**Bachi** 把持**Cases from the archives**

ID: 161 AAAJQ內政清6-03-00324 ID\_Suit: 903 Doc: 1 JQ18 3 17

鄧三元 Defendant 被告人 私買舖戶  
 李恒興 Defendant 被告人 私買舖戶  
 羅順發 Defendant 被告人 私買舖戶  
 呂益美 Defendant 被告人 私買舖戶  
 吳元太 Defendant 被告人 賣主  
 袁姓 Defendant 被告人 賣主  
 余姓 Defendant 被告人 賣主  
 余正興 Defendant 被告人 私刻冒充  
 李星聚 Plaintiff 告狀人 行戶

Wei: 為流棍私充偽造病商事情

SuitText: 民系治載糧民籍在前縣案下具認充當牙戶領帖開設磁行遵例取用辦解國課併應渝城大小各署差？無悞茲因江西流棍余正興來渝無藝無業慣在較場等？？？“張志德”磁行圖記朦弊來往客民發售磁貨違例取用早經？聞未覩實踐幸天不容奸？？？？？？磁客余袁？姓併吳元太等販貨來渝未經投行民聞知清查詎吳元太云稱伊貨已由朝天門起至余正興家內，憑正興經手如數發賣與呂益美羅順發等舖去訖，圖票現據，民查張志德行歇業訐訟，現奉府憲？發追帖在案，而余正興膽敢恃棍私刻該行圖記，違例私充，訛詐異族，每貨浮價取用，將來難免逃匿病商之害，切民抱帖空懸國課差使從何措辦即今稍有微貨來渝又遭流棍私充把持若不稟究則民難辭牙戶之任為此叩懇簽拘嚴究除奸安良伏乞

Magistrate: 侯簽喚訊究

I am a registered subject of the city. Under the previous magistrate I submitted a pledge undertaking a *yahang* license to open a ceramics brokerage. In accordance with the regulations I collect a surtax to cover the cost of the imperial tax, as well as the *chai* obligations of all of the offices of Chongqing. I have done this without fail. Recently, however, a vagrant ruffian from Jiangxi – Yu Zhengxing – has come to the city. He has no trade and no vocation, and is accustomed to …. In Jiaochang. He did business under the forged seal of Zhang Zhide’s ceramics brokerage. Sojourners would sell their ceramic goods there, and he would demand a commission in violation of regulations. Early on I had heard of this from… did not see it in practice. Thankfully, Heaven does not hide the wicked…. ceramics merchants surnamed Yu and Yuan together with the peddler Wu Yuantai came to Chongqing and did not submit their goods to a broker. When I heard of this I investigated. Who can imagine, but Wu Yuantai said that his goods had been delivered from the Chaotian gate to Yu Zhengxing’s home, where Zhengxing himself brokered them and sold them completely to the shops of Lv Yimei and Luo Shunfa. He had stamped recepts as evidence. I discovered furthermore that Zhang Zhide’s brokerage had been involved in litigation at the time of its closing, and in accordance with the order of the prefectural magistrate… returned the license, which has been kept on file, and Yu Zhengxing dares to use roguish tricks to illicitly copy the seal of that shop and illicitly undertake the license in violation with the sub-statutes, cheating others as a man of another surname and inflating the prices and commissions for each good. In the future it will be difficult to avoid his flight and the subsequent harm to merchants. Furthermore the license I have acquired would be useless to collect imperial taxes or undertake obligations on behalf of the state, for lack of funds. These days there are few goods coming to Chongqing. Furthermore, upon encountering this sort of vagrant ruffian who illicitly undertakes [a yahang license] to *bachi*, if he is not reported for investigation by the court, I will have a difficult time separating myself from responsibility from the duties of a *yahang.* On this account I knock my head in pleading submission: send out a warrant for strict punishment to eradicate treachery and pacify the commoners. In supplication.

Magistrate: Await the order to summon for trial and investigation

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吳雲兒 Defendant 被訴 幫夥痞棍  
 李星聚 Defendant 被訴 把持誣騙  
 余正興 Plaintiff 告訴人 舖民

