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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Order of Her Majesty in Council, for the purpose of allowing the Distilling Apparatus of Mr. GRAVELEY, as well as that of Dr. NORMANDY, to be used on board Passenger Ships, is published for general information, by direction of His Grace the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

By Order,

W. H. ALEXANDER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 26th March, 1863.

AT THE COURT AT OSBORNE HOUSE, ISLE OF WIGHT,
THE 9TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1863.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas by "the Passengers Act, 1855," it is amongst other things enacted, that before any passenger ship shall be cleared out, the emigration officer at the port of clearance shall satisfy himself that there is on board a sufficient quantity of pure water, carried in tanks or casks, to secure throughout the intended voyage the issue of three quarts daily to each statute adult, for the use of the passengers, exclusive of the quantity required for cooking.

And whereas it is also enacted, that it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by any Order in Council, to prescribe such rules and regulations as to Her Majesty may seem fit, for permitting the use on board passenger ships of an apparatus for distilling water, and for defining, in such case, the quantity of fresh water to be carried in tanks or casks for the passengers, and such Order in Council from time to time to alter, amend, and revoke, as occasion may require.

And whereas Her Majesty, by Orders in Council, dated, respectively, the sixth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, and the thirteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, prescribed certain rules for permitting the use on board passenger ships propelled by steam engines of a certain power, and on board passenger ships propelled by sails, of a certain apparatus for distilling fresh water from salt water.

And whereas it is expedient to repeal the said Order in Council that relates to passenger ships propelled by sails, and to issue in lieu thereof the Order hereinafter contained.

Now, therefore, Her Majesty doth, by, and with the advice of Her Privy Council, and in pursuance and in exercise of the authority vested in Her by the said "Passengers Act, 1855," hereby repeal the said Order in Council of the thirteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, and order as follows:—

Any passenger ship propelled by sails only, or by steam engines of less power than is sufficient, without the aid of sails, to propel the ship at the rate of five statute miles an hour may be cleared out and proceed on her voyage, having on board, in tanks or casks, only half the quantity of pure water required by the said Act to be carried for the use of the passengers, provided the following conditions be observed; that is to say:

1. That there be on board such ship an efficient apparatus for distilling fresh water from salt water, of the description commonly known either as Normandy's Patent or Winchester and Graveley's Patent.

2. That the owners, charterers, or master of such ship, before clearance, lodge with such emigration officer a certificate from the engineer or surveyor of the Board of Trade, or from some other competent person to be named by such emigration officer, declaring that within seven days immediately preceding the date of such certificate, the apparatus has been examined by him and is then in good working condition, and stating the number of imperial gallons of pure fresh water which it is capable of producing in every twenty-four hours, and further, declaring that the apparatus on board is either Normandy's or Winchester and Graveley's Patent, as the case may be.

3. That in every case such emigration officer shall be satisfied that the number of gallons of pure water which the apparatus is so certified to be capable of producing, is not less than the whole number of persons about to proceed on the intended voyage of such ship,—that is to say, the whole number of cabin-passengers, passengers, and crew.

4. That there is rated on the ship's articles, and that there is on board the ship, some person or persons who, to the satisfaction of the said emigration officer, shall be competent for the proper management and repair of such distilling apparatus.

And, to prevent all doubts on the construction of this Order in Council, it is hereby further ordered, that the terms "passenger ship," "emigration officer," "statute adult," and "master," shall herein have the same significations as are assigned to them respectively in the said "Passengers Act, 1855."

And the most Noble the Duke of Newcastle, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, is to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

EDMUND HARRISON.