

gained the Summit of the Eminence obliged the enemy to retreat along the top of the ridge to where Col. Cleveland commanded, and were there stopt by his brave men; a flag was immediately hoisted by Captain Deposture, then commanding officer, (Major Ferguson having been killed a little before,) for a surrender; our fire immediately ceased, and the enemy laid down their arms, the greatest part of them charged, and surrendered themselves prisoners to us at discretion.

It appears from their own provision returns for that day, found in their camp, that their whole force consisted of eleven hundred and twenty-five men—out of which they sustained the following loss. Of the regulars, one Major, one Captain, two Sergeants, and fifteen privates killed, thirty-five privates wounded left on the ground not able to march. Two Captains, four Lieutenants, three Ensigns, one Surgeon, five Sergeants, three corporals, one drummer, and forty-nine privates taken prisoners; loss of the Tories, two Colonels, three Captains, and 201 privates killed; one Major, and 127 privates wounded and left on the ground not able to march; one Colonel, twelve Captains, eleven Lieutenants, two Ensigns, one Quarter Master, one Adjutant, two Commissarys, eighteen Sergeants, and 600 privates taken prisoners. Total loss of the enemy 1105 men at King's Mountain.

Given under our hands at Camp.

WM. CAMPBELL.  
ISAAC SHELBY.  
BENJ. CLEVELAND.

*From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

**ANOTHER LESSON TO THE MALAY PIRATES.**—It will be seen by the annexed letters, that the U. S. frigate *Columbia*, and corvette *John Adams*, under Commodore Read, have inflicted a signal vengeance upon the Malay towas Qualla Battoo and Muk Kee, on the island of Sumatra, for the connexion they were supposed to have had with the piracy and murders committed in their waters on board the American ship *Eclipse*, of Salem. Qualla Battoo was once before visited by one of our frigates, the *Potomac*, and all her forts demolished. For this reason, or some other, Qualla Battoo, on the present occasion, suffered only a moderate infliction, while Muk Kee, a town about 40 miles distant, was demolished and burnt. No lives were lost on the American side, and our letters do not state that any of the Malays perished. The towns appear to have been deserted in anticipation of the attack. The necessity of such severe measures is to be regretted; but, in dealing with savages and pirates, no other mode seems practicable for the protection of our commerce and the lives of our citizens. We trust the Malays will now come to the conclusion that *their own interest* requires them to restrain their cupidity from being exercised upon defenceless merchantmen which may visit their coast. They, probably, until the arrival of the *Potomac*, supposed that America was too remote, or too feeble, to protect its commerce in those seas. It is to be hoped that this delusion is now dissipated, and that hereafter our seamen and cargoes, in that quarter, will find the flag of their country a never failing protection.

The bombardment of Qualla Battoo took place on the 23d of December, and that of Muk Kee on the 1st of January.

*Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce.*

U. S. FRIGATE *COLUMBIA*, }  
Harbor of Singapore, Feb. 5, 1839. }

I have an antipathy to write a document for a newspaper, but I promised occasionally to send you a letter, and feel indebted to do so in view of the pleasure your papers give me, when I am so fortunate as to receive them on our winding track over the oceans of the world. And you will be desirous of knowing what our squadron has been doing on the west coast of Sumatra, or whether we have done any thing, af-

ter you shall have received intelligence of the piratical act of the Malays in the robbery of another American vessel, and the murder of her captain and one of her crew.

The plot for the attack on the ship *Eclipse*, Capt. Wilkins, was originated at Muk Kee, some 40 miles from Quallah Battoo; and part of the persons who committed this murder and robbery, have been protected by the Rajahs of Muk Kee, and a great proportion of the property and money taken to that place. This, therefore, was deemed the principal offending place. We learn that the \$12,000 was divided out, and some of it was received at Quallah Battoo, and also at Soo-Soo, a place three or four miles from Quallah Battoo, and at both of these, according to the acknowledgments of the Rajahs in the conversation held with them, some of the pirates were residing, on our arrival, on the coast. The demand for these men having been made, and compliance being declared to be impossible, as the men had escaped after our anchorage, (which, however, was deemed to be only an excuse to render their refusal to comply with the demand an appearance of misfortune to them, rather than a decision of their councils,) our ships were run in nearer to the shore at Quallah Battoo, and the place cannonaded, with some damage to the town, or rather to the forts, as they were the objects at which the shots were directed.

