

We are kept in a constant state of uncertainty & doubt - It is impossible to look ahead a day - Changes in the part of the Department & the Commissioner occur so frequently, that we know hardly what to do.

The O'Brien wife Commence discharge in Monday - The Bureau to us, is in part, but her doubt seems to be not - be out for a week - if we can get the Formosa in we shall be better off than any of our neighbors.

Mr Ritchie very impudently loaded the red parrots for 5 days now & why left yesterday morning

from Whampoa - It is doubtful if he gets back with a Cargoe & will, unless he can procure Rice & Op to some of the passengers & take it in, ~~that~~ he failed to come in in ballast. His outward freight will not in that event pay his expenses - If his wife had not come out, the red parrots would have been able to have paid out & made a fine business of it - Her arrival took him away from his business for two weeks & on his return he expended many unnecessary of the freight freight other vessels were making & determined to begin a trip in the face of accounts ^{expecting}