeded in peaceably settling the long-standing dispute as to the possession of the Pulo Dindings, a dispute which has baffled the ability and even the threats of his predecessors during the last half-century, he has been guilty of high-

handed confiscation and extorting by force a cession of territory from an unwilling native prince. Both indictments are worthy of being uttered in the same breath with the entreaty that "respectable persons, responsible to the Home Government and independent of Singapore local interests and influences," should be sent, as Consuls we presume, to protect the Native States; the natural inference being that Sir Andrew Clarke and his Officials are not "respectable persons."

The old Salangore business, we presume, was revived to serve as peg for the somewhat irrelevant attack upon Sir Harry Ord and our Attorney-General. Our late Governor cannot be said to have left the Colony in the odour of sanctity, if that means popularity, but his bitterest enemy here never doubted his personal integrity, and no one had the slightest notion of attributing corruption to His Excellency, although the policy of accepting any present, however insignificant, from any native prince was criticised very freely and very frankly. Moreover, to talk of his "having squandered the revenues of the Colony, seized the Municipal bricks and threatened to abolish the Commissioners when they remonstrated," and of His Excellency leaving behind him "a reputation which could only be compared to a Roman proconsul of the time of Cicero," seems to us to be uttering very solemn nonsense indeed, even although it comes sounding down from the lofty and serene atmosphere of the House of Lords. Altogether, we cannot help considering the attack upon Sir Harry Ord, with all his faults, as very unfair and ungenerous, and his Lordship's remarks upon the Attorney-General we do not hesitate to characterise as malicious and unjust. Mr. Braddell enjoys the sincere respect of his fellow residents, both as a lawyer and as a member of the Executive: he has, moreover, been one of our hardest worked Officials, and has conscientiously worked, we believe, with an unselfish regard to the welfare of the Colony. It is true he was frequently at variance with the late Chief Justice, but people differ as to whether that was his fault or his misfortune.

As regards the administration of our affairs under the Colonial Office, we can assure Lord Stanley that it has been on the whole fairly successful. Our finances are in a solvent state, and now that we have got rid of an unpopular Governor who should never have been sent here, we are fairly satisfied and prosperous, and have not much to complain of, and we shall not complain so long as trade is not interfered with and life and property endangered by pirates and desperadoes under the encouragement of well-intentioned but ill-informed home philanthropists, who labour under the delusion that they possess all the virtues, and that British gentlemen, Official and Civil, become unscrupulous tyrants when they leave the United Kingdom.

SIR HARRY ORD.

WHEN Lord Stanley of Alderley made his somewhat startling charges against Sir Harry Ord, there can be no doubt but that he thoroughly believed in their truth, and that he had some grounds which he deemed sufficient to warrant his making them. This is evident because he has not been deterred from recurring to the subject by the severe rebuke administered to him by the two Secretaries of State,—the present one, Earl Carnarvon, and the late one, Earl Kimberley—for his rashness in making charges which they characterised as without any foundation. Although Lord Kimberley declared that he had caused inquiry to be made as to the presents said to have been received or extorted by the late Governor and all the attendant circumstances, and was perfectly satisfied that no blame could attach to Sir Harry Ord, Lord Stanley still thinks that further inquiry should be made, and as the subject may probably crop up again, it may be as well to put on record what we feel sure is the general sense of the community, that any such inquiry would be a needless waste of time, labour, and money, and probably a job, and that the Secretary of State

has done perfectly right in at once giving an explicit refusal.

The whole matter is suggestive of some reflections with regard to the relations of our Officials with the public, and what constitutes fair criticism upon their sayings and doings. It is only right and proper that Officials as such, and therefore public men, should be criticised freely and fully, even roughly, and a free press is seldom backward in using this privilege with a freedom which is more piquant to the public than pleasant to the Official mind. Most public men are case-hardened as to their personal feelings against attacks upon their official character, and bear them with a philosophical equanimity which is proof against all provocation to anger and retaliation. But it is a different matter altogether when a man is not only assailed in his official character, but imputations are sown broadcast against his personal honour and integrity. In such circumstances a public man is differently situated from a private individual. He is far more defenceless, having his hands tied, as it were, from his official position, and for the time being he has not only the public against him but he is regarded with more or less suspicion by his superiors. Thus, for example, when Sir Harry Ord was here he had to bear in silence the imputations publicly current as to the wretched presents which he thought he could not in courtesy refuse, and his mouth was shut when Lord Stanley took up the matter in the House of Lords. In a matter of life or death to his personal character and reputation, he could only defend himself in a second-hand way through the Secretary of State, a mode of defence which, ably and loyally as it was done, could hardly have satisfied his sense of indignation when wrongfully accused of what he knew himself innocent. The inference, we think, is that to make a charge against a public man is a very different thing to making one against a private individual, being much more serious in its consequences, and that therefore to do so upon mere hearsay or frivolous grounds, nay, without proof positive and unquestionable, is cowardly and unfair, and we almost think ought to be punished with exceptional punishment. For the worst of such charges against public men is that they stick, however clearly they may have been disproved and shown to be without any foundation.

