

PIRACY.

The following particulars have been received relative to the seizure by pirates, in the Red Sea, of the brig Telegraph of Bristol:—The brig sailed in ballast from Aden for the Kooria Moorria Islands, and stood along the African coast, the master thinking it was the best track. On the 25th of January, the ship being becalmed, came to anchor with a stream anchor and hawser, to prevent the ship driving on shore, in 15 fathoms of water, about a mile and a half from the shore, which was a low sandy beach, 15 miles west of Cape Felix, between that place and Ras Gorat. The brig lay off a large town with some forts. About two hours after the ship came to anchor, two large boats, full of natives, came off. It was supposed there must have been between 40 and 50 in each boat, and were armed with spears and clubs. Many natives also swam off, the surface of the water being black with them. They were not sailing boats. On coming alongside the natives easily jumped on board, and immediately commenced tearing off all the brass, smashing the binnacle, &c. They took possession of the ship, but used no violence, only threatened with their spears and clubs. They pointed to the ship's boats, and then to sea, making signs to the crew to be off, but refused to let them have either water or bread—in fact, anything they touched the natives took away, and would not allow anything to be removed from the ship excepting the master's gun and rifle, which the crew kept possession of. The crew could make no resistance, as they were upwards of 100 on deck, many below, and more swimming off. They were more than half an hour on board before the crew left in the jolly-boat. All the papers, mail, and specie were left in their hands, the crew being prevented taking anything with them. They were five days in the boat without eating and drinking, when the H. C. steamer Elphinstone picked them up. The crew had no communication with the shore, nor had any boat being lowered after leaving Aden. The Elphinstone landed the master and crew at Aden, and was then despatched in search of the brig and pirates.

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[Khuriya Muriya Islands](#)

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From ‘List of shipwrecks January 1858

<i>Telegraph</i>	 United Kingdom	The brig was captured in the Gulf of Aden and was beached at "Ourbah", where she was stripped and plundered. HEIC ship Elphinstone ( India) rescued her crew and set the wreck on fire. <i>Telegraph</i> was on a voyage from Aden to the "Koora Mooraa Islands" (Khuriya Muriya Islands). ^{[100][39]}
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