Wei: 為把持架害怒討誣騙事情

SuitText: 蟻籍江西販運瓷器投渝較場設店發賣，冬來春回十數年無妄嘉慶十三 年有浙人“李星聚”拖欠較場地租，奉文武各憲追繳如雷無措，袁蟻援手代伊還去銀7兩2錢，屢討不償迨至去臘面結除還伊行用外應找還蟻本利銀5兩6錢今將貨掃賣趕幫南旋向伊索討找項殊伊昧良怒討於本月十四控以流棍私充等謊將蟻具控案下批准簽喚蟻不勝駭理合訴明，切呂益美李恒興系買蟻掃庒（- 點）腳貨無辜之舖戶亦遭株累且其掃庒磁貨迺伊去冬業已收過蟻用試思胡不可賣又吳元太蟻查並無其號只有吳新太曾投張志德行過納對手賣與羅順發鄧三元蟻未在場染手真偽提訊行戶張志德蟻有無私充刁刻圖章等情立明猶控有余袁二姓蟻幫並無其人，但伊既有所控，必有所見，懇嚴飭伊明白指呈免伊含沙射影似此奸牙把持病商反誣衣食舖客理法全無訴懇作主賞訊究追以儆將來俾(sic)免羅織拖累為此訴乞

Magistrate: 侯質訊再代書王長？（藝？）違諭雙行迭寫殊屬不合併飭

I am registered in Jiangxi, and I ship ceramic goods to Chongqing, where they were submitted to a shop in Jiaochang for sale. I have arrived in the winter and returned in the summer for more than ten years without incident. In JQ 13 (5 years ago) one Li Xingju from Zhejiang was behind on his Jiaochang rent, and both the military and civil offices were pressing for payment like thunder from the heavens, but he had no mens. So he begged me to pay 7 liang and 2 qian on his behalf. Several times I asked for the money back, but he has not repaid me. Then last *la* month we met and apart from his commission, he should still repay me 5 taels and 6 qian counting both the sum and interest. Then, recently he sold all of my goods. I sent my employee in a hurry ?? to demand payment from him. But cheated me and angrily repaid me by bringing suit. On Day 14 of this month he brought me up on charges of being a “vagabond ruffian illicitly undertaking [a yahang license]” and other such absurd claims. The rescript permitted a summons. I was unable to conquer my surprise, and it is fitting that I file a counter-suit to clarify. I humbly submit that Lv Yimei and Li Hengxing are guiltless shops who purchased the leftover goods ?? from my store, who have also been implicated in litigation. Furthermore the ‘saozhuang’ ceramic goods that they purchased were already collected last winter??? How could I sell them again to Wu Yuantai? I looked into it and there is, indeed, no such firm. There is only a Wu Xintai, who nce submitted to the Zhang Zhide brokerage some goods that were then sold to Luo Shunfa and Deng Sanyuan. I was not there and took no part in the transaction. The truth and the lies will come out in trial: whether or not I have illicitly undertaken the name of the broker Zhang Zhide and wickedly forged his chop or any of these other affairs will be instantly clear. As for the Mr. Yu and Mr. Yuan that I am supposed to employ there are absolutely no such people. But if he alleged it in his suit, they must be able to be produced. Please strictly order him to clearly indicate them, to avoid him plotting. Such a treacherous yahang who *bachi* is a curse to merchants. Furthermore he has filed false accusations, and now my clothing and food and lodging must be forsook to file suit. I plead that you make a decision to bestow a trial, investigation, and pursuit in order to make an example and avoid entanglement in litigation.

Magistrate: Await trial. If the scrivener Wang Zhang once more disobeys orders and writes two lines together, it is truly not in compliance. Send both orders.

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余正興 Resolution 結狀  
 Wei: 為與遵斷繳結事實

SuitText: 繳結得李星聚以流棍私充事？？蒙恩審訊蟻賣過瓷器銀40餘兩未投李星聚行即給圖？令繳銀1兩5錢與李星聚行作行用嗣後發賣瓷器貨物？投行始準發賣蟻遵斷繳銀1 兩5錢給李星聚行呈領以後？遵斷投行發賣不得違斷滋事繳結是實

Magistrate: 準繳結

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李星聚

Wei: 為與領結事實

SuitText: 領結得蟻以流棍私充事控余正興？？？恩審訊余正興私賣瓷器銀40餘兩遵斷繳銀1 兩5錢？作行用嗣後瓷器務須投行發賣不得再行私賣今余正興？？銀1兩5錢繳案給蟻呈領訖所領結是實

Magistrate: 準領結

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童兆熊 Plaintiff 同稟  
 丁和興 Plaintiff 稟  
 李生發 Plaintiff 稟  
 艾文發 Plaintiff 稟

Wei: 為懇示定規得歸畫一事情

SuitText: 蟻等在渝鈔銅頁作坊手藝承應“文，武”各衙，及各大憲來渝甕號差務，用度甚繁，其所取用，歷有舊規，新開作房幫銀12兩，招徒一名，幫銀4兩8錢，遠來客師入會，幫銀7兩2錢，資近來年久，舊章雖存，而蟻等同行人眾，良莠不齊，多有違亂程？抗不幫錢應差，以致每遇公務取用，紛紛爭鬧，無人幫助，是以協懇仁天賞準示諭，俾蟻等同行人等遵循舊章，得歸劃一，不致有違差務，沾感無暨，伏乞

Magistrate: 準示諭

SuitNotes: There are several plaintiffs (maybe 8 or 10?), but the side of the suit is damaged, so I've only listed the names that I'm sure of.