It may be some source of consolation to Sir Harry Ord, for the annoyance, we might almost say the persecution, to which he has been subjected by that luckless kris from the Sultan of Siam, that he has made his successors' path clear in the matter of presents from Native Rajahs. The introduction of the excellent Indian rule which forbids the acceptance of presents of any description by Officials of all ranks from Natives or others, will for the future remove all embarrassment as to breach of courtesy, and drawing as it does a hard and fast line, will prevent any misunderstanding as to the course to be pursued under all circumstances.

LAROOT AND PERAK.

It would appear that it has been something very different from holiday making that has been detaining the Governor in Pinang. Perak and its affairs have been requiring and occupying His Excellency's attention, and we are glad to learn that the excellent arrangements agreed to at Pulo Pangkor on the 20th January last for the pacification of the country, the development of its resources, the advancement of trade and the general security of life and property are in a fair way of being carried out to their full extent. Perhaps the most serious blot in the eyes of an impartial critic upon Sir Harry Ord's government was his supineness or indifference to the disturbances which were chronic in the Native states of the Peninsula during his term of office, and it says not a little for Sir Andrew Clarke's political sagacity that he at once on his arrival here saw that his first and paramount duty was to put an end to these disturbances. His Excellency could not have inaugurated his administration in any

manner more honourable to himself, more advantageous to the Native states, or more satisfactory to the community.

Since the Pulo Pangkor conference and arbitration there have been or there were rumoured to be two obstacles in the way of the arrangements then made being carried out forthwith. The Bandahara Ismail, who has been Regent-Sultan since May 1871, instead of the rightful heir, the Rajah Muda, now Sultan Abdullah, did not attend the meeting at Pulo Pangkor, and was said to have refused to abdicate his position and give up the Regalia. That was one obstacle, and the other was the necessity of obtaining the sanction and approval of the Home Government. Lord Stanley's ill-advised, ill-timed, and mischievous interpellation in the House of Lords seemed to make it doubtful whether the Secretary of State would have the courage to brave Liberal criticism and to support Sir Andrew Clarke in his straightforward, manly and sensible policy. Happily the anticipation of difficulties or failure from either obstacle appears to have been unnecessary, for we learn from private sources that Earl Carnarvon, presumably after having perused Sir Andrew Clarke's final report, to which he referred in his reply to Lord Stanley, has by telegram signified his approval of all the Pulo Pangkor arrangements, even to the sanctioning of the appointment of British Residents in Perak, Laroot, and Salangore. This is corroborated in a *Gazette Extraordinary* issued in Pinang on the 15th instant, a copy of which has been handed us for perusal. This *Gazette* expressly states that the Engagement entered into with the Perak Chiefs at Pulo Pangkor on the 20th day of January 1871 has been approved, and it contains three Proclamations especially referring to three of the stipulations of that Engagement. In the first, Sultan Abdulla Mahomed Shah is recognised by Her Majesty's Government as Sultan of Perak and its Dependencies,—in the second, the Bandahara Ismail is recognised as Ex Sultan of Perak, entitled to a pension of \$1,009 per month out of the revenues of Perak and a small portion of territory, together with all his private property in mines, lands, &c.,—and in the third Proclamation particulars are set forth with regard to the rectification of the southern boundary of Province Wellesley on the Krian river with its watershed.

This is all very satisfactory so far as it goes, but we confess to some feeling of disappointment at the non-appointment up to this time of the British Residents to Perak and Laroot, which we regard as one of the most important of the arrangements agreed to at the Pulo Pangkor conference, being one without which we fear the other arrangements will prove of little permanent avail for the peace and good order of the country.

