

# Note on Terminology and Romanisation and Monetary Values

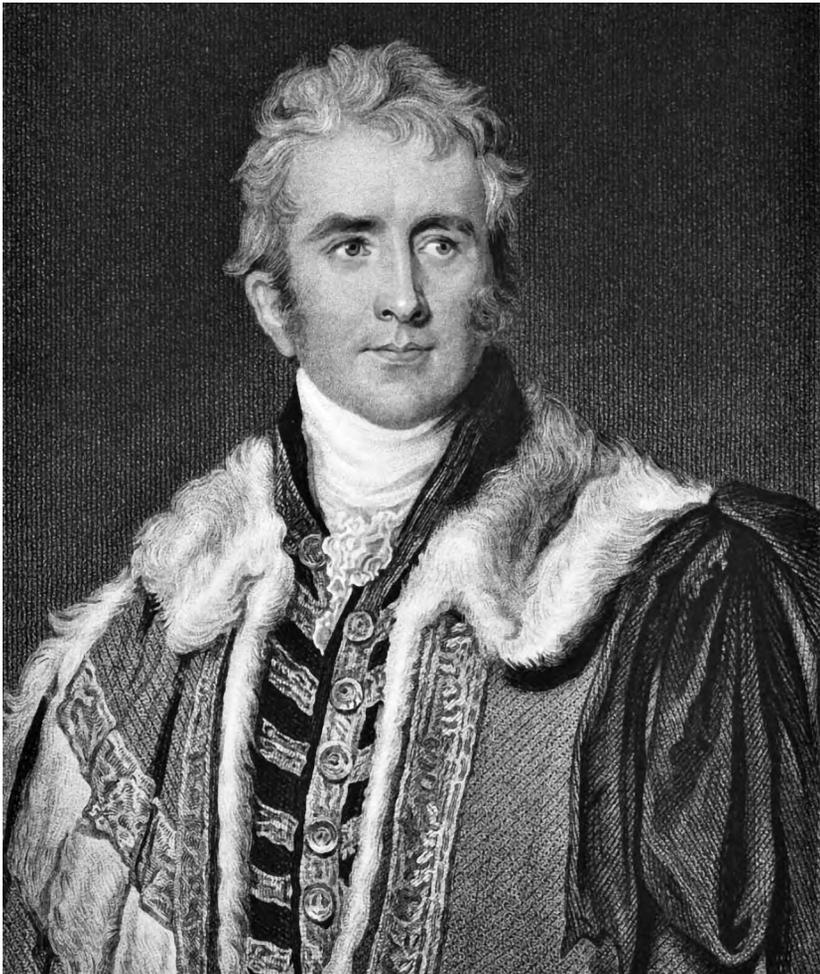
## Note on Terminology and Romanisation

In general, Chinese place names, personal names and terms are rendered into *pinyin* unless they are domesticated into English or are so common in the English-language historical literature of the Canton trade system that it would be confusing to do otherwise. Thus, Beijing is referred to as ‘Peking’, although ‘Pekin’ was used by the British at the time. Guangzhou is referred to as ‘Canton’, and its port, Huangpu, 12 miles downstream, as ‘Whampoa’. The Zhujiang River is called the ‘Pearl River’, and the ‘Bogue’ or ‘Bocca Tigris’ refers to the Humen Strait situated at the start of the Pearl River. Chinese Government officials are referred to as ‘mandarins’; these include the Hoppo, the chief superintendent of customs at Canton, who oversaw the activities of officially appointed Chinese merchants, referred to as the Hong merchants. The names of Chinese merchants of Canton and Macao have been left in their romanised form. Identifications, as far as they are possible, follow Van Dyke (2011). Chinese and Manchu officials have been identified where possible. The names of the senior mandarins who greeted the British in northern China have been rendered into *pinyin* based on Fu (1966, vol. II, pp. 627–681). Their anglicised names are given in Appendix E.

Original spellings such as ‘Embassador’ and British spellings of Chinese names have been retained in direct quotations.

## Note on Present-Day Values of Money in the Period of the Amherst Embassy

This study bases the value of the British Pound on the index agreed on in 2003 by the House of Commons Library, Bank of England and Office of National Statistics, where £10,000 in 1778 was approximately equivalent to £1 million in 2003 (Hague, 2004, p. 42).



**Figure 1: Lord Amherst in his peer's robes.**

Note: Engraving by S. Freeman, published in 1846, after painting by Sir Thomas Lawrence in 1821.

Source: National Library of Australia.

This text is taken from *Britain's Second Embassy to China: Lord Amherst's 'Special Mission' to the Jiaqing Emperor in 1816*, by Caroline Stevenson, published 2021 by ANU Press, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.