

From H.M.S. "Linnet."

CURRENTS BETWEEN HORSBURGH AND VICTORY ISLANDS.

A strong current runs between Horsburgh Island and Victory Island, varying in strength and direction according to the Monsoon. During the N.E. Monsoon vessels have been set from 12 to 20 miles to the Southward when steering to make Victory Island from the Horsburgh. This current seems to vary in strength with the strength of the Monsoon. During the S.W. Monsoon vessels have been set to the Northward, but the current during the S.W. Monsoon does not appear to be so regular, or to run with the same strength as during the N.E. Monsoon. The current is reported to be strongest in the vicinity of the Horsburgh, gradually getting weaker as Victory Island is approached.

Charts 1263, 2660 A, 941 A, 2757.

PORT SEBU.

All the buoys marking the Northern entrance as far as Mandarin Tower have been removed.

The bank marked "Grass, seldom covered by the sea," running to the N.E. from Mandarin Tower was covered at H.W., and the Channel seems to have widened here, due to the washing away of the edge of the bank. On a smooth day the Channel is well indicated by the tide ripples.

Chart 2391.

From Japanese Government.

OTARU HARBOUR.

A breakwater is in course of construction in Otaru Harbour, (Oterranai Anchorage), running in a S.E. by S. direction from Pondamari Point, East side of Temiya Bay, for a distance of 2386 feet, to be eventually 4225 feet.

A triangular gimlet shaped buoy has been placed to mark the end of works in progress.

From H.M.S. "Archer."

NIKOLSKI HARBOUR.

A pinnacle rock, with 11 feet L.W.S., in Nikolski Harbour; Chapel $37\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, Ukhodue Point $62\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, S. Point Toporkof Island, S. Point Toporkof Island, 19° N. Point Toporkof Island.

Lat. $55^{\circ} 12' W.$, Long. $164^{\circ} 52\frac{1}{2}' E.$

Charts 1644, 2388, and 2459.

PETROPAULOVSKI.

A new Light House has been erected on Dalui Point, Petropaulovski, and the old Light House destroyed.

Charts 2388, 1040.

E. H. SEYMOUR,
Vice-Admiral.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 557.

The following Minutes are published.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 3rd December, 1898.

No. 23.

Minutes of the proceedings of the SANITARY BOARD, at a meeting held on Thursday, the 17th day of November, 1898.

PRESENT:

The Principal Civil Medical Officer, (Dr. JOHN MITFORD ATKINSON), President.

The Director of Public Works, (The Honourable ROBERT DALY ORMSBY).

The Acting Registrar General, (JAMES DYER BALL, Esquire).

The Medical Officer of Health, (Dr. FRANCIS WILLIAM CLARK).

EDWARD OSBORNE, Esquire.

Minutes.—The minutes of a meeting held on the 3rd day of November, 1898, having been circulated, were confirmed.

Report on Bubonic Plague.—A report on the epidemic of Bubonic Plague during the current year was laid on the table.

Proposed Bye-laws for the regulation of Cattle Diseases, Markets and Slaughter-houses.—Further correspondence concerning the proposed Bye-laws was considered.

The Medical Officer of Health addressed the Board and moved—

That the Board recommends the Governor-in-Council to make Bye-laws 18 Schedule A, 17 Schedule B, and 29 and 30 Schedule C, which have been approved by the Acting Attorney General as intra vires.

The President seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

The Medical Officer of Health then moved—

That the consideration of the question of an amending Ordinance to provide the further powers required by the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon for the protection of the meat supply of the Colony be postponed until the Committee of the Board, which was appointed to report on the question of abolishing the watchmen at the Slaughter-houses, has submitted its report.

The Director of Public Works seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Proposed restrictions in regard to the importation of Dogs into the Colony.—A copy of the regulations governing the importation of dogs into the Straits Settlements, having been circulated, was laid on the table, and the minutes on the circulating cover read.

The Medical Officer of Health addressed the Board and moved—

That the Board recommends the Government to introduce an Ordinance (or if intra vires to make Regulations under Ordinance No. 9 of 1893) empowering the Governor-in-Council to prohibit, for definite periods, the importation of dogs from places at which Rabies is reported to exist, and also to make Bye-laws for regulating generally the importation of dogs into the Colony.

