

THE

Hongkong



Government

GAZETTE.

NEW SERIES.

VICTORIA, SATURDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1858.

VOL. IV. No. 173.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The Contract for publishing this *Gazette*, entered into on the 24th September, 1853, was terminated on the 30th ultimo; and notice is hereby given, that a New Series of this *Gazette* will be published hereafter, to commence from the 7th instant, under a New Contract, and that

“THE HONGKONG GOVERNMENT GAZETTE”

will, as before, be the only Official Organ for PROCLAMATIONS, NOTIFICATIONS, and PUBLIC PAPERS, of this Government.

By Order,

W. T. MERCER, *Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 2d July, 1855.

No. 80.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

With reference to Government Notification No. 77, of the 28th ultimo, it is hereby made known, that at a Meeting of the Executive Council held this day, The Honourable FREDERICK FORTH, Esquire, Colonial Treasurer, was sworn in as Acting Colonial Secretary, (pending reference to Her Majesty,) during the absence of The Honourable W. T. MERCER, Esquire, Colonial Secretary.

By Order,

FRED. FORTH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 6th September, 1858.

No. 81.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Return of Notes in Circulation and Specie Reserve at the Bank of the Oriental Bank Corporation in Hongkong, is published for general information.

By Order,

FRED. FORTH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 9th September, 1858.

Account of the average Amount of Notes in Circulation at the Bank of the Oriental Bank Corporation in Hongkong, for the Month ending 31st August, 1858, rendered in accordance with the Terms of Her Majesty's Royal Charter of Incorporation.

NOTES ISSUED,	\$472,788.
SPECIE IN RESERVE,	\$200,000.

P. CAMPBELL,
Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation, Hongkong, 1st September, 1858.

I inspected this day the Banks and Treasure Vault of the Oriental Bank Corporation, and hereby certify, that the Amount of Specie shown is in accordance with the Terms of the Royal Charter.

HENRY C. LEWIS,
For the Colonial Treasurer.

J. A. CARVALHO,
Accountant.

Victoria, Hongkong, 9th September, 1858.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Tenders will be received at the Surveyor General's Office, on or before Monday the 20th September instant, for the following Services,—

CONTRACT No. 1:

For the Construction of a Double Landing Pier at Pedder's Wharf.

CONTRACT No. 2:

For the erection of a Boat House and Harbour Master's Residence on the said Double Landing Pier at Pedder's Wharf.

CONTRACT No. 3:

For the Construction of that portion of the Bowring Praya extending from the East side of Pedder's Wharf to join the Praya opposite Lot No. 101, and for filling the area between the Praya and the Sea Walls opposite Lots. 2, 2a, 3, and 5; also for the Construction of one Landing Pier and the taking down and re-construction of two others in that Locality.

PLANS and SPECIFICATIONS may be seen on application at this Office between the hours of 11 and 3 P.M.

CHAS. ST GEO. CLEVERLY,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office, 7th September, 1858.

大英香港量地官示 爲

招人承接事限以英本年九月二十日即戊午年八月十四日止截是日以前其願承接者赴本署領辦茲將所招三事列後

- 一 在必達馬頭海旁添設兩小馬頭分左右建造
 - 二 在必達馬頭建立船屋一間船政廳住宅一所
 - 三 於必達馬頭添造包齡樸拉押堤路自該馬頭起東至第一百零一號地段止其中第二號及二^a號三號五號均向有缺口之處須各以土填平復於堤路之外建一馬頭又將向有之舊馬頭兩處拆毀改造
- 以上三事招人承造倘有不明詳細意欲觀看地圖則於每日自上午十一點鐘起至下午三點鐘止赴本署視閱可也特示

一千八百五十八年九月初七日
戊午年八月初一

日 示

No. 39.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency SIR JOHN BOWRING, Knight, LL.D., Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, &c., &c., has directed the publication, for general information, of the following Copy of a Despatch from His Excellency Rear-Admiral SIR MICHAEL SEYMOUR, K.C.B., &c., &c., enclosing a Report from Lieutenant WILDMAN, Commanding Her Majesty's Gun-boat *Staunch*, of an action fought with three Piratical Junks off the Island of Taou-pung.

By Order,

G. W. CAINE.

Superintendency of Trade, Victoria, Hongkong, 6th September, 1858.

No. 15.

Calcutta, AT HONGKONG, 28th August, 1858.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward to Your Excellency a copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Wildman of the *Staunch* Gun-boat, dated the 4th instant, describing a very gallant action he fought with a superior piratical force, in which two Vessels were captured and destroyed.—I have, &c.,

(Signed,)

M. SEYMOUR,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

His Excellency SIR JOHN BOWRING, LL.D.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Hongkong.

H.M.'s GUN-BOAT *Staunch*, OFF PE-SHAN ISLAND, 4th August, 1858.

SIR,—I have the honor to report for Your Excellency's information the particulars of an engagement which took place this morning off the Island Taou-Pung, about 50 miles to the north of the Port of Wanchow, between H. M. Gun-boat under my command and three Piratical Junks.

At 8 A.M., whilst at anchor off that Island, two San-pans came alongside, with information that some Piratical Junks had attacked and plundered a village, and were then rounding a neighbouring point.

I immediately weighed, cleared for action, and stood (under steam) towards four Junks which had just then cleared the Point,—one flying an English Ensign, a second a Portuguese, the other two Chinese Flags. When we had closed within 200 yards, the three largest Junks opened a smart and effective fire on us, doing much damage aloft; and to prevent injuring my Boats, as I determined to take them by boarding, I deemed it prudent to lower and tow them astern. I then returned their fire with the *Staunch's* two Howitzers—still closing with them; but as our Gun had been sent on board H. M. S. *Fury* by Your Excellency's orders, to ease the Gun-boat coming down the China Sea during the typhoon season, our fire was comparatively feeble.

I went ahead at full speed on to the largest Junk, giving orders to lash her alongside us; but the instant we touched, such a shower of stink-pots and other combustible matter was thrown on board us, it was impossible for any person to remain forward, or to see through the dense smoke they occasioned.

It was at this moment, I deeply regret to state, that Edward George, A.B., who was actually engaged in lashing the Junk alongside, having gallantly jumped on board her for that purpose, was cut to pieces, and his remains thrown overboard. The strong breeze favoring the Junk, and a heavy swell making it difficult to lash her, she sheered off; and the Chinese having in the meantime cut our boats adrift, and being close to the rocks, I backed astern, and having picked them up, I remounted the Howitzers, which had been dismounted from the rapidity of my fire, and renewed the engagement, running alongside one and boarding, killing a great number of her crew, many of whom endeavoured to escape by jumping overboard, but only a small number reached the shore.

Leaving this vessel in charge of Mr Morice, the second Master, and a party of men, I gave chase to a second in my Gig; and having come up with her, I boarded and took possession, making prisoners of the only two living men on board, many having been killed, and a few escaping by jumping overboard. The third Junk in the meanwhile having got some distance away, and not having more than 5 effective men left after the engagement, I deemed it prudent not to follow her amongst the numerous rocks and intricate passage she had taken; and being unable to spare any officers or men for the captured Junks, I gave directions for them to be burnt, which was done.

I should observe, that during the time Mr Morice and the men whom I had left with him to burn the first Junk were performing this duty, a number of San-pans pulled alongside and endeavored to recapture her, firing her long Gun below where our people were lighting a fire. Fortunately it did no harm to them, but caused an explosion which killed from 20 to 30 of the Chinese.

The fourth Vessel having been a capture made by the Pirates, I released, having previously obtained a written statement to that effect.