

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 Woollcombe 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 2nd 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'CALLAGAN,
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 2nd 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.

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At COULAN and the neighbourhood. 50 junks destroyed; also 2 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 thirty men for each junk, there would not have been less than 2000 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.

Downing-Street, January 25, 1855.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Adolphe Autard de Bragard, Esq., to be District Magistrate for the island of Mauritius; Edward Bullock Andrews, Esq., to be Colonial Secretary for Her Majesty's Forts and Settlements on the Gold Coast; and James Caulfield, Esq., to be Treasurer for the island of Ceylon.

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
January 24, 1855.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Morocco, reporting the following concessions in favour of commerce, viz.:

1. A reduction of 30 okeats in the export duty on washed wool, which will now be 90 okeats per 100 lbs.; and of 20 okeats in that on uncleaned wool, which will now be 60 okeats per 100 lbs.

2. A reduction of 10 okeats in the export duty on olive oil, which will now be 60 okeats for 100 lbs.

3. Permission for the tribes of Shedna, Haha, and Een Toja to bring skins, the produce of those provinces, to the Mogador Market, on payment of 1 okeat per skin to Government.

4. Permission to sell calf skins on payment of 40 okeats per 100 lbs.

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
January 24, 1855.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Lisbon, enclosing a Decree of the Portuguese Government, allowing the free importation of wheat, Indian corn, barley, rye, and oats till the end of June next, through all the ports of continental Portugal.