A little consideration of the past and present state of affairs in Perak will make this clear and self-evident. Six months have now elapsed since the conference at Pulo Pangkor took place, and the consent and approval of the Home Government to the proceedings there having been obtained, any hesitation or delay in putting into force all the arrangements agreed to cannot fail to have an injurious effect upon the native mind, which is prone to suspicion and little credulous of an open straightforward policy. There is no doubt that there are many in Perak to whom the conference at Pulo Pangkor was not at all palatable, and whose interest and inclination lay in fomenting disturbances as much as possible. Their instinctive interpretation of any vacillation on the part of Government will assuredly be, that, for some reason or another, it is drawing back from its original bold course, and the inevitable consequence will be a speedy renewal of the former scenes of riot and disorder. Indeed, it would appear that already some symptoms of this have appeared, for in the Proclamation recognising Sultan Abdullah, certain evil-disposed persons, who are said to be engaged in conspiracies to disturb the peace of Perak and to stir up rebellion against the new Sultan, are warned under pains and penalties to desist from their practices. Again it can be easily understood that

owing to the relations which have subsisted for some time past between the Ex-Sultan Bindahara Ismail, the Rajah Mudah, now the *de facto* as well as *de jure* Sultan, and the Muntri of Laroot, their present position with regard to each other must be of rather a delicate nature. It would be expecting too much of human nature to imagine that their mutual jealousies will subside at once, or that there will be much cordiality or trust between them for some time to come. When it is further considered that the three chiefs have played fast and loose with the two great Chinese factions at the mines, sometimes supporting one side and sometimes another, and have thereby forfeited the confidence of both, it will be readily seen that it would require only a small spark to kindle the elements of disorder lying ready to hand, and set the whole country once more in a blaze. That being so, it is abundantly clear that the only remedy is the intervention of an impartial power in whom all parties will have confidence, and whose word and decision in all matters of dispute will carry irresistible weight and authority. This is what the appointment of British Residents representing the British Government would effectually do, and the conviction that it is of essential importance that these proposed Officials should be at their posts as soon as possible is further strengthened by another consideration. The country being now considered safe, capitalists and enterprising traders from the three Settlements will be attracted by its immense mining and other resources. The Sultan and his Chiefs will be besieged for all manner of concessions and grants, and impecunious as all of them are, there is great danger that, dazzled by the immediate prospect of what in their ignorance may appear to them to be immense wealth, concessions, grants, and monopolies may be given which they may afterwards, when they know better, endeavour to repudiate, and thus endless complications and disputes will arise which it will be no easy task to settle. All these considerations, we submit, are sufficiently urgent reasons why the posts of Residents should be filled without delay, and we trust to learn shortly that that has been done, it being a measure of urgent political necessity with which nothing should be allowed to interfere.

JOTTINGS FROM A TROPICAL ISLAND.

VII.

My last jotting on the fauna and flora of L— having been brought to a premature close, I trust you will not object to a supplementary notice in this one of a singular animal here, which I omitted to mention in my previous one.

The creature I refer to is the stick-insect. One of its most curious characteristics is that it uses its own body as a cane whenever it takes a stroll. When you see it, it strikes you at once as being very remarkable. It also mystifies you by its astonishing resemblance to a twig. As you walk in a bye-path, you may be startled by seeing what seems a leafless twig of a tree promenading on a branch. You try to catch it, and lo! it vanishes apparently; but it is under your eye all the time, for its legs disappear; the animal remains perfectly motionless on the branch, and you can't distinguish it from other twigs. After searching vainly for one I had just seen, a short time since, I moved off, quite puzzled; when, happening to look back, I saw the deceiving rascal moving high up on the tree; and I assure you the creature winked knowingly at me, in a manner that plainly said—"Sold!" This insect is useful to man—as a walking-stick.

We are also blessed with centipedes, scorpions, and, above all, with some enormous and very ill-favoured spiders. One of these latter insects has honoured my domicile by selecting the edge of its roof for its dwelling. It is not a beauty, being as big as an egg, and hirsute with bristles. Its web is like strands of whipcord in stoutness. The like of the L— spiders you will find nowhere else; for they have

the astonishing and cruel habit of catching flies and eating 'em!

Ere dismissing the fauna of L—, I may as well say a word anent our horse-flesh. As for the spavined, wind-galled backs who drag the few gharries and traps we can boast of, I ought not in conscience to say a word against them; seeing that, whenever they happened to carry me, they did not break my neck, thank goodness. But, by Jove! I had as lief mount a hippogriff or an Australian buck-jumper as one of the frisky, skittish little brutes we ride here. Whenever you try to mount one, he always shows temper. The moment your foot is in the stirrup, to mount, he begins to move backwards, forwards, and sideways, with a vicious gleam in the corner of his eyes, until finally you are obliged to jump into the saddle. They have also an unpleasant habit of shying when going at full speed; so that, unless you keep a sharp look out, you will be sure to come to grief.

