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No. 179.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency SIR ARTHUR EDWARD KENNEDY, K.C.M.G., C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, having returned to the Colony, the acting appointments held during His Excellency's absence under Notifications Nos. 163 and 164 of 15th October last, have ceased.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 6th November, 1874.

No. 176.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Report of the Marine Court of Inquiry into the loss of the British Steamer *White Cloud*, Official Number 50,651, is published for general information.

By Command,

CECIL C. SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 5th November, 1874.

FINDING.

- 1.—We find that the British Steamer *White Cloud*, Official Number 50,651, broke adrift from a Wharf in the inner Harbor of Macao during a Typhoon which passed over that place on the morning of the 23rd ultimo; and was capsized on a bank nearly a mile to the North of the Wharf where she had been lying.
- 2.—We find that, although at 6 p.m. of the 22nd ultimo, there was reasonable indication that severe weather was to be expected; the *White Cloud* was kept alongside the Wharf, to which she had been lashed, without steam being up or the fires laid ready for getting steam.
- 3.—We find that no attempt was made to place the *White Cloud* in a position of greater safety than the Wharf offered; and although there were two Chinese Pilots on board, they were not consulted as to the propriety of moving the vessel to a safe anchorage.
- 4.—We find from the evidence of the Master of the British Steamer *Poyang*, a vessel lying close to where the *White Cloud* was moored, that he hauled his vessel from her Wharf into the Stream at 6 p.m.; and that the *Poyang*, with steam up, safely rode out the Storm.
- 5.—We are of opinion that the Master and First Mate of the *White Cloud* displayed gross ignorance and neglect in the management of the vessel entrusted to their care; and, although these Officers hold Certificates of Competency they, in this emergency, shewed themselves unfit to fill the posts which they respectively occupied.

On due consideration of the circumstances under which the *White Cloud* was stranded, we direct that the Certificate of Competency of DAVID REID the Master be suspended for a period of *Eighteen Months*; and that the Certificate of Competency of FRANCIS EDWIN ELLIS the First Mate be suspended for a period of *Six Months*, such suspension to date from this date.

Given under our hands this 31st day of October, 1874.

C. MAY, *First Police Magistrate.*
 H. G. THOMSETT, { *Navigating Lieutenant, R.N.,*
 { *and Harbor Master.*
 C. MORLAND KERR, *Un-Official Justice of the Peace.*
 R. H. CAIRNS, *Government Marine Surveyor.*
 SAMUEL ASHTON, *Master, Mercantile Marine.*

Confirmed, but nevertheless I think it right to put on record my opinion,—which is that inasmuch as both men have given proof of their ignorance and incompetency, they should have been deprived of their Certificates.

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Administrator.

No. 177.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Tenders will be received at the Colonial Secretary's Office, until Noon on Monday, the 16th November, 1874, for the making up and supply of the following Winter Clothing for the Gaol Staff, viz. :—

2 Fine Blue Cloth Suits for Warden and Head Turnkey.
 29 Blue Cloth Suits for Turnkeys and Guards.

Samples of Cloth and Uniform can be seen, and any further information obtained at the Gaol Office.

No Tender will be received unless the Person tendering shall produce a receipt to the effect that he has deposited in the Colonial Treasury the sum of \$100 as a pledge of the *bona fides* of his offer, which sum shall be forfeited to the Crown if such Person shall refuse to carry out his Tender.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest, or any Tender.

By Command,

CECIL C. SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 5th November, 1874.

No. 178.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Notice to Mariners is published for general information.

By Command,

CECIL C. SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 5th November, 1874.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.—No. 4.

Entrance to the Hwangpoo.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Nun Buoy formerly placed on the Paoshan Spit near Woosung has been lost by accident, and that it has been replaced by a new Conical Buoy, six feet in diameter, painted in red and black stripes, moored in 3½ fathoms of water.

This Buoy will be surmounted with a spherical cage.

GEO. B. GLOVER,
Commissioner of Customs.

CUSTOM HOUSE, SHANGHAI, 29th October, 1874.