GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.--No 466.

The following Circular Despatch, accompanying a copy of an Order of Her Majesty in Council, is published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 20th October, 1888.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET, 30th August, 1888.

Sir,—I have the honour to transmit to you, for publication in the Colony under your Government, a copy of an Order of Her Majesty in Council, extending the provisions of the "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," to the Independent State of the Congo.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

KNUTSFORD.

The Officer Administering the Government of Hongkong.

AT THE COURT AT OSBORNE HOUSE, ISLE OF WIGHT, The 10th day of August, 1888.

PRESENT,

THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

HEREAS by the "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," it is provided that whenever it is made to appear to Her Majesty that due facilities are or will be given for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from British merchant ships in the territories of any foreign power, Her Majesty may, by Order in Council stating that such facilities are or will be given, declare that seamen, not being slaves, who desert from merchant ships belonging to a subject of such power when within Her Majesty's dominions shall be liable to be apprehended and carried on board their respective ships, and may limit the operation of such Order, and may render the operation thereof subject to such conditions and qualifications, if any, as may be deemed expedient:

And whereas it has been made to appear to Her Majesty that due facilities will be given for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from British merchant ships in the territories of the

Independent State of the Congo:
NOW, THEREFORE, Her Majesty, by virtue of the power vested in Her by the said "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to order and declare, and it is hereby ordered and declared, that from and after the publication hereof in the London Gazette seamen, not being slaves and not being British subjects, who within Her Majesty's dominions desert from merchant ships belonging to citizens of the Independent State of the Congo shall be liable to be apprehended and carried on board their respective ships: Provided always, that if any such deserter has committed any crime in Her Majesty's dominions he may be detained till he has been tried by a competent Court, and until his sentence, if any, has been carried into effect.

And the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and

the Secretary of State for India in Council, are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

C. L. PEEL.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 467.

Tenders will be received at this Office until Noon of Tuesday, the 30th instant:

1. For repairing, painting, colouring, lime-whiting, &c.' the Police Station, Out-Offices, &c., Shaukiwan.

2. For repairing, painting, colouring, lime-whiting, &c. the Light house and Out-Offices, Cape Collinson.

3. For the construction of 160 feet lineal of sewer in Fifth Street. Yaumati, Kowloon.

For forms of tender apply at this Office. For specifications and further particulars apply at the Surveyor General's Office. The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office. Hongkong, 20th October, 1888.