We craftsmen of the copper leaf workshops of Chongqing handle the obligations of all of the civil and martial offices of the city, as well as the provincial offices that come to Chongqing and require weng vessels. This is an onerous task, and the funds for it have been provided in accordance with an established rule. New shops pay a “helping fee” of 12 taels, and for each apprentice brought on there is a helping fee of 4 taels 8 qian, and for sojourning masters brought into the society there is a fee of 7 taels 2 qian. But a great deal of time has passed, and although the old rules still exist, among the many practicing our profession there is a range of good and bad. There are many who violate the order and refuse to pay in the helping fee to respond to obligations, and as a result every time there is a public task that requires funds there is a messy fight. No one pays in to help. And so we have come together to beg Benevolent Heaven to grant us permission to display a proclamation, so that the members of our lowly trade will all respect the old rules, and uniformity may be accomplished, and *chai* obligations will not be shirked. Tearfully we plead without recourse. Prostrate we beg of thee..

Magistrate: It is permitted to display the proclamation

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莫信成 Plaintiff 同稟 人  
 江信泰 Plaintiff 同稟 人  
 袁三元 Plaintiff 同稟 人  
 陳德昌 Plaintiff 稟 人

Wei: 為稟明電鋻事情

SuitText: 渝城承認各轅甕銅號差，歷系濮義和一人承辦，並無別家應差，緣蟻等均開銅鈕扣舖作坊，向買銅頁做扣，無論遠近，賣客議價公買，原無定規，因嘉慶年間，有“黃正發”等把持賣客，“劉義盛”呈控前憲，訊責黃正發諭後任客發賣銅頁，不許把持，判案可稽，今有開銅頁作坊之奸惡“李雙和，熊義興，艾文發，李生發”等，蓄意高抬頁價，把持遠路賣客，計圖壟斷，假藉濮義和應差為題，初本月初十，控以懇示定規，朦稟在案，批准示諭，尚未給示，理合聲明，切渝城乃商賈雲集之區，蟻等開設鈕舖作坊，均屬苦貿，利獲龜頭，今伊冒充應差，蒙懇示諭定規，將來貿民，均遭把持，蟻等亦難生貿，是以聲懇作主，俾蟻等得以各安生業，杜免後訟，伏乞

Magistrate: 侯集訊察奪

SuitNotes: There are several plaintiffs (maybe 8 or 10?), but the side of the suit is damaged, so I've only listed the names that I'm sure of.

Suit:

In Chongqing previously the single individual Pu Yihe has handled all of the obligations from each office for copper vessels. No other firm has undertaken responsibility for responding to obligations. But recently we have opened copper button workshops, and have purchased copper plates to make buttons. No matter whether we buy them from near or far, the seller sets the price. There didn't used to be a rule about it until in the JQ period Huang et al. tried to *bachi*, and Liu filed suit under the previous magistrate and it was judged that, in the future, it is up to the sellers to determine how to sell the goods, and it is not permitted to *bachi*. The adjudicated case is available for inspection. Now the wicked copper plate workshop owners Li, Xiong, Ai, and Li have taken up the selfish desire to raise the price and attempt to *bachi* sojourning merchants who come to sell the goods from afar. They are plotting to monopolize the trade, and used the excuse of Pu Yihe’s responsibility for obligations as a pretext to file a plea to make a false report on the docket pleading to proclaim their rules on the 10th day of this month. Their request was permitted, but the proclamation has not yet been displayed, and so it is appropriate that we should clarify: we humbly submit that Chongqing is a hub of commerce, and those of us who run button workshops are truly trading on the margins. The profit is miniscule. Now they pretend to undertake responsibility for obligations as a way of deceitfully making a plea for a proclamation of their rules. In the future we traders will encounter *bachi.* We already have a difficult time in the trade, and so we raise our voices to plead for a ruling, so that we may peacefully earn our living and so that litigation in the future may be avoided. In humble supplication…

Magistrate: It is permitted to bring together the parties for a trial to apprehend the facts

