

and every third blast being followed by an interval of forty-three seconds.

NOTE.—Under favourable circumstances this whistle may be heard from a distance of about 3 miles.

Approximate position, lat. $46^{\circ} 53' N.$, long. $37^{\circ} 20' E.$

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Black Sea, No. 2214; Sea of Azov, No. 2234. Also, Admiralty List of Lights in the Mediterranean, 1891, No. 1006; and Black Sea Pilot, 1884, page 89.

No. 552.—AUSTRALIA STATION.

AUSTRALIA—NORTH-WEST COAST.

Sunken Rocks and Shoals off Cape Bougainville.

INFORMATION has been received from Commander W. U. Moore, H.M. surveying-vessel "Penguin," dated 9th September, 1891, of the existence of the undermentioned sunken rocks and shoals lying in the Outer and Inner Routes, off Cape Bougainville—the result of recent examination of the locality:—

Outer Route.

1. A rock (Oliver Rock) consisting of a coral head, with 9 feet water over it, and 25 fathoms close around, lies with the south extreme of Cassini Island bearing $N. 80^{\circ} E.$, distant $4\frac{3}{10}$ miles. The sea was not seen to break on this rock, the "Penguin" passed over it without observing any sign of shoal water.

Approximate position of Admiralty Charts, lat. $13^{\circ} 56\frac{1}{2}' S.$, long. $125^{\circ} 39\frac{1}{2}' E.$

NOTE.—The rock marked awash in lat. $14^{\circ} 0' 30'' S.$, long. $125^{\circ} 35' E.$, does not exist.

2. A shoal (Bassett-Smith Shoal) about one mile in diameter, with general depths of five to six fathoms, and 50 fathoms around, with a head of 20 feet near its western edge, is situated in approximately lat. $13^{\circ} 16' 50'' S.$, long. $125^{\circ} 50' E.$ The sea did not break on this shoal, and there was no appearance of danger in the vicinity.

3. Penguin Shoal, situated in approximately lat. $13^{\circ} 6' S.$, long. $126^{\circ} 4\frac{1}{2}' E.$, has a least depth of six fathoms over it.

4. A rock (Warn Rock) consisting of a small coral head, with six fathoms over it, lies in approximately lat. $13^{\circ} 8\frac{1}{2}' S.$, long. $126^{\circ} 11' E.$

Inner Route.

1. A coral pinnacle (Lee Rock), with three feet water on it, and 10 to 17 fathoms close around, lies with Pascal Island Summit bearing $S. 83^{\circ} W.$, distant $7\frac{2}{10}$ miles, or in approximately lat. $14^{\circ} 2' S.$, long. $125^{\circ} 52' E.$ The "Penguin" passed twice within a few feet of this rock, but no indication of danger was seen.

2. A coral shoal (Tancred Shoal), seven cables in diameter, with 3 to 7 fathoms over it, and 16 to 22 fathoms around, lies with Low Rocks Summit bearing $N. 56^{\circ} W.$, distant two miles, or in approximately lat. $14^{\circ} 3\frac{3}{4}' S.$, long. $126^{\circ} 0' E.$

3. The extensive reef charted north of Gibson Point does not exist, but there is a rock (Fury Rock) awash at high water, lying with the islet north of Gibson Point bearing east, distant $1\frac{2}{10}$ miles. A reef, dry at low water, extends four cables north-west of this rock, and foul ground for a distance of $1\frac{2}{10}$ miles north of it. Approximate position, lat. $13^{\circ} 56\frac{1}{2}' S.$, long. $126^{\circ} 4' E.$

4. Bishop Rocks consist of a small group of coral heads, drying two feet at low water, and lying with the north extreme of Troughton Island bearing $S. 75^{\circ} E.$, distant $2\frac{1}{10}$ miles, or in approximately lat. $13^{\circ} 42\frac{3}{4}' S.$, long. $126^{\circ} 12' E.$

5. A coral reef, with two fathoms water over it, lies with the north extreme of Troughton

No. 26226.

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Island bearing $S. 50^{\circ} E.$, distant $6\frac{2}{10}$ miles, and is separated by a deep channel from the south point of Eastern Holothuria Reef. Approximate position, lat. $13^{\circ} 39\frac{1}{2}' S.$, long. $126^{\circ} 9\frac{1}{2}' E.$

6. Branch Banks, consisting of two coral shoals with six or seven fathoms over them, lie with the north extreme of Troughton Island, bearing $S. 18^{\circ} W.$, distant $8\frac{1}{10}$ miles, or in approximately lat. $13^{\circ} 35\frac{1}{2}' S.$, long. $126^{\circ} 17' E.$ Depths of six fathoms were obtained for a distance of one mile east of this position.

CAUTION.—As in the neighbourhood of the dangers off Cape Bougainville the tides are strong, the banks and reefs steep-to, and the water unusually turbid, great care is necessary when navigating in the locality.

The depths given are at low water spring tides.

[Variation 2° Easterly in 1891.]

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—North-west coast of Australia, No. 475; Cape Ford to Buccaneer Archipelago, No. 1047. Also, Australia Directory, Vol. III, 1881, pages 136, 137.

No. 553.—CHINA, AUSTRALIA, AND PACIFIC STATIONS.

NORTH AMERICA—WEST COAST.—WASHINGTON.

Destruction Island—Establishment of Fog Signal, and Intended Flashing Light.

THE United States Government has given notice, that on 15th November, 1891, a fog signal will be established near the lighthouse in course of construction on Destruction Island, and that on or about 1st January, 1892, the light will be exhibited:—

Destruction Island Fog Signal will be a steam siren of the first class, which, during thick or foggy weather, will give blasts of five seconds duration, with intervals of fifty-five seconds between the blasts.

Destruction Island Light will be a flashing white light, showing a flash every ten seconds; it will be elevated 144 feet above high-water, and should be visible in clear weather from a distance of 18 miles.

The illuminating apparatus will be of the first order.

The lighthouse consists of a conical iron tower 80 feet high, and painted white, upper part black: with two dwellings about 180 yards in a north-east direction, and the fog signal building about 43 yards in a north-west direction, from it; the dwellings and fog signal buildings are painted white, with brown roofs.

Approximate position on Admiralty Charts, lat. $47^{\circ} 40' 5'' N.$, long. $124^{\circ} 28' W.$

Further notice will be given when the light is exhibited.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Cape Corrientes to Kadiak Island, No. 787, Cape Mendocino to Vancouver Island, No. 2531. Also, Admiralty List of Lights in South America, &c., 1891, No. 203*; and British Columbia Pilot, 1888, page 20.

No. 554.—ALL STATIONS.

ENGLAND—SOUTH COAST.

Spithead—Torpedo Grounds.

NOTICE is given, that the two undermentioned areas at Spithead are appropriated for torpedo practice:—

The torpedo ground south-eastward of Norman's Land Fort is enclosed by four imaginary lines joining the four buoys, painted green and white in horizontal stripes, and marked "Torpedo Ground," viz.:—