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No. 26.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified, that the Privilege for the Sale of prepared Opium has been granted by His Excellency The Governor in Council to CHUN-TAI-KWONG, of the MAN-CHEONG Shop, for Twelve Months, from the 1st of April,

By Order,

W. T BRIDGES. Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoria, Hongkong, 20th March, 1858.

本 起 行 矩 熟 玆 陳 特 月 年 鴉 本 准 片 港 期 承 示 萬 煙 所 帤 日 於 充 祥 規 賣

No. 13.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency Sir John Bowring, LL.D., Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of British Trade in China, &c., &c., has received from His Excellency Rear-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, K.C.B., Her Majesty's Naval Commander-in-Chief, copy of the following Despatch from Lieutenant Villiers, of Her Majesty's steamer Starling, announcing the complete success of the Expedition directed by him against the Pirates who captured the schooner Heather Bell, belonging to this Port.

Superintendency of Trade, Victoria, Hongkong, 22d March, 1858.

G. W. CAINE.

## H. M. GUNBOAT Starling, Hongkong, 18th March, 1858.

H. M. Gunboar Starling, Hongkong, 18th March, 1858.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with Your Excellency's order of the 16th inst., I proceeded at 6.15 A.M. towards Toung Kon, the island named by the Chinese Pilot, accompanying Mr McAlister. I stopped off a point to the southward of Deep Bay, and sent the Pilot on shore in the Calcutta's cutter to obtain information from the inhabitants of the Village on that point. The cutter returned bringing with her two Fishermen, who stated that the schooner in question had been off that point from 10.30 A.M. till 5 P.M., on the 16th instant, when the Junks took her towards Deep Bay, where I followed. I also examined a Chinese Scaman belonging to Mr Gibb's schooner, who brought the news to Hongkong, and who stated he saw a schooher off Tung Shee Lang attacked by seven Junks.

The men belonging to the schooner in question state, that seven Junks attacked her off Tung Shee Lang, on the morning of the 16th instant at 9 o'clock, boarding her, killing the Portuguese in charge, one Manilaman, and one negro Scaman, and wounding three men—two severely, one slightly. They took the schooner to the place above referred to, and in the evening at 5 o'clock took her to Deep Bay, where they ran her on shore. They also state that a quantity of Wine and Spirits belonging to one of the crew was taken away by the Pirates.

On proceeding up Deep Bay about 4½ miles, I discovered the schooner on shore surrounded by five Junks of various sizes.

Immediately they perceived us, the smaller ones ran on shore close to the schooner, but two larger ones made off. About a mile from the schooner, having so little water, I anchored, and with the boats named in the margin\* shoved off, and proceeded in chase of those nearest. On arriving within rifle shot, their crews landed and ran behind the hills adjacent. I boarded the nearest, a smaller boat than the others, and found some gingalls. Finding it unavailing to move her, I destroyed this Junk. In the meantime, Lieutenant Vivian a

's Pinnace, Mr Bylos, Midshipman, Mr Murphy, Assistant Surgeon, 16 men ; Cutter, Lieutenant Vivian, Mr A. Court, Midshipman, 11 men ; H. M., Lieutenant and Commander Villiers, 7 men.—Total 40.

ceed, it to chase and board one of those on shore, but finding that she was hard and fast, and descrted, proceeded for the two larger ones. As I showed call in my gig, when about 100 yards from the shore, the Pirates opened a heavy fire of musicarry and gingalls, from a battery and men can be also be a supported in my gig, when about 100 yards from the shore, the Pirates opened a heavy fire of musicarry and gingalls, from a battery and men factor and Pinace opened the point, behind which the larger Junks had taken refuge, they (the Junks) opened for the larger Junks had taken refuge, they (the Junks) opened for the larger Junks had taken refuge, they (the Junks) opened for the larger Junks had taken refuge, they (the Junks) opened for the larger Junks had taken refuge, they (the Junks) opened for the larger Junks had taken refuge, they (the Junks) opened for the Pirates in the Cutter, and Mr Byles in the Pinace, pushed on, and gallantly captured them. The crews, when they for the pertinactly with which they tried to drown themselves. These men I have brought to Hongkong.

In the two large Junks last captured, there were at the very least 70 men in each.

The armament and number of guns on board the Junks are mentioned hereafter.

When I boarded the two last named Junks, I determined, in consequence of their being so large and valuable, one in particular, to bring them to Hongkong if possible; but this morning finding all my endeavours to float them vain, they were destroyed. I removed seven guns, which I have brought down.

When the tide rose, Mr Molloy, 2d Master, whom I left in charge of this vessel, succeeded in getting off one of the piratical smaller vessels, and used her to get ballast and weights out of the schooner; and another circumstance is worth noting, viz., that there are two boards on which have been painted in English figures, numbers similar to those on the boats registered at Hongkong and Macao, but partly erased: this Junk I have brought down.

Leaver conclude without tendering my best thanks

I cannot conclude without tendering my best thanks to all the Officers concerned in this expedition, especially to Mr Molloy, 2d Master, for the allo manner in which, during my absence, he succeeded in getting the Heather Bell off shore. Mr McAlister's local knowledge was this Junk I have brought down.

very useful.

This service has been effected with one slightly wounded, John Lawrence, leading stoker.—I have, &c.,

A. J. VILLIERS, 

His Excellency Rear Admiral Sir MICHAEL SEYMOUR, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief.

RETURN OF GUNS CAPTURED AND DESTROYED.

Coptioned .- Four 9-pounder Guns, two 6-pounder Guns, one 12-pounder Gun. Destroyed.—Two 32-pounder Guns, two 6-pounder Guns, one 12-pounder Guns.

Destroyed.—Two 32-pounder Guns, five 24-pounder Guns, and smaller guns about eight. Small Gingalls, also a large number of implements of warfare, Stinkpots, Spears, &c., and a large number of charges for the guns.

The two larger Junks had—one 32-pounder, one 24-pounder, eight smaller 4 to 9-pounders, one 32-pounder, four 24-pounders, two

smaller 3-pounders. .

(Signed,) A. J. VILLIERS,
Lieutenant and Commander. A. J. VILLIERS,

LIST OF CASUALTIES.

John Lawrence, leading stoker of Starling, contusion (gunshot) over left scapula, slightly.

(Signed,)

JOSEPH MURPHY, Assistant Surgeon.

True Copy,

H. F. HANCE.

Printed at the Office of the China Mail, Hongkong.—PRICE, \$12 per Annum. Single Copies, Thirty-six Cents.

Terms of Advertisements,—Five Lines and under, One Dollar; each Additional Line, Twenty Cents—One-half of these charges for each Repetition.