

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

MIDDLE CHANNEL, ENTRANCE TO MORETON BAY.

The small knoll reported as having formed in the Middle Channel, having been washed away, there is now not less than 16 feet at low water with the leading lights in line.

Vessels entering must be careful not to go to the northward of the line of lights until approaching the Venus Bank, when the lights must be opened to the northward, a distance equal to half the difference between their heights, and the spit rounded as previously directed.

G. P. HEATH, Commander R.N.,
Portmaster.

Department of Ports and Harbours, Brisbane, 4th April, 1879.

Government of Cape Colony.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.—No. 197, 1879.

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Cape of Good Hope,
20th February, 1879.*

The subjoined Notice received from the Secretary to Commodore Sullivan, H.M.S. *Active*, is hereby published for the information of Mariners.

J. GORDON SPRIGG, Colonial Secretary.

HYDROGRAPHICAL NOTE.—CAPE OF GOOD HOPE AND WEST COAST OF AFRICA STATION.

H.M.S. *Active*, 3rd January, 1879, No. 2.

Place and Subject of Correction.	Position : Giving Latitude and Longitude with Angles or Bearings and Distances.	Correction is required to				REMARKS.
		Admiralty Charts, Nos.	Sailing Directions (title & page).	Light List (title & page).	Tide Tables (page).	
Africa: South Coast—West of Durnford Point.	Lat. 28° 59' S. Long. 31° 53' 5" E.	2089 Africa, South Coast, Sheet VIII.	African Pilot for South and East Coasts, p. 88.	To embrace all details regarding the Correction, the Authority, whether by personal examination, from reliable information, &c. A dangerous reef of corraline rock, extending apparently 3 miles from shore, has been discovered to the westward of Durnford Point. Its south-western edge, which is steep to, lies W $\frac{3}{4}$ S, 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles from the point. The least water obtained in this part at LWnps: was 12 feet, but the bottom appears uneven over the reef. As there are no marks on the ashore by which the position may be fixed, and as it does not show except in heavy weather by breakers, vessels should not approach the coast in the vicinity nearer than four miles, nor bring Point Durnford to bear to the eastward of E.N.E., nor stand into less than ten fathoms. An occasional current has been found setting to the eastward three or four miles from the shore.

Approved,
F. W. SULLIVAN, Commodore.

C. R. H. ROBERTSON, Navigating Officer.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

Letters for the United States by Sailing Ship.

When it is desired to forward letters to the United States by a sailing ship which is not notified as carrying a mail, it is only necessary to post the letters in the ordinary way, marked with the name of the ship, and prepaid 8 cents per half ounce as usual.

This Office then undertakes the duty of obtaining notice of departure and despatching the correspondence.

It is requested that the letters be posted if possible at least one day before the date fixed for sailing.

ALFRED LISTER,
Postmaster General.

General Post Office, Hongkong, 27th May, 1879.