ID: 131 DG商貿清6-12-10585 ID\_Suit: 806 Doc: 1 DG24 ？ 4？

陳德昌 Defendant 被稟  
 濮義和 Plaintiff 稟

Wei: 為據實聲明以杜訟端事情

SuitText: 蟻前祖乾隆年間，來渝開銅頁手藝作坊，承認差務，皆系開作坊人公同幫差，不過舉蟻一家為首，得有專司，傳今數代，各守舊章，兵房卷宗可查，所有新開作坊，及招徒遠來客師，均有定規，幫銀入會，至各處販頁來渝賣，聽其市價，議取厘金，以濟差費，蟻等並無把阻，亦無勒抬價錢情事，遭開扣鈕舖之陳德昌等計串各處販頁之人，暗欲亂賤蟻等生意，蟻等同行作坊，請示定規，與伊等馬牛不及，不料陳德昌等居心狼毒，膽於前月內，控以朦請阻勒，控開作坊黃恒順等，詞敘蟻一家辦差各謊在案差喚，切思差務重繁，歷來公派，一姓所操，蟻是以據實 聲明，以杜爭競，伏乞

Magistrate: 侯集訊察奪

My ancestors came to CQ in the QL reign to open a copper leaf workshop, and took responsibility for the *chai* obligations. All who run workshops share the burden of helping to undertake the obligations. But our shop, alone, is at the head and is singly responsible. It has been this way for several generations all the way up to now, and all have respected the established rules. There is a file in the War Department at the yamen which can be examined. Whenever a new shop opens, and whenever they invite apprentices or new masters, there are rules that specify that they have to pay a helping fee into the common fund. As for the individuals who come from all places to sell copper leafing in Chongqing, it is up to them to determine a market price, and it agreed to assess a surtax that is used to defray the costs of trade obligations. There is no obstruction (to commerce) and no extortionate raising of prices. But recently the button workshops owned by Chen Dechang et al. have colluded with the individuals who come to Chongqing to sell leafing to secretly undercut our business. We requested a proclamation of the rules of the trade, which have as much to do with them as cows do with horses. But unexpectedly Chen et al. harbored a greedy plot, and they dared last month to bring charges of deceitfully attempting to obstruct and exploit against workshop owners Huang et al. In the suit my firm was mendaciously described as the one business responsible for handling obligations, but I humbly suggest that the duties associated with these obligations are heavy and diverse, and in the past the funds for them have been paid out by the group, then handled by the Pu family. And so I have filed an explanation to clarify in accordance with the facts, in order to prevent quibbling. In humble supplication…

Maigstrate: Await summons to apprehend the situation

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謝秉興 Defendant 被稟  
 姚全勝 Plaintiff 稟 人  
 宴雙發 Plaintiff 稟 人  
 劉同興 Plaintiff 稟 人  
 周鴻昌 Plaintiff 稟 人  
 梁萬發 Plaintiff 同稟  
 余永和 Plaintiff 同稟  
 江信泰 Plaintiff 同稟  
 莫信成 Plaintiff 同稟  
 袁三元 Plaintiff 同稟  
 陳德昌 Plaintiff 稟 人  
 李雙和 Defendant 被稟  
 李洪發 Witness 干證  
 熊義興 Defendant 被稟  
 艾文發 Defendant 被稟  
 李生發 Defendant 被稟  
 樊國和 Defendant 被稟  
 童兆熊 Defendant 被稟  
 丁和興 Defendant 被稟  
 蔣聚廷 Defendant 被稟  
 張元龍 Defendant 被稟  
 劉義盛 Witness 干證  
 黃雙發 Witness 干證  
 黃恒順 Defendant 被稟

Wei: 為朦請阻勒協懇喚究事情

SuitText: 蟻等在城各開銅鈕扣舖作坊生理，向買銅頁做扣，無論遠近賣客議價公買，並無異紊，嘉慶年間，遭城打售銅頁之黃正發等把阻遠來賣客劉義盛構訟前憲訊諭任客發賣銅頁，後不把阻，結案可查，迄今無異，今遭開銅頁作坊奸惡李雙和黃恒順熊義興艾文發李生發等膽違前斷，把阻遠來賣頁之人，不許在城出售，以便惡等抬價獨霸，假藉濮義和應差為名，本月初十，控以懇示定規稟案，批准示諭，蟻等知駭，二十三以稟明電鋻縷晰在案，尚未批發，蟻等應不呈瀆，但各衙應用銅甕號，歷系濮義和一家祖代承辦，並無異姓充認，恩轅兵房具有認狀可稽，惡等假藉差役，朦請示諭，蓄意把阻勒抬價錢，蟻等借本營謀，？穫龜利，遭此害累，難安生業，情不得已，只得協懇喚究，貿民均沾，伏乞

