

notice, dated 30th October, 1897, of the existence of a bank, locally known as 7-fathom lump, on which soundings of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  fathoms were recently obtained, situated in a position with Hunting Island Lighthouse bearing N.W. by W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W., distant about 18 miles, or approximately in lat.  $32^{\circ} 15' N.$ , long.  $80^{\circ} 7' W.$

[Variation nil in 1897.]

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Chart:—Cape Fear to Sapelo Sound, No. 268. Also, Sailing Directions for the Principal Ports on the East Coast of the United States, 1882, page 194.

No. 706.—IRELAND—WEST COAST.

*Slyne Head—Intended Alterations in Lights.*

THE Commissioners of Irish Lights have given notice that, on 1st January, 1898, the undermentioned alterations will be made in Slyne Head Lights:—

1. The light shown from the north-west tower will be altered from red and white revolving to a dioptric, fixed light of increased power, showing the following sectors:—white seaward from S.  $5^{\circ} W.$ , through south and east, to N.  $11\frac{1}{2}^{\circ} W.$ ; and red from N.  $11\frac{1}{2}^{\circ} W.$ , through west, to S.  $5^{\circ} W.$  (over the land and dangers north-eastward and south-eastward).

Approximate position, lat.  $53^{\circ} 24' 0'' N.$ , long.  $10^{\circ} 14' 0'' W.$

Also, that, on the same date, the light (fixed white) shown from the south-east tower will be discontinued.

[Variation  $23^{\circ}$  Westerly in 1897.]

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—North Atlantic, No. 2060a; Ireland, west coast, No. 1824b; Achill Head to Slyne Head, No. 2420; Slyne Head to Liscanor Bay, No. 2173; Slyne Head and adjacent coast, No. 2709. Also, List of Lights, Part I, 1897, No. 840; Irish Coast Pilot, 1893, page 375; and Hydrographic Notice, No. 4 of 1897, relating to that work, page 18.

No. 707.—IRELAND—EAST COAST.

*Dundalk Bay—Alterations in Sectors of Pile Light.*

THE Commissioners of Irish Lights have given notice that, on 1st September, 1897, the light (flashing every fifteen seconds) on the northern side of the entrance of the channel to Dundalk was altered to show the following sectors:—white from N.  $54^{\circ} W.$  to N.  $17^{\circ} W.$ ; red from N.  $17^{\circ} W.$ , through north, to N.  $8^{\circ} E.$ ; obscured from N.  $8^{\circ} E.$ , through east, to S.  $34^{\circ} E.$ ; white from S.  $34^{\circ} E.$  to S.  $8^{\circ} E.$ ; and obscured from S.  $8^{\circ} E.$ , through south and west to N.  $54^{\circ} W.$

Approximate position, lat.  $53^{\circ} 58' 35'' N.$ , long.  $6^{\circ} 17' 40'' W.$

[Variation  $20^{\circ}$  Westerly in 1897.]

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Chart:—Skerries Islands to Lough Carlingford, &c., No. 44. Also, List of Lights, Part I, 1897, No. 786; and Irish Coast Pilot, 1893, page 168.

No. 708.—JAPAN—TSUGARU STRAIT.

*Ohata Bay—Rocky Bank West-south-west of Shiriya Saki.*

INFORMATION has been received from Captain E. P. Jones, Her Majesty's ship "Grafton," that the sounding of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  fathoms, hard bottom (but there may be less water), with deep water close to, was obtained in a position with Shiriya Saki Lighthouse bearing N.  $68^{\circ} E.$ , distant  $6\frac{1}{5}$  miles; and Red Cliff N.  $58^{\circ} W.$

Approximate position, lat.  $41^{\circ} 23' 0'' N.$ , long.  $141^{\circ} 20' 10'' E.$

The words "probably less water" have been

written against the  $6\frac{1}{2}$  fathoms which has been placed in the above position on the Admiralty Chart.

[Variation  $5^{\circ}$  Westerly in 1897.]

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Chart:—Tsugaru Strait, No. 2441. Also, China Sea Directory, Vol. IV, 1894, pages 340, 565, 566.

No. 709.—NORTH SEA.

*Jade River—Temporary Irregularities in Wangeroo Principal Light.*

THE German Government has given notice, that owing to defects in the flashing apparatus of Wangeroo principal light, which cannot be remedied until the end of the year 1898, the light will occasionally show as follows:—

In the sectors where group-flashes should be exhibited, the light will be fixed white; the leading sector for the approaches to the Jade will be altered from fixed white to fixed red; while the two sectors of fixed red light towards the Weser, and the sector of fixed white light visible from the West fairway, will be unaltered.

The navigational authorities of the Jade, Weser, and Elbe Rivers are at once informed by telegraph when any such change takes place.

Approximate position, lat.  $53^{\circ} 47' 30'' N.$ , long.  $7^{\circ} 53' 55'' E.$

This Notice temporarily affects the following Admiralty Chart:—Elbe, Weser, and Jade Rivers, No. 1875. Also, List of Lights, Part II, 1897, page 207; and North Sea Pilot, Part IV, 1892, pages 178, 183, 191.

No. 710.—ICE.

(1.) *Patagonian Channels—Wide Channel.*

INFORMATION has been published in the Shipping Gazette that the Masters of the steam-vessels "Delia" and "Isis" report that in proceeding southward through the Patagonian Channels about the middle of September, 1897, their progress was intercepted in Wide Channel by great masses of floating icebergs, and they were compelled to turn back.

Approximate position, southern end of Wide Channel, lat.  $50^{\circ} 0' S.$ , long.  $74^{\circ} 30' W.$

(2.) *Staten Island—Berg Southward of Cape St. John.*

Also, that the Master of the "Clydebank" reports that on 7th August, 1897, in a position S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W., distant 54 miles from Cape St. John, or approximately in lat.  $55^{\circ} 32' S.$ , long.  $64^{\circ} 21' W.$ , he sighted an iceberg, 2 to 3 miles in length, with high peak in the centre and flat at the extremities.

(3.) *South Indian Ocean.*

Also, that the Master of the barque "Alcedo" reports that, on 11th September, 1897, he passed two large icebergs in approximately lat.  $44^{\circ} 3' S.$ , long.  $49^{\circ} 18' E.$

From the above (2, 3) it appears that the ice in the Southern Ocean is drifting northwards very early, and Mariners are warned accordingly.

[Variation (2)  $18^{\circ}$  Easterly in 1897.]

This Notice affects the Ice Chart of the Southern Hemisphere, No. 1241. Also (temporarily), South America Pilot, Part II, 1895, pages 251-254.

No. 711.—FRANCE—WEST COAST.

*Experimental Buoy Westward of Chaussée de Sein.*

THE French Government has given notice, dated 11th November, 1897, that a large conical buoy, painted red, has been experimentally moored westward of the extremity of Chaussée de Sein (the Saints) in approximately latitude  $48^{\circ} 3' 15'' N.$ , longitude  $5^{\circ} 5' 30'' W.$