

Appendix G: Substance of an Edict Seen on the Walls of a Building in the 8th Moon of the 21st Year of Kia King

This is a British translation of the imperial edict from Secret Consultations, East India Company, 1 January 1817, in BL IOR G/12/197 (Reel 2) F 367.

Whereas the English Envoy & Suite are returning to their Country, and their Language and Dresses are totally different from those of this Country, His Imperial Majesty has been pleased to order, that they should not anchor any where on their route, nor any one of them be permitted to go on shore; and whereas their Excellences the Viceroy and Fooyuen have ordered in conformity therewith, that no persons attempt to gather about them for the purpose of looking at them, or conversing with them; that none to trade with them in Books & Furniture or other Articles; that no women do come out to shew themselves to them, but that all persons pursue and attend their respective occupations as usual. This Edict is therefore issued to enforce the same, and to warn all persons against the consequences of disobedience.

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.