

AFTER LIMITED COMPETITION.

Post Office, Sorters, London, Richard Peter Bury, Henry William Chapman, Richard Richardson, Thomas Edward Styles.

WITHOUT COMPETITION.

Admiralty: Chatham Dockyard, Shipwrights, Samuel Beard, George Allen Davies, James Evans, Walter George Follett, Alfred James, Thomas Edward May, Edward Walton.

Smiths, Thomas Edgar Duffield, Thomas Groom Woolgar.

Chelsea Hospital: Nurse, Elizabeth Mary Pomfret.

Customs: Bootman, George McDiarmid.

Post Office: Postmen, London, Herbert Harry Austin, James Aldgar Betts.

Skilled Telegraphist, Marian Elizabeth Cort.

Sorting Clerks and Telegraph Learners, James Ince (Leicester), Daniel Murphy (Cork).

Postmen, Frederick Charles Warren (Cardiff), George Edward Warriner (Liverpool), Thomas Wisdom (Brighton).

NOTICES TO MARINERS.

(Nos. 685 to 694 of the year 1895.)

[The bearings are magnetic, and those concerning the visibility of lights are given from seaward.]

No. 685.—SOLOMON ISLANDS.

Shoals on East Coast of Mala (Malaita) Island.

INFORMATION has been received from Commander E. G. Rason, Her Majesty's ship "Royalist," dated 12th September, 1895, of the existence of the undermentioned shoals on the east coast of Mala (Malaita) Island:—

1. A shoal, apparently coral, on which a sounding of $4\frac{3}{4}$ fathoms was obtained (possibly there may be less water), lies in the northern entrance to Maramisike Passage, with Pyramid Island bearing east, distant $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles; and Annuta Island about S. 25° W.

Approximate position, lat. $9^{\circ} 16' S.$, long. $161^{\circ} 14' E.$

2. A shoal, on which a sounding of 5 fathoms was obtained, but probably there is less water, lies with South Sister Island bearing about W.S.W., distant 2 miles, or approximately in lat. $9^{\circ} 8' S.$, long. $161^{\circ} 12' E.$

The extent of this shoal is doubtful, and a wide berth should be given to the Sister Islands, until the locality has been thoroughly examined.

[Variation 8° Easterly in 1895.]

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Solomon Islands, No. 214 (1, 2); Plan of Maramisike Passage on No. 1349 (1). Also Sailing Directions for the Pacific Islands, Vol. I, 1890, page 376.

No. 686.—PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Shoals in St. Bernardino Strait.

THE Spanish Government has given notice, dated 26th September, 1895, of the existence of the undermentioned shoals northward and southward of Dulampiri (Puerco), St. Bernardino Strait:—

1. A shoal of sand and coral, with depths of less than five fathoms on it, extends for a distance of two miles northward of the north point of Dulampiri, and has depths of 11 fathoms for a distance of half a mile further northward.

Approximate position, north extreme of five fathoms, lat. $12^{\circ} 30' N.$, long. $124^{\circ} 13\frac{1}{2}' E.$

2. A similar shoal extends southward from the southern point of Dulampiri, the five fathoms limit being at a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and the 11 fathoms limit 2 miles from the south point.

Also, dated 23rd November, 1895, of the undermentioned shoal, south-westward of Dulampiri:—

3. This shoal, now named Rubi Shoal, is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cables in extent east and west, with a depth of about 6 fathoms on it (possibly there may be less water), and deep water close around. It lies N. $79^{\circ} W.$, distant $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, from El Diamante, or approximately in lat. $12^{\circ} 20\frac{1}{4}' N.$, long. $124^{\circ} 10\frac{1}{4}' E.$

[Variation nil in 1895.]

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—St. Bernardino and Mindoro Straits, &c., No. 2577. Also, Sailing Directions for the Eastern Archipelago, Part I, page 321.

No. 687.—AFRICA—SOUTH-EAST COAST.

Reported Dangers in Approaches to Port Shepstone.

INFORMATION has been received that the Master of the ketch "Norman" reports that, about 7th July, 1895, he observed a rock lying about three-quarters of a mile from the shore, about three miles east-north-eastward of the entrance to Port Shepstone.

Approximate position, lat. $30^{\circ} 42\frac{1}{2}' S.$, long. $30^{\circ} 30\frac{1}{2}' E.$

Also, that to the southward of Port Shepstone, between the entrances of the Imbango and Izotsha Rivers, foul ground and uneven bottom extend from one to four miles offshore.

A note, "foul ground reported in this locality," has been placed on the Admiralty Chart.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Chart:—Umtamvuna River to Tugela River, No. 2088. Also, Africa Pilot, Part III, 1889, page 161.

No. 688.—SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN.

Banks North-West of Uea or Wallis Islands.

THE following information respecting the Isabella and other banks in its vicinity, north-west of Uea or Wallis Islands, has been received from Lieutenant and Commander J. W. Combe, Her Majesty's surveying-vessel "Waterwitch":—

Isabella Bank, on which a depth of 12 fathoms, coral was found, is circular in shape and about 2 miles in diameter; its centre is approximately in lat. $12^{\circ} 24' S.$, long. $177^{\circ} 26' W.$

Waterwitch Bank situated between the parallels of $12^{\circ} 29'$ and $12^{\circ} 34'$ South latitude, and the meridians of $176^{\circ} 41'$ and $176^{\circ} 50'$ West longitude, is of atoll-like formation, having a narrow rim of growing coral, with soundings of from 12 to 16 fathoms, all round its outer edge, and depths of 23 to 28 fathoms inside.

Combe Bank, situated between the parallels of $12^{\circ} 24'$ and $12^{\circ} 28'$ South latitude and the meridians of $177^{\circ} 30'$ and $177^{\circ} 41'$ West longitude, is a coral bank with from 14 to 22 fathoms over it. The soundings on this bank were not sufficient to decide whether it is of a similar formation to the Waterwitch Bank, but the shoaler soundings are near the outer edge.

All these banks are "steep-to" with soundings of over 100 fathoms near their outer edges.

Current.—Whilst the "Waterwitch" was employed sounding these banks (September, 1895) a slight current setting to the west-north-west was experienced. With a fresh trade wind this set was much increased and there was a troublesome sea in the neighbourhood.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Atlantic and Indian Oceans, No. 2483; Pacific Ocean, No. 2683; Pacific Ocean, South-west Sheet, No. 780. Also, Sailing Directions for the Pacific Islands, Vol. II, 1891, pages 59, 60.