

The Captains of Her Majesty's Ships must not, however, seek out or invite Political Refugees to come on board, neither must they turn away from, or give up any who may reach, their ships and gain admittance on board; but any officer so receiving such persons must take care that they do not carry on from on board his ship any political correspondence with their partizans on shore, and should avail himself of the earliest opportunity to send them to some place of safety elsewhere.

## 6.

With reference to the Instructions for carrying out the Chinese Passenger Act, 18 and 19 Vict. cap. 104, the following is an Extract from the Report of the Law Officers of the Crown, stating the circumstances under which Foreign Vessels, and vessels not authorized to wear any Flag, should not be captured.

Chinese  
Passenger Act.

26th November, 1856.

"Vessels which are not British Vessels cannot in our opinion be legally captured on the high seas, or elsewhere out of British jurisdiction for any breach of the statutes, the principle of international law in such case being "*Extra territorum.jus dicenti impune non paretur.*" Any measures for the purpose of checking abuses or offences committed by Foreign Vessels, must be founded on treaty stipulations with the countries to which they may belong."

"We cannot advise that Her Majesty's Naval Officers should capture vessels 'not entitled to any flag,' or in places where there exists no lawful authority for violating this statute, inasmuch as the Chinese Emigrant traffic, (whatever may be its evils), is not in violation of the Law of Nations."

"Such course of proceedings might involve very serious international difficulties."

## 7.

Complaints having been made that persons belonging to Her Majesty's Ships have been concerned in smuggling Specie; I deem it necessary to call attention to the matter, and if any officer be implicated in any smuggling transaction with respect to the Shipment of Treasure, he will incur the serious displeasure of Her Majesty's Government.

Sh'pment of  
Treasure.