

Helston Volunteers.

Ensign Richard Skues to be Lieutenant, vice Hodge, deceased.
William Edfall, Gent. to be Ensign, vice Skues.

MEMORANDUM.

The Appointment of Lieutenant George Gore, from the 21st Light Dragoons, to be Lieutenant in the 27th Regiment of Light Dragoons, as stated in the Gazette of the 14th Instant, is by Purchase, vice Pettit, who retires.

Admiralty-Office, June 21, 1796.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies, have been received at this Office by Evan Nepean, Esq;

*Thunderer, Choc Bay, St. Lucia,
May 4, 1796.*

S I R,

I Transmit a Duplicate of my Letter of the 21st of last Month, by which their Lordships will have been informed of my Arrival that Day at Barbadoes.

The Squadron and Transports weighed on the next Day, and on the 23d, at Seven P. M. anchored in Marin Bay, Martinico. The Day following Admiral Sir John Laforey resigned the Command of the Squadron, and sailed with the Majestic.

I made the Signal to prepare to sail early the next Morning, and quitted Marin Bay with His Majesty's Squadron and the Troops about the Close of Day.

The Time for Preparation was but short, the Admiral having proposed to make his Arrangement for the Expedition in Marin Bay; but I felt the Necessity of prompt Exertion, and therefore ventured upon a hasty Arrangement rather than delay the Ardour of the Troops, or lose Time in so advanced a Season. The General's Plan of Attack required Support in Three separate Divisions by Ships of Force; the first was to take Place in Longueville Bay, at Ance du Cap and Ance Bequene; the second in the Choc Bay; and the third at Ance la Raye, some Distance to the Southward of the Cul de Sac.

The first Point of Landing was commanded by a Battery of Five Guns, placed on the low Point of Pigeon Island; and it was supposed that another Battery commanded the Bay of Longueville.

I therefore directed the Vengeance, Ganges, Hebe, and Pelican Brig, to cover this Landing, with Instructions for the Hebe to lead into Ance la Cap, the Ganges to support her, and the Pelican to anchor in the Ance Bequene. The Vengeance I kept upon the Weather Beam of the Astrea, in order that she might, if necessary, cover the Ganges, by anchoring in the Angle of Pigeon Island Battery. The Position was taken by the Three Ships with great Spirit and Judgment: The Fire from the Ships kept the Battery at Check, dismounted One of the Guns, and the Troops landed without Opposition.

The second Division was directed to be led by the Alfred to the Anchorage of Choc Bay; the third by Captain Dilkes, of the Madras, supported by the Beaulieu. A strong Lee Current had driven the Body of the Transports so far to Leeward, that it was not possible to effect the Landing in Choc Bay, and the one intended for Ance La Raye was, for the same Reasons, deferred; but the Vengeance, Arethusa, and Victorieuse Brig, were ordered to take the several Covering Stations in Choc Bay at Break of Day on the 27th, when the Landing was effected at Half past Ten A. M. and equally without Oppo-

sition. The Signal was made at the same Time to Captain Dilkes to put his Orders into Execution, but this Division did not land until the 28th.

The Enemy retreated from their distant Ports, and have entered the Morne Fortuné, which Height the General is surrounding and preparing to attack, to assist the Measure; I have, in consequence of the General's Requisition to that Effect, landed 300 Seamen, under the Command of Captain Lane, of the Astrea, and Captain Rymes, of the Bull Dog.

The General directed, on the 2d Instant, an Attack to be made against the Batteries on the Northern Side of the Grand Cul de Sac, with a View to obtain that Anchorage, and thereby facilitate the landing Artillery and erecting Batteries: The Attack was proposed to take Place at Day-Break on the 3d, by Three Columns, commanded by Major-General Morhead; Two of the Columns reached with Success their directed Stations, but the Centre Column, having met with some unexpected Difficulty, did not effect their Junction.

The Madras, Beaulieu, Pelican and Victorieuse were to support this Attack; the Beaulieu had Three Seamen slightly wounded and the Head of her Fore-Mast injured. The Attack on Shore not having been successful, the Madras and Beaulieu have returned to Marigot des Rousseaux to co-operate with Major-General Morhead.

It would be unjust to the Merit of Captain M'Doual, of the Ganges; and the Officers acting under him at Bay Longueville, were I to omit reporting their just Claim to my Commendation; Captain Ryves, of the Bull Dog, and Captain Meares, of the Transport Department, commanded the Division of Boats at Longueville Bay.

Captains Evans, of the Fury, Dobrée, of the Woolwich, and Captain Hill and Lieutenant Skipsey, of the Transport Service, commanded the several Divisions of Flat Boats at the Choc and Ance La Raye Landing, and I had good Reason to be satisfied with their Assiduity and proper Exertions.

The natural Strength of this Country is such that Time and great Exertion will be necessary for its Reduction. There exists the most perfect Desire on the Part of the Officers and Seamen of the Squadron to share the Fatigue and Hazard with the Army; and I trust that this Desire may be kept awake to essential Advantage.

I am, S I R,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) H. C. CHRISTIAN.

Thunderer, Choc Bay, St. Lucia, May 4, 1796.

S I R,

CAPTAIN Parr, of the Malabar, having, by Orders from the Admiral Sir John Laforey, been detached to Demerara with the Malabar, Undaunted, Pique and Babet, to protect a Detachment of Troops under the Command of Major-General Whyte, whose Instructions were, in Conjunction with Captain Parr, to take the Colonies of Demarara and Berbice under the Protection of His Majesty's Government, has reported his compleat Success at the Settlement of Demerara; a Copy of his Letter relative to his Conduct, and the Papers to which it refers, are inclosed for their Lordships Information.

I am, &c.

HUGH C. CHRISTIAN.

Evan Nepean, Esq;