

(Copy)

TM 19/11/33

Observations on the Consumption of  
Tea in Bootan, Tibet, and Tartary;  
and on the practicability of advantageously  
furnishing that article to some of  
those Countries from Canton through  
India.-

That the quantity of Tea  
consumed in Tibet and Bootan  
is vastly greater, relatively to the  
Population, than even in England,  
will admit of no doubt, when it  
is considered that Tea enters ~~to~~  
largely as an Ingredient (so as  
even to give the name) into the  
Savoury Broth, called Chhâk,  
which is taken sometimes alone, and  
sometimes with parched corn,  
sodden in it, as almost the sole  
Food and support of a majority  
of the inhabitants of those ~~to~~  
Countries; and forms the ~~to~~  
principal part of every Meal  
in every house there; and is the  
universal refreshment taken on  
~~every~~

every occasions. The Natives are so accustomed to this broth, and are so fond of it (and indeed it is most excellent) as to imagine it necessary to their very existence. It is also well known that Tea is + + universally used in Tartary, but I am not aware that it has been ascertained to what amount. The Tea used in Tibet and Bootan, and I believe a great deal of that used in Tartary, is of an ordinary kind, and has a slight Bohea flavour. It grows in China, in the province of Szechuan, and is transported from thence by land, a prodigious journey, occupying several months. I believe that the excessive advance of price naturally incident to this land-carriage, and which of course must be paid for some way or other, is checked, as far as concerns the consumer, by a sort of Tax + or Corvée, laid on the Lands + through which it passes, their being

being obliged to furnish cattle at  
a rate of hire lower than what  
may be called the Market Price.  
This is the affair of Government,  
and eases the distant Consumer,  
but obviously does not, and +  
cannot diminish the real expence  
of the transport, but only throws  
part of the Burden, in shape of  
a Tax, on other Shoulders. The  
great Tea Merchants settled in +  
Tibet are Natives of the Province  
of Shantung, a Province whose  
Inhabitants are famous all over  
the Chinese World, for their +  
Merchantile Spirit and Enterprize,  
and also, tis said, for their +  
Integrity and fair dealing. The  
price of Middling Tea at Lassa,  
the Capital of Tibet, is about 10  
Paisas for 48 catties. Now, however  
the Consumer may be eased by  
the Government Regulations in  
Tibet, there can be little doubt  
but that Tea transported (in  
the proper Season) from Seckuan  
to

to Canton, and from Canton  
to the Borders of Bootan (all  
water-carriage, may be furnished  
cheaper to the Bootanees, than  
what they get by way of Tibet.  
<sup>And is it not also probable that Tibet</sup>  
itself and even parts of Tartary,  
might be advantageously furnished  
in a similar manner? - On my  
return to Canton, I made a  
enquiries (through my excellent  
friend Mr Ball the Tea Inspector)  
as to the transport of Tea, from  
Sechuan to Canton, its price &c &c  
and I believe when I left Canton  
he was in train to have Specimens  
of considerable Bulk sent down  
to him I had put a sample of  
the Tibet Tea into his hands, one  
which I had brought from  
Sassa expressly for that  
purpose. It must be observed,  
that unless the Tea offered to the  
Bootanees was of the same &  
appearance as what they are &  
accustomed to, they certainly &  
would not readily buy it, &  
however

however cheap it might be, and however well it might be -  
adapted to making their Khak  
Broth. - Of this I saw an example myself when at Runspore.  
I there offered some Bootens, as a present, a paper of good Tea, in  
the common form of rolled leaf.  
They rubbed some of it about in  
their hands and at last refused  
to accept it, saying it was of no  
use to them. And these were persons who greedily snatched at  
any thing, however trifling, they  
could get at gratis. Afterwards in  
Bootan, I had an opportunity  
of seeing a good deal of a person  
of considerable rank there, a  
superior Soubah, a man of  
education and great Shrewdness.  
He took my Tea, upon my explaining to him that it was in  
fact the same that was daily served  
up to him, and had it used in  
his broth; and he assured me  
it was most excellent, and from  
the

the very great desire he afterwards  
shewed of possessing himself of  
more of it than I could well spare,  
I was convinced that he did not  
praise it out of compliment. The  
Sea these People use, travels in  
large oblong, thick, flat, dense cakes,  
served up in skins. And if they  
were supplied thro' Bengal, this  
form ought to be adopted + +  
independently of their prejudices;  
For it is the most convenient for  
their mode of transporting it  
from Town to Town. Its price  
in Bootan could easily be + +  
ascertained at Rungpore. The  
lowest price at which it could  
be furnished at Canton, could  
of course be in time found out,  
though perhaps it would not be  
so easy to come at it immediately.  
It may be observed that if the  
Article could be introduced at  
Bootan, at first exactly of the  
form and quality they are + +  
accustomed to, it might afterwards  
be gradually changed for + +

