



UNIVERSALITAS & PERVASIVITAS

IL COSTITUIRSI E DIFFONDERSI DELLA S.J. E SUOI ECHI (1540 - 1773)

di A. Pisani

Schede autori Attività missionarie ed esplorazioni non gesuite

George Leonard Staunton

Sir George Leonard Staunton, 1st Baronet (10 April 1737 – 14 January 1801) was a botanist and employee of the East India Company in the late eighteenth century.

In 1793, Staunton was named Secretary to the British mission to the Chinese Imperial court. This diplomatic and trade mission would be headed by Lord Macartney. Although the Macartney Embassy returned to London without obtaining any concession from China, the mission could have been termed a success because it brought back detailed observations.

Staunton was charged with producing the official account of the expedition after their return. This multi-volume work was taken chiefly from the papers of Lord Maccauley and from the papers of Sir Erasmus Gower, who was Commander of the expedition. Sir Joseph Banks, the President of the Royal Society, was responsible for selecting and arranging engraving of the illustrations in this official record.[1]

Staunton was created a Baronet, of Cargins in the County of Galway, on 31 October 1785.[2] The title passed to his son, George Thomas Staunton, on his death.



Notes

1. Banks, Joseph. Papers of Sir Joseph Banks; Section 12: Lord Macartney's embassy to China; Series 62: Papers concerning publication of the account of Lord Macartney's Embassy to China, ca 1797. [State Library of New South Wales.]
2. London Gazette: no. 12699, p. 522, 12 November 1785. Retrieved on 2008-11-17.

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