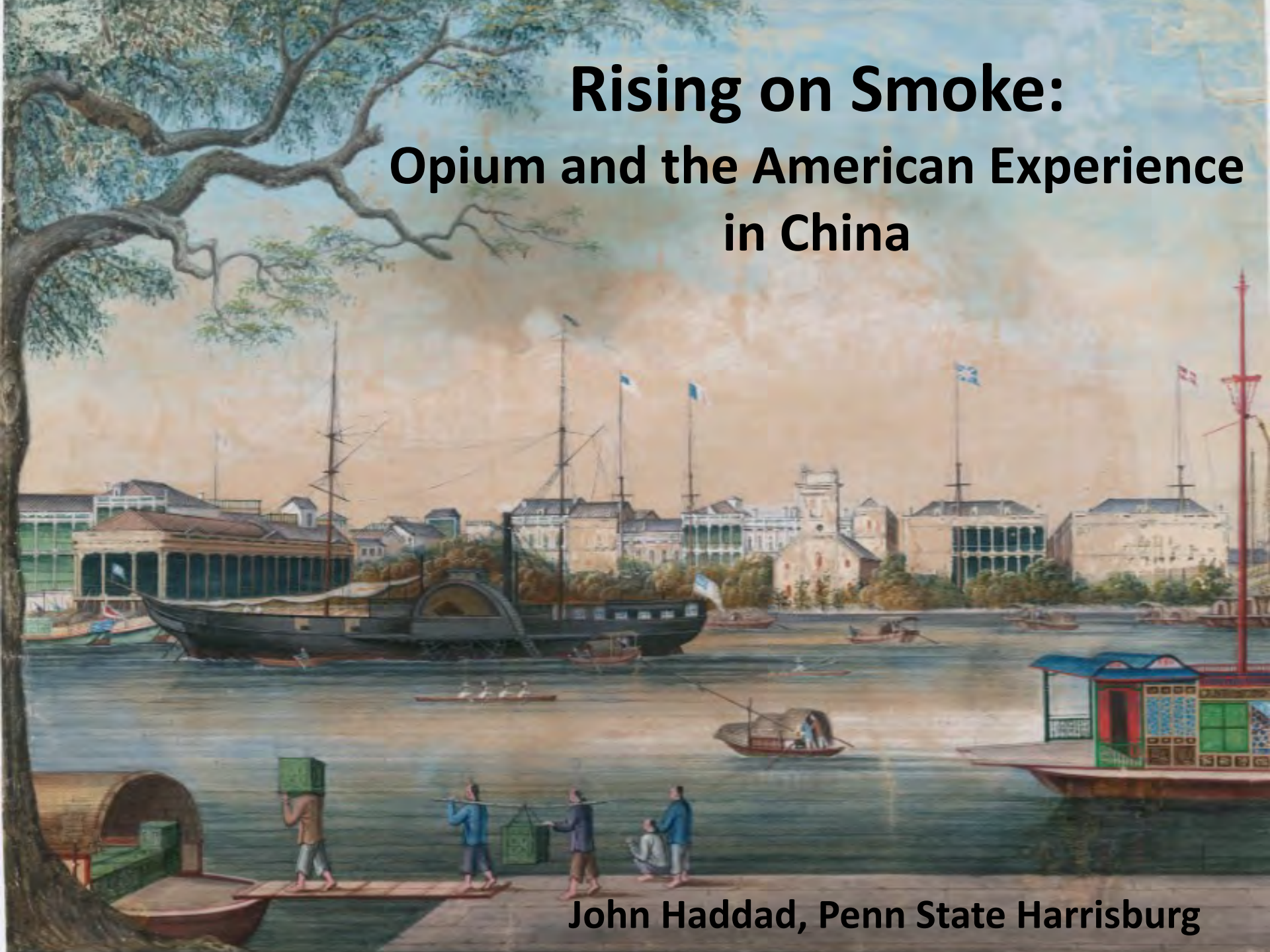


Rising on Smoke: Opium and the American Experience in China



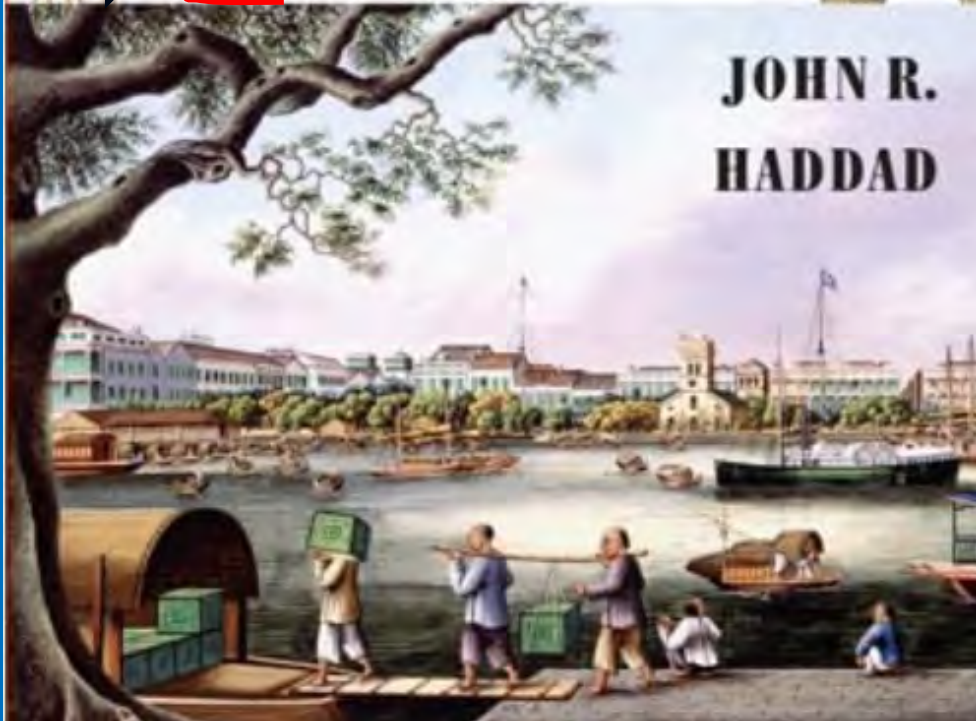
John Haddad, Penn State Harrisburg

AMERICA'S FIRST ADVENTURE IN CHINA

*Trade, Treaties,
Opium, and Salvation*



JOHN R.
HADDAD



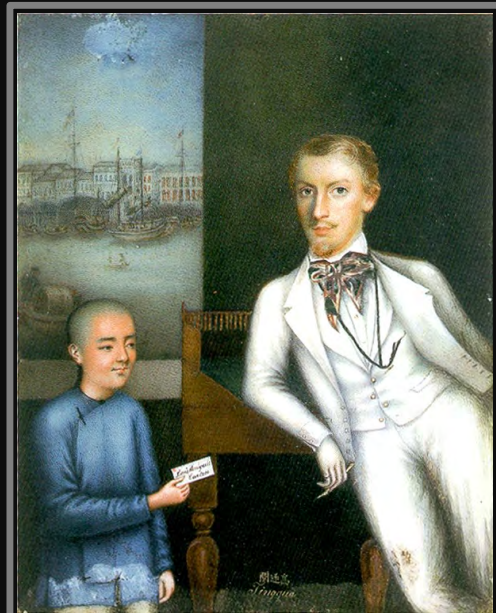
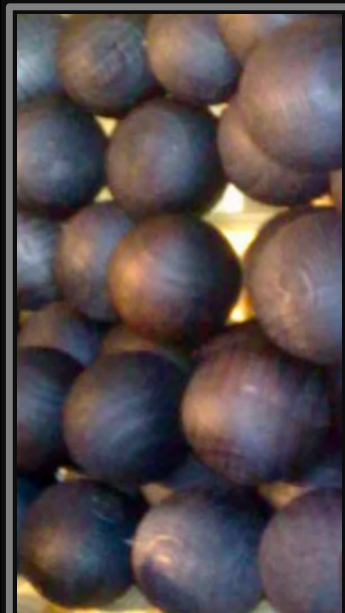
The book covers the first hundred years of China's relationship with the United States.

Broad book that focuses on people – Americans in China.

Merchants, missionaries, military people, diplomats, and **opium smugglers**.

Five Questions

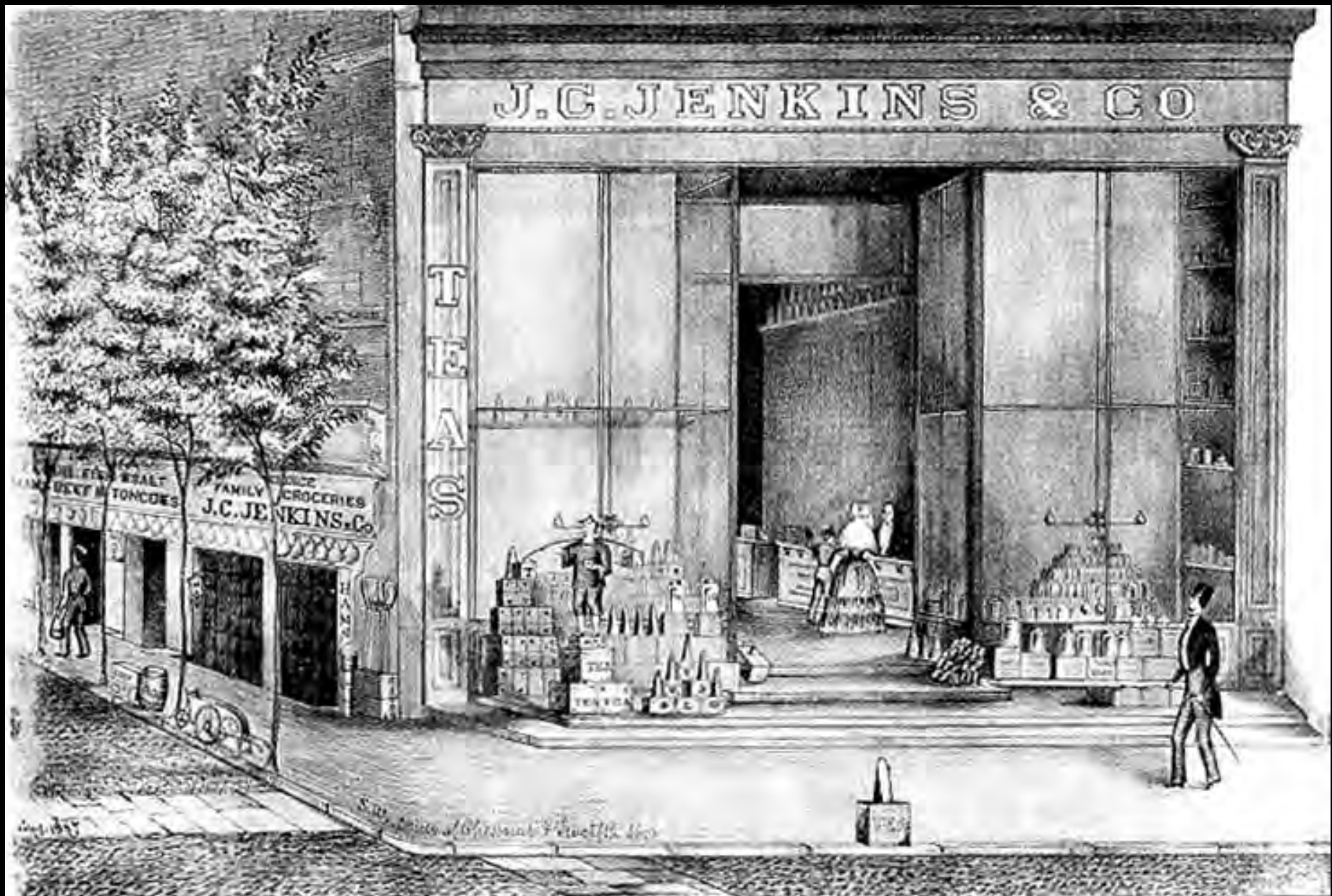
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The Problem