The ships were then got under weigh, and stood for Muk Kee where the demand for the pirates was made, without the expectation of the Rajahs of that place pursuing any course different from the one adopted by the Rajahs of Quallah Battoo. The demand was uncomplished with, and the consequences, as the proper alternative, (so deemed to be by our Commodore, and I believe quite unanimously the sentiment of all the officers,) followed.

The ships were kedged in, near to the town and forts—the town being situated on a small peninsula, and each side of the point indented by the lip of a beautiful little bay, with water deep enough for a seventy-four.

No boat making her appearance for an overture, up to the time specified as the limits of forbearance, the *Columbia* opened her fire upon a neighboring fort, raking the town as she chose, quite the length of it. The first gun of the *Columbia* was the signal for the *John Adams*, the beautiful corvette, to let fly her shot; and the loud roar of her cannon reverberated from the mountain sides that nearly enwalled the angry little ship, and as the volumes of fire and piles of smoke continued to emit from her side, the *Columbia* slept a moment, which rendered the scene yet more impressive to one conscious that a moment more and her loud and fearful pieces would send forth their heavy metal, and cannister and grape. Her tremendous cannonade, throwing 42lb. shot, now boomed in their loud report over the still sheet of water that, this morning, seemed to have hushed the swellings of its bosom, as if it would favor the purposes of destruction which seemed to be moving the two dark forms which had slowly floated over its silver surface, to gain a resting place nearer to the golden beach which encased the curved lip of the bay.

I was in the mizen-top, a looker on. The ships were within a musket-shot of the beach, and the town reached near to its edge. The cannonading from both ships continued for near a half hour. Now, the balls throwing up a cloud of dust as they riddled the bamboo houses, or rived in splinters the dwellings of better material; and now the ball, striking the tall coconut tree, scorched it as if a hundred hot irons had been applied to the external coat of its trunk, and sent up a beautiful volume of pale blue smoke, as if it came above the trees from some concealed cottage, embowered in the evergreen foliage of the mountain side; and now the branches fell, as if lopped by some giant pruning hook, as the tree, *en masse*, with its spreading top, and with its mingling

crash, fell to the ground. One solitary being was seen pacing with indifference backwards and forwards on the beach, at the right of the town, and only a few yards from the intersecting lines of the shot, pouring in cross fires from the broadsides of the two ships; but ere long he disappeared, and was lost in the jungle.

The firing ceased, and the boats, already alongside, and concealed from the view of the shore, were manned, as a note upon the bugle called the men to their places. Soon the little fleet, joined by the boats from the Adams, reached the shore, and the men formed on the beach in full view of the ships, and advanced to enter the town at the nearest point. Soon the port-fire and the torch were applied to the buildings, and the flames ascended from different parts of the town, until the covering and spreading volumes sent up their spiral and wide sheets, involving every dwelling, save the sacred mosque, in the general conflagration.

The force returned to the beach, and a moment more, as the flames were rapidly melting to a common ruin, and mingling in ashes the whole mass of the buildings of the town, involving whatever of treasure and property had been left, they contemplated the wild rage of the sheeted and irresistible element. The bugle now sounded a retreat to the tune of 'yankee doodle,' of olden and revolutionary associations, and the men disembarked as "Hail Columbia" sent its national notes over the yet still waters of the bay. In about two hours after the boats had left the ships, the men were again in their places on their decks, having accomplished their purpose without accident, or the firing of a gun.

The inhabitants had retired from the town, and looked from the mountains upon the ruin of their homes.

I have written this in haste, at the moment when our letter-bag is closing to go by the ship that will bear our letters of friendship and love, and whatever else they may contain, "Westward Ho!"

Extract of a letter from on board the U. S. ship Columbia, dated

"SINGAPORE, Feb. 3, 1839.

