

and judicious manner in which the service was conducted by the officer commanding, Captain O'Callaghan, and to the zealous, steady, and gallant support he received from Commanders Parker and Woolcombe, and from the officers commanding the Portuguese lorchas, and the American steamer; and from Lieutenants Charles Fellowes, Wray Palliser, J. E. Montgomerie, H. W. Fox, R. N., and C. W. Burton, R. M., and from the gentlemen commanding the two Peninsular and Oriental steamers, and from all the officers, seamen, and marines employed, with only one solitary instance of inebriety, amidst a profusion of spirits.

7. Captain O'Callaghan's further proceedings, on leaving Coulan, are detailed in his Report annexed (Enclosure No. 8); and I beg in conclusion to express the satisfaction I feel at the successes thus achieved, and that I shall continue to avail myself while here of every opportunity to carry out the views and intentions, thus happily so far successful, in repressing the depredations which threatened the very existence of this colony, and of all commerce on the coasts adjacent.

I have, &c.

Js. STIRLING,

Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

*The Secretary of the Admiralty,
London.*

Enclosure No. 1.

*The Imperial Commissioner Yeh Ming Shin to
Mr Consul Robertson.*

YEH, Imperial High Commissioner, Governor-General of the two Kwang Provinces, &c., &c., makes this declaration in reply.

On the 13th day of the 9th month (3d November), I received your representation to the following effect. [Here are quoted the principal portions of Mr Robertson's letter of the date named.] With respect to the pirates who infest the river, I have to state that for some time past I have kept a fleet of several hundred vessels cruising against them and guarding exposed points. You mention that Sir James Stirling, the Admiral of your honourable Nation, has arrived at Hong Kong, accompanied by war steamers, and you request that a vessel may be despatched to co-operate with them in searching for and destroying pirates. I have, in compliance with this, sent directions to the Commandant on the Ta-Pang Station to proceed on the service described, with a naval force; and I now reply to acquaint you with the same.

A Declaration.

To the British Consul Robertson.

Hienfung, 4th year, 9th month, 14th day (4th November 1854.)

True translation.

(Signed) M. C. MORRISON, Interpreter.

True Copy.

(Signed) J. HYNDMAN.

Enclosure No. 2.

*Winchester, at Hong Kong,
October 31, 1854.*

SIR,

HAVING received from his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of this Colony, and also from Mr Robertson, Acting-Superintendent of Trade in this quarter, representations setting forth the very serious and alarming extent to which piratical depredations have been recently carried on in this neighbourhood, it becomes necessary to take such

effectual measures as may be in my power to apply to the correction of this evil.

It is therefore my intention to employ you in H. M. steam-ship under your command, together with such further force as may be from time to time required, upon that service. You will accordingly apply yourself with all possible assiduity to obtain from the proper quarters correct information in regard to the haunts and habits, resources, and general condition of those who devote themselves to these criminal practices; and with this view you will use your own judgment as to visiting any place or anchorage within 100 miles of this port, as you may deem expedient, keeping me informed of your motions, and communicating with me, if possible, before you engage in any operation of importance.

I have arranged already with his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to afford you any aid you may desire in pilots and otherwise; and I send you herewith a letter addressed to his Excellency the Governor of Macao, who has given assurances that he will afford his valuable assistance in the prosecution of this service.

Following up the general instructions herein given, you will, as soon as the Encounter shall be ready, proceed to Macao, and from thence to any part of the coast in this vicinity you may deem expedient, for the purpose of reconnoitring.

On Saturday next, the 4th proximo, you will rejoin me at this anchorage, by which time I expect important communications on the subject from the Viceroy at Canton.

I need scarcely remind you, in the execution of this service, of the necessity of conforming to the 8th article, page 23, chapter 10, of the standing printed orders of this station, or that it is absolutely necessary to distinguish between acts of piracy committed in view upon the high sea upon British subjects, and acts of robbery within the waters and jurisdiction of China, by Chinese upon their fellow-subjects. In the former case you have full authority to interfere, but in the latter case the right and duty of interference belongs to the authorities of China, to whom our aid may be given to a reasonable extent.

I am, &c.

(Signed) Js. STIRLING.

*Captain G. W. D. O'Callaghan,
H. M. Steam ship Encounter.*

Enclosure No. 3.

*H. M. Ship Winchester, Hong Kong,
November 4, 1854.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to lay before you the enclosed letter from Lieutenant Fellowes, reporting the proceedings of the force employed against pirates in the boats of Her Majesty's ships Winchester and Spartan, under his command, on the 2d instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS WILSON, Captain.

*His Excellency Rear-Admiral Sir James
Stirling, Commander-in-Chief.*

*H. M. Ship Winchester, Hong Kong,
November 3, 1854.*

SIR,

I HAVE to report the return of the boats of Her Majesty's ships Winchester and Spartan, which you did me the honour to place under my command on the evening of the 1st instant, and the result of their proceedings.