

## XXXVIII.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,  
Harbour of Callao, June 22d, 1839.

SIR,—

We, the undersigned officers of the Exploring Expedition, under your command, respectfully take the liberty of addressing you on the subject of those officers who have incurred your displeasure in consequence of having been engaged in a duel; and whom, it is understood, you intend sending to the United States, with a recommendation to the proper authority that they may be dismissed the service.

We are very far from arrogating to ourselves the right of discussing the propriety of any course you may think proper to adopt, with regard to those gentlemen; but, when we consider the youth and inexperience of the parties, we are convinced that the affair was entered into without proper reflection upon the ill effect that such conduct would have upon the reputation and efficiency of the service upon which we are engaged, and that the decided expression of your displeasure will be sufficient to deter others from the commission of a similar error; and we respectfully assure you that it would be the source of great gratification to all of us if you could render it consistent with your duties and responsibilities, as the commander of the Expedition, to overlook the offence against the discipline of the service, of which those officers have been guilty, and restore them to their duty.

We have the honour to be, very respectfully,

(Signed) ROBERT F. PINKNEY, Lieutenant-Commandant  
OVERTON CARR, Lieutenant.  
JAMES ALDEN, Lieutenant.  
A. LUDLOW CASE, Lieutenant.  
O. H. PERRY, Lieutenant.  
JOHN B. DALE, Lieutenant.  
JAMES H. NORTH, Acting-Master.  
AUGUSTUS A. BALDWIN, Acting-Master.  
GEORGE F. EMMONS, Lieutenant.  
THOMAS A. BUDD, Lieutenant.  
SAMUEL R. KNOX, Acting-Master.  
WILLIAM SPIEDEN, Purser.  
GEORGE F. SINCLAIR, Acting-Master.  
JOSEPH A. UNDERWOOD, Lieutenant.  
H. J. HARTSTEIN, Lieutenant.