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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

At the request of Captain Ross, R.N., Senior Naval Officer at Hongkong, the following Hydrographic Notice from Her Majesty's Surveying Vessel *Sylvia*, respecting the East Coast of Formosa, is published for the information of Mariners and others whom it may concern.

By Order,

CECIL C. SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 13th August, 1867.

LIST of POSITIONS of ISLANDS, &c., on the EAST COAST of FORMOSA, ascertained by H. M. Surveying Vessel "*Sylvia*,"
Commander E. W. BROOKER, June and July, 1867.

PLACES.	PARTICULAR SPOT.	LATITUDE.	LONGITUDE.	REMARKS.
South Cape, Formosa	South East Point	21° 53' 51" N.	120° 51' 53" 22" E.	{ Wellington Battery, H'kong being in Long. 114° 9' 14" E. Do. Do. Do. Do. Do. Do.
Botel Tatago.....	Under Natural Arch	22° 05' 21" N.	121° 31' 04" 49" E.	
Vele Rete Rocks.....	Highest Part	21° 45' 08" N.	120° 49' 37" E.	
Gadd Rock	Hidden danger 10 ft. water on it	21° 42' 16" N.	121° 38' 47" E.	
Samasana.....	Middle of North Bay on W. side	22° 39' 26" N.	121° 28' 48" 26" E.	
Black Rock Bay....	Green mound at E. end of Island	23° 06' 31" N.	121° 26' 13" 43" E.	
So-Ho or Sau-o Bay.	Near South end of Sau-o beach	24° 35' 28" N.	121° 53' 01" 54" E.	

ED. W. BROOKER,
Commander.

EAST COAST OF FORMOSA.

A Survey of So-ho Bay by H. M. Surveying vessel *Sylvia*, has been made, and proves that the sheltering capabilities of that Bay are much more limited than the sailing directions given by the China Pilot, Vol. 2.

The passage between the Breakwater Reef and the rugged point is full of rocks, having only 4 and 6 feet water on them, whilst the Bay called Lam-hong-ho is altogether shallow, having only one and two fathoms water in it.

Vessels when seeking shelter in this Bay, from the *Southward* can boldly approach the South Cape as the water is steep to the point, but from the *Northward* a good berth must be given to the North Cape and the outlying Rocks, as foul ground extends for fully a mile around the Cape.

Breakwater Reef lying in the centre of the Bay will afford shelter under it from easterly winds to any vessel found with good ground tackling, but in rounding its north end a distance of 2 cables must be given as a Rock with 2 fathoms water on it, lies N.W. of the highest Rock on the reef, distance 1½ cable, the clearing for which, is the Easternmost of the So-ho Rocks, in line with a conspicuous rocky islet off the North Cape when vessels can haul up for the reef and anchor in 5 or 6 fathoms with the high Rock bearing E.S.E. 2½ cables.

Vessels must not pass towards Lam-hong-ho Bay (the South corner of So-ho Bay) beyond the line of bearing which the conspicuous rocky islet off the North Cape, makes with the highest Rock of the Breakwater Reef, but should keep it open to the Northward.

ED. W. BROOKER,
Commander and Surveyor.

H. M. Surveying Vessel *Sylvia*, Amoy, 7th August, 1867.