

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Pacific Ocean, south-west sheet, No. 780; Fiji Islands to Samoa Islands, No. 1829; Fiji Islands, No. 2691; Kandavu Passage to Kowata Island, No. 845 (4). Also, Sailing Directions for the Pacific Islands, Vol. II, 1891, pages 217, 218, 138.

No. 72.—SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN.

Particulars of Certain Banks between Ellice and New Hebrides Islands.

NOTICE is given that the Turpie, Alexa, and Hazelholm Banks have been recently surveyed by Captain A. M. Field, Her Majesty's surveying vessel "Penguin," also that a new bank, now named "Penguin," has been discovered and the position of the Louisa Bank ascertained.

The particulars of these banks are as follows:—

1. Turpie Bank is 22 miles in length in a north-west and south-east direction, and 10 miles in breadth, with a general depth of 24 to 27 fathoms; but with a narrow ridge running the whole length of its north-eastern edge, the least depth on which is 15 fathoms.

Approximate position, S.E. extreme, latitude $11^{\circ} 31' 30''$ S., longitude $175^{\circ} 54' 0''$ E.

Approximate position, N.W. extreme, latitude $11^{\circ} 19' 0''$ S., longitude $175^{\circ} 34' 30''$ E.

2. Penguin Bank, nearly circular in form, with a diameter of about 8 miles, has a narrow ridge round its edge, on which the depths are from 15 to 20 fathoms, and inside the ridge soundings of from 23 to 26 fathoms.

Approximate position of its centre, lat. $11^{\circ} 27'$ S., long. $175^{\circ} 29'$ E.

3. Alexa Bank is in the form of a triangle, the apex being its west extremity and the base to the eastward, and is 18 miles in length east and west with a base of about 10 miles. Round its edge is a ridge, the depths on which are from 13 to 17 fathoms, whilst in the centre they are from 24 to 27 fathoms. Close search having failed to detect less water, the 8 fathoms and rock previously marked in the Admiralty Chart have been expunged.

Approximate position, western extreme, lat. $11^{\circ} 36\frac{1}{2}'$ S., long. $175^{\circ} 7'$ E.

Approximate position, north-eastern extreme, lat. $11^{\circ} 29'$ S., long. $175^{\circ} 20'$ E.

Approximate position, south-eastern extreme, lat. $11^{\circ} 39\frac{1}{2}'$ S., long. $175^{\circ} 23\frac{1}{2}'$ E.

4. Hazelholm Bank is five miles in length in a north-east and south-west direction and $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in breadth, with a general depth over it of 24 fathoms, a ridge with from 17 to 20 fathoms encircling its northern edge.

Approximate position, centre, lat. $12^{\circ} 48'$ S., long. $174^{\circ} 1\frac{1}{2}'$ E.

5. Louisa Bank:—Depths of 17 fathoms were obtained on the western edge of this bank, in approximately lat. $11^{\circ} 45'$ S., long. $175^{\circ} 56'$ E.; but the bank has not yet been properly examined.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Chart:—Pacific Ocean, south-west sheet, No. 780. Also, Sailing Directions for Pacific Islands, Vol. I, 1890, pages 343, 344.

No. 73.—AUSTRALIA—INNER ROUTE.

Dangers Recently Found Between Night Island and Zed (z) Reef.

INFORMATION has been received from Lieutenant and Commander W. V. Howard, Her Majesty's surveying vessel "Dart," of the existence of the undermentioned dangers between Night Island and Zed (z) Reef, found in a recent survey of the locality:—

1. Glennie Reef, of coral, dries 3 to 4 feet at low water springs, and is about a quarter of a mile long in a north-east and south-west direction and two cables broad; with foul ground stretching half a mile westward of it.

From the centre of the reef the beacon on Tih Tih (tt) Reef bears W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S., distant $11\frac{1}{2}$ cables; and beacon on Vec (v) Reef N. by W. $\frac{1}{4}$ W.

Approximate position, on Chart No. 2921, lat. $13^{\circ} 8' 40''$ S., long. $143^{\circ} 37' 15''$ E.

2. Morris Rock, a small coral knoll with a least depth of $5\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms on it at low water springs, and 12 to 13 fathoms close around, is situated with the beacon on Vee (v) Reef bearing N. by E., distant $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles; and High Round Hill (1543) W. $\frac{3}{4}$ N.

3. Ashton Rock, of coral, with a least depth of 5 feet at low water springs near its centre; general depths of 2 to 3 fathoms, and 7 to 8 fathoms around, is about a cable long and half a cable broad. From its centre Cape Direction southern summit (500) bears N. W., distant $3\frac{1}{10}$ miles; and Chapman Island (No. X) N.E. by E. $\frac{3}{4}$ E.

4. Halloran Rock, of coral, with a depth of 26 feet on it at low water springs, and 15 to 16 fathoms close around, is situated with the beacon on Wye (y) Reef bearing S.S.E. $\frac{3}{4}$ E., distant $10\frac{1}{2}$ cables; and Cape Direction northern summit (411) S.W.

NOTE.—The positions given are with reference to the position of the land in the vicinity, which is not absolutely correct as shown on the present charts.

In due course the charts will be corrected from the recent surveys, and the existing charts will then be cancelled.

[Variation 5° Easterly in 1897.]

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Claremont Point to Cape Direction, No. 2921 (1-4); Cape Direction to Cape Grenville, No. 2920 (3, 4). Also, Australia Directory, Vol. II, 1889, pages 373-376.

No. 74.—SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC.

Further Search for La Brillante Shoal.

WITH reference to Notice to Mariners No. 513 of 1896:—

Information has been received from Commander J. W. Combe, Her Majesty's surveying vessel "Waterwitch," that he has recently made a close search, during two days, round a beacon anchored in 1,200 fathoms on the elevation, from a bottom of a general depth of 2,000 fathoms, found in the former examination of La Brillante Shoal, in approximately lat. $23^{\circ} 14'$ S., long. $170^{\circ} 6'$ E., but no less water could be found.

La Brillante Shoal has consequently been expunged from the Admiralty Charts.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Atlantic and Indian Oceans, No. 2483; Pacific Ocean, No. 2683; Pacific, South-West Sheet, No. 780; New Caledonia, &c., No. 1380. Also, Sailing Directions for the Pacific Islands, Vol. I, Part II, 1893, pages 16, 17.

No. 75.—WEST INDIES—PUERTO RICO.

Amended Position of Guanica Lighthouse.

WITH reference to Notice to Mariners No. 604 of 1892, on the exhibition of a light near Guanica, the exact position of which light was not known:—Information has been received through Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Porto Rico that the lighthouse at Guanica (fixed white light; other particulars as given in List of Lights, Part VIII, 1896, No. 1060a*) is situated on pta. de la