

sular and Oriental Company's service, and the United States' chartered steam-vessel Queen, parted company.

Thus the squadron you did me the honour to place under my command was broken up, and it only now remains for me to state how perfectly satisfied I am with all. The greatest good feeling has existed among officers and men. To Commander Scarmihia, of the Portuguese lorch Amazon, to Lieutenant Prebles, in command of the United States' chartered vessel Queen, my best thanks are due for their zealous and gallant co-operation with Her Majesty's ship under my command. From Commanders Parker and Woolcombe I have received every assistance; and it is to them and the officers already mentioned as forming their respective divisions, and with the active assistance alluded to above in carrying out my views and wishes, that the expedition owes its success. For Lieutenant Fellowes, senior lieutenant of your flag ship, I beg to assure you I cannot say too much in his praise—always ready and willing for anything. Lieutenant Palliser, of Her Majesty's ship Spartan, has also given me much satisfaction, and I regret to say he is now suffering from his exertions. Lieutenant Montgomerie, senior lieutenant of my own ship, is an officer in whom I can place the greatest confidence, and I selected him in consequence for the peculiar and difficult duty of searching for the pirates at Coulan, in the execution of which there was so much danger of the innocent suffering. I also, when I thought it was my duty to quit my ship, felt at my ease knowing he was on board. Mr Raymond and the other master of the squadron deserve credit for the manner in which the ships have been navigated in water very often not a foot more than they drew.

In conclusion, I must further beg to call your attention to the very steady conduct of the respective ships' companies; there was a great quantity of spirits in some of the junks, yet I heard of but one case of drunkenness. The service has been attended with considerable fatigue, which has been borne most cheerfully, and I trust you may feel it in your power to recommend those employed to the favourable consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I beg to enclose a statement of the services performed since the 2d instant; also Mr Raymond's remark on the N.W. branch of the River Broadway.

Mr Percy Earl, master's assistant of this ship, formed one of the party in the attack of Coulan on the 13th instant; his name was unintentionally omitted in my report.

I have, &c.,  
G. O'CALLAGHAN,  
Captain.

*Statement of service performed by the Crews of Her Majesty's ships Encounter, Barracouta, and Styx, and the launch of the Winchester, and pinnace of the Spartan, between the 2d and 17th November 1854.*

At Ty-Ho. The whole of the junks, 17 in number, were destroyed; 6 guns taken by Winchester's boat, delivered to Marshal of Admiralty Court at Hong Kong; 7 guns taken by Spartan's boat, disposed of in like manner; 2 guns taken and retained by the United States' chartered steam-vessel Queen; and 10 guns destroyed with the junks and sunk. Number of pirates killed unknown. From 50 to 60 prisoners taken by the Chinese authorities.

At COULAN and the neighbourhood, 50 junks destroyed; also two batteries, mounting 20 and 7 guns respectively; 17 guns taken by the Chinese authorities, and 6 by the Queen; 27 guns sunk and destroyed, being too heavy to embark without considerable waste of time; 15 guns thrown overboard by the pirates themselves from 3 junks off Cow-Kok; and from 50 to 60 pirates killed; 4 prisoners (13 were taken, 9 of whom either have been or are to be released by the mandarin).

Totals.—67 junks burnt, being in such positions that it would have taken a very long time, and would have been attended with considerable exposure and fatigue to have removed them.

90 guns taken or destroyed.

50 to 60 pirates killed.

54 to 60 prisoners, as above stated.

The whole of the junks were capable of having crews of from 20 to 40 men each; allowing therefore an average of 30 men for each junk, there would not have been less than 2,000 pirates, of whom 115 may be said to be either taken or killed. A large quantity of ammunition was also destroyed.

G. O'CALLAGHAN, Captain.

In consideration of the above services the following promotions have this day taken place:—

Lieutenant Charles Fellowes to the rank of Commander.

Mr William Ormonde Butler, Mate, to the rank of Lieutenant.

WAR-DEPARTMENT, January 27, 1855.

HIS Grace the Duke of Newcastle has received a Despatch, of which the following is a copy, addressed to His Grace by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B. :—

*Before Sevastopol,*

MY LORD DUKE, *January 13, 1855.*

THE weather continues very severe, and to-day it blows a gale of wind, with drifting snow.

Although I have not received the official report from the officer commanding the 4th Division, the officer of the Quartermaster-General's department, whose duty it is to visit the advanced posts at daylight, has brought in an account of a sortie made by the Russians in the course of last night upon our right and left attack, the enemy advancing under protection of a heavy cannonade along the Woronzow road and the ravine on our extreme left.

The enemy succeeded in driving in the troops in the advanced trench, which was not re-occupied until the reserves were brought forward from the second parallel.

A party in pits on the right of the advanced trench, consisting of 1 serjeant and 13 rank and file, are missing, and 1 officer and 36 privates are stated to be wounded.

The time for the despatch of the mail being at hand, I am very sorry that I shall not be able to send your Grace to-day a more accurate statement of this affair.

I inclose a Return of casualties between the 8th and 11th.

Great progress is making in disembarking and issuing to the troops vast quantities of warm clothing of all descriptions; and I believe I may assert that every man in this Army has received a second blanket, a jersey frock, flannel drawers, and socks, and some kind of winter coat, in addition to the ordinary great-coat.

The provision of fuel is still a great difficulty.