

The "Lammocks Rocks" are marked by a white light, showing at a distance of 22 miles. There is also a red light on the Lammocks, visible from the Sea between N. $34\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E. and N. $50\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E., covering the "White," and "Boat Rocks," and placed there expressly to keep ships off them. The night was fine as the Master was able to take a bearing of the Pole Star to check his deviation, yet the Cape of Good Hope light was not seen at all, and the Lammocks white light (a 22-mile light) was only seen at 7.20 P.M., when the ship was only about 16 miles from it. The Cape of Good Hope and Lammocks white lights overlap each other for a distance of over 8 miles, and cross bearings of the two, assisted by an observation of the Pole Star for Latitude, would have shewn the ship's position very nearly.

As regards the red light, the chart, by which the Master says he navigated the ship, has the lines of light defined, and the words "arc of visibility of the red light" marked on it, this arc is placed about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the South-Westward of the "Boat Rocks." The Master of the *Benledi* heard the red light reported when talking to the Chief Engineer. He went on the bridge, took a bearing of the light, told the Second Mate (Officer of the watch) not to come Eastward of his course, went to the Chart-room door (aft), speaking to the Chief Mate on the way, did not go into the Chart-room, but was about to return to the bridge, with, as he states, the intention of changing his course, when the ship, going 11 knots an hour, struck the "Boat Rocks" and became a wreck.

The red light is purposely and properly described on the Admiralty Charts, confining it to a narrow compass, to caution Navigators seeing it that they are in immediate danger, and any one accidentally bringing it in sight, and imagining himself farther from it than so described, in my opinion, assumes an unreasonable and dangerous responsibility.

The Master of the *Benledi*, when the red light was reported, instead of at once altering his ship's course to lose sight of that light, lost very valuable time, and with it his ship.

Fortunately in this case, the weather was fine, and there was no difficulty in rescuing the Passengers and Crew.

H. G. THOMSETT, R.N.,
*Stipendiary Magistrate and President
of the Court.*

30th June, 1887.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 287.

The following Notice is published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 9th July, 1887.

PARCEL POST.

The limit of weight for Parcels despatched by German Packet has been extended to 11 lb., and the rates to most countries of Europe by this route have been slightly lowered.

Parcel Post has been extended to Ceylon, British Honduras, Italy and Luxemburg. The rate charged on Parcels for Canada has been lowered.

All the above alterations, with other information, are embodied in the following Table, copies of which may be obtained at the Post Office.

Senders are requested to make their Declarations of Contents complete and accurate. Everything in the Parcel should be entered. Two Parcels have lately been confiscated in London; one for containing cigars falsely described as curios; the other for containing books copyright in the United Kingdom.

A. LISTER,
Postmaster General.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
HONGKONG, July 1st, 1887.

PARCEL POST.

N.B.—A Receipt will be given for each Parcel.

TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND BRITISH COLONIES, &c.

To	LIMIT OF WEIGHT.	POSTAGE PER LB.	LIMIT OF SIZE.	PROHIBITED CONTENTS.
	<i>lb.</i>	<i>cents.</i>		
Hongkong, China, Japan, Corea, Siam,.....	11	5	2 ft. by 1 ft., by 1 ft.	Opium.
Straits Settlements, Burmah, Ceylon, India, ‡	11	15	Do., and not smaller than 3 in. by 2 in., by 2 in.	Do.
Malta,..... (Direct),...	11	20	} 3 ft. 6 in. long, or 6 ft. in greatest length and girth combined.	.....
Gibraltar,..... do.,.....	11	20		Arms.
United Kingdom, <i>via Gibraltar only</i> ,..	11	25		Tobacco, except for personal use. Copyright Books.
Ascension,..... (via London),	11	50	Do.	Specie or ostrich feathers.
British Guiana,..... do.,.....	11	50	Do.	.....
British Honduras,..... do.,.....	11	50	Do.	.....
Cape Colony,..... do.,.....	7*	50	Do.	Letters.
Cyprus,..... do.,.....	11	55	Do.	Coins, Tobacco.
Egypt,..... do.,.....	11	50	Do.	Letters, Arms and Ammunition.
Newfoundland,..... do.,.....	11	70	Do.	.....
St. Helena,..... do.,.....	11	50	Do.	Books copyright in the United [Kingdom.
Windward and Leeward Is., † } do.,.....	11	50	Do.	.....
Barbados, Trinidad, }				
Canada,..... do.,.....	3	70	2 ft. by 1 ft., by 1 ft.	.....
Jamaica,..... do.,.....	11	50	2 ft. long, or 4 ft. in length and girth combined.	Letters.