- Americans consumed vast quantities of tea
- Back in the early 1800s, all tea came from China
- China wanted almost nothing made by or grown in the United States



J.C. Jenkins & Company (Philadelphia)

The Problem



- Americans consumed vast quantities of tea
- Back in the early 1800s, all tea came from China
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Macartney Mission (1793)



Emperor
Qianlong

“China possesses all things in prolific abundance and lacks no product within its own borders. There was therefore no need to import the manufactures of outside barbarians in exchange for our own produce. But as the tea, silk and porcelain which China produces, are absolute necessities to European nations and to yourselves, we have permitted ...that foreign hong[s] [commercial warehouses] should be established at Canton, so that your wants might be supplied.”

Potosi (Bolivia)





The Empress of China sailed to China in 1784 with a large cargo of **ginseng**

Late 18th Century China Trade

Silver

ginseng

United States



China

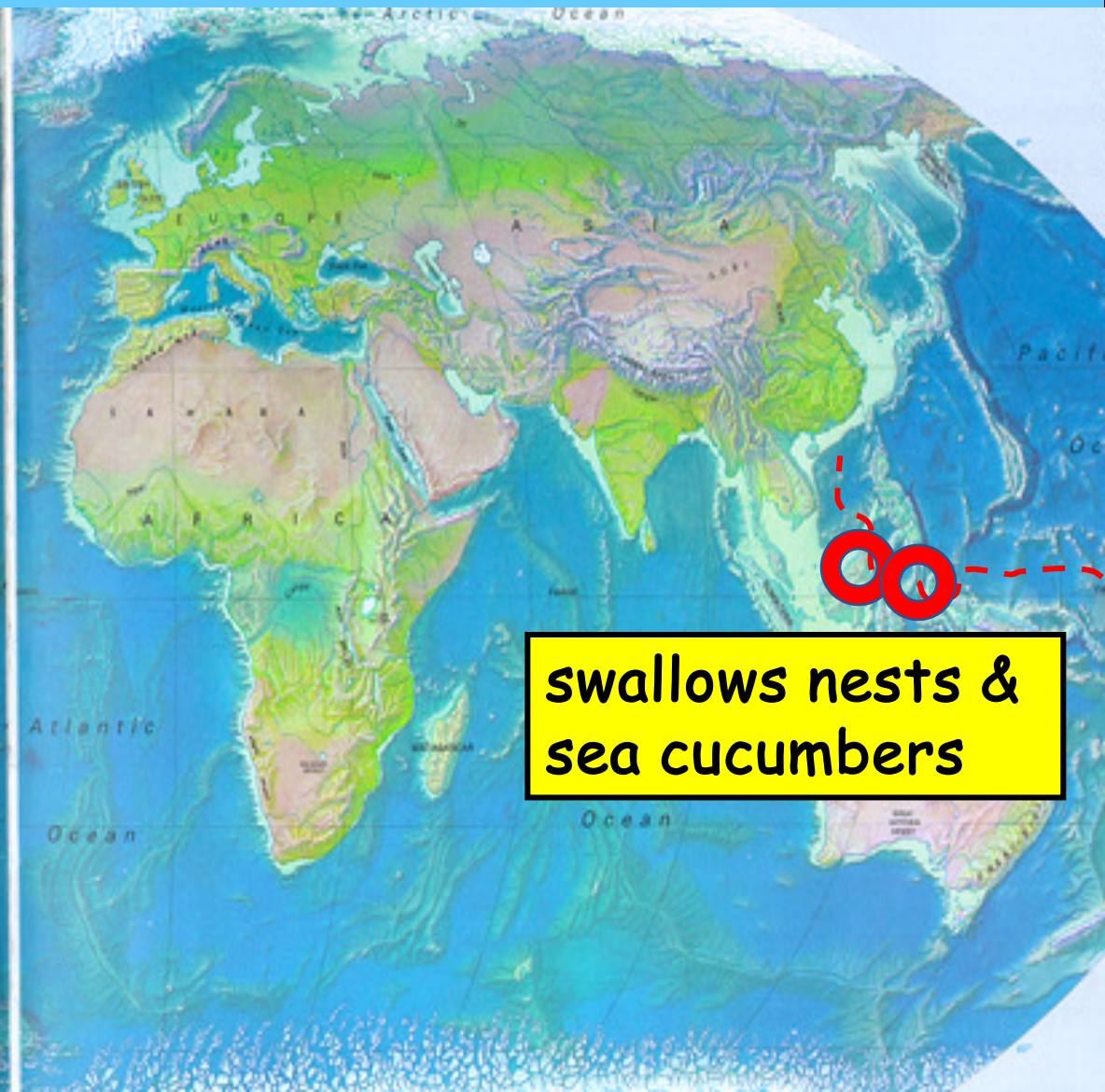
tea

porcelain

silk



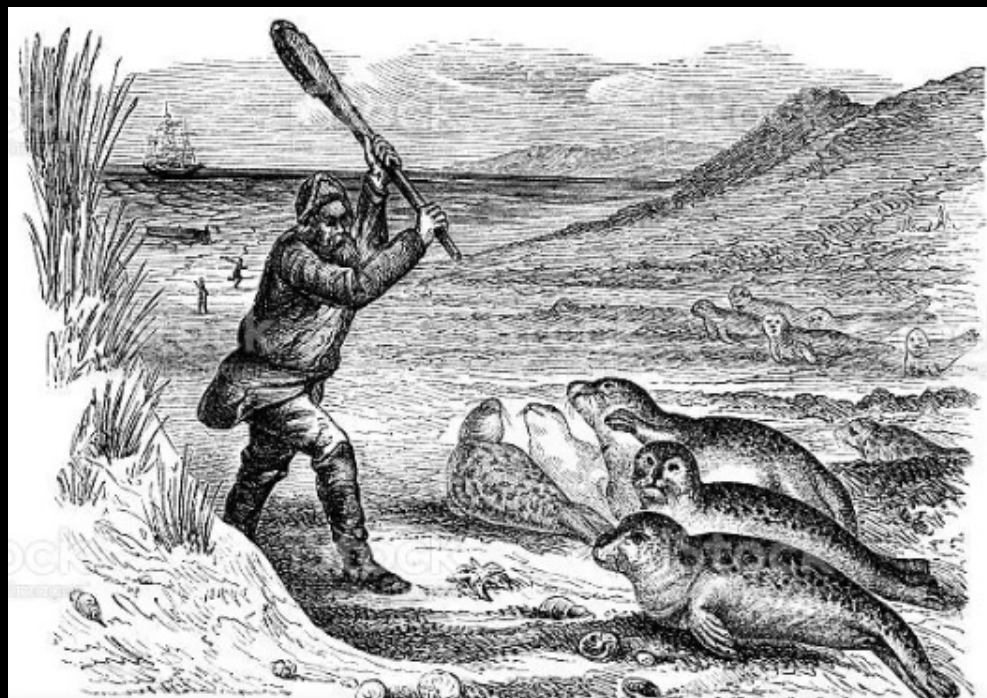
The Quest for Exotic Goods...