The Acting Registrar General seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Correspondence concerning the removal of a building which obstructs the entrance to a lane.—Further correspondence concerning the obstruction to the South-western entrance to Lau Kwai Fong (as contained in C.S.O. 3010 of 1897) was laid on the table.

The Medical Officer of Health moved—

That the Government be informed that the Sanitary Board are still of the opinion that the obstruction should be removed on the expiry of the lease in December, 1898.

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Application for Rent Allowance in lieu of quarters.—Some further correspondence concerning Inspector WATSON's application for rent allowance in lieu of quarters was laid on the table.

Reports of Sanitary Surveyor.—The reports of the Sanitary Surveyor for the second and third quarters of the year 1898 were laid on the table.

Analyst's Reports on samples of Well-water.—A report by the Government Analyst on a sample of water from a well at K.I.L. 855, Tai Kok Tsui, was submitted.

The President moved—

That the papers be referred to the Director of Public Works, as there is no public water supply in Tai Kok Tsui at present.

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Reports by the Government Analyst on samples of water from wells at 34, Queen's Road Central (J. L. 16) and at 15, Shauk-wan Road were submitted.

The President moved—

That orders be made for the closure of these two wells within a month from the date of service of the notices.

The Director of Public Works seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Application for permission to erect water-closets.—An application for permission to erect water-closets in a private dwelling-house to be erected on Inland Lots 1381, 1382 and 1383 was considered.

The Director of Public Works addressed the Board and moved—

That the permission asked for be granted, subject to the approval of the plans by the Board's Surveyor.

The motion was not seconded.

The Medical Officer of Health addressed the Board and moved—

That the Board sanctions the erection in the new building on Inland Lots 1381, 1382 and 1383 of the same number of water-closets as already exist in "Kingsclere," Caine Road, on the condition that the water-closets in this latter house are abolished, and the Board's sanction to their existence there considered as cancelled.

The Acting Registrar General addressed the Board and seconded.

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE addressed the Board.

Question—put and agreed to.

Applications for permission to keep Swine.—Thirty-six applications for permission to keep Swine at Stanley were laid on the table.

The President moved—

That the licences be granted.

The Medical Officer of Health seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bubonic Plague Returns.—Bubonic Plague returns from Bombay for October 11th to 24th, 1898, were laid on the table.

Mortality Returns.—The mortality return for Macao for the week ending November 6th, 1898, was laid on the table.

The mortality returns for the Colony of Hongkong for the weeks ending November 5th and 12th, 1898, were laid on the table.

The President moved—

That strangers be requested to withdraw.

The Medical Officer of Health seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

A confidential meeting of the Board was then held.

Adjournment.—The Board then adjourned until Thursday, the 1st day of December, 1898.

J. M. ATKINSON,
President.

Confirmed this 1st day of December, 1898.

FRANCIS W. CLARK,
Acting Secretary.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 544.

Tenders will be received at this Office until Noon of Monday, the 12th December, 1898, for the exclusive right to quarry Granite on Crown Lands in the Island of Hongkong during the year 1899.

No tender will be received unless the person tendering produces a receipt to the effect that he has deposited in the Colonial Treasury the sum of \$100, which sum of \$100 shall be forfeited to the Crown by way of liquidated damages if such person refuses to enter into an Agreement and Bond should his tender be accepted.

For forms of tender and of proposed Agreement and Bond and for further particulars apply to the Public Works Office.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 26th November, 1898.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 545.

Tenders will be received at this Office until Noon of Monday, the 12th December, 1898, for the exclusive right to quarry Granite on Crown Lands in British Kowloon during the year 1899.

No tender will be received unless the person tendering produces a receipt to the effect that he has deposited in the Colonial Treasury the sum of \$100, which sum of \$100 shall be forfeited to the Crown by way of liquidated damages if such person refuses to enter into an Agreement and Bond should his tender be accepted.

For forms of tender and of proposed Agreement and Bond and for further particulars apply to the Public Works Office.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 26th November, 1898.