

THE

Hongkong



Government

GAZETTE.

NEW SERIES.

VICTORIA, SATURDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY, 1859.

VOL. IV. No. 196.

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. 16.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Hydrographic Notice of Dangers in the Navigation of the Eastern Archipelago, is published for the information of Mariners and others whom it may concern.

By Order,

W. T. MERCER, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 14th February, 1859.

Hydrographic Notices.

[No. 5.]

INDIAN OCEAN.

EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

All bearings are Magnetic.

SUNDA STRAIT.

CAUTION.—Welcome Bay, lying immediately to the eastward of Second point, on the southern shore of Sunda Strait, appears to be full of dangers not surveyed, and should be entered with extreme caution. A Shoal, with 12 feet on it, and 6 fathoms close to, extends between Second point and Tambing point to the distance of half a mile off shore.*

COVENTRY SHOALS.—This shoal was discovered by the ship *Caroline Coventry*, when steering to the Eastward of West Island for the Northern entrance of Sunda Strait. It is described as being partly above water, and the Breakers on it to be a quarter of a mile in extent. Its position is in about lat. 5° 30' S., long. 106° 25' E., and it was in line with West Island when bearing N.N.E. ¼ E. †

GASPAR STRAIT.

ALWINA ROCK §.—The ship *Alwina* passed close to a rock lying N.N.W. 1¼ miles from the North-westernmost of the eleven islands, off the N.W. Hook of Billiton Island. It appeared to be a detached danger, with a depth of 6 to 9 feet on it, and to have deep water all around. Its position is in about lat. 2° 27½' S., long. 107° 42' E. ||

MOLUCCA PASSAGE.

BAHIA REEF.—The ship *Bahia*, when proceeding to the southward through the Molucca passage, struck, and dragged heavily over a Coral Reef lying in about lat. 1° 10' S., long. 126° 50' E.

AUSTRALIA, NORTH-EAST COAST.

THE KENN REEF.—On which the English ship *Rodney*, and Dutch barque *Olivier Van Noord*, were wrecked, 7th June, 1858, when bound from Melbourne to India through Torres Strait, was discovered in 1824, and stated to consist of rocks and sand banks, partly above water, extending S.E. and N.W. about 9 miles, and apparently 6 or 7 miles across, with the middle of its eastern edge in lat. 21° 9' S. long. 155° 49' E. ¶

From the report of these vessels, the position of this reef (supposing it to be Kenn Reef, which does not seem clear,) appears to be about as given on the Admiralty chart, but its extent 20 miles in a S.W. and N.E. direction. Mariners, therefore, are warned to be very careful when approaching this neighbourhood, until it has been correctly examined; more particularly as Mr McKenzie, who passed close to the supposed position of Kenn Reef in the *Gambia* in 1851, states that it could not be seen, although the vessel's course was shaped for it after his observations. Probably the safest route (if intending to pass to the Eastward of Kenn Reef,) would be to keep on the Meridian of 157° E. until well to the Northward of its parallel.

Hydrographic Office, Admiralty, London, 7th December, 1858.

* Remarks by Captain C. Fellowes, H.M.S. *Cruizer*, 1857. See Admiralty Chart of Sunda Strait, No. 2,056; scale, $m=0.3$ of an inch.

† From Mercantile Marine Magazine, November 1858.

‡ See Admiralty Chart of Java Island, No. 2,054; scale, $d=3.3$ inches, on which this danger is marked.

§ From Mercantile Marine Magazine, November 1858.

|| See Admiralty Chart of Gaspar Strait, No. 2,137; scale, $d=19½$ inches, on which this danger is marked.

¶ See Admiralty Chart, N.E. Coast of Australia, and its Barrier reefs, Torres Strait, and S.E. Coast of New Guinea, No. 2,385; scale, $d=1$ inch.