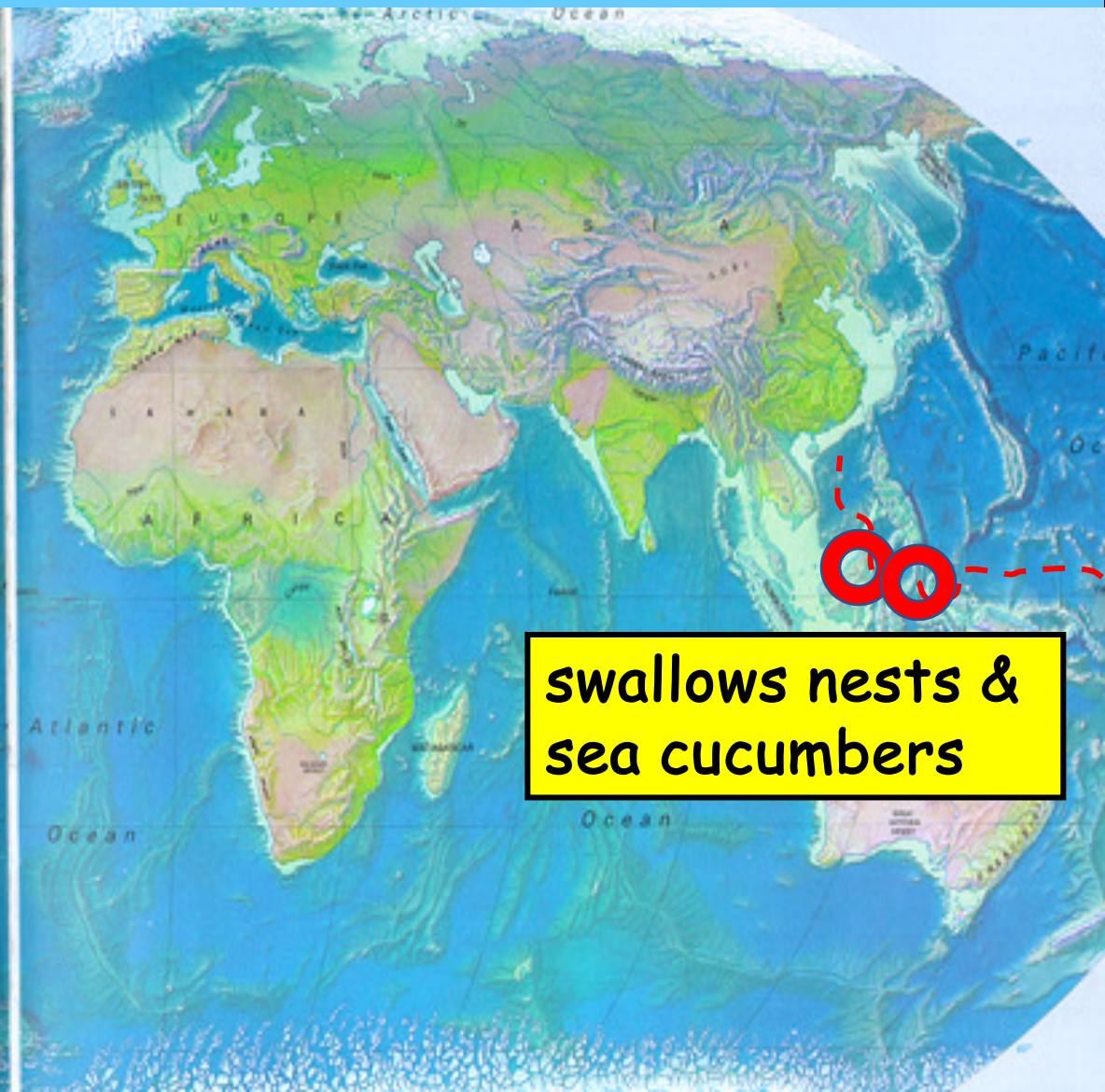
...to sell in Canton



Clubbing seals to sell skins in Canton



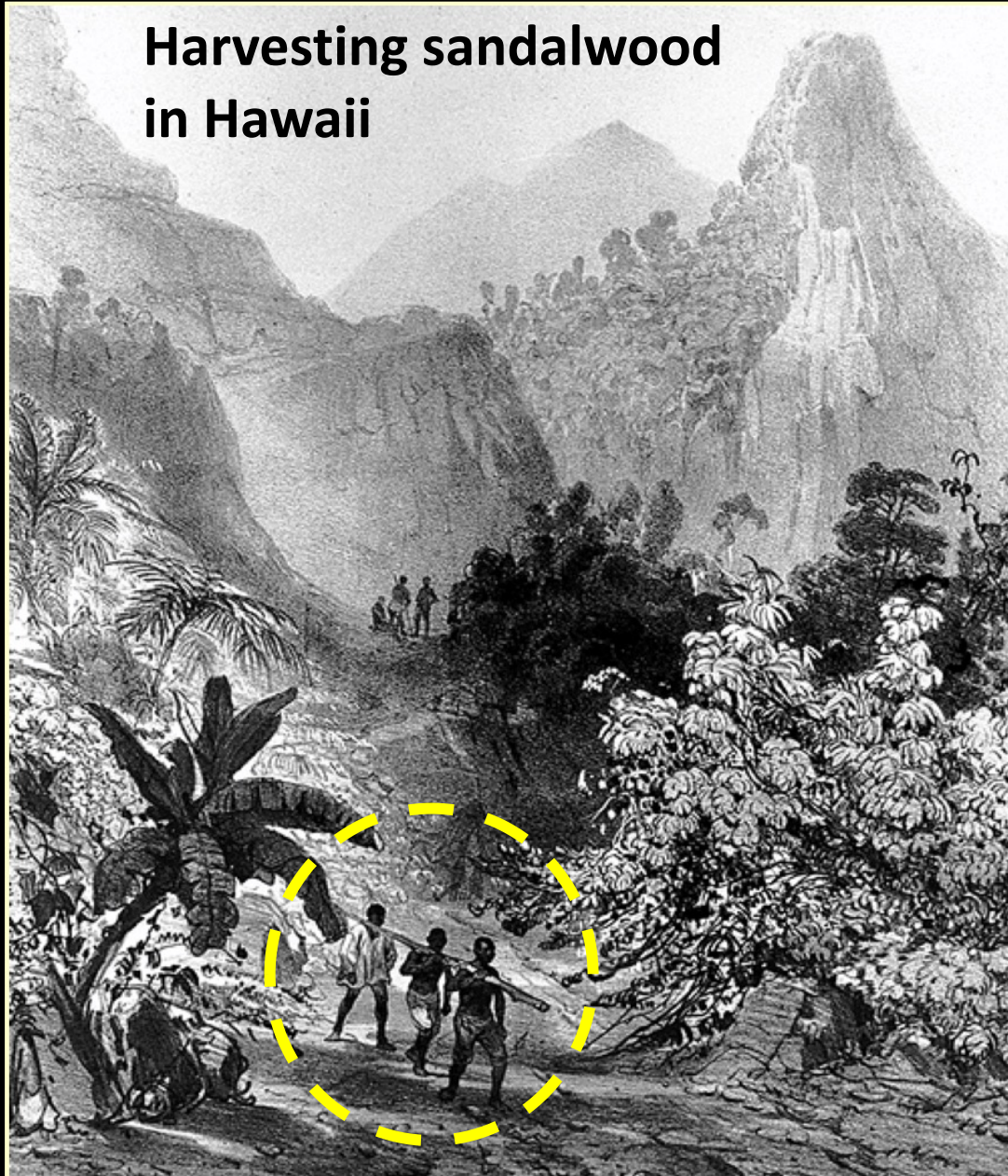
The Quest for Exotic Goods...



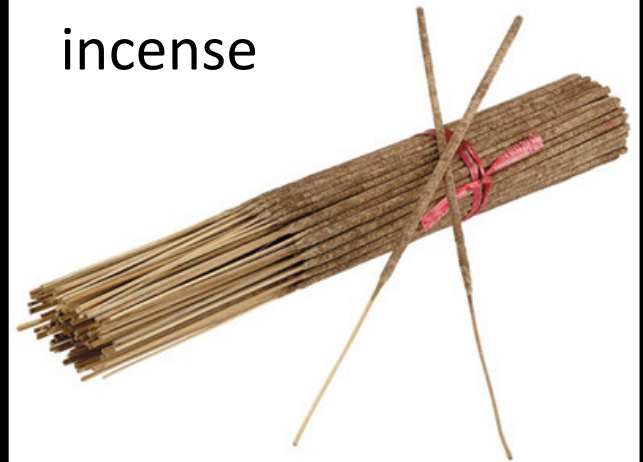
...to sell in Canton

Sandalwood

Harvesting sandalwood
in Hawaii



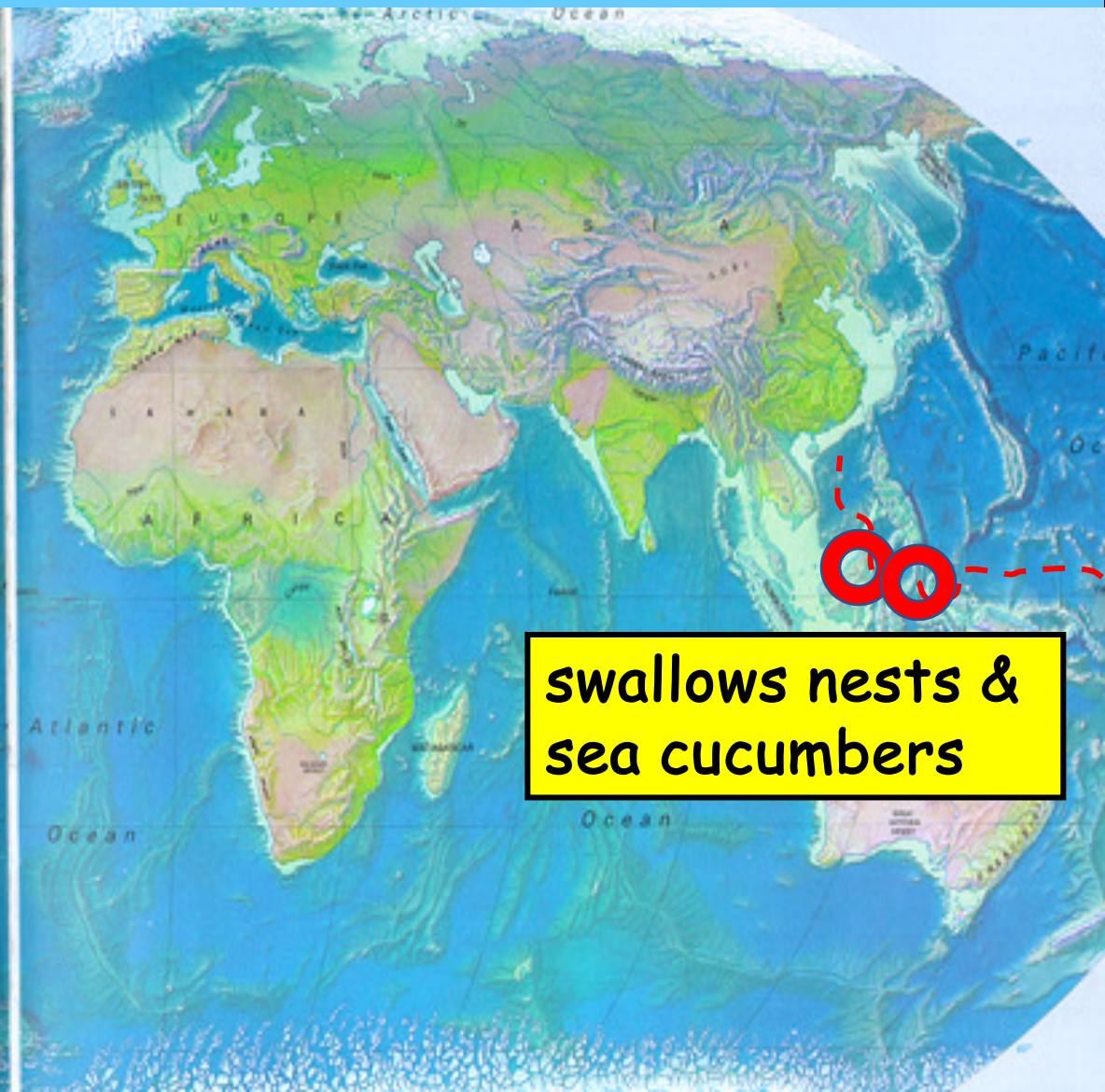
incense



chopsticks



The Quest for Exotic Goods...