Goklen

Fokien or other Tea. And if  
skins be too dear at Fokien, some  
other covering might be adopted.  
The tea, my Bootan Soubah  
relished so much was from Fokien.  
I took my memorandum of the  
price of tea at Lassa, the capital  
of Tibet, for there it was, seeing  
the immense quantity drunk, and  
hearing of the prodigious distance  
it was brought by land, that it  
first struck me that it might  
be made a profitable branch of  
Trade <sup>to the</sup> English. There it was +  
with the same view that I made  
various enquiries respecting it of  
one of the most respectable +  
wholesale Dealers of the Place.—  
He was a well disposed young  
man from Shanghai, one whom  
I had had the good fortune to  
cure of a slight complaint, which  
rendered him the more ready to  
oblige me and to answer my +  
questions. The introduction of  
Tea through India into Tibet  
and

and Tartary could of course at  
please only gradually and slowly.  
But I have reason to believe  
that the Bootan People would  
gladly and readily buy their  
Tea in Bengal, rather than in  
Tibet, if it came as cheap to them.—  
In the dealings between Bootan,  
and Tibet, the profuse and +  
difficulty of finding articles  
of export lies on the side of the  
Booteens, their Country furnishing  
very little indeed fit for that  
purpose. It's the Booteens who  
are the carriers over the Frontier,  
and not the Tibet Merchants;  
and no doubt if they were + +  
abundantly supplied from  
Bengal, they would force their  
Tea on the attention of their +  
Neighbours, if from its price  
it could bear a fair competition  
with that exported from Sechuen  
over-land through Tartary. Hoping  
that these few observations (being

a part of the many that I have  
made in various places and various  
ways relative to the Interests of  
the Slave Company) may prove  
acceptable, I have committed them  
to paper; and humbly beg leave  
to present them to the Honorable  
the Chairman and Deputy Chairman,

(Signed) Thomas Manning

29<sup>th</sup> Decr 1817

TH 19/11/33

That the quantity of Tea consumer that  
Brokhan is really great, reflecting both population, the same in  
England who admit of no doubt that it is considered that  
Tea is the chiefest ingredient in giving the name to  
such countries which, which is largely when sometimes  
done sometimes with packed corn soddie it is almost the sole  
~~support~~ ~~the~~ ~~in~~ ~~one~~ ~~large~~ ~~portion~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~people~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~area~~  
carries, which it forms the principal part of every  
meal in every house, on the universal refreshment  
when in every occasion. The Inhabitants are so accustomed  
to this drink, one so fond fit minded it is now considered  
that it may be a sign to their very existence.  
It is also well known that tea is very nearly used in  
Tibet but ~~it is not~~ ~~known~~ ~~or~~ ~~not~~ ~~but~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~known~~ ~~as~~ ~~already~~ ~~taken~~. The tea  
used in ~~the~~ ~~country~~ ~~of~~ ~~Tibet~~ ~~is~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~kind~~ ~~but~~ ~~under~~ ~~Tibet~~  
is produced in the ~~country~~ ~~of~~ ~~Bohun~~, & later aged 3 years ~~so~~ ~~as~~ ~~to~~ ~~make~~ ~~it~~ ~~as~~ ~~fresh~~ ~~as~~  
the natural tea growing in ~~the~~ ~~country~~ ~~of~~ ~~Bohun~~ ~~but~~ ~~when~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~transferred~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~country~~  
not the capsule drooping small months. I have  
seen the carriage tank of course must be paid for some way or  
else is checked as far as concern the consumer, by a sort  
of Tea or coffee (lead on the tank if does what it has) They  
being obliged to furnish ~~the~~ ~~all~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~sides~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~tank~~  
come from what may be called the market price. This is the  
affair of government seen the dishonourable ~~in~~ ~~public~~ ~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~public~~ ~~interest~~  
for not been able to diminish the ~~market~~ ~~price~~ ~~of~~ ~~tea~~ ~~but~~ ~~not~~ ~~to~~ ~~less~~ ~~than~~ ~~one-~~  
third. In ~~the~~ ~~country~~ ~~of~~ ~~Tibet~~ ~~the~~ ~~market~~ ~~price~~ ~~is~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~as~~ ~~in~~ ~~China~~  
as the province of Chanting a province formerly all over  
the Chinese world for the remarkable spirit starts fair gifts  
whatever & else I <sup>have</sup> ~~had~~ ~~had~~ for integrity & fair dealing.  
Now however the consumer may be called by the  
Government regulations there can be little doubt  
but that Tea Transport to form the proper season) form  
such ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~border~~ ~~of~~ ~~Bohun~~ ~~at~~ ~~waterways~~  
& the border of Bohun <sup>may</sup> be furnished cheaper to  
the Bohun people than will be done by way of Tibet. This  
will also probably be true that still greater parts of Tibet

might be adopted in a similar manner?