* To Cape Town itself, 11lb.

† Antigua, Montserrat, S. Kitts, Nevis, Dominica, Virgin Is.; Grenada, S. Lucia, S. Vincent, Tobago.

‡ And *Indian Offices*, viz.; Aden, Bagdad, Bander Abbas, Busrah, Bushire, Guadur, Jask, Kashmir, Linga, Muscat, Zauzibar.

1.—To the UNITED KINGDOM AND PLACES BEYOND.—Parcels are forwarded by P. & O. packet only, and arrive in London about 8 days later than the Mail. They must be posted before 3 p.m. on the day before the Mail leaves. No further charge is made on delivery except for Customs Dues. A Declaration of Contents and Value is required with each Parcel. The form is supplied free.

Duties in the United Kingdom.

Cigars. 6 0 per lb.

Gold plate. 17 0 per oz. Troy = 15 9 per oz. avoird.

Silver plate. 1 6 per oz. Troy = 1 5 per oz. avoird.

Tea. 6d. per lb.

No duties are charged on Watches, Jewellery, Personal Ornaments, nor on any gold or silver articles not describable as *Plate*. *Plate*, however, includes such articles as Silver Match Boxes, Cigar Cases, Mounts for Sticks, Studs, Buttons, Buckles, and Belts or Necklets under certain conditions. Duties cannot be prepaid by the sender.

2.—To INDIA.—By P. & O. and Indian Mail packets only. A declaration of Contents and Value is required. The form is supplied free.

TO THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE.

	BRITISH PACKET <i>viâ London.</i>			GERMAN PACKET. <i>Direct.</i>	PROHIBITED CONTENTS.
	0 to 2 lb.	2 to 6 lb.	6 to 11 lb.	0 to 11 lb.	
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	
Austro-Hungary,	1.10	1.60	.....	1.20	Letters. Lottery Tickets.
Belgium,	1.00	1.50	2.00	1.20	Letters.
Constantinople,	1.00	2.20	3.80	.....	.....
Denmark,	1.10	1.60	.....	1.20	Letters. Lottery Tickets and Prospectuses.
France, .....	.....	.....	.....	1.20	.....
Germany,	1.00	1.50	.....	1.10	Letters. Plants with roots, vines or parts of vines, socialistic books.
Heligoland,	1.10	1.60	.....	.....	.....
Holland,	1.00	1.50	2.00	1.20	Letters.
Italy, §	1.40	1.80	.....	.....	Letters. Tobacco, vines or parts of vines, arms, chemical compounds, rags.
Luxemburg,	1.00	1.50	2.00	1.20	Letters.
Norway,	1.00	1.50	2.00	1.50	Letters.
Portugal, (Continental), .....	.....	.....	.....	1.50	Letters.
Spain, .....	.....	.....	.....	1.40	Letters.
Sweden,	1.00	1.70	.....	1.50	Letters. Manufactured Gold or Silver if alloyed. Drugs, except to specialists.
Switzerland,	1.10	1.60	.....	1.20	Letters.

§ Parcels for Italy must not exceed 2 ft. in length, or 4 ft. in length and girth combined.

1.—Parcels must not exceed 2 feet in length, breadth, or depth. Those intended for the German Packet must be so directed, and, for the present will be sent by sea throughout to Bremerhaven, and by this route only.

2.—Each Parcel must be sealed in such a way as to render it impossible that it should be opened without detection. The sender must supply a declaration of the nature, value, and net weight of the contents, and of the gross weight of the Parcel. The printed form for this declaration can be obtained at the Post Office. The package must not be of a fragile nature.

3.—A small charge, not exceeding six cents, may be made for Custom House purposes on the delivery of the Parcel. Except Customs dues, this is the only charge the addressee will have to pay.

4.—Parcels must be posted before 3 P.M. on the working day next before the departure of the Packet.

GENERAL RULES.—Parcels may be sealed, but any parcel, even though sealed, is liable to be opened for examination. Dangerous or perishable goods, opium, articles likely to injure the mails, liquids (unless securely packed) and fragile packages are prohibited. No parcel must exceed \$250 in value. A Parcel may contain a letter to the same address as that of the Parcel itself (except in cases where enclosure of letters is prohibited) or another Parcel to that address, but no other enclosure. *Declarations of Contents* must be complete and accurate. Everything in the Parcel should be entered. False declarations expose the Parcel to the risk of confiscation.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, HONGKONG, 1st July, 1887.