...to sell in Canton



Finding Swallow Nests on Indonesian Cliffs



Sea cucumber



19th Century China Trade

Silver

Exotic products

United States



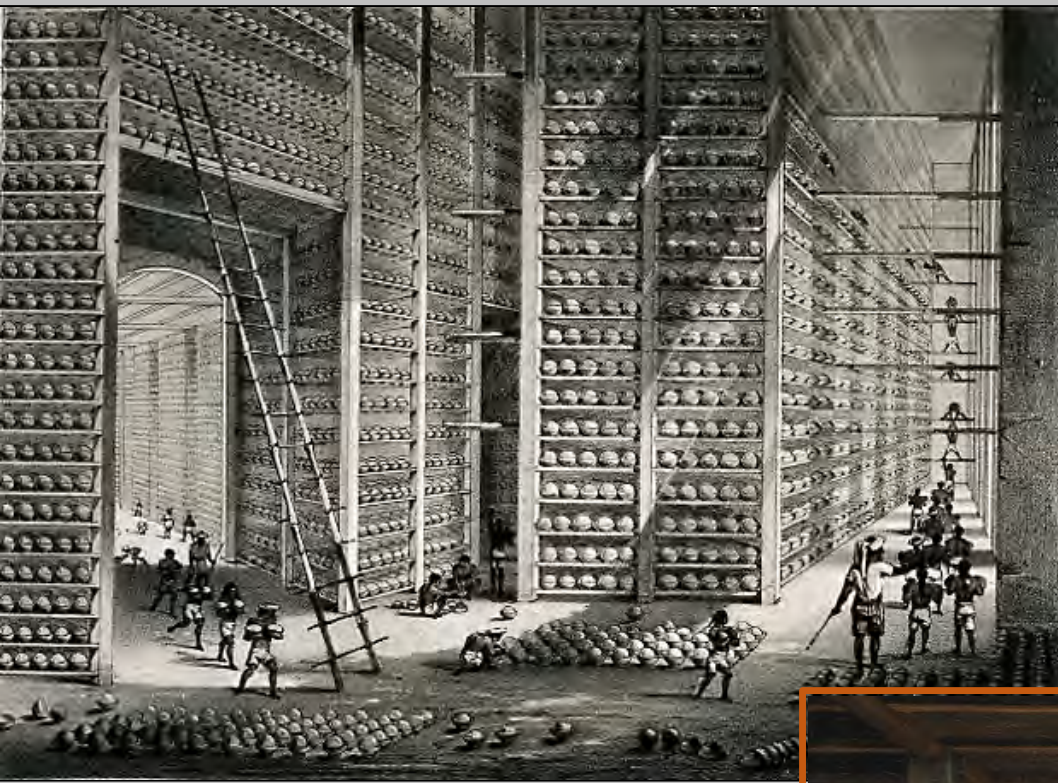
China

tea

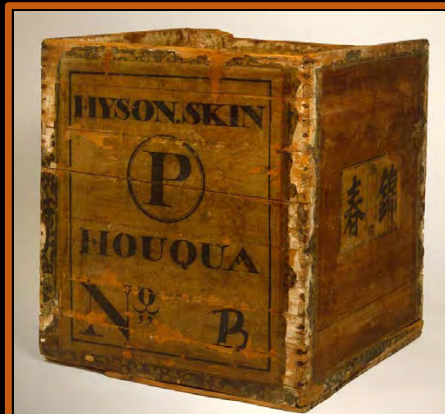
porcelain

silk





Preparing Opium for shipment to China



Preparing tea for shipment to England



England Preserves its Monopoly

(but opens the door for American competition)

1. Traders from other nations cannot convey opium from India to Canton conveyance.
2. British traders may transport Indian opium only.



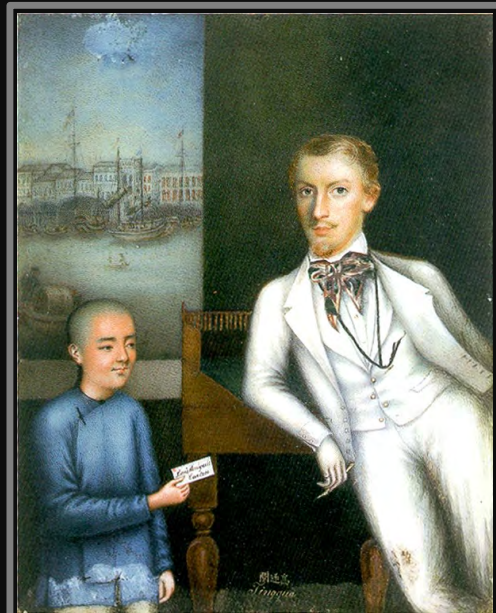
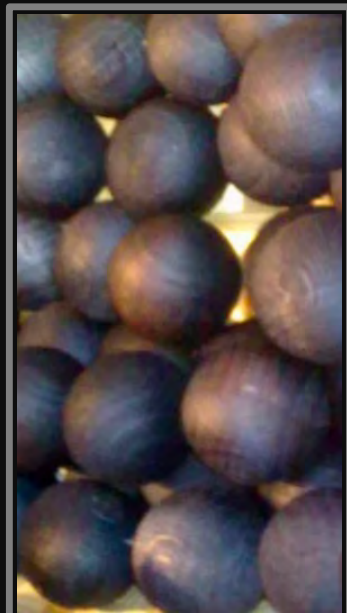


In 1806, William Waln and R. H. Wilcocks were the first Americans to smuggle Turkish opium into China



Five Questions

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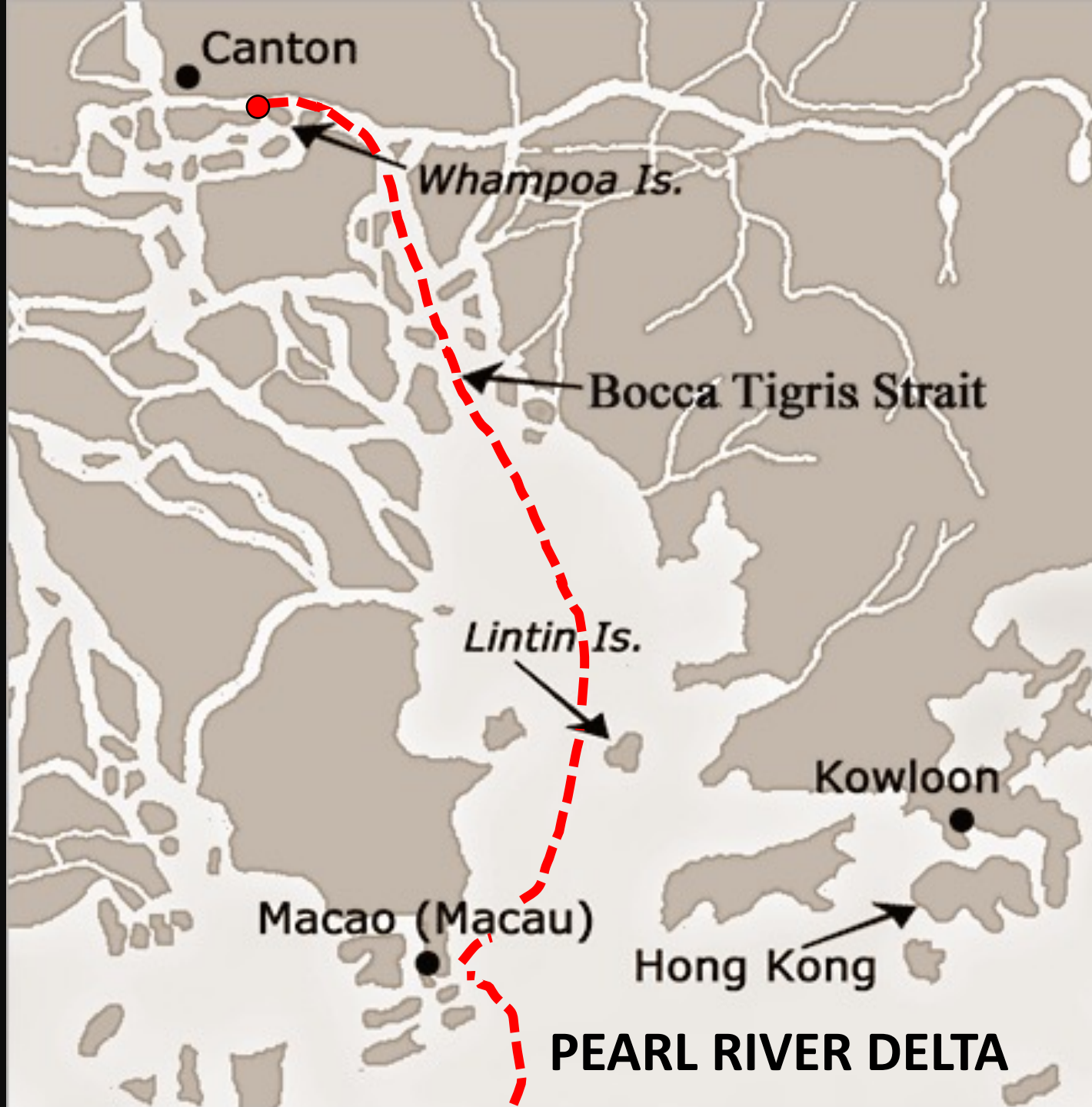




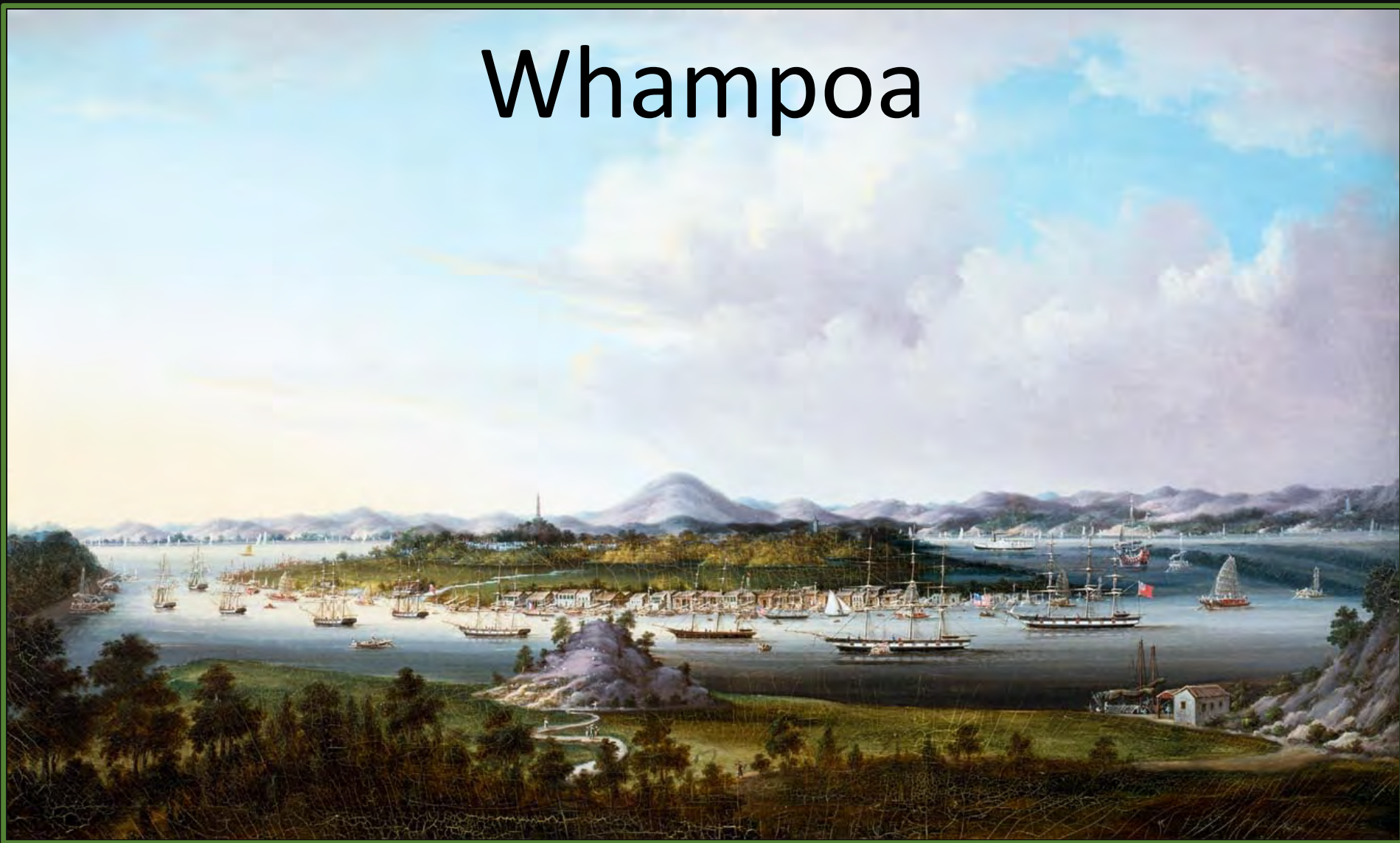


Macao





Whampoa



In Whampoa, trading vessels weigh anchor. Traders leave crews behind and proceed to Canton to handle business.