Although Natural History is very interesting, I must now turn to a subject of more practical importance—namely, our trade, about which I am anxious to give some useful information to your Chamber of Commerce and the merchants generally of Singapore, and by which I heartily trust they may profit. It is not very extensive, but typical of Far Eastern produce; embracing birds-nests, opium, trepang, sago, gutta, rattans, brass guns, dammar, jars, sharks'-fins &c. I shall give a special notice to each of these articles; and I have spared no pains in gleaning information about them, so that the reader may rest satisfied as regards its authenticity and value.

The birds-nests come principally from Kinibatangan, on the N. E. coast of Borneo. This nest is of great antiquity as an article of human food; for we are told (I forget by whom) that the sect called Nestorians, who flourished over fourteen hundred years ago, were so designated because they lived almost entirely on this edible. As it is found clinging to the roofs of caves, on the sea-shore in Java and elsewhere in this region; and the little swallows that build them dive into the sea-foam, and carrying off a mouthful of it to the caves, lubricate it gently with their bills, then eject it against the roof, thus forming the glue with which they make their nests adhere to it. This invests the nest with a poetic interest, and accounts not only for its exquisite marine flavor, but also for the eagerness and delight with which our imaginative friends, the Celestials, swallow this production of the swallow. The gatherers incur great risk in procuring the nest, and they do so when the bird is *non est*. I hope you see the point of that. In fact, these swallows bring real summer with them at all times into the pockets and stomachs of Celestials. In imitation of the crooked flight of its architect, I fear the trade in it is not strictly honest, for John Chinaman feathers his own nest pretty well by it. Pray don't growl at me—one can't help being a little flighty when dealing with such a subject as birds-nests. Or, if you please, you may set down these small jokes to the bothering effects of the climate—bad luck to it!

I now come to the trepang, or *bêche de mer*, which belongs to the family of *Holothuriadæ*. There's a jaw-breaker for you! You see I can show my learning when I like. And it is a fine thing, Sir, to have; for, as the poet say—

"When land and money's gone and spent,
Then learning is most excellent."

But I digress. The trepang is also a Celestial tit-bit. It comes here from the coast, in prahus, I think. The creature possesses the curious power of throwing away its inside; but a new set of digestive organs grow in a month, and then it is ready to exercise those of the Chinaman. It is sometimes called the sea-cucumber, which is not a bad name for it. It is not a "thing of beauty," although "a joy for ever" to the natives of the Flowery Land.

A very important article of our trade is sago. This article has a tender interest for me, as it always reminds me of lines which delighted me in my juvenile days, to wit:—

"There was an old man in Tobago,
Who lived upon coffee and sago," &c.

It is brought here from the opposite coast, and after having been washed, dried, and otherwise prepared, it is shipped to Singapore in quantities amounting in value to many thousand pounds sterling annually. The sago-palm grows in swampy places, and can't, therefore, be approached by rheumatic people. This tree has no end of uses for the native; but its great benefit to him is that he and his family can live for months in clover on the food furnished by one tree. Some writers have published what I am constrained to call senile platitudes about the evil effects on the native of this easy mode of obtaining subsistence—how it makes him lazy and keeps him in a state of barbarism. It is surprising to find men of the mental calibre of Gibbon and Buckle indulging in such a clap-trap plausibility. Now, bread is the object of man, the one vital necessity of his existence, and work the means by which he attains it; and whenever he can get the former without the latter, he wisely and gladly dispenses with it.

The fallacy of the idea to which I refer arises from our illogical habit of regarding the native of the torrid zone exclusively from our own stand-point, and through spectacles coloured by our own wants, aspirations, and prejudices. What we call civilisation would be misery to him, and what we name barbarism is his congenial element, in which he is quite happy. We may, therefore, spare him our pity. Moreover, the white man gladly avails of the aid of machinery at once to save labor and increase produce. Now, within the tropics, prolific Nature stands to the native in the same relation as the steam machine to the European. The coloured man lets Nature work for him in the same way, saving him labor, and he enjoys the results. As for our artificial wants, he knows nothing of them, and does not covet them. Having thus floored and crushed the philosophers in question quite flat, I resume my subject cheerfully.

Another article of our commerce is dammer, the name of which also suggests to me a couplet, which I am sorry to say I remember having been profane enough to repeat when a school-boy; namely—

"Who is grammar?
I say d— her!"

In keeping with its ungodly name, dammer has a blackish and singed appearance, suggestive of even a hotter place than this. It is very hot itself; yet, strange to say, is largely consumed by, and consumes, *Celestials*. Quantities of it find their way to Europe, especially to Amsterdam.