"You have, no doubt, heard of our exploits on the coast of Sumatra. We arrived here yesterday (Sunday) after a fortnight's passage from that coast. We have sixty-four on the sick list, the small pox still on board—of which three men have died. The ship has the appearance of a hospital. The scurvy, that terrible disease, made its appearance on board during our last passage, but, owing to our timely arrival at this port, it will soon disappear. We sail from this port to Siam, to negotiate a treaty that was left unsettled by the Peacock on her last cruise. We shall probably be home in sixteen months."

**SCARCITY OF SEAMEN.**—The Boston Mercantile says "The scarcity of seamen in the naval service is getting to be an evil of magnitude. The Constitution is still detained at New York, for want of fifty able seamen, and the Concord has been lying at the Charlestown navy yard for months, fitted for sea, and detained, doubtless merely in consequence of the impossibility of procuring a crew. Other sloops of war, in other ports, are detained for the same reason."

For years past great difficulty has been experienced in supplying our vessels of war with seamen, in consequence of the better wages offered in the merchant service. The British government have experienced yet greater difficulties from the wages in their merchant service, being on an average somewhat lower than ours, and the pay in their marine so small that, according to the statements of Capt. Maryatt and others, British seamen, allured by the great advantages offered in our country, constitute the bulk of the crews of our vessels, both of the merchant and naval service. Great Britain, however, will have

every year less and less to apprehend from this drain, than we ourselves shall have from the difficulties of procuring seamen for our navy increasing with the rapid increase thereof, and the more extended and prosperous condition of our commerce. Now it is obvious that some means must be devised to supply this deficiency, and that we cannot look to any relief from a prospect of an increase of pay, as that must in the course of time, from the augmentation of our marine, necessarily undergo a corresponding reduction. Common sense and the necessity of the case have pointed out a mode of supplying this desideratum. The subject has been for some time discussed in the public prints, and attracted the attention of Congress; and public opinion has settled down into the recommendation of the employment of *Boys in the Navy*, to be brought up therein as in a school. It is proposed that the Government guarantee to them such an education as will render them adapted both for the ordinary duties of seamen, and of petty officers, with the prospect of rising by their merit from this *naval seminary*, which our vessels will possess within themselves, to the highest command and rank in their profession. The experiment, in fact, has been already commenced, under an act of Congress recently passed; and we have, we believe, in all our receiving ships, a large number. In that of the navy yard of this port there are, we believe, some 200 Boys, who are, many of them, of respectable families, and all of whom have passed through a certain preliminary examination as to their fitness and qualifications, intellectually and morally, to be admitted to the privilege of being in this service—now already beginning to be esteemed as one of the most eligible to which parents can send their children. Congress should immediately enlarge the provisions of the law, so as to embrace a number of from ten to fifteen thousand pupils, thus to have the resources of a supply of seamen abundant and at hand. We have had occasion several times to witness the advantages of this system, even in its present state of infancy. The boys are brought up in the rudiments of an excellent naval education, and kept in admirable discipline, costumed in neat sailor dress, and daily drilled on ship board, at the boats, rigging, &c. so as to become intimately conversant from their boyhood, with all the practical duties of their profession, while they are acquiring an excellent education in all the most useful branches of knowledge, and of the sciences immediately connected with the life they are to follow. These schools, in fact, are *manual labor colleges afloat in the navy*, and we know from conversing with many naval officers that their introduction is deemed one of the most important reforms ever attempted for the preservation of the right arm of our defence, which must ever constitute the glory of a commercial people.—*New York Star*.

#### FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS.

The undersigned, having established a correspondence in Europe, offers his services to the officers of the Army and Navy, for the importation of any foreign periodical or professional publications, which they may wish to procure.

Lists of new publications and works in press will, after a short time, be regularly received, and the titles of such as are of a professional character, will be inserted in the Chronicle.

The facilities for forwarding small parcels from the city of Washington to every section of the Union, are perhaps equal to those of any other place.

As but a very small advance on the actual cost and expense will be added, greater bargains may be made by forwarding the money in advance, to purchase with; but it is expected that all works ordered will be paid for before delivery.

B. HOMANS.

Washington, D. C., April, 1839.