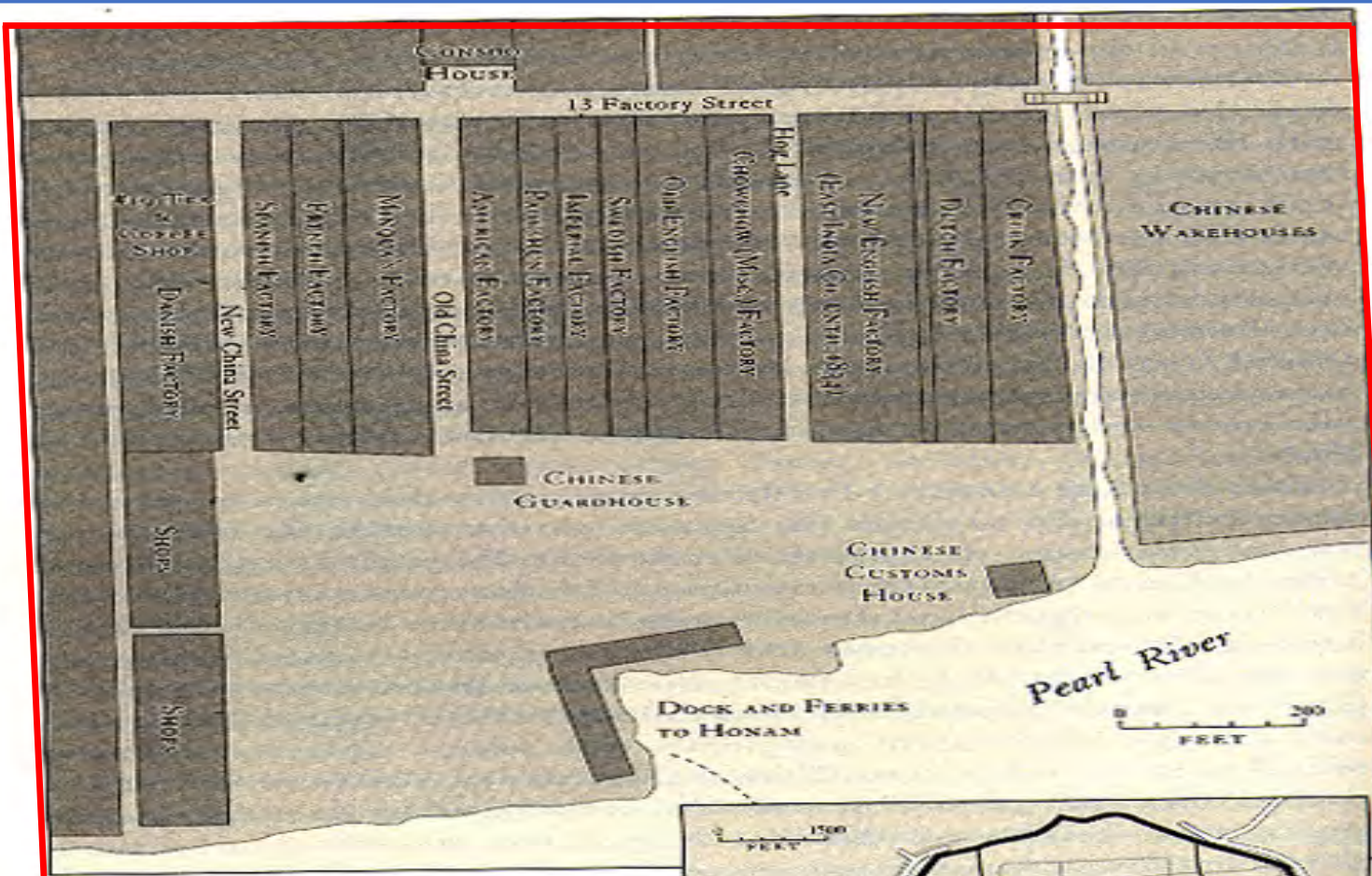


Canton

Pearl River

Foreign factories

city walls



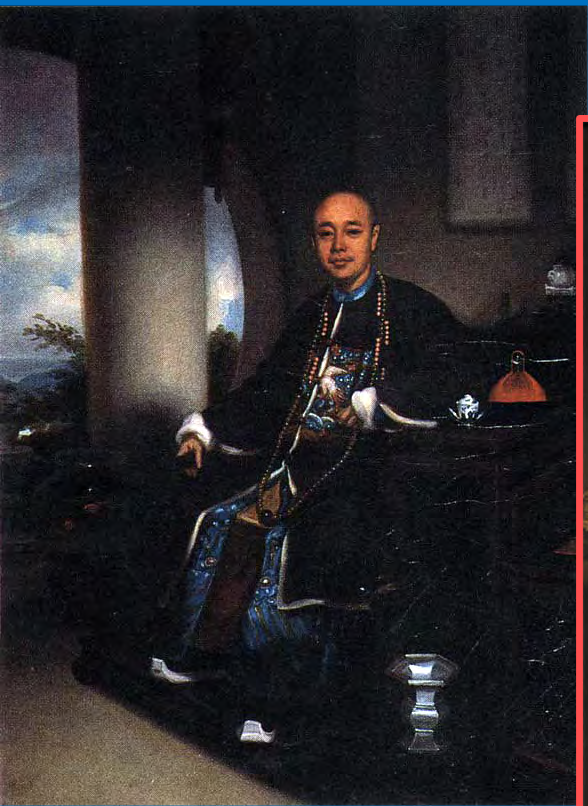
Walled Canton &
Foreign Factories
(400 X 300 yards)





The Canton System: Foreign merchants 1) must conduct trade only in Canton 2) must not bring women and children & 3) must work with Hong Merchants only