Magistrate: 侯喚訊察奪

We are the copper button workshop owners of Chongqing. Previously the price of copper leafing to make buttons, no matter if it was from a trader coming from near or far, was set in negotiation with the seller, and there was no interference. In JQ, however, the copper plating vendor Huang et al. obstructed sojourning salesmen, and one named Liu Yisheng brought a suit before the previous magistrate, who judged that it was up to the seller to determine how to sell the leafing, and that afterward there should be no more obstruction. The settled case is available for investigation. From then until now there has been no disagreement. But lately we have had the misfortune of encountering Li et al., treacherous hoodlums who operate copper leafing workshops who have dared to disobey the previous verdict, and obstruct individuals who come from afar to sell copper leafing, not permitting them to sell in the city in order to assist their wicked clique in raising prices by virtue of their hegemonic grasp on the trade. They used the pretext of Pu’s obligations to file suit on day 10 of this month, requesting a proclamation of the rules. It was permitted, and when we learned of this we were scandalized, so on day 23 we reported to the yamen with a clear analysis which was placed on file. But the rescript has not yet been published. We should not continue to file suits, but the weng vessels required by each of the city’s yamen have all been purchased on behalf of the trade by the single shop owned by the Pu family. No other surname has ever borne responsibility for the obligations. There is a pledge to that effect on file in the War Department of the yamen which can be examined. Those wicked men are using this obligation as an excuse to deceitfully request a proclamation, with the selfish intent of obstructing commerce and artificially raising prices. We are all operating business with little profit on borrowed capital: if we encounter this kind of entanglement, it will be hard for us to peacefully ply our livelihood. The circumstances are unbearable, and so we are forced to come together to plead for a summos to investigate and punish. We tradesmen all tearfully, humbly supplicate…

Magistrate: Await a summons for trial and apprehension of the facts.

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"正堂李

。。

計開：

被告：黃恒順，李雙和，謝秉興。。。  
干證：劉義盛，黃雙發，李洪發  
原告：陳德昌，姚全勝，宴雙發。。。"

summons

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宴雙發 Defendant 被訴  
 李雙和 Plaintiff 告訴人  
 謝秉興 Plaintiff 告訴人  
 熊義興 Plaintiff 告訴人  
 艾文發 Plaintiff 告訴人  
 樊國和 Plaintiff 同訴  
 童兆熊 Plaintiff 同訴  
 李生發 Plaintiff 同訴  
 丁和興 Plaintiff 同訴  
 蔣聚廷 Plaintiff 同訴  
 張元龍 Plaintiff 同訴  
 黃恒順 Plaintiff 告訴人  
 姚全勝 Defendant 被訴  
 喻廷盛 Witness 訴證  
 劉同興 Defendant 被訴  
 周鴻昌 Defendant 被訴  
 梁萬發 Defendant 被訴  
 余永和 Defendant 被訴  
 江信泰 Defendant 被訴  
 莫信成 Defendant 被訴  
 袁三元 Defendant 被訴  
 熊益興 Witness 訴證  
 王宗波 Witness 訴證  
 李嘉光 Witness 訴證  
 陳德昌 Defendant 被訴

Wei: 為隔業？？訴明究誣事情

SuitText: 蟻等打銅頁手藝，應辦文武各大憲來渝甕號差務，需費甚重，歷有舊規，新開作坊，幫銀12兩，招徒一名，幫銀4兩8錢，遠來客師入會，幫銀7兩2錢，各處銅頁販渝出售，抽取厘金，以備差役祀神之資，邇來行內人心不一，抗不幫錢應差，每遇公務，推卸，蟻等集議停妥，仍復舊規，前月初十以懇示定規稟案，沐批準示諭，遭開鈕扣舖陳德昌姚全勝宴雙發劉同興等不思伊開鈕扣舖蟻開銅頁作坊，各貿各業，請示定規，以期劃一，且蟻等認差年遠，與伊全無干涉，竟敢妄生覬覦，紊亂蟻等行規，架以朦請阻勒，挺身插控，蟻等在案，實屬奸刁害累，為此訴明究誣，伏乞

