

legs were taken off. The enclosed list of wounded is large, and painfully distressing to us all, as including the death of a valuable officer—the Master, already reported to your Excellency from Sheipoo Harbour, where he was buried. But considering the number of guns bearing upon us, and the determined way the pirates served them for the first half hour, it is wonderful the casualties were not much more numerous. The greater part of the fire passed over us, and the rigging, sails, &c., were much cut up; besides twenty-five shot in the hull, the boom boats, fore-yard, fore-top-sail yard, &c., were shot through.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) E. W. VANSITTART,  
Commander.

*His Excellency Rear Admiral  
Sir James Stirling, Kt.*

*A List of Men who have received wounds or hurts on board Her Majesty's sloop Bittern 18th September, 1855.*

- M. 3 C. 20. William Hanvey, aged 25, Private, R.M., wound of right leg by round shot, amputation below the knee.  
S. Co. 74. Thomas Ellis, aged 21, Ordinary Seaman, wound of left leg by round shot, amputation below the knee.  
B. 2nd C. 22. James Brownlee, aged 15, Boy 2nd C., wound of left leg by a splinter from round shot, amputation below the knee.  
1st List. 2. Mr. Charles Turner, aged 32, Master, very severe lacerated wound of right side of abdomen, by a round shot. Died on the 22nd September.  
1. Mr. G. A. C. Brooker, aged 25, Lieutenant, slight splinter wound of right cheek.  
S. Co. 18. John Ridley, aged 26, A.B., slight contused wound of right hand.  
43. John Flynn, aged 23, A.B., contusion of scrotum and testicles.  
B. 1 C. 15. George Scott, aged 19, Boy 1st C., slight splinter wound of right foot.  
M. 3 C. 5. Eljial Mordey, aged 30, Corporal, R.M., contused wound of left shin.  
16. John Claw, aged 23, Private, R.M., contused wound of right heel by a shot.  
M. not C. 1. Benjamin Matthews, aged 42, Sergeant, R.M., splinter wound of scalp, back of head.

*19th September. Wounded on shore.*

- S. Co. 72. Robert Funnell, aged 32, A.B., lacerated wound of left cheek and face (slight).  
29. Andrew Carfral, aged 21, Ordinary Seaman, contused wound of left hand (slight).  
S. L. W. and V. 1. Robert Livingstone, aged 22, Ordinary Seaman, contused wound of fingers of left hand (slight).  
S. Co. 65. John Bennett, aged 28, A.B., contusion of left arm by bullet (slight).  
19. Henry Fordhan, aged 25, A.B., wound of left foot (slight).

*Men who suffered from the Sun whilst on Shore, 19th September.*

- S. Co. 27. James James, aged 24, A.B., severe headache and fever.  
B. 1 C. 18. William Woodley, aged 19, Boy, 1st C., severe headache and fever.  
S. Co. 8. Peter Pinkerton, aged 21, Ordinary Seaman, severe headache and fever.  
M. 3 C. 21. George Tweedale, aged 23, Private, R.M., severe headache and fever.  
18. Thomas Stevens, aged 30, Private. R.M., very great pain of head, and fever. Died on 24th September.

19. John Wallis, aged 28, Private, R.M., severe headache and fever.

S. Co. 14. Charles Wichelo, aged 24, A.B., severe headache and fever.

(Signed) GEORGE GORDON,  
Acting Surgeon.

Approved.

(Signed) E. W. VANSITTART,  
Commander.

*Winchester, at Hong Kong,  
October 30, 1855.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 22nd of September and of the 5th October, in relation to your operations against the pirates in the neighbourhood of Sheipoo; in the course of which, with the aid of your well-trained and efficient ship's company, you appear to have accomplished one of the most remarkable exploits within my knowledge.

It will afford me the greatest pleasure to bring to the notice of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your transactions above mentioned, and to point their attention to the excellent conduct of all who were engaged in the occurrences referred to, and more especially to the cases of Lieutenant Brooker and of the late lamented Mr. Turner, and of Messrs. Todd, Newton, and Sinclair, and of the Captains of Guns, Mattless and Hurneyman.

The satisfaction caused by the good conduct thus evinced would indeed be without alloy, if it were not accompanied by deep regret at the losses and injuries sustained. Although personally but little known to me, I was well aware of Mr. Turner's merits; and I trust the Admiralty may, with its usual liberality, consider the position in which his family are left by his death. To the other cases reported in your return of casualties I shall give my earliest attention on the arrival of the Bittern at this port, with the hope of alleviating in some small degree the fate of those severely wounded, by an early transmission to their native country.

With reference to the part which fell to your own share in these operations, it will be highly gratifying to me to bear testimony to the zeal, skill, and intrepidity, you have displayed in this, as well as on two previous occasions within the present year, and I feel assured their Lordships will feel as much pleasure in receiving, as I shall have in communicating so favourable a representation of your conduct in your present command.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) JS. STIRLING,  
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

*Commander Vansittart,  
Her Majesty's sloop, Bittern.*

In consideration of the services, mentioned in the above despatches—

Commander Edward Westby Vansittart and Commander William Abdy Fellowes have been promoted to the rank of Captain;

Lieutenant George Augustus Cooke Brooker has been promoted to the rank of Commander; and Mr. John James, Boatswain of the Rattler, has been advanced to the 2nd Class;

Mr. Richard Brownsdon, Paymaster of the Rattler, Mr. George Gordon, Acting-Surgeon of the Bittern, and Mr. George B. Newton, Assistant-Surgeon of the Bittern, have been noted for favourable consideration.