

Landing is only to be attempted at the Top of the Tide, and at particular Points; the Coast is un-
cleared, and from Wood, and the marshy Nature of
the Soil, it is impossible to penetrate into the Interior,
except by the Rivers and the Creeks.

The Shores on both Sides of the River Surinam
are equally difficult of Access, for the same Causes,
until you reach the Battery Friderici, with the Ex-
ception of one Spot on the Eastern Shore, where a
Plantation, called Résolution, has been lately estab-
lished. Our Points of Attack were therefore con-
fined; and the Enemy, by Means of their Forts,
Ships of War, and other armed Vessels, were com-
pletely Masters of the Navigation of the River Sur-
inam above Fort Amsterdam.

The Defences of the River, after passing Bram's
Point, are Fort Amsterdam, situated on the Conflu-
ence of the Rivers Surinam and Commewyne: up-
wards of Eighty Pieces of Ordnance are mounted in
this Fortress.

Fort Leyden is armed with Twelve heavy Guns,
and situated on the right Bank of the Surinam,
where it meets the Commewyne; is opposite to and
commanded by Fort Amsterdam, at the Distance of
about Two Thousand Yards.

The Battery Friderici is about Two Hundred
Yards lower down, and armed with Twelve heavy
Guns.

On the Left Bank of the River, nearly opposite
to Fort Amsterdam, is Fort Purmurent, having Ten
Guns mounted; its Rear and Flanks protected by
impracticable Marsh and Woods.

The Fire of all these Works and Batteries inter-
fect in the Channel for Ships going up the River.

The Town of Paramaribo is defended towards
the Water by a Battery of about Ten Guns, mount-
ed in Fort Zelandia, a Place otherwise of no De-
fence.

The 28th. The Ships of War and other Vessels
proceeded up the River as fast as the Tides would
admit of.

A Plan was formed for making an Attempt on
Fort Purmurent; a Detachment of the 64th Re-
giment, under Captain Burton, accompanied by
Captain Drummond, my Aide-de-Camp, with a
Body of armed Seamen, commanded by Captain
Jervis, embarked at Eight o'Clock at Night for
that Purpose, but on approaching the Fort, they
found the Tide was unfavourable for the Under-
taking, and returned.

On the 29th, Lieutenant-Colonel Shipley, com-
manding Engineer, went on Shore at the Plantation
before stated, below the Enemy's Batteries, to en-
deavour to procure Intelligence; and on returning
reported, that he had every Reason to believe that
there was a practicable Way through the Woods,
by which a Body of Men might be conducted to the
Rear of the Forts Leyden and Friderici. Lieuten-
ant-Colonel Shipley was indefatigable in ascertaining
the Accuracy of this Information, in which he was
ably assisted by Lieutenant Arnold, of the Royal
Engineers, and Mr. Hobbs, Acting Engineer, and
the Result was such, that a Detachment of One
Hundred and Forty Men, of the 64th Regiment,
under the Command of the Honorable Lieutenant-
Colonel Crautoun, with Major Stirke, of the 6th
West India Regiment, Ten Men of the 6th West
India Regiment, with Side Arms, having felling
Axes, Twenty of the Artificers' Corps provided in

the same Manner, and about Thirty armed Seamen,
commanded by Captains Maxwell, Ferris, and Ri-
chardson, of the Royal Navy, the Whole under the
Command of Brigadier-General Hughes, accom-
panied by Lieutenant-Colonel Shipley, Lieutenant
Arnold, of the Royal Engineers, and Mr. Hobbs,
Acting Engineer, whose local Knowledge proved
extremely useful on this Occasion, landed between
the Hours of Ten and Eleven at Night, at Résol-
ution Plantation, and proceeded through the Woods
with Negro Guides.

A great Quantity of Rain having recently fallen,
it was found that the Path, at all Times difficult, had
become almost impassable, but no Obstacle could
damp the enterprising Spirit of our Seamen and
Soldiers, who, with persevering Courage, after a
laborious March of five Hours, arrived near the
Rear of Friderici Battery. The Alarm having
been given, a considerable Fire of Grape Shot was
made upon the Troops before they quitted the
Wood, whilst forming for the Attack, and of Mus-
ketry as they approached the Battery. The Assault
of our intrepid Seamen and Troops with fixed
Bayonets, was so animated and rigorous as to pre-
vent any further Resistance. The Enemy fled to
Fort Leyden, having set Fire to the Powder Maga-
zine, by the Explosion of which a few British Of-
ficers and Men were severely wounded. Brigadier-
General Hughes used no Delay in moving on to the
Attack of Fort Leyden, but being under the Ne-
cessity of marching by a narrow Road, which was
enfladed by Four or Five Guns, received a consi-
derable Fire of Grape Shot on his March, and of
Musketry on his nearer Approach, which, however,
was soon put a Stop to by a Repetition of the same
impetuous Attack on our Part, and the Enemy,
after some firing, called for Quarter, which was
generously granted by the Conquerors, although in
the Moment they were highly exasperated at the
Conduct of the Batavian Troops in blowing up the
Powder Magazine at Fort Friderici, after it had
been in our Possession. A Captain with some other
Officers and One Hundred and Twenty Men were
taken at this Post, about Thirty having made their
Escape across the River Commewyne to Fort New
Amsterdam.

By this brilliant Affair a Position was secured, by
which a heavy Fire could be brought on Fort New
Amsterdam, a Communication with the River Com-
mewyne opened, the Means of forming a Junction
with Brigadier-General Maitland's Corps established,
and the Command of the finest Part of the Colony,
abounding with Resources of all Kinds, obtained.

Brigadier-General Hughes's Exertions upon this
Occasion were highly meritorious, and by his ani-
mating Example contributed much to the Success
of the Day.

On the 30th in the Morning, the Commodore
and myself went on Shore at the captured Forts,
and Directions were given for covering the Troops
and Guns from the Fire of Fort New Amster-
dam, to which they were greatly exposed, and for
pointing the Fire of the Forts towards the Enemy.
The Troops underwent great Fatigue in executing
these