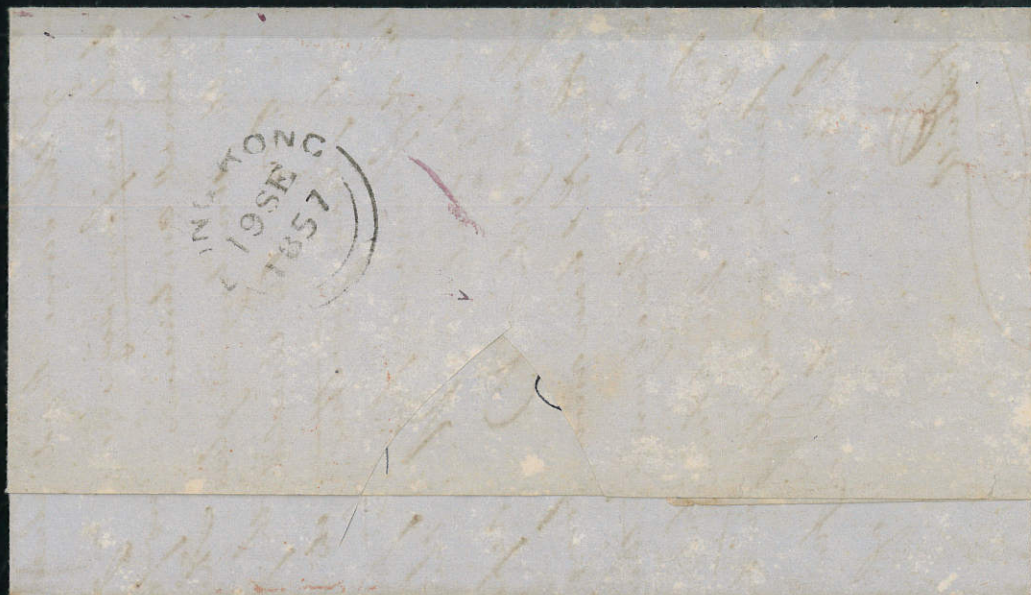




New York July 20. 1857

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Messrs. Augustine Heard & Co.
Shanghai

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Gentlemen - Referring to our last under date 23rd ult. as per duplicate herewith we have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your valued favor of 29 April - The Surcha has arrived and her cargo has been landed - Our new silk gives us great satisfaction and appears to have been well bought - it is a glossy, even, fine thread - rather too fine for some purposes, but well adapted for weaving ~~fine~~ and finer sewings. The two numbers of #14 & 35 are about of the same value here and we would like more of the same kind. When you find a good line of coarser thread, but uniform size, bright color and free from knots, we would like small continuous shipments - The Reeled is tolerably good silk, wanting in glossiness and worth \$7.00 - The other brings 6.25 & 6.50 - As reeled pays duty and it may not be possible to recover it please give the usual reeled the preference unless at a favorable difference in price for the other. The Treasury Department has made no reply to our application on the subject as yet.

White Saracets bring \$19 in small quantities, but Ruish has another lot of 10000^{lbs} (the third) which could be bought at 17⁵⁰ a large loss at your last quotations, but under old contracts probably - Pingees are quiet silk not so much wanted before the last of the year as printers are supplying. We were on the point of shipping a lot of Drills by last vessel, but were deterred by fear of blockade -

Yours truly
Arthur, Hunt & Bull

When preference for usual reel, have done nothing for them as prices appear too high for both tea & silk. The latter has declined considerably & the former is also easier. Should this Convention will probably soon find a chance to operate.