

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 84.

The following Finding of the Marine Court, held on the 20th instant, to enquire into the loss of the British Steam-ship *Ardgay*, Official No. 88,869, of Aberdeen, ALEXANDER COOK, Master, whose Certificate of Competency is 97,684, is published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 25th February, 1888.

FINDING.

We find that the British Steam-ship *Ardgay* of 1,077 tons, Official No. 88,869 of Aberdeen, of which ALEXANDER COOK, number of whose Certificate of Competency is 97,684, was Master, left Hongkong on the 13th December, 1887, with 150 tons of cargo bound to Bangkok.

That on the 15th December at 4.15 A.M., about 44 hours after leaving Hongkong, the vessel struck the ground a little to the North of Cape Batangan and could not be floated, and the vessel was finally abandoned, and the Crew, with the exception of the Chief Engineer and two Firemen, brought to Hongkong.

The Master was supplied with an Imray's General Chart of the China Sea, and a late "China Pilot."

We are of opinion that due regard was not paid to the Directions contained in the "China Pilot," and the Master was unable to produce any written evidence as to his having paid attention to the deviation of his Compasses.

On working up the courses steered we find the ship is placed in her proper latitude, but is 108 miles East of her position when on shore, and we are of opinion that this ship was lost through a want of care of navigation.

After due consideration of the circumstances, we direct that the Certificate of Competency of ALEXANDER COOK, No. 97,684, be suspended for a period of three months from this date.

Given under our hands at Hongkong this Twentieth day of February, 1888.

H. G. THOMSETT, R.N., *President of the Court.*
FRED. A. WARDEN, *Lieutenant, R.N.*
D'A. DE STE. CROIX, } *Masters in the Mercantile*
W. H. WATTON, } *Marine.*
J. METCALFE, }

Approved,

G. WILLIAM DES VŒUX.
Governor, &c.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 35.

The following Government Notification is re-published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 28th January, 1888.

No. 74.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Paper from the Medical Department of the Privy Council Office, on the subject of Re-vaccination, which has been transmitted to this Government by the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, is published for general information.

By Command,

CECIL C. SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 11th April, 1872.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE.

RE-VACCINATION.

By vaccination in infancy, if thoroughly well-performed and successful, most people are completely insured, for their whole life-time, against an attack of small-pox; and in the proportionately few cases where the protection is less complete, small-pox, if it be caught, will, in consequence of the vaccination, generally be so mild a disease as not to threaten death or disfigurement. If however the vaccination in early life has been but imperfectly performed, or has from any other cause been but imperfectly successful, the protection against small-pox is much less satisfactory; neither lasting so long, nor while it lasts being nearly so complete, as the protection which first-rate vaccination gives. Hitherto, unfortunately, there has always been a very large quantity of imperfect vaccination; and in consequence the population always contains very many persons who, though nominally vaccinated and believing themselves to be protected against small-pox, are really liable to infection, and may in some cases contract as severe forms of small-pox as if they had never been vaccinated. Partly because of the existence of this large number of imperfectly vaccinated persons, and partly because also even the best infantine vac-