

No. 25.—SOUTH AMERICA—NORTH COAST.

Peninsula de Guajira—Extension of Dirk Shoal Eastward.

INFORMATION has been received that the Master of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique steam-vessel "Saint-Germain" reports having touched on a shoal, in a position $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles northward of Pta. Taroa, or approximately in lat. $12^{\circ} 29' N.$, long. $71^{\circ} 30' W.$

The danger line of Dirk Shoal has been drawn round the above position in the Admiralty Chart.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Chart:—Tortuga to Cape la Vela, No. 1966. Also, West India Pilot, Vol. I, 1893, page 214.

No. 26.—NORTH SEA—NETHERLANDS SHORE.

Terschelling—Sunken Wreck Northward of Noordcr Gronden.

THE Netherlands Government has given notice, dated 31st December, 1896, that the wreck of the steam-vessel "Minister Achenbach" lies sunk, with topmasts showing above water, in a depth of about 9 fathoms, between the leading buoy and the first channel buoy of the north-east Gat, Terschelling.

The wreck would be marked by buoys as soon as possible.

Approximate position, lat. $53^{\circ} 26' N.$, long. $5^{\circ} 7\frac{1}{2}' E.$

This Notice temporarily affects the following Admiralty Chart:—Scheveningen to Ameland, &c., No. 2322. Also, North Sea Pilot, Part IV, 1892, page 164.

No. 27.—FRANCE—WEST COAST.

Exhibition of Ile de Sein Provisional Light.

WITH reference to Notice to Mariners No. 672 of 1896, on an intended alteration in Ile de Sein Light from a fixed and flashing white light to a group-flashing white light with a period of twenty-five seconds, thus:—flash, a tenth of a second; eclipse, three seconds; flash, a tenth of a second; eclipse, three seconds; flash, a tenth of a second; eclipse, three seconds; flash, a tenth of a second; eclipse, fifteen and a half seconds.

The French Government has given further notice, that on 1st January, 1897, the works for alteration would be commenced, when the old light (fixed and flashing white) would be discontinued; and a provisional light, similar in character to the above group-flashing light, but with four prolonged flashes, and illuminating power of 270 becs Carcel (2,700 candles), would be exhibited from the upper gallery of the lighthouse. This light is obscured by the lighthouse in an angle of about 90° on westerly bearings, on which bearings a fixed white light of small power is visible.

Approximate position, lat. $48^{\circ} 2' 40'' N.$, long. $4^{\circ} 51' 55'' W.$

The new light may occasionally be shown experimentally during the progress of the works.

Further notice will be given as necessary.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—North Atlantic, No. 2060a; British Islands to Mediterranean Sea, No. 1; English Channel, No. 1598; Bay of Biscay, No. 1104; Raz de Sein to Goulven, No. 2643; Ile de Groix to Raz de Sein, No. 2645; Anse de Benodet to Chaussée de Sein, No. 2351; Douamenez Bay and Approach, No. 798. Also, List of Lights, Part IV, 1896, No. 201; Sailing Directions for the West Coasts of France, Spain, and Portugal, 1891, page 38; and Hydrographic Notice, No. 2 of 1894, relating to that work, page 6.

No. 28.—CENTRAL AMERICA—WEST COAST.

Salina Cruz Bay—Exhibition of Light and Amended Position.

WITH reference to Notice to Mariners Nos. 43 and 63 of 1896:—

Information has been received that Salina Cruz Light was exhibited on 5th December, 1896:—

Salina Cruz Light is a third order, group-flashing white light, showing three flashes in quick succession every ten seconds; illuminating power 5,000 becs Carcel (50,000 candles), elevated 272 feet above the sea, and visible in clear weather from a distance of 23 miles.

The lighthouse is a cylindrical tower of masonry, painted white, with the keeper's dwelling at the base; it is probably not situated as given in the former notices, but on the hill named Morro de Salipas, over the western point of Salina Cruz Bay.

Approximate position, lat. $16^{\circ} 9' 35'' N.$, long. $95^{\circ} 12' 15'' W.$

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Cape Horn to Cape Corrientes, No. 786; San José to Port Angeles, No. 1050; Burica Point to Mangrove Bluff, with Plan of Salina Cruz and Ventosa Bays, No. 587. Also, List of Lights, Part VII, 1896, No. 161a; and Sailing Directions for the West Coasts of Central America, &c., 1896, page 106.

No. 29.—RIO DE LA PLATA.

Port La Plata—Alteration in Time Signal.

INFORMATION has been received from the Senior Officer on the south-east coast of America, dated 5th December, 1896, that the particulars of the time signal at La Plata are now as follows:—

The signal is made on the engine house, at the south end of the Grand Central Dock, and consists of a wicker ball, painted red, which is hoisted at 10h. 56m. 0s. a.m. and dropped at 11h. 0m. 0s. a.m. local mean time, equivalent to 2h. 51m. 38.9s. p.m. Greenwich mean time.

Should the signal fail, the ball is again hoisted, and dropped at 11h. 3m. 0s. a.m. local mean time, equivalent to 2h. 54m. 38.9s. Greenwich mean time.

Position, engine house, lat. $34^{\circ} 52' 33'' S.$, long. $57^{\circ} 54' 43'' W.$

The signal is made daily, except on Sundays and holidays.

The time signal previously made at the observatory, La Plata, at noon, Greenwich mean time, has been discontinued; but the signal at the engine house is dropped by telegraph from the observatory.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Plan:—Port La Plata on sheet, No. 2544. Also, South America Pilot, Part I, 1893, page 254; Supplement, 1896, relating to that work (now in the Press), page 13; and List of Time Signals, 1895, No. 148.

No. 30.—ENGLAND—SOUTH COAST.

Needles Channel and Solent—intended Gas Buoys.

THE Trinity House, London, has given notice that on 1st March, 1897, gas buoys, each showing an occulting white light, will be substituted for the present S.W. Shingles, Warden Ledge and Thorn Knoll Buoys:—

1. S.W. Shingles Gas Buoy will be conical, painted red and white in chequers, and without a top mark.

Approximate position, lat. $50^{\circ} 39' 55'' N.$, long. $1^{\circ} 36' 45'' W.$

2. Warden Ledge Gas Buoy will be conical, painted red, named "Warden," and placed $W. \frac{1}{2} N.$