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VOL. XV.

No. 141.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Under Provisions of Ordinance No. 11 of 1844, Notice is hereby given that a Special Session of the Justices of the Peace will be held at the Police Magistrates' Court, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon of Thursday, the Sixth day of January next; and thereafter on the First Thursday of every Month for the purpose of considering Applications for granting or transferring Spirit Licenses during the Year 1870.

Such Applications to be lodged at the Police Magistrates' Court at least Ten days before each of the Sessions now notified.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 4th December, 1869.

No. 142.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Tenders to be received at this Office until Noon of the 21st instant, for the privilege of Farming all Granite Quarries in Hongkong and Kowloon, during the Year 1870.

Persons desirous of tendering are directed to call at the Surveyor General's Office to obtain a proper Form of Tender.

The Government does not bind itself to accept any of the Tenders received.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 4th December, 1869.

No. 143.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Hydrographic Notice is published for the information of Mariners, and others whom it may concern.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 4th December, 1869.

The substance of this Notice, as soon as it is received on board, is to be inserted in red ink on the Charts affected by it; and introduced into the margin, or otherwise in the page, of the Sailing Directions to which it relates. See Instructions, Navigation and Pilotage, p. 172.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

[No. 72.]

EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO—BONNEO—SOUTH COAST.

Bank near Southern Entrance to Pulo Laut Strait.

The Netherlands Government has given Notice, that the steam vessel *Betsy* struck on a sand bank near the southern entrance to Pulo Laut Strait.

This bank has 23 fathoms water on it, and lies with Cape Pagan N.E. by E., and Cape Kandy Aver W. ½ S. Position, as given, lat. 3° 47' 45" S., long. 115° 42' 9" East from Greenwich.

JAVA SEA.

Revolving Light on North Watcher.

Also, that since the 9th day of June 1869, the light of the North Watcher has been exhibited. The light is a *revolving* white light, attaining its greatest brilliancy *every minute*, and, in clear weather, should be seen from a distance of 22 miles.

BANKA STRAIT.

Proposed Light-Vessel, South entrance of Lucipara Channel.

Also, that it is the intention of the Government to place a light-vessel near the spot at present indicated by a buoy, which marks the outer edge of the shoals by the Lucipara channel.

RHIO STRAIT.

Removal of Beacons on the Pan Reef.

Also, that the beacons on the east and south sides of the Pan Reef, Rhio Strait, have been removed.

By Command of their Lordships,

GEO. HENRY RICHARDS,
Hydrographer.

HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE, ADMIRALTY, LONDON, 21st September, 1869.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Eastern Archipelago, Nos. 941 *a, b*; Sunda Strait, &c., No. 2,056; Gaspar and Banka Strait, No. 2,149; Banka Strait, south entrance, No. 2,308; Banka Strait, No. 2,597; Banka Strait to Singapore, No. 2,757; Singapore Strait, No. 2,403; and, Rhio Strait, No. 2,419.

No. 140.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified that, in accordance with Section 12 of "The Police and Lighting Rate Ordinance, 1863," His Excellency the Governor, by and with the Advice of the Executive Council, has fixed the Police Rate for the Year 1870, at $7\frac{3}{4}$ per cent for Houses in the City of Victoria; and, in accordance with Section 18 of the same Ordinance, at Five per cent for Houses in the Villages of this Island.

His Excellency has also, by and with the Advice of the Executive Council, and in accordance with the Provisions of Ordinance No. 4 of 1868, fixed the Fire Brigade Rate at $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent for Houses in the City of Victoria.

The above Rates, as regards Houses in Victoria, will be levied exclusive of a Lighting Rate of One-and-a-half per cent under Section 12 of the first named Ordinance, and a Water Rate of Two per cent per annum under the Provisions of Ordinance No. 12 of 1860.

The Police, Lighting, Fire Brigade, and Water Rates will, under Terms of the Ordinances, be payable Quarterly in advance at the Colonial Treasury, between the first and last Days of the first Month in each Quarter.

These several Rates shall be charged and chargeable on and recoverable from the Owners of the Tenements in respect of which the above Assessments have been made.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 27th November, 1869.

No. 139.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Decision of the Marine Court of Inquiry into the Loss of the British Barque *Glenclune* on the Coast of Formosa, is published for general information.

By Command

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 27th November, 1869.

FINDING.

The Court having considered the evidence adduced, conclude:

First. That the British Barque *Glenclune*, Official number 17,200 of Glasgow, foundered at sea on the 9th instant, in about Latitude 21.43 North, and Longitude 118.48 East, owing to the severe gales encountered by her between the 25th October and that date.

Second. That no blame whatever can be attached to either the Master, Officers or Crew of the *Glenclune*; and the Court therefore returns the Master's Certificate of Competency.

The Court cannot separate without expressing their sense of the readiness of the Master of the North-German Barque *Hongkong*, J. Clüver, to relieve his fellow-seamen in distress. The Court also desire to bring to the notice of the Government the small sum (Thirty-five Dollars) commanded by Lee Chai, Master of the Hongkong Licensed Junk No. 124, for conveying the Officers and Crew from the North-German Barque to Victoria, a distance of 75 miles.