Hong Merchants



Tenqua



Houqua

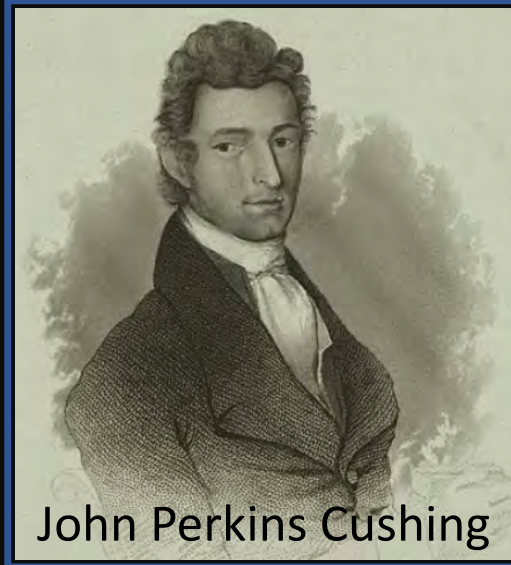


Mowqua

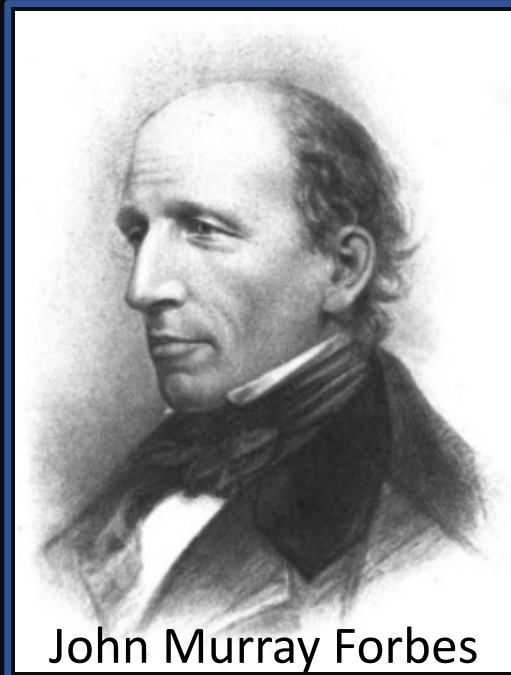
Perkins & Company



Thomas Handasyd Perkins

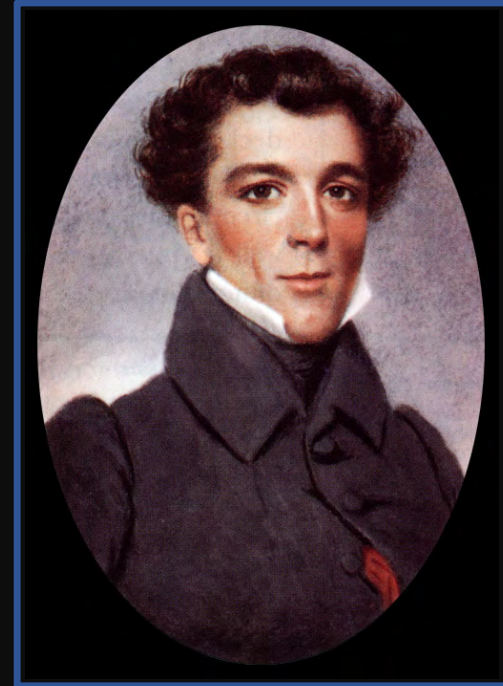


John Perkins Cushing

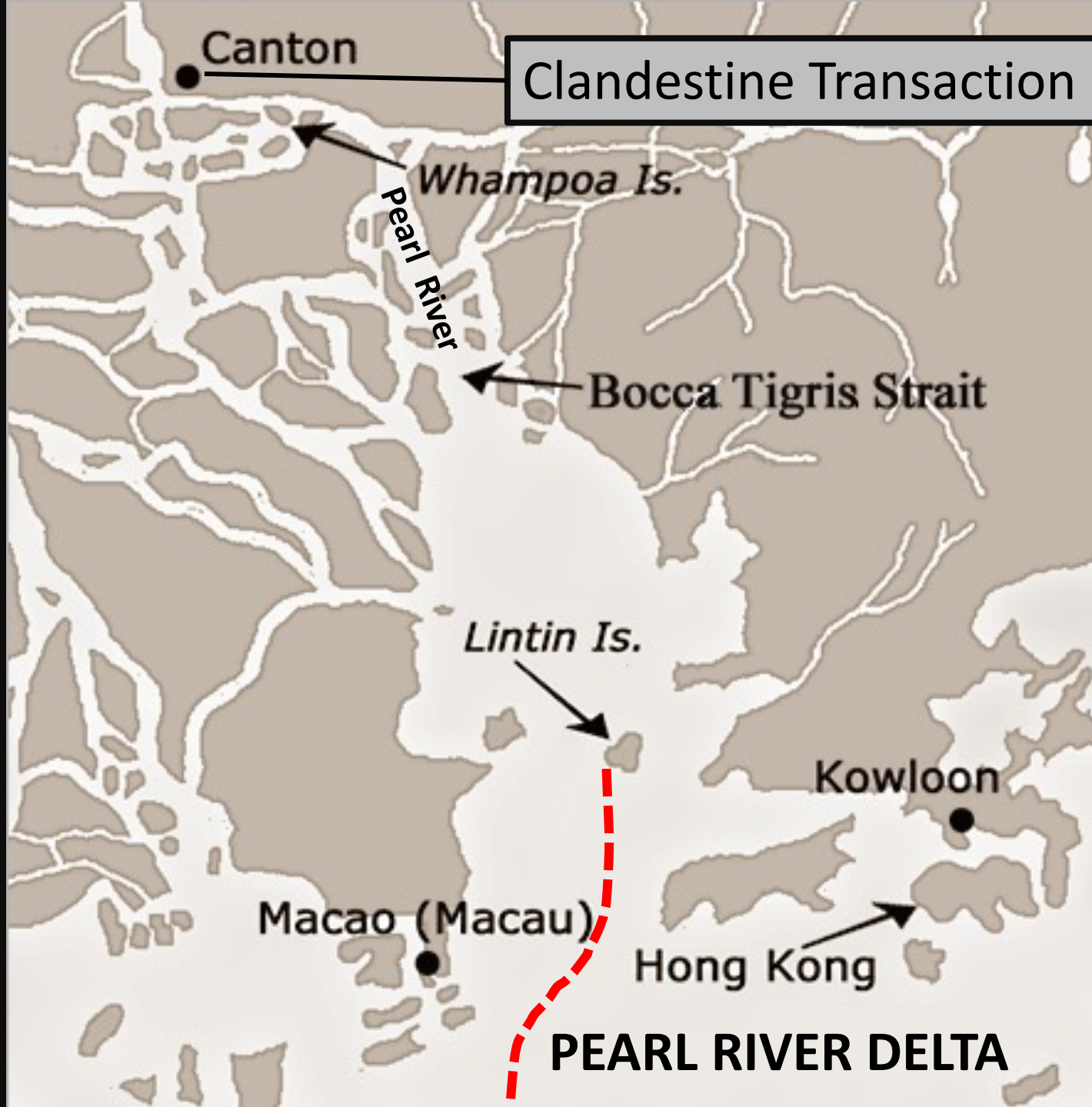


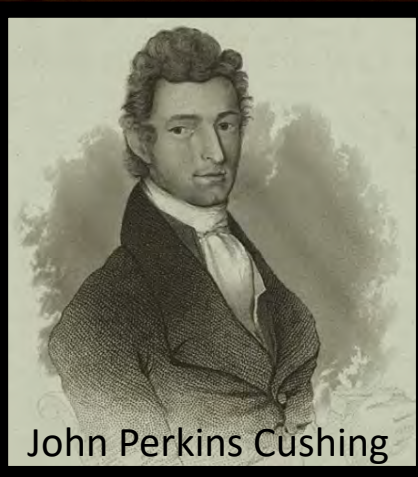
John Murray Forbes

Nephews



Robert Bennet
Forbes

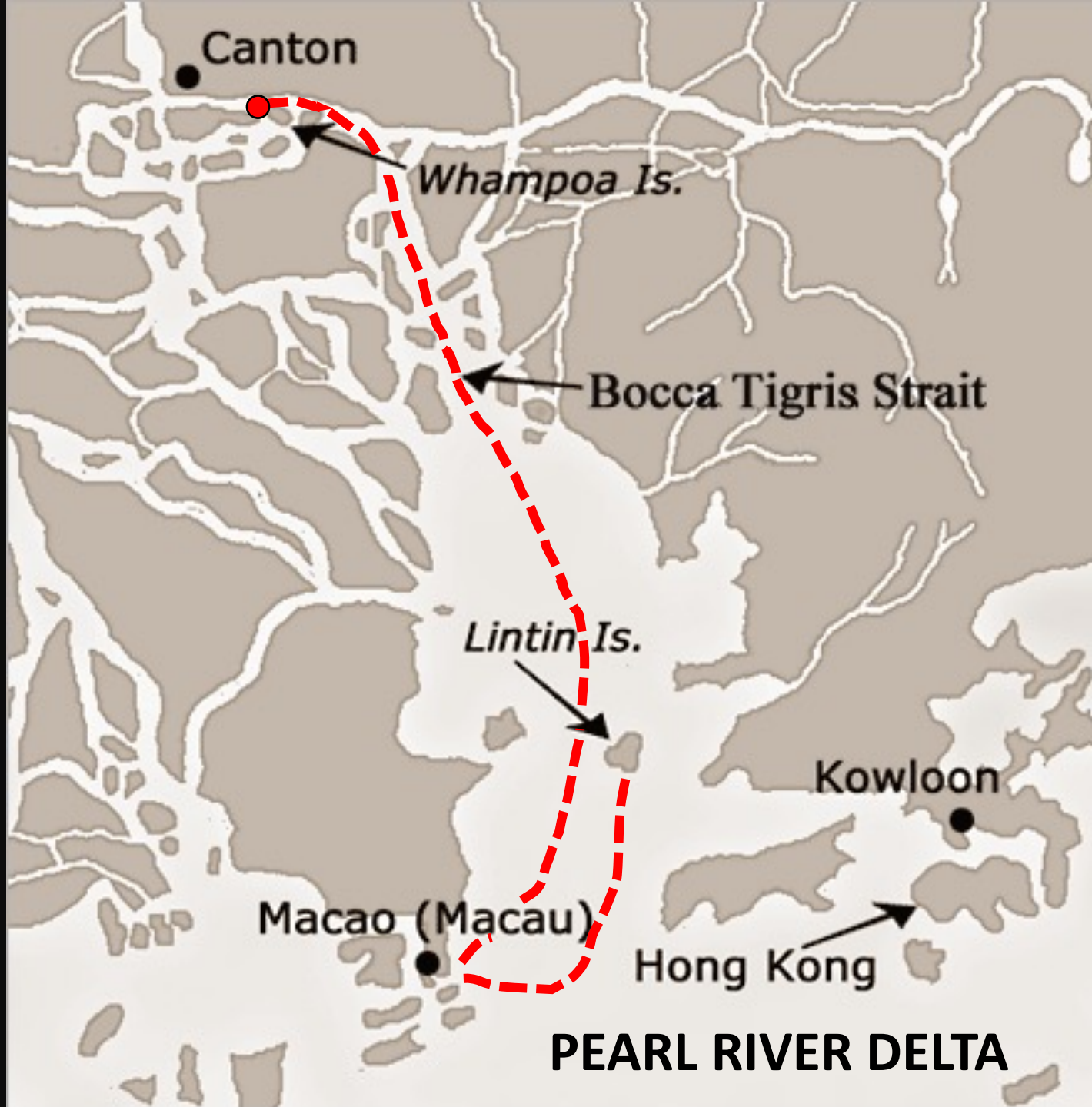




John Perkins Cushing

Lintin Island





Receiving Vessel off Lintin Island

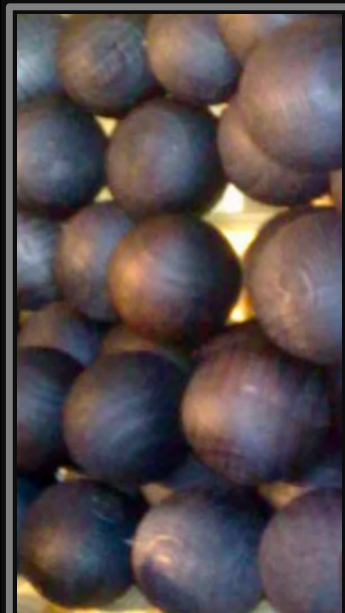


John Perkins Cushing in the Foreign Factories

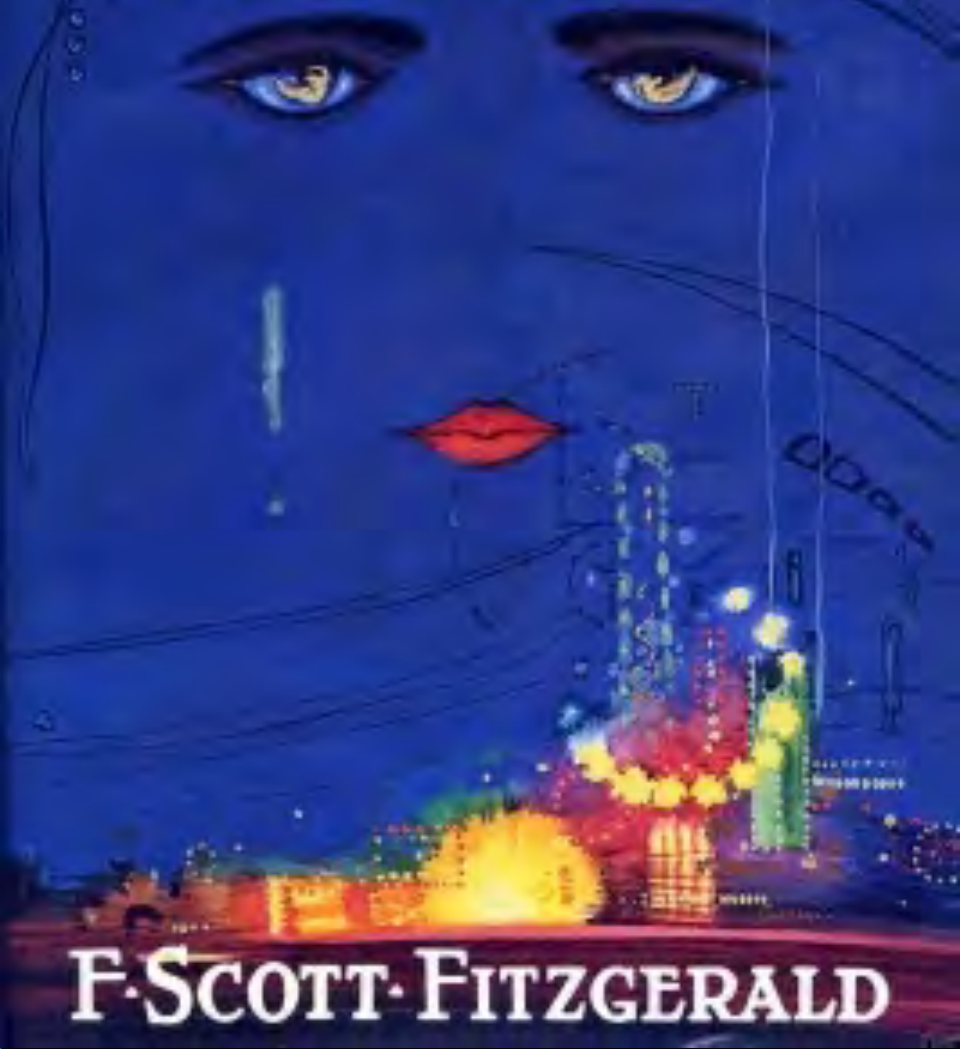


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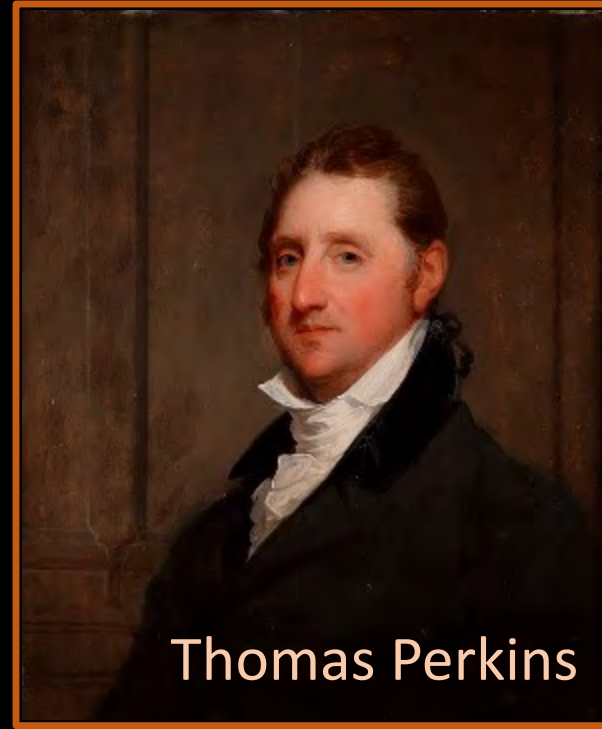
The GREAT GATSBY



F. Scott Fitzgerald



Robert Bennet Forbes



Thomas Perkins

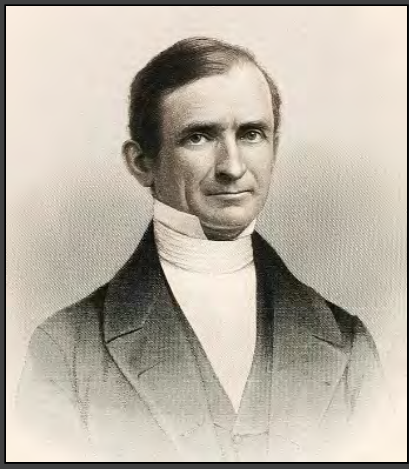
“I had looked forward to the command of the Lintin station-ship as the summit of my ambition.”



