

surname of Acton in addition to and after that of Wood, and that he and they may bear the arms of Acton; such arms being first duly exemplified according to the laws of arms, and recorded in the College of Arms, otherwise the said Royal licence and permission to be void and of none effect:

And to command that the said Royal concession and declaration be recorded in Her Majesty's said College of Arms.

*Board of Trade, Whitehall Gardens,
July 10, 1874.*

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the "Albert Medal of the Second Class" on:—

MR. DAVID WEBSTER, late Second Mate of the barque "Arracan," of Greenock, residing at Broughty Ferry, Dundee.

The following is an account of the services in respect of which the decoration has been conferred:—

The "Arracan," whilst on a voyage from Shields to Bombay, with a cargo of coals, took fire from spontaneous combustion of her cargo, and on the 17th February was abandoned by her crew, who then took to their boats and endeavoured to make for the Maldivé Islands. The boats kept company until the 20th, when finding the currents too strong it was agreed to separate after dividing the provisions.

The Master in command of the long boat then made for Cochin, the Mate in charge of the gig, and the Second Mate, MR. DAVID WEBSTER, in charge of the pinnace with four of the crew, viz., three men and one boy, made for the Maldivé Islands.

After two days Mr. DAVID WEBSTER'S boat was injured by a heavy sea, and could not keep up with the gig, and lost sight of her. From this time the pinnace was kept working to windward until the 9th March, by which day the provisions and water had been consumed.

Shortly afterwards the crew cast lots which of them should be first killed to be eaten, and the lot fell upon the ship's boy HORNER, but WEBSTER, who had been asleep, was awake in time to save the boy's life. After dark an attempt was made to kill WEBSTER himself, but the boy HORNER awoke him in time to save himself.

On the following day, WEBSTER having fallen asleep, was awake by the struggles of the crew for the possession of his gun, with which to shoot him. Two hours later the crew attempted to take HORNER'S life again, but were prevented by the determined conduct of WEBSTER, who threatened to shoot and throw overboard the first man who laid hands on the boy.

The next day one of the crew attempted to sink the boat, but WEBSTER mastered him and prevented further mischief. Two days later the same member of the crew again tried to sink the boat, and expressed his determination to take the boy's life. For this he would have been shot by WEBSTER had not the cap on the gun missed fire. Soon after, putting a fresh cap on his gun, a bird flew over the boat which WEBSTER shot; it was at once seized and devoured by the crew, even to the bones and feathers.

During the next five days the crew were quieter, subsisting on barnacles which attached themselves to the bottom of the boat and on sea blubber for which they dived. The following day some of the men became delirious. One of them lay down exhausted, when another struck him

several blows on the head with an iron belaying pin, cutting him badly. The blood which flowed was caught in a tin and drunk by the man himself and the two other men. Afterwards they fought and bit one another, and only left off when completely exhausted, to recommence as soon as they were able; the boy, HORNER, during the time keeping watch with WEBSTER.

On the thirty-first day in the boat they were picked up six hundred miles from land by the ship, "City of Manchester," HARDIE, Master, by whom they were very kindly treated, and brought to Calcutta.

WEBSTER, by his conduct, was the means of saving the lives of all in the boat.

(S. & C. 1297.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall Gardens,
July 8, 1874.*

THE Board of Trade have received from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Lisbon, announcing that by a Portuguese Royal Decree of the 30th April last, the additional tax of 6 per cent on import and export duties in the Province of Angola is abolished from the 1st instant.

(H. 4497.)

*Board of Trade (Harbour Department),
Whitehall Gardens, July 9, 1874.*

THE Board of Trade have received through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs a copy of the following notice, transmitted by Her Majesty's Consul at Mobile, relative to Quarantine at that place:—

QUARANTINE PROCLAMATION OF
THE MAYOR.

*Municipal Buildings, Mayor's Office,
City of Mobile, June 16, 1874.*

WHEREAS information has reached me of the existence of Yellow Fever on the island of Cuba, at Porto Rico, and Jamaica; and whereas there is great danger of said disease being imported here by means of vessels plying between ports and places infected and the port of Mobile, and thereby seriously endangering the health and lives of the people of this municipality, and interrupting the uniform good health now prevailing here; and whereas the Collector of the port of Mobile having consented to co-operate with the municipal authorities in the maintenance of an effective quarantine:

Now, therefore, I, C. F. Moulton, Mayor of the city of Mobile, do hereby, in pursuance of authority vested in me by law, issue this, my Proclamation, strictly forbidding and warning all owners, masters, or persons in charge of vessels of any kind or description whatever from entering this port or harbour on a voyage from the island of Cuba, Porto Rico, Jamaica, or from any other place where yellow, malignant, pestilential, or infectious fevers, or other diseases prevail, until after the lapse of ten days after the arrival at this port of any such vessel, and not then, and in no case until the medical officers in charge of the garrison at Fort Morgan shall in writing sanction such entrance; that full power and authority is hereby expressly delegated to the Collector of this port, and to all officers within his jurisdiction, to quarantine all vessels and for such length of time as to them shall be deemed necessary or expedient; that full power and authority is hereby delegated to the physician in charge at Fort Morgan to board all vessels entering the bay or