

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,  
December 21, 1867.*

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

JOHN RICKETT, A.B., of Her Majesty's ship "Clio."

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

On the 24th May, 1866, whilst Her Majesty's ship "Clio" was lying at anchor off the Ajia-bampo, on the coast of Mexico, a boy named Thomas (or Tom) Walton, belonging to her, fell into the sea from a stage outside the ship. He was unable to swim, and was sinking the third time, when JOHN RICKETT jumped into the water, brought him to the surface, got him to the ship's cable, and there supported him for ten or fifteen minutes, when the ship's boat reached them.

A man named Card assisted to hold the boy up from overhead.

There was a heavy sea on at the time, and the port was known to be infested with sharks, and just as the ship's boat came up, RICKETT, who was at the time still suffering from the effects of an attack of coast fever, and was in consequence very weak, relaxed his hold of the cable, and himself dropped into the water, from which he was picked up just in time to save his life. Both were insensible when taken into the boat.

*Board of Trade, Whitehall  
December 21, 1867.*

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the decoration of "The Albert Medal of the First Class" on:—

A. T. SHUTTLEWORTH, Esq., Deputy Conservator of Forests at Alibagh.

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

On the 22nd July, 1866, the "Berwickshire" ran on Chawool Kadoo Reef. Mr. SHUTTLEWORTH went to her assistance in a fisherman's canoe, and, after two days' exertions, succeeded in landing six men in one of the ship's boats. Mr. SHUTTLEWORTH again proceeded to the ship with the fishermen in another boat in so dangerous a sea that some of the "Berwickshire's" seamen, who had landed, and the coolies of Colaba, to whom a large reward was offered, declined to take a message to her. After rowing for three hours, the boat having twice filled to the thwarts, he reached the vessel, and informed the captain of her true position, and remained on board to give assistance.

On the 1st August, 1866, the "Die Vernon" ran on the Chawool Kadoo Reef, near Alibagh. Mr. SHUTTLEWORTH put off in a boat with ten native fishermen, and by his coolness was the means of averting a greater loss of life than that which unhappily took place. The boat was dashed against the vessel's side and capsized, throwing all her crew into the water, and, while endeavouring to save some of these, Mr. SHUTTLEWORTH was washed overboard. He, however, regained the vessel, and was for two hours lashed in the mizen rigging. He refused to forsake the captain and carpenter who were helpless, and eventually succeeded in saving the captain. The carpenter was washed away and drowned.

On the 18th July, 1867, the ship "Terzah" was wrecked about south-east of Kennery. Mr.

SHUTTLEWORTH put off in a life-boat manned by fishermen, and succeeded in bringing off the captain and thirteen men out of a crew of thirty-one. Eight others came on shore on pieces of wreck. This service was rendered by Mr. SHUTTLEWORTH and his crew at great peril of their lives. The sea was breaking very heavily all round the ship and washing over her.

(C. 1773.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,  
December 23, 1867.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, an extract from the "Journal de St. Petersburg," announcing that the new Russian Customs' Tariff will not be brought into operation till the 1st January, 1869.

(C. 1780.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,  
December 23, 1867.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Guatemala, reporting that "by a Decree of the President of Honduras, dated the 10th September last, the duty payable on the exportation of indigo is reduced from four rials (2s.) to one rial (6d.) per arroba, or weight of 25 lbs. By the same Decree a fine of 10 dollars is imposed on those who adulterate the article, and the indigo adulterated is declared to be confiscated: finally workmen employed in its cultivation are exempted from military service."

(C. 1782.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,  
December 23, 1867.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Malaga, reporting that "by virtue of two recent dispositions of the Spanish Government, a considerable augmentation is established in the navigation dues levied on steam ships trading to the ports of that Kingdom."

"Until lately the duties on anchorage and lights (one real or 2½d. per ton for each) were levied only once on the voyage made by a vessel navigating to one or more ports in Spain. At present, in the case of steamers, those dues are doubled, being exacted both on the inward and the outward voyage. The measure does not extend to sailing vessels; and it is applicable to national as well as to foreign flags."

(C. 1789.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,  
December 23, 1867.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing copy and translation of a Decree, dated December 10, by the Spanish Government, sanctioning the importation of grain and other articles (hereinafter specified), into