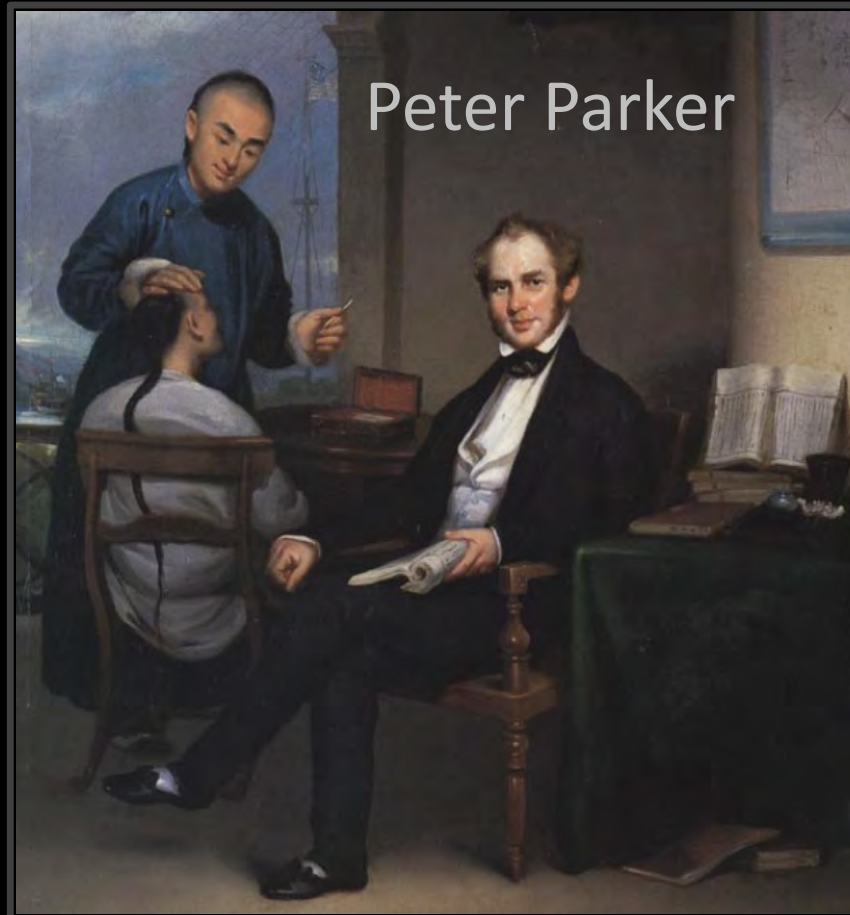
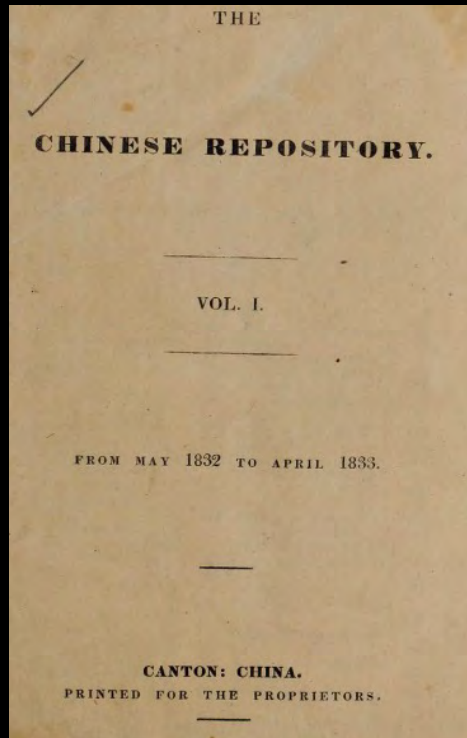
“Competency”

A small fortune of
\$100,000 to **\$200,000**
that allowed a trader
and his family to live in
comfort for the rest of
their lives.

American Missionaries Canton (1830s)



Elijah Bridgman



Peter Parker

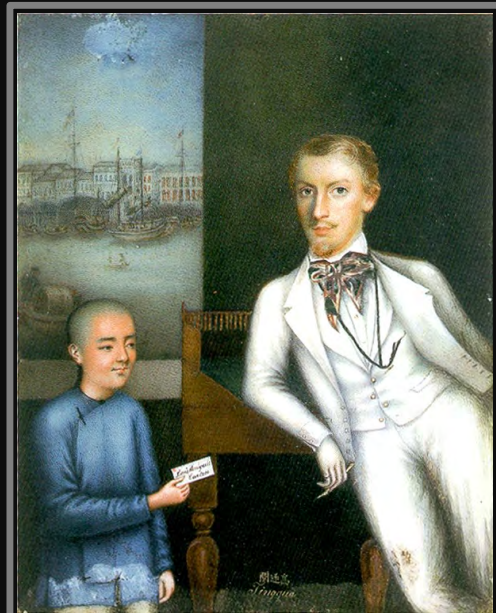
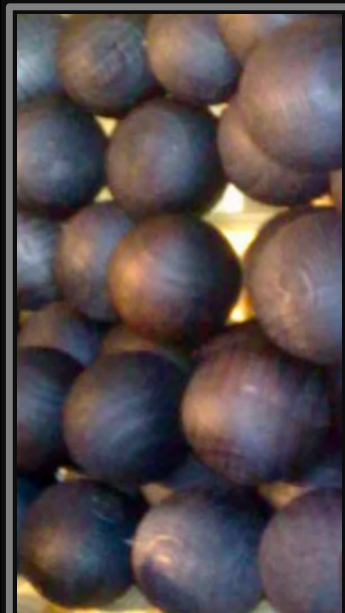




David Olyphant (“Holy Joe”) and Charles King, Christian traders, helped missionaries come to China and scolded opium traders for being immoral.

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19th Century China Trade

Opium

Exotic products

United States



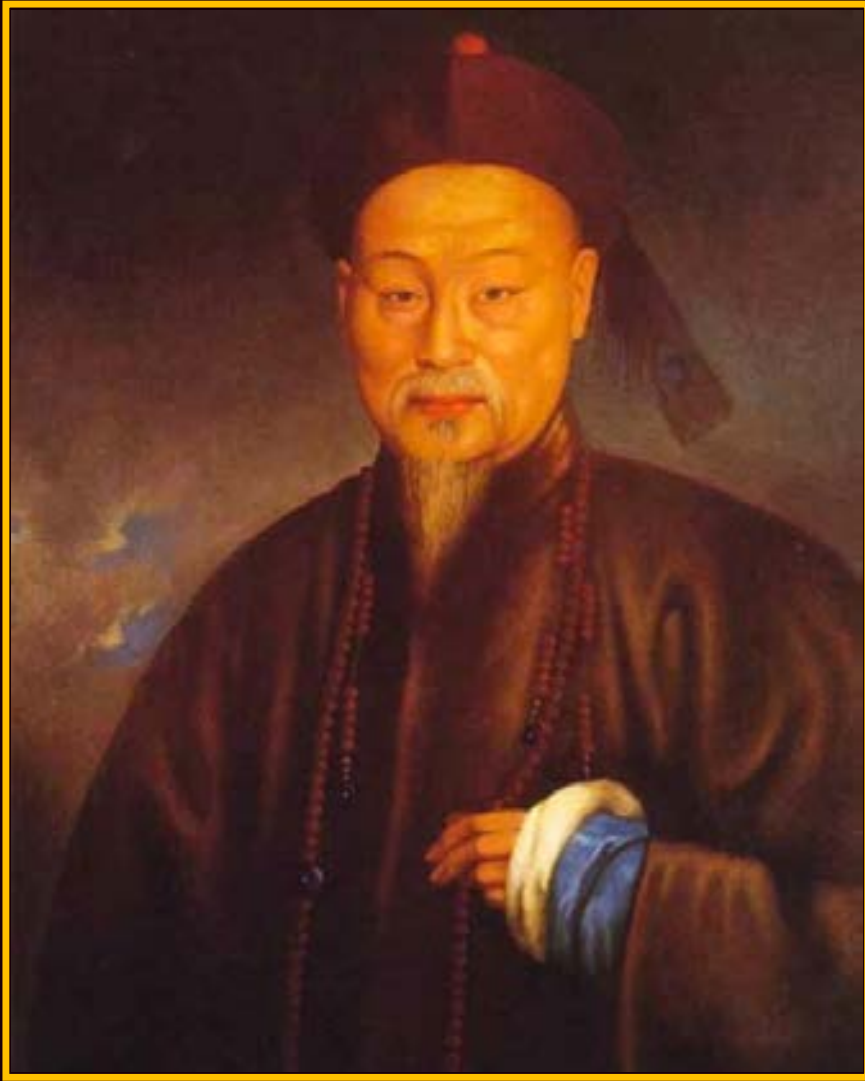
China

Silver

tea

Porcelain and silk

Lin Zexu



In 1839, Emperor Daoguang sent Lin to Canton to deal with the opium problem at its source: foreign traders.

