

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 43.

Government Notification No. 29 of the 20th instant, inviting Candidates for the post of Assistant Warder in the Government Lunatic Asylum is hereby cancelled.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 27th January, 1899.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 44.

The following is published in substitution for Government Notification No. 278 of the 24th July, 1886.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 27th January, 1899.

SIGNAL STATIONS,

HONGKONG.

VICTORIA PEAK, and BLACKHEAD'S HILL.

The Commercial Code of Signals will be used at the Signal Stations.

All Signals made by vessels in the "Offing" will be repeated at Victoria Peak, arrangements can also be made to have them forwarded to the addressee by telephone from the Harbour Master's Office.

Signals can also be passed between vessels in the "Offing," and any one prepared to take them in, on the harbour side, and *vice versa*. The "attention" flag for these signals (to be hoisted at the mast head of the ship and of the Station flagstaff) is the *White Ensign* in the case of Men-of-war, and the *Red Ensign over the House Flag* in the case of Merchant Vessels.

Vessels approaching the Eastern entrance to the Harbour will be signalled on the Eastern Yard-arm, those approaching the Western entrance on the Western Yard-arm.

When a vessel is sighted from Victoria Peak Station, the *Compass bearing* and *symbol* at the Yard-arm, and the *Distance Signal* at the Mast head, will be hoisted. If, when the vessel is made out, she is *not a Mail steamer*, her House Flag will be substituted for the Compass Signal, and it will be kept flying till she anchors. The *Distance Signal* will be kept up for fifteen minutes after the vessel is made out.

If the vessel is a *regular Mail Steamer*, a gun will be fired, and a *Ball* over the English, French, American, or German Ensign, or the Canadian Pacific House Flag, with the *Distance signal* under, will be hoisted at the Mast head, and the Compass signal and symbol will be hauled down. The Distance signal will be kept flying, and will be changed each successive half hour. When the vessel is between Green Island and North Point, the Code Pendant will take the place of the Distance Signal, and will be kept up till the vessel is at her moorings.

At Blackhead's Hill Station, signals similar to the foregoing will be hoisted to denote vessels passing Cape D'Aguilar and the Gap Rock.

All House Flags, symbols, and distance signals, hoisted at Victoria Peak, will be repeated at Blackhead's Hill, and *vice versa*.

When a *mail steamer* is reported by telegraph from the Gap Rock or Cape D'Aguilar, the distinguishing signal will be hoisted at once, the gun will be fired, and the distance symbol hoisted, when she is *sighted* from Victoria Peak Station.

Any special flag hoisted on board an incoming vessel, denoting the presence on board of an Officer of high rank, will be repeated at the Flag Staff Mast head.

The approach of Men-of-war will be notified by their proper symbols and National Colours at the Quarter of the Yard.

The Distance signal will denote the distance (estimated at Victoria Peak) of the vessel from Green Island on the West and Cape D'Aguilar on the East.

R. MURRAY RUMSEY, Retd. Comdr., R.N.,
Harbour Master, &c.

Harbour Department, Hongkong, January, 1899.