



The mission or Embassy, as it is termed, is to consist of the following members:— The Hon. Anson Burlingame Ambassador-in-chief; J. Mc. C. Brown, Esq. (Assistant Chinese Secretary, U. S. M. Legation), Chinese Secretary; E. de Champ (Customs Kiu-kiang), Interpreter; Chikiang, a Manchow of the fourth rank, and Sun-kia-ku, a Chinese of the fourth rank, both employes of the Tsung-li-Yamen, are to be raised to the dignity of red button, and sent as assistant ambassadors; and twenty-four Chinese will go as secretaries, &c.

The post of French interpreter was offered first to M. Lee Maue, of U. S. M. Legation at Peking, but declined and was then offered to, and accepted by M. de Champ, who in company with Mr. Bowra accompanied the

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The post of French interpreter was offered first to M. Lee Maie, of H. I. M. Legation at Peking, but declined and was then offered to, and accepted by M. de Champo, who in company with Mr. Bowra accompanied the unofficial mission last year.

Mr. Burlingame will leave Hong Kong for Europe by the last mail in January, and as no precise date is assigned for his return, and his salary (\$40,000 per annum) is to continue so long as he may be absent from China, we may safely infer that he will not revisit this colony for a year or two at least. We hear that the British Minister, Sir R. Alcock, has telegraphed to Lord Stanley, announcing his approbation of the scheme, while the French Minister, the Comte L'Allemand has telegraphed to his Government his emphatic disappro-

val of the whole affair. The influence of Mr. Hart with Mr. Burlingame has long been known and commented upon, and unfriendly critics have been wont to assert that the virtual Envoy of the United States to China was the Inspector-General of Customs.

But under any circumstances we must congratulate Mr. Hart on the choice made - if indeed the choice of a minister has rested with him.