Magistrate: 侯質訊察奪

We copper leafing craftsmen respond to all of the obligations involving weng vessels for all of the civil and martial offices of Chonqging. The funds required are onerous. Previously there has been an established rule, that new shops pay a helping fee of 12 taels, new apprentices a helping fee of 4 taels 8 qian, and visiting masters who enter the association a helping fee of 7 taels 2 qian. Those who come to sell copper leafing from other places must pay out a surtax, in order to assist with the obligations and the expenses of the rites of the trade. Of late, though, the minds of the members of the trade have been in disunion, and there are those who resist the payment of the fee to help with obligations. Every time public tasks must be undertaken, there is disagreement about responsibility. We came together to discuss the problem, and decided to reiterate the established rule. Then on day 10 of last month we requested permission for a proclamation, and it was permitted. But we had the misfortune of encountering Chen et al, the button shop owners. The thought never occurred to us that should have anything to do with it: we each ply our own trades. The request for a proclamation was simply to standardize affairs. We have undertaken responsibility for these obligations for many years, and it has nothing to do with them, and yet they dare give license to their wanton greed, and undermine the rules of our trade, and even file insincere and deceitful charges of obstruction and extortion, inserting themselves in litigation on the affair and bringing charges against us. Truly this is a treacherous and deceitful attempt to entangle us. And so we have filed counter-accusations to clarify the false accusations. We humbly supplicate…

Magistrate: Await trial and apprehension

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李雙和 Defendant 被稟  
 黃恒順 Defendant 被稟  
 袁三元 Plaintiff 稟  
 莫信成 Plaintiff 稟  
 江信泰 Plaintiff 稟  
 余永和 Plaintiff 稟  
 梁萬發 Plaintiff 稟

周鴻昌 Plaintiff 稟

劉同興 Plaintiff 稟

宴雙發 Plaintiff 稟

姚全勝 Plaintiff 稟

陳德昌 Plaintiff 稟

Wei: 為弊朦貽害稟懇親訊事情

SuitText: 蟻等以朦請阻勒事具控黃恒順等一案於本月十四日沐委審訊幸恩燭奸查有同業陳卷朦請告示未發因禮房曲吏黃桂停頂替黃恒順狡供朦混致諭黃桂停同劉義盛出外與蟻等議明舊規立案再行覆訊具結蟻等二十三日齊集縣廟憑眾理剖妥議舊規殊黃桂停身充曲吏不惟不體息訟至德反敢挺身夯訟橫不由剖眾皆莫何切渝城各行賣有規不滅無規不興況銅頁舖前經仇主斷案有卷可查事隔二十餘年之久毫無幫差之舉今乃一旦翻異推原其故不因黃桂停從中舞弊仗有泰山之靠而李雙和亦不能朦請告示倘告示出販賣銅頁之人必不來渝發賣伊等以銅頁視為奇貨可居計圖高抬價值害蟻等鈕扣舖難買銅頁把絕生路是以協懇仁天查卷親訊塗銷告示任客買賣恩同再造伏乞

Magistrate: 侯提訊察奪

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Testimony: 工房計開審單；二門差王？李倫帶

問據陳德昌姚全勝宴雙發劉同興周鴻昌梁萬發余永和江信泰馬曉春袁三元同供：

小的們在渝城開設鈕扣銅頁生理買？銅頁作坊的銅頁造做？（以？）遠來販賣銅頁的人並？（無？）幫差用費因嘉慶二十五年有渝城銅頁作坊黃正發們藉差？由勒取（？）遠來販賣銅頁的厘金曾？？？威控前仇主審訊斷令任客發賣黃正發們沒（？）不得把阻結案至今多年無銀不料今年有？開銅頁作坊的黃恒順仗恃黃桂停是禮房曲？朦請告示仍？勒取遠來發賣銅頁的厘金希圖他們銅頁高抬價值害小的買賣無路難以聊立小的們終來具告的：

今蒙審訊“李？？？盛”同”黃恒順“出外與小的們議？由規稟請立案，？？？執坳，再行覆訊斷結，小的們遵諭就是問

據黃恒順李雙和謝秉興謝秉興艾文發樊國和李生發丁和興蔣舉廷同供：

黃恒順是戈辦的招牌現是兄弟承開戈辦黃桂停同小的李雙和們都在渝城開設銅頁作坊生理供應文武各衙差務？（立？）有舊規因銅頁作坊遠近搬貿恐遇差？承辦不？小的李雙和們終請告示要遠來販賣銅頁的幫上厘金以備差用不料鈕扣作坊陳德昌們就把戈辦們告在案下：

今蒙審訊小的李雙和們朦請告示未經發出具有同業陳案礙難懸斷諭令劉義盛同戈辦出外與陳德昌們議明（？）舊規？請立案倘有執拗再行覆訊斷結戈辦們遵諭就是

？？？和供：

甕號差務是小的一人承辦業已供應四？（筆？）？？違悞渝城銅頁作坊幫銅八斤也不與他們相涉：

今蒙審訊只求與他們天斷

問據劉義盛，黃雙發？洪發同供：

生員劉義盛在遠處販買銅頁回渝自做鈕扣生理嘉慶二十五年因渝城銅頁作坊黃正發們藉差務？（由？）背奪生員的銅頁勒要抽取厘金生員控經仇主審訊斷令任客發賣黃正發不得把阻結案不料今年黃恒順們朦請告示仍要勒取販買銅頁厘金希圖他們高抬價值害生員們貴買賤賣難以生貿？以陳德昌們控案：

