



The Edinburgh Gazette.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 1876.

DOWNING STREET, June 22, 1876.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal for the annexation of certain territories known as Fingoland, the Idutywa Reserve, and Nomansland, to the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

BOARD OF TRADE, WHITEHALL GARDENS,

June 20, 1876.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the Albert Medal of the Second Class on—

LIEUTENANT ALFRED CARPENTER, R.N., of Her Majesty's Ship 'Challenger.'

The following is an account of the services in respect of which the decoration has been conferred:—

At 10.30 P.M. on the 31st January 1876, while the 'Challenger' was at anchor in Stanley Harbour, Falkland Islands, in five fathoms of water, distant a quarter of a mile from the shore, Thomas Bush, an Able Seaman, fell overboard from the steam pinnace, which was coming alongside, and sank without uttering a cry. The night was dark, the weather very boisterous and

raining, there was a short chopping sea (which rendered swimming extremely difficult), and an outsetting current.

LIEUTENANT CARPENTER, without a moment's hesitation, jumped from the gangway, and swam towards the spot where the man disappeared, which was some twenty feet from the ship, and touched him with his feet under water. He then dived, seized hold of Bush, and brought him to the surface, and supported him from three to five minutes; but Bush being a very heavy man, and encumbered with thick water-proof clothing, and, moreover, being quite insensible, LIEUTENANT CARPENTER, as he got exhausted with his exertions, was obliged to let him slip down. He supported him with his legs for a few moments, and then they were both hauled into the pinnace, and taken on board the 'Challenger.'

When picked up, they were between forty and fifty yards from the ship's stern, which distance they were drifted by the current and wind. Every effort was at once made by the medical officers to restore Bush, but without success.

There were several patches of floating kelp round the ship, amongst which the strongest swimmer would be helpless, which materially increased the risk incurred.

From the unusual and strange fact that the man was not seen from the time of his falling overboard until brought to the surface by LIEUTENANT CARPENTER, no boat, but for his prompt action, could have attempted to save the man with any chance of success.