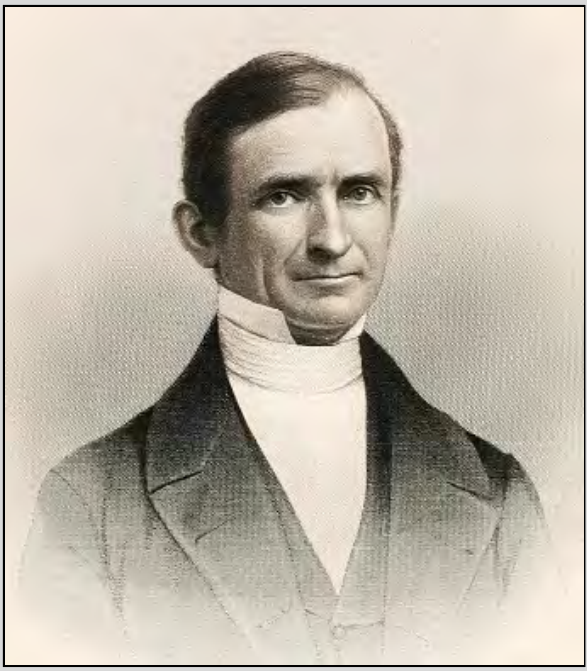
1. Blockade of Canton & shutdown all trade
2. Confiscation of opium
3. Signing of bond

Commissioner Lin's Blockade, 1839

Foreign Factories



Elijah Bridgman



- Provided Chinese language publications about the West
- Volunteered bilingual Chinese boy he had raised to serve as Lin's translator

Peter Parker



- Translated Lin's letter to Queen Victoria into English (published in *Chinese Repository*)
- Helped Lin with a painful hernia

Charles King



- Given front row seat for the great opium flush
- Tries unsuccessfully to sell Lin on a new international system for China

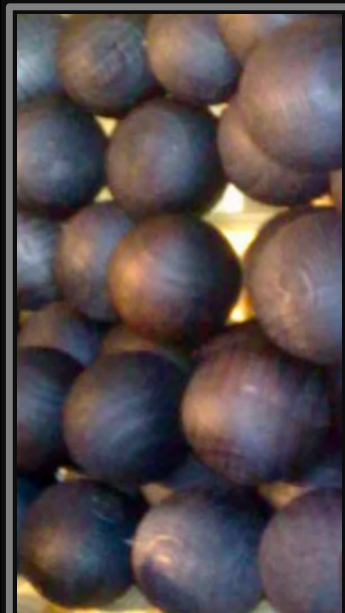


During a private meeting, Charles King described the formidable strength of the British Navy to a deeply concerned Commissioner Lin.



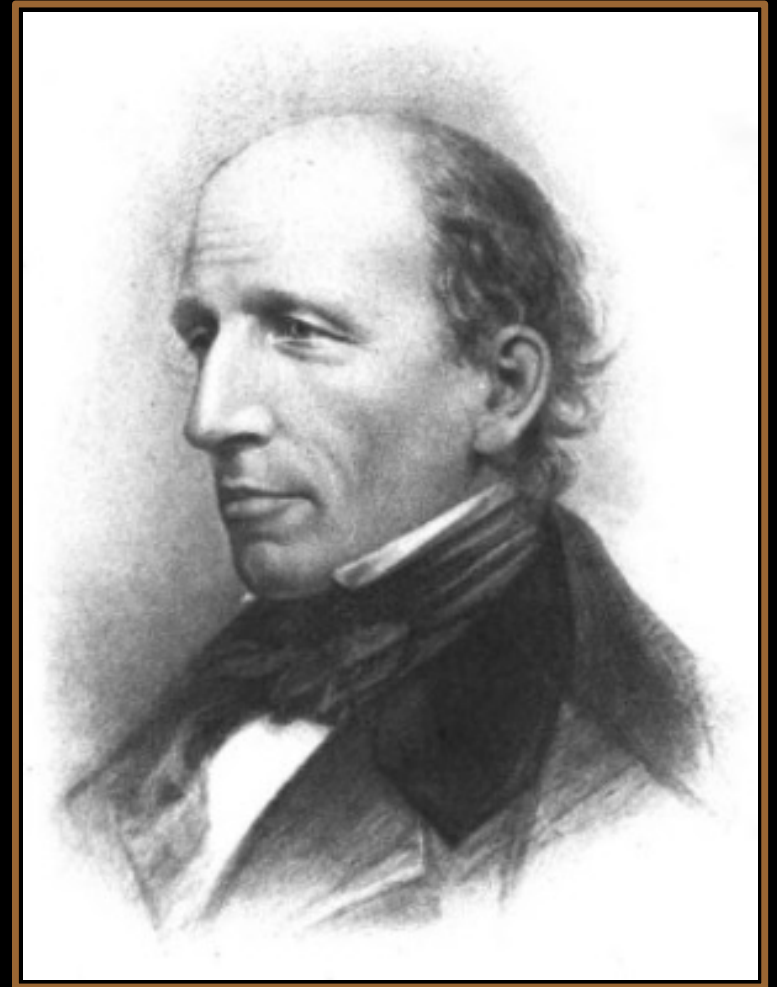
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Houqua



John Murray Forbes



Dollars fuel the
Industrial Revolution

Chinese tea
converted
to dollars

The China Trade: A Transfer Pump

opium

opium
converted to
Chinese tea

tea



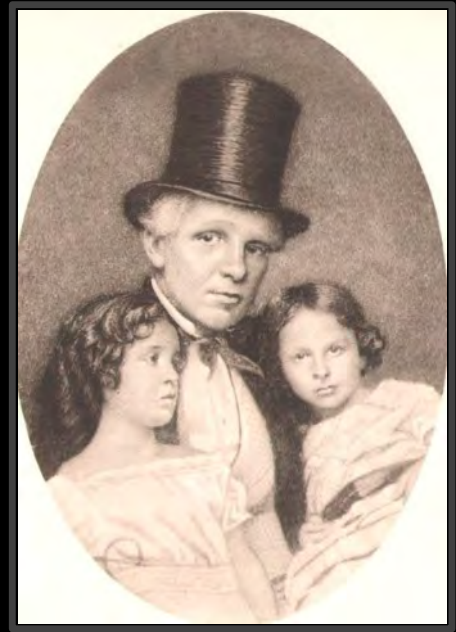


Young Robert Bennet Forbes

“I considered it right to follow the example of England, the East India Company...and the merchants to whom I had always been accustomed to look up as exponents of all that was honorable in trade,—the Perkins’s, the Peabodys, the Russells, and the Lows.”

Older Robert Bennett Forbes

“In 1839, the [Chinese] government became aroused, not so much by the moral effect on the people who smoked the drug, as by the large amount of specie [silver] going out of the country to pay for it...But, in fact, most of the cash received for it went to pay for tea and silk...so that there was no large drain of specie by reason of the opium traffic. As to the effect on the people, there can be no doubt that [opium] was demoralizing to a certain extent; not more so, probably, than the use of ardent spirits... it was viewed as a legitimate business so long as the drug was sold on the coast, outside of the professed jurisdiction of China.”





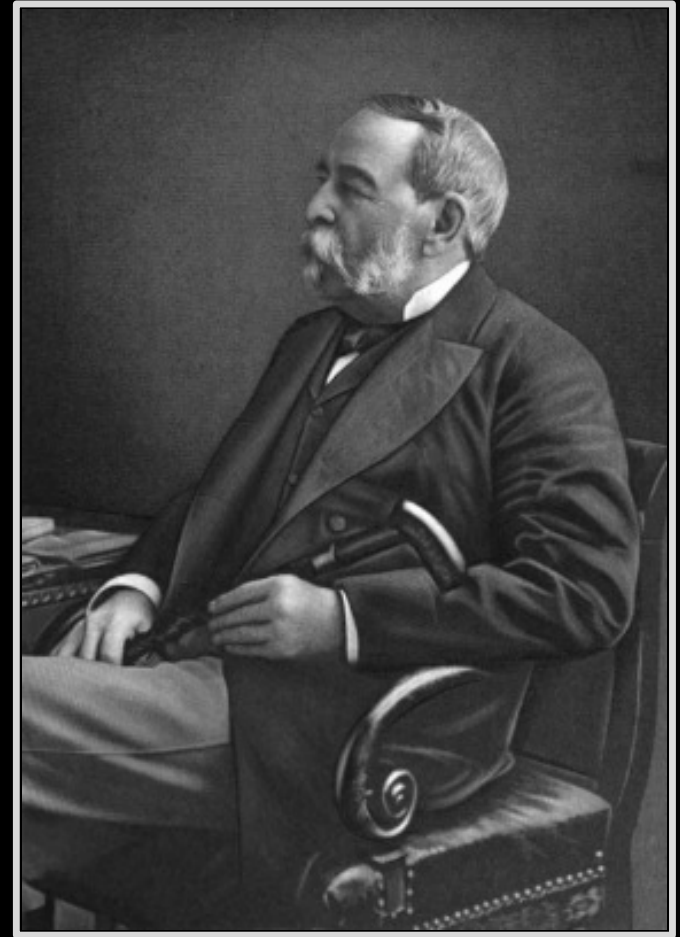
Robert Bennett Forbes
Middle-aged
(writing to his wife in 1839
just prior to the Opium War)

“I will tell you something about it [the opium trade] that you may speak learnedly... This trade...has been demoralizing the minds, destroying the bodies, & draining the country of money.”

Robert Bennet Forbes



Warren Delano



Older Forbes to Warren Delano in the 1870s

“The only thing I fear is that in giving a sketch of the causes and effects of the opium traffic...I may say too much.”

Contact:

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