On my return to Canton I made enquiry that my  
well known Mr Bell the tea importer as well  
as of the importers of Tea from Sechuan & Canton in particular  
on what their custom was of buying Tea  
in Sechuan & whether they had been accustomed to buy it  
in broken form or otherwise.

The effect of the Miao people was of the same opinion  
as what they are accustomed to buy certainly would not buy it  
however well it might be adapted to making their chah  
Broth. Off of this I saw an example myself when  
at Ningpo <sup>but</sup> I offered them some <sup>sophisticated</sup> broken tea in the  
common form they rubbed <sup>very</sup> their hands & refused to touch  
it as saying it was of no use. Other <sup>strangers</sup> than  
expecting <sup>to</sup> buy <sup>them</sup> were persons who  
greedily asked at any price <sup>about</sup> <sup>1000</sup> <sup>taels</sup> <sup>per</sup> <sup>lb</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>broken</sup> <sup>tea</sup> when I told them  
I had an opportunity of buying a good deal of  
broken tea in Boston, a superior tea both <sup>more</sup> <sup>than</sup> <sup>1000</sup> <sup>taels</sup> <sup>per</sup> <sup>lb</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>broken</sup> <sup>tea</sup>  
at great savings. He took my tea, upon my explaining  
to him that we could not find the same they <sup>were</sup> <sup>about</sup> <sup>1000</sup> <sup>taels</sup> <sup>per</sup> <sup>lb</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>broken</sup>  
desired <sup>them</sup> to add in his Broth before one cup it was most  
excellent; & from the great desire he had of possessing  
knowldg of more than I could make known, I was convinced  
he did not practice it out of ten thousand.

Then I saw that people <sup>are</sup> in a tract in large  
numbers <sup>which</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>not</sup> <sup>far</sup> <sup>from</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>sea</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>they</sup> <sup>are</sup> <sup>not</sup> <sup>far</sup> <sup>from</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>sea</sup>  
Cakes send upon this coast they were supplied the broken  
this form ought to be adopted independently of their <sup>convenience</sup>  
for to the most convenient for their mode of transporting  
it from <sup>town</sup> <sup>to town</sup> <sup>or</sup> <sup>village</sup>. The price of the broken Tea  
used by the Miao people could easily be afforded through  
the broken cakes of which could be <sup>cut</sup> <sup>down</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>small</sup> <sup>portions</sup>  
perhaps so easily to come <sup>into</sup> <sup>ability</sup> immediately. It may be ob-  
served that after the article could be introduced at Canton  
at first <sup>it</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>not</sup> <sup>likely</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>people</sup> <sup>accustomed</sup> <sup>to</sup>

If might afterwards be gradually charged for to him or  
that tea & of course be too dear to him, some other every  
night be adopted. The tea my Brother Poole selected  
so much I was from Pekin. I took <sup>my</sup> memorandum  
of the price of ~~the~~ common tea at Lhasa the Capital of  
Tibet, for that it was, say the common quality don't a  
peck of the good ones ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> <sup>but</sup> <sup>it</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>not</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>best</sup>  
by far, but it I think in it may <sup>possibly</sup> be made a profit by  
Crown & Ford & Son Company. There is one for the  
water of the same view, that I copied in various engravings  
plan. The <sup>water</sup> <sup>most</sup> <sup>reliable</sup> <sup>whole</sup> <sup>market</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>one</sup> <sup>part</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>the</sup>  
there good for him to care of a light comfort, & render him  
only to tell me answer my questions. Hoping that  
these few observations (by a part of the way till I have one  
in various plan drawn in various ways <sup>possible</sup> to be engravings of the Company)  
may prove useful to them. I have committed them to  
you as by <sup>myself</sup> <sup>hands</sup> to present them to the Noble  
Court.

48 Colca Wdch

Cust. Grinn

~~This corporate~~  
Observations on the Laws of Tamil Nadu  
and Telangana on the practicability of advantageously forming some  
of those countries from Central Provinces