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The Readjustment in the Chinese Economy

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THE EMPRESS OF CHINA

By Philip Chadwick Foster Smith

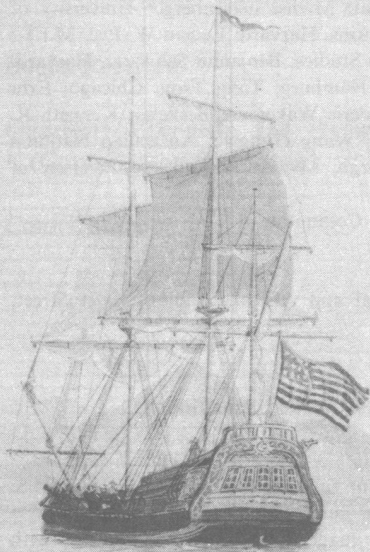


Illustration: detail of painting by Philip C.F. Smith
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ON Washington's Birthday 1784, the ship *Empress of China*—the first vessel from the United States of America to initiate trade with the Chinese—sailed from New York for Canton. Historians have long, if with consistent brevity, recounted the essence of that pioneering venture but until now have never attempted what may be described as a social and logistical history of America's entrée into the realms of the Celestial Empire.

The Empress of China has been published in two editions: a limited hard-cover edition and another in soft cover. The book contains xviii + 331 pages and 101 illustrations, many never published before, of which thirty are of Captain John Green's account book of privately commissioned purchases in Canton.

The author, Philip Chadwick Foster Smith, is a widely recognized writer, editor, and scholar in the field of maritime history with more than a dozen books and scores of articles to his credit. A member of the staff of the Peabody Museum of Salem, Massachusetts, for sixteen years, twelve of them as Curator of Maritime History and former Managing Editor of *The American Neptune*, *A Quarterly Journal of Maritime History*, he subsequently became Curator of the Philadelphia Maritime Museum, for which *The Empress of China* was written to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of the American China Trade.

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