the whole Company of Chinese Merchants from failing —
Their general Character of Roguery, which indeed they truly
deserve, I think must be caused a good deal by their abject
poverty & by the oppression of their Mandarines — oppressed them-
-selves, they oppress others in their turn. — A new Governor
has lately come here, it is said [illegible] cost him
200,000 ~~Dolls~~ Pale which is 270,000 Dolls to the Officers at Court
[illegible] his arrival here, his Birthday was announced
when he demanded 10,000 Pale as a present of the Chinese
Merchants, his Wifes, Sons, daughters, & Grandmothers, soon
followed in succession in the Course of a Month or two, with
the like demands, — as to ourselves we are obliged to give 300 Dolls
in the first place to a Man to supply the Ship with provision
and he must cheat us out of 350 more before he can pay the
Mandarin for his Licence — An American Ship about
a Month ago & soon after her arrival sent her Sail boat up
to Canton, unluckily she was ballasted with Swivels & Lit Shot.
This Circumstance was eagerly seized on, and a fine of 10,000
Dolls would have been exacted if she had been secured. As this
was not the case the Mandarin offered to pass it over if the
American would put his business into the hands of a friend
of ~~the~~ Mandarin, whose Affairs were rather embarassed,
what this will cost in the end, I cannot tell. — These will
give some Idea of the oppressions of a Government a revolution
is now preparing to overturn — The object of this is to remove
the present race of Parlar kings — The Exactions & restraints
this year have much increased —