We deal largely in pearls from Sooloo—some of them of much value. The reader may not be aware that this coveted *parure* which adorns the neck of beauty and occasionally (in rings) the paws of man, is the result of a disease in the oyster—its liver-complaint, in fact, owing to imbibing, like a human, too much moisture and heat out here. A diseased liver would be also a pearl to the Anglo-Far Eastern, if he could only make use of it to get home in time to be cured and to enjoy himself.

Rattans figure largely in our exports. These come chiefly from Maludu, one of the richest districts in Borneo, and Palawan. In a moral point of view, this article is gratifying to the contemplative minds; affording, as it does, a remarkable instance of reformation from originally depraved instincts. In its native forests, it is a ruthless, selfish parasite, strangling poor trees in its snake-like folds, and viciously tearing the clothes and bodies of men who venture into its *habitat*. Ravished from the jungle, and subjected to the humanising influence of man, its nature undergoes a total change. It then becomes useful and beneficial to man in various ways—such as for mats, baskets, and especially as cordage for prahus. In return, as it were, for the reformation thus effected in itself by man out here, the rattan, applied *à posteriori* to boys at home, becomes an effective and powerful instrument of improvement to a large portion of the human race. How wonderful are the ways of Providence!

Jars are also comprised in our trade, and, I am glad to say, have never produced any of their namesakes here, so far as I am aware.

Another item of our commerce is brass-guns, which come here from Brunel. Singular to relate, they are not used for warlike, but for peaceful purposes, being actually current as coin; so that when you present your bill to a man here, he presents a brass-gun at you, and then *discharges* his debt, as "bold as brass!"

Sharks'-fins form another interesting article of our commerce. I need scarcely inform you that this is a great tit-bit of the Chinaman. Ever on the alert to grace and illustrate my subject with historical facts, I may mention here that the great German writer, Professor Eulenspiegel Von Dununkopf, in his learned work entitled "*De Omnibus Rebus et Quibusdam Aliis*," (vol. XX. p. 2074) informs us that Finland derives its name from the quantity of sharks'-fins found in the bays of the aboriginals by the early Danish invaders. In a very elaborate argument, which occupies nearly one volume of his great work, the learned Professor clearly demonstrates that these fins could not possibly have been carried from China to that remote part of Europe by ocean currents. By another exhaustive enquiry he proves beyond all doubt that they could not have fallen from the clouds. Hence the Professor infers a connexion between the Scandinavian and Mongol races. This grand discovery has thrown great light on many hitherto obscure historical and ethnological questions, and has gained for its erudite author the gold medal of the *Kaiserlichen-Ethnologischen-Philologischen-Gesellschaft* of Berlin. I will wager a shrimp against a whale that you will not pronounce that name correctly, especially after dinner.

The first time I tasted shark's-fin was in Saigon, where a genial Frenchman regaled me with this dainty of Cathay. With me it was "*le commencement de la fin*," and also the end of it; for I have never touched it since. That reminds me that I had better finish this jotting here, lest I should weary the reader—promising to continue the subject in my next.

B. A. C.

L—, July, 1874.

P. S.—Permit me to supply an omission in the fourth "Jotting." In my reference to Lord Macaulay's review of Dr. Nares' work, you make me say that he (Lord M.) had "weighed and measured him in a literary sense." My words were "in a literal as well as a literary sense;" for the brilliant critic gives the actual weight and dimensions of the ponderous tome he reviewed. There are some other errors, chiefly of punctuation; but they are not material. But in the quotation at the head of the third "Jotting," taken from that charming writer Emile Souvestre, and who is one of my special favourites, what a shock I got when I saw his name transformed into Emile *Touvestre*!

VIII.

RESUMING my observations on the commerce of L—, I shall now deal with that great and valuable article of Far Eastern trade, opium. A good deal of what I cannot help calling nonsense has been uttered and written about "the deleterious effects" of this drug upon those who use it. The whole question resolves itself into the worn-out platitude of the distinction between the use and abuse of the gifts of Nature. Used in moderation, I have no doubt it is not only harmless but beneficial to the Chinaman. In Hong Kong I saw Chinese porters loading and unloading vessels—fellows of splendid physique, all brawn and muscle; two of whom carried with ease enormous loads slung from bamboos resting on their shoulders. An official assured me that all these burly porters were opium-smokers. I take it for granted that they took the drug in moderate quantities, or used an unadulterated article. My cook takes it in excess, and its effects are patent in his emaciated face and body; but he is very active notwithstanding, and quite up to the mark in his work. We should not judge the drug by its effect on Europeans, whose constitutions and idiosyncracies differ very widely from those of Chinamen—chiefly because we happen to possess, in a greater or less degree, that of which the Celest-