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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Circular Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, covering Copy of Her Majesty's Warrant for extending the Victoria Cross to the Local Forces in New Zealand and in the Colonies and their Dependencies generally, is published for general information.

By Order,

W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 9th April, 1867.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET, 9th February, 1867.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in transmitting to you a copy of a Warrant, issued under the Royal Sign Manual, under which the decoration of the Victoria Cross may be conferred on persons serving in the Local Forces, which are or may hereafter be raised in any of Her Majesty's Colonies.

I have to instruct you to take whatever steps may appear to you most likely to give publicity to this Warrant.—I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient, humble Servant,

CARNARVON.

Governor SIR R. G. MACDONNELL, C. B.,
&c., &c., &c.

VICTORIA R.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith. To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas, by a Warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual, countersigned by one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, and bearing date at Our Court at Buckingham Palace, the 29th day of January, 1856, in the nineteenth year of Our Reign, We did constitute and create a new Naval and Military Decoration, to be styled and designated the Victoria Cross, which Decoration We expressed Our desire should be highly prized and eagerly sought after by the Officers and Men of Our Naval and Military Services, and did also make, ordain, and establish the Rules and Ordinances therein set forth for the government of the same, to be thenceforth inviolably observed and kept:

And whereas during the progress of the operations which We have undertaken against the Insurgent Native Tribes in Our Colony of New Zealand, it has happened that persons serving in the Local Forces of Our said Colony have performed deeds of gallantry, in consideration of which they are not, according to the strict provisions of Our said recited Warrant, eligible for this high distinction:

Now know ye, that We of Our especial Grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have thought fit hereby to signify Our Royal Will and Pleasure that the said Decoration may be conferred on such persons aforesaid, who may be qualified to receive the same in accordance with the Rules and Ordinances made, ordained, and established by Us for the government thereof, by Our said recited Warrant, and We do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, ordain and appoint that it shall be competent for such persons aforesaid to obtain the said Decoration in the manner set forth in the Rules and Ordinances referred to, or in accordance with such further Rules and Ordinances as may hereafter be made and promulgated by Us, Our Heirs and Successors, for the government of the said Decoration, provided that it be established in any case that the person was serving with Our Troops, under the Orders of a General or other Officer, under circumstances which would entitle an Officer or Soldier of Our Army to be recommended for the said Decoration, in accordance with the Rules and Ordinances prescribed in Our said recited Warrant, and provided also such person shall be recommended for it by such General or other Officer:

And We do further for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, ordain and appoint that the said Decoration may also be conferred, in accordance with the Rules and Ordinances prescribed in Our said recited Warrant, and subject to the provisions aforesaid, on such persons who may be qualified to receive the same in accordance with the said Rules and Ordinances, as may hereafter be employed in the Local Forces raised, or which may be raised in Our Colonies and their Dependencies, who may be called upon to serve in co-operation with Our Troops in military operations which it may be necessary to undertake for the suppression of Rebellion against Our Authority, or for repelling invasion by a foreign enemy.

Given at Our Court, at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, this first day of January 1867, in the thirtieth year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,

(Signed) J. PEEL.

No. 60.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified, that The QUEEN has approved of the appointment of DON THOMAS ORTUÑO to be Spanish Consul at Hongkong, and that Her Majesty's Exequatur empowering him to act in that capacity has received Her Majesty's Signature.

By Order,

W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 9th April, 1867.

No. 61.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified that The QUEEN has approved of the appointment of G. J. HELLAND, Esquire, as Swedish Consul at Hongkong, and that Her Majesty's Exequatur empowering him to act in that capacity has received Her Majesty's Signature.

By Order,

W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 9th April, 1867.

No. 62.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

At the request of the Government of Natal, the following amended Notice to Mariners, respecting the light at the entrance to Port Natal, is published for general information.

By Order,

W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 9th April, 1867.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE No. 1, 1867.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government directs the publication, for general information, of the following amended Notice of the Erection of a Lighthouse on the Bluff, at the south side of the entrance of Port Natal, in correction of the notification given in Government Notice No. 122, 1866.

By His Excellency's Command,

D. ERSKINE,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Office, Natal, January 4th, 1867.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

A Lighthouse has been erected on the Bluff, at the south side of the entrance of Port Natal, at an elevation of 292 feet above high water, a light from which will be exhibited on the 23rd January, 1867.

The Lighthouse is in Latitude 29° 52' 50" S., and Longitude 31° 3' 35" E.

The building is an iron tower, in the form of a frustrum of a cone, 81 feet high, painted white; centre of light being 70 feet above the base, exhibiting a revolving white light of the second class (dioptric), attaining its greatest brilliancy once every minute.

It is visible in all directions from North (round by East and South), to S. 59° W.; and can be seen from a ship's deck 24 miles in clear weather.