今蒙審訊只求與他們天斷

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樂左廷 Report-maker 抱稟  
 劉義盛 Report-maker 稟 文生

Wei: 為難於理處稟懇覆訊事情

SuitText: 陳德昌等以朦請阻勒事，具控黃恒順等一案，於本月十四，沐委審訊，諭“生”同黃桂亭出外與兩造議明舊規立案，再行覆訊具結，生於二十三日，邀集兩造在縣廟理論，查買賣銅頁向無幫差之舉，因嘉慶二十五年，有銅頁舖黃正發等勒生販賣銅頁幫差，生控仇主審訊，斷令任客買賣，不料把阻幫差結案，多年無紊，今欲幫差，理有不合，生勸李雙和等仍照舊規，不必請示，抽取厘金，以？和好，豈料黃桂亭不惟不理勸同行，反喝李雙和等橫不由剖，兇鬧各散，民難治民，為此稟懇仁天覆訊查斷，俾貿民得安，伏乞

Magistrate: 侯覆訊斷結

SuitNotes: Report filer's name unclear. LYS is a guess

Chen et al. filed suit against Huang et al… the delegated judge issued a verdict ordering me and Huang to meet with the two parties to clarify the old rules to place on file at the yamen, and then report back for trial and resolution. On Day 23 we invited together both parties at the county temple for mediation. We found that the sale and purchase of copper leaves has never had a precedent of contributing to assist with the cost of obligations. But in JQ 25 the copper plate shops owned by Huang et al. extortionately demanded me/us who peddle copper leaves to pay a helping fee for obligations, and so I/we filed a suit against him that was heard by Magistrate Chou, who ordered that sales take place at the discretion of the customer. Who could know that after the case about obstructing commerce by demanding helping fees was resolved, several years would pass without incident, and then Li et al. would make an unreasonable demand for assistance with obligations. I/we begged Li et al. to keep to the established rules, since a new proclamation is not required, and that in collecting the surtax, to ?? amicably. But in defiance of expectations Huang not only would not take the exhortations of the members of the trade into consideration, he even convinced Li et al. to not obey the verdict, and everyone fought and parted ways. The people cannot govern the people, and so we file a report pleading with Benevolent Heaven to re-try the case and give a verdict to allow we traders to obtain security. In humble supplication..

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Testimony: 工房計開覆訊單；二門差王貴李倫帶

問據陳德昌，姚全勝，宴雙發，劉廷選，周鴻昌，同供：

小的們在渝城開設鈕扣舖生理買取銅頁造做發賣其有遠來販賣銅頁的人並無幫差用費不料有這？開銅頁作坊黃恒順們藉差務由朦請告示抽取厘金害小的們買賣無路難以聊生小的們無奈終來把他們具告案下前蒙審訊諭令劉義盛同黃恒順出外與小的們議明舊規？請立案因黃恒順們不依舊規小的們終？？案下：

今蒙審訊斷令李雙和們已請告示掣銷遇有需用翁號恩主自行買備不准濮義和黃恒順抽取厘金滋釀訟端以便任客買賣小的們遵斷就是

Chen et al. testify:

We are the button shop owners of Chongqing. The copper leafing we purchase is sold by vendors from afar, who do not pay to assist with the cost of trade obligations. Unexpectedly Huang et al, the leafing workshop owners, used the excuse of their obligations to deceitfully request permission for a proclamation regarding a surtax, which threatened the sanctity of our difficult livelihood, and would make it difficult for us to eke out a living. Without any alternative, we brought a case against them. Previously it was tried and Liu and Huang were ordered to agree to a clear interpretation of the old rules with the two parties, then request that they be put on file. But Huang would not respect the standing rules, and so we have ??? before the court.

Today it is ordered that the request made by Li et al. will be voided. When there is a need for weng vessels, [offices] must buy them directly. It is not permitted that Pu or Huang should require a surtax or harass others with litigation. Sales take place at the discretion of the customer. We shall simply respect the verdict.

