

There is no doubt but that this fire was accidental, and the houses being very old and containing a great amount of readily inflammable wood-work, burned with rapidity; and it was only the promptitude and energy of the several Fire Brigades that prevented a serious conflagration.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. MAY,

Superintendent, Fire Brigade.

The Honorable J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
*Colonial Secretary,
Hongkong.*

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified, that the Honorable SIR JOHN SMALE, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and Judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court of Hongkong, has, with the approval of His Excellency the Governor, appointed FRANCIS SNOWDEN, Esquire, Puisne Judge, to be a Deputy Judge of the said Vice-Admiralty Court.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 13th October, 1874.

No. 159.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Tenders will be received at this Office, until Noon of the 26th instant, for cleansing the Public Dust Bins and removing the Night Soil from Public Latrines and Colonial Public Buildings in Victoria, for Twelve Months, commencing on the 1st of November, 1874.

The Contractor will be bound by the Rules and Regulations made by the Governor in Council, on the 2nd of October, 1874, and by such other Rules and Regulations as may be passed during the period over which the Contract extends, and by the Conditions of the Contract, which can be seen at the Surveyor General's Office.

The Tenders should specify the Names and Residences of the proposed Sureties.

Further particulars regarding the number and position of the Latrines, Dust Bins, &c., can be obtained from the Surveyor General's Office.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 14th October, 1874.

No. 160.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The subjoined Post Office Notice is published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 14th October, 1874.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

As some misapprehension exists regarding the transmission of Packets of Patterns and Samples through the Post, it is hereby notified for general information, that the privilege of sending such articles through the Post at the rates of postage applicable to them is restricted to *bonâ fide Trade Patterns or Samples of Merchandize*. Goods sent for sale, or in execution of an order (however small the quantity may be), or any articles sent by *one private individual to another* which are not actually patterns or samples, are not admissible.

F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General.

General Post Office, Hongkong, 13th October, 1874.

No. 161.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Reports of Damages and Loss of Life caused by the Typhoon of the 22nd—23rd of September, are published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 14th October, 1874.