

No. 29.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Letter from the Superintendent of the Hongkong Fire Brigade is published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 16th March, 1869.

No. 1.

VICTORIA, HONGKONG, 16th March, 1869.

SIR,—I have the honor to report that on the 13th March, instant, at 5 P.M., an inspection of the Fire Brigade took place. The following force of the Brigade assembled at the "Cross Roads" Station, at 5 P.M.:—

1 Superintendent,	} Europeans.
1 Assistant Superintendent,	
2 Foremen,	
4 Assistant Foremen,	
14 Firemen,	} Chinese.
40 Firemen,	

and about 100 Chinese Volunteers, with three hand Engines, two supply Carts, Ladders, &c.

Also (from pre-arrangement) the Steam Fire Engine of the Hongkong Insurance Company.

The whole "Force" then proceeded to the centre of the Taipingshan District, and the Engines were got into work within fifteen minutes from the departure from the Cross Roads Station. The hose and equipment were found in good order, and the practice was altogether satisfactory.

On the 15th March, instant, at 5 P.M., the Three Chinese Volunteer Companies respectively known as the "Nam-pak Hong," "Silk Mercers," and "Pawnbrokers," were also inspected at the Cross Roads, the number of Men attached to each Engine were as follows:—

Nam-pak Hong Engine,	80 men.
Silk Mercers "	56 "
Pawnbrokers "	32 "

The Engines (by order) proceeded to the Praya near the Canton Steamer Wharf, and were all brought into play within eight minutes from leaving the Station, the hose and Engines were in good order and worked satisfactorily.

The subsidiary Fire Stations have been visited several times during the past month, and the Firemen practised in the use of the equipment entrusted to them.

On the 4th March, instant, a case of Fire Brigade Stores (as follows) was landed from the "Achilles," in compliance with Requisition dated the 23rd June, 1868. The articles were examined and found to be in good order.

- 3, 6 feet lengths Suction Hose, 2 inch.
- 4, 40 feet lengths Delivery Pipes.
- 20, Gallons Neat's foot Oil.
- 4, 6 feet lengths Suction Pipe, 3 inch.
- 4, 40 feet lengths Delivery Hose, 3 inch.
- 10, 20 feet lengths of strong Log Lines.
- 4, lengths of strong Rope, 4 inch.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. MAY,

Superintendent Fire Brigade.

The Honorable J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

No. 30.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Circular, of the 9th January, 1869, from The Right Honorable Earl GRANVILLE, K.G., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 16th March, 1869.

Circular.

DOWNING STREET, 9th January, 1869.

SIR,—I transmit herewith a copy of a Letter from the Secretary to the Treasury with a copy of a Treasury Minute on the subject of cases of Bankruptcy and Insolvency on the part of persons holding Offices in the Public Service.

I think it very desirable that the principles laid down in this Minute should be applied to the Colonies; and I wish you to intimate to the Members of the Civil Service of your Government, that the Rules laid down by the Treasury in such cases for the Civil Service in the United Kingdom will be acted on in the Colony under your Government.—I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

GRANVILLE.