問據黃恒順即黃桂停，李雙和，謝秉興，熊義興同供：

小的們在渝城開設銅頁作坊生理供應文武各衙差？立有舊規因銅頁作坊有遠來販賣銅頁的人遇有？？承辦不應小的們終來請示要他們幫上厘金不料陳德昌們就來把小的們具告案下前蒙審訊諭令劉義盛們出外與陳德昌們議明舊規？請立案因陳德昌們不依舊規就d來覆？案下：

今蒙覆訊斷令小的們已請告示掣銷遇有需用嗡號恩主自行買備不准小的們？應兵房認狀毀去小的們亦不？在外藉差抽取厘金滋鬧訟端以便任客買賣小的們遵斷具結備案就是

問據濮義和供：

小的在渝城供應嗡號差務業已承辦四？？？？？銅頁作坊？年幫給小的銅？？？？？？

？？？？審訊，斷令李雙和們已請告示掣銷遇有需用嗡號，恩主自行買備，不准小的供應兵房認狀毀去，黃恒順們亦不以在外藉差抽取厘金滋釀訟端以便任客買賣，小的遵斷就是

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周鴻昌 Resolution 結狀  
 劉同興 Resolution 結狀  
 宴雙發 Resolution 結狀  
 姚全勝 Resolution 結狀  
 陳德昌 Resolution 結狀

Wei: 為結狀事情

SuitText: 蟻等以朦請阻勒具稟黃恒順等一案沐恩訊明蟻等系紐扣舖生理黃恒順等系銅頁舖生理因黃恒順等藉差請示抽取厘金把蟻等生路始行控案斷令李雙和等已請告示掣銷遇有需用嗡號恩主自行買備不准濮義和黃恒順等供應兵房認狀毀去伊等亦不得在外藉差抽取厘金滋釀訟端以便任客買賣蟻等遵斷具結備案是實

Magistrate: 準結

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熊義興 Resolution 結狀  
 謝秉興 Resolution 結狀  
 李雙和 Resolution 結狀  
 黃恒順 Resolution 結狀

Wei: 為結狀事實

SuitText: 得蟻等？等以朦請阻勒具稟蟻等一案沐恩訊明蟻等系銅頁舖生理陳德昌等系鈕扣舖生理因蟻等藉差請示抽取厘金把絕伊等生路始行控案斷令蟻等已請告示掣銷遇有需用嗡號恩主自行買備不准濮義和等供應兵房認狀毀去蟻等亦不得在外藉差抽取厘金滋釀訟端以便任客買賣蟻等遵斷具結備案是實

Magistrate: 準結

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濮義和 Resolution 結狀

Wei: 為結狀事實

SuitText: 陳德昌等以朦請阻勒具稟黃恒順等株連蟻在案沐恩訊明黃恒順(sic)等系紐扣舖生理黃恒順等系銅頁舖生理因黃恒順等藉差請示抽取厘金把絕蟻等生路始行控案斷令李雙和等已請告示掣銷遇有需用嗡號恩主自行買備不准蟻供應兵房認狀毀去伊等亦不得在外藉差抽取厘金滋釀訟端以便任客買賣蟻遵斷具結備案是實

Magistrate: 準結

Chen et al. filed suit… and I was implicated in the litigation. It was ruled that Huang et al. are button shop owners, and Huang et al. are copper leave shop owners. Because Huang used the excuse of obligations to request a proclamation to demand a surtax and obstruct and extinguish the livelihoods of others, it came to court, and it was ordered that Li et al.’s request for a proclamation should be voided. When the state offices require weng vessels they must buy them directly. It is not permitted for me to undertake responsibility for the obligation by filing a pledge at the War Department. The one on file will be destroyed, and I am not permitted to use it as an excuse to demand surtaxes or instigate litigation, in order that customers may freely buy and sell. I will obey the verdict, and hereby submit a pledge to be kept on file, which is true.

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艾文發

童兆熊

張元龍

李生發

熊義興

丁和興

樊國和

Wei: 為？？？？

SuitText: 。。。。。理承認文武各大憲來？？？？？？？？？？？？？懇示定規，稟懇賞示抽取同行在？銅頁人等厘金？幫差務沐準示諭，有隔行鈕扣舖陳德昌等以朦請阻勒稟案，本月初七，蒙恩審訊，諭令甕號差務，恩轅平價承買，不出票取用，並諭蟻等不得抽取厘金，幫差，憲斷甚明，應不再瀆，？慮仁恩榮升，仍飭承辦，是以協懇批示賞準立案，嗣後凡遇各憲來渝文武各衙考試，及年底新正，需用甕號差務，皆由平價承 買，蟻等永遠卸差均沾，伏乞

Magistrate: 查承辦差務？只濮義和一人現經訊斷草（革？）去辦差藉章以免荷派貽害汝等除濮義和外並無承辦認狀何得夥同混請立案應飭

SuitNotes: Side of the suit is damaged, so I've only listed the names that I'm sure of.