



Engraved chart, lighthouse and beacon picked out in yellow and red, minor staining.

KARIMATA STRAIT

Carimata Strait.

Author

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Publication date

1st Aug. 1881. Large corrections June, 1883, Septr. 83, April 1885, July 1886.

Publisher

Admiralty,

Publication place

London,

Physical description

Engraved chart, lighthouse and beacon picked out in yellow and red, minor staining.

Dimensions

1010 by 690mm (39.75 by 27.25 inches).

Notes

Detailed British Admiralty chart of Karimata Strait, Southeast Asia.

The chart marks soundings, hazards of the sea, and magnetic variation, with principal ports and rivers marked.

The Karimata Strait, is a body of water that connects the south China sea to the Java Sea. The chart is principally based on Dutch surveys of the waters, carried out between 1880 and 1885. The Netherlands at the time was the major colonial power in the region, though the chart also mentions contributions from HMS surveying vessels *Sylvia*, *Nassau*, and *Flying Fish*.

The British Hydrographic Office was founded in 1795 by George III, who appointed Alexander Dalrymple as the first Hydrographer to the Admiralty. The first charts were produced in 1800. Unlike the U. S. Coast Survey the Hydrographic Office was given permission to sell charts to the public and they produced a great number of sea charts covering every corner of the globe. Most of the Admiralty charts produced by the Hydrographic Office delineated coastline as well as high and low water marks and record depth of water as established by soundings. In addition these charts included information on shoals, reefs, and other navigational hazards that plagued mariners across the world. Thanks to the innovations of Sir Francis Beaufort, who developed the Beaufort Scale of wind strength, the British Hydrographic Office became one of the leading producers of sea charts. In fact, such was their accuracy that the phrase 'Safe as an Admiralty Chart' was coined.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price: £250

Inventory reference: 24126