

NOTICES TO MARINERS.

(Nos. 554 to 571 of the year 1907.)

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

No. 554.—WEST INDIES, CUBA—NORTH COAST.

Cay Francés Light—Alteration in Character of.

Information, dated 16th March, 1907, has been received through Lloyd's that, on or about 30th April next, the character of Cay Francés Light will be altered from white fixed to a white group occulting light, with a total period of twenty seconds; it will show a group of three eclipses in quick succession, and subsequently one eclipse during the light period between two successive groups of eclipses; it will be elevated 38 feet above high water and 35 feet above the ground, and be visible in clear weather from a distance of 8 miles. The new light will be exhibited from a platform round a white mast near the keeper's dwelling.

Approximate position, lat. $22^{\circ} 38\frac{1}{2}'$ N., long. $79^{\circ} 13'$ W.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—The West Indies, Nos. 3273, 761; Gulf of Mexico, No. 392; Cuba, No. 2579; Florida Strait, No. 1217; lat. $23^{\circ} 40'$ N. to Old Bahama Channel, No. 2009; Plan of Cay Francés on Chart No. 2384. Also, List of Lights, Part VIII, 1907, No. 1842; West India Pilot, Vol. II 1899, page 504; and Supplement, 1904, page 47.

No. 555.—ICELAND—SOUTH COAST.

Elizabeth Bank—Non-Existence of.

Information, dated 11th April, 1907, has been received from the Danish Government that a search has been made for Elizabeth Bank, off the south coast of Iceland, over an area comprised between the parallels of $62^{\circ} 21'$ and $62^{\circ} 34'$ North latitude, and the meridians of $16^{\circ} 48'$ and $17^{\circ} 25'$ West longitude, without finding any indication of shoal water, no bottom being obtained with from 130 to 150 fathoms of line out. This bank has, therefore, been expunged from the charts.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—North Polar Chart, No. 274; Ocean Soundings, No. 2936; Arctic Ocean, No. 2282; North Atlantic, Nos. 2059 and 2060a; Iceland and the Færoe Islands, No. 2740. Also, Arctic Pilot, Vol. II, 1901, page 61.

No. 556.—NORTH SEA—NETHERLANDS.

Ems River—Temporary Tide Gauges.

The Netherlands Government has given Notice, dated 17th April, 1907, that the undermentioned self-registering tide gauges will be placed on dolphins temporarily erected for the purpose in the following positions in the Ems River:

1. In the Ranzelgat in approximately lat. $53^{\circ} 30' 38''$ N., long. $6^{\circ} 48' 35''$ E.
2. In the eastern Ems, in approximately lat. $53^{\circ} 30' 30''$ N., long. $6^{\circ} 55' 30''$ E.

3. In the Duke Gat in approximately lat. $53^{\circ} 26' 45''$ N., long. $6^{\circ} 53' 55''$ E.

This Notice affects temporarily the following Admiralty Chart:—Mouths of the Ems, No. 3509. Also, North Sea Pilot, 1901, page 170; and Supplement, 1906, page 29.

No. 557.—BRAZIL—EAST COAST.

Abrolhos Rocks—Shoal Reported South-Eastward of.

With reference to Notice to Mariners No. 330 of 1891:—

Information, dated 15th April, 1907, has been received through the Board of Trade that the Master of the steamship Oceano reports that, when passing south-eastward of Abrolhos Rocks at 10 A.M. on the 10th of March last, his vessel, drawing 21 feet, took the ground in a position from which Abrolhos Rock Light bore N. 17° W., distant about $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The bottom appeared to be red sand.

Approximate position, lat. $18^{\circ} 8'$ S., long. $38^{\circ} 36'$ W.

The ship California struck, in 1891, about 2 miles to the eastward of this position, it is evident, therefore, that one if not two shoals exist in this locality.

[Variation 13° Westerly in 1907.]

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Pernambuco to Victoria, No. 529; Itacolomis to Rio Doce, No. 3157. Also, South America Pilot, Part I, 1902, page 164; and Supplement, 1906, page 10.

No. 558.—SOUTH AMERICA—TIERRA DEL FUEGO.

Dynevor Sound—Dangers in.

The Chilean Government has given notice, dated 25th February, 1907, of the existence of the undermentioned dangers in Dynevor Sound:—

1. A breaker, apparently caused by a shoal, situated about 2 miles to the north-westward of Child Island.

Approximate position, lat. $53^{\circ} 18\frac{1}{2}'$ S., long. $73^{\circ} 50\frac{1}{2}'$ W.

2. A patch of kelp situated about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles north-eastward of Child Island.

Approximate position, lat. $53^{\circ} 19'$ S., long. $73^{\circ} 45\frac{1}{4}'$ W.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Magellan Strait, No. 554; Second Narrows to Cape Pillar, No. 21. Also, South America Pilot, Part II, 1905, page 69.

No. 559.—SPAIN—WEST COAST.

Cape Finisterre—Fog Siren Replaced Temporarily by Rockets.

The Spanish Government has given notice, dated 13th April, 1907, that, in consequence of the fog siren being disabled, rockets will be fired, during thick or foggy weather, from Cape