



THE HON. ANSON BURLINGAME, AMBASSADOR OF THE CHINESE EMPIRE, WITH THE MEMBERS OF HIS LEGATION.—SEE NEXT PAGE.



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The group we have engraved contains the portraits of the Hon. Anson Burlingame, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Chinese Empire, and of the associates, secretaries, and attaches of his Legation, numbering twelve gentlemen besides himself, including two European secretaries. Mr. Anson Burlingame is a citizen of the United States of America, and was Minister of the United States Government at the Court of Peking from 1861 to 1867. He is descended from an old Rhode Island family, but is a native of New Berlin, in the State of New York, where he was born in 1822. He spent his youth in Ohio and Michigan, where he saw much of the Indian tribes. Having commenced active life as a lawyer and politician, he soon distinguished himself. He was elected a member of the Massachusetts State Senate, and afterwards three times elected a member of Congress. He was a prominent man in the Free-soil or Republican party. President Lincoln nominated him to be the United States Minister to Vienna; but the Austrian Court refused to receive him, because of his declared sympathy with the new kingdom of Italy. He was then appointed United States Minister in China. This office he held about six years, and was one of the chief promoters of a beneficial change of policy in that empire with regard to foreign nations. On his retirement from the American diplomatic service, the Chinese courtiers and officials entertained him with a farewell banquet; and it was upon this occasion that he received from Prince Kung, the Regent, an unexpected invitation to become the representative of the Empire of China in a special mission to the Governments of Europe. Mr. Burlingame, in the group we have engraved, appears standing in the middle. The First Associate Minister, Chih-u-Kang, sits at his left hand, and the Second Associate Minister, Sun-Chia-Kung, sits at his right. The former, otherwise called Chih-Tajen, or his Excellency Chih, is a Mantchu Tartar, fifty years of age, a man of great learning and political experience, who has also done good military service. The other, Sun-Tajen, as he is usually called, is likewise a great scholar, but has served the Empire in a civil and military capacity, and has held the office of one of the Imperial Censors, whose duty it is to remonstrate against any wrong acts of the Government. The European gentlemen, seated on each side, next to the Associate Ministers, are Mr. John M'Leavy Brown, the one to our right hand, and M. Emile Des Champs, to our left hand. Mr. Brown, who is First Secretary of this Legation, is an Irishman, born near Belfast, and educated at Queen's College, Belfast, and Trinity College, Dublin. In 1861, he obtained by competitive examination, the appointment of a student-interpreter in the British Consular Service in China. He was, for eighteen months, private secretary to the late Sir Frederick Bruce, then British Minister at Peking, and was acting Chinese secretary during nearly five years. He has latterly, with the consent of the British Foreign Office, been attached to the present Chinese mission in Europe. M. Ferdinand Auguste Emile Deschamps is a native of Paris, and was educated for a lawyer, but left his profession to engage in the silk trade. In 1863 he went to China, having a situation in an American mercantile house at Shanghai; but studied the Chinese language, and soon afterwards entered the Chinese civil service, in the Customs department. He accompanied the mission of Pin-Tajen to Europe, in 1866, the object of which, as our readers may remember, was to make inquiries concerning the prospects of Chinese trade with European





nations. The other members of Mr. Burlingame's party are Fung-Yeh and Teh-Ming, the Lao-Yeh, English interpreters; Kway-Yung, Russian interpreter, and Tah-Keh-Che-Na, or Moo-An, Russian interpreter; Lien-Fang, or Choon-Tsing and Tien-Kien, or Foo-Cheu, the two French interpreters; Chaung-Chou-Ling, or Soong-Joo, and Koung-Ting-Yung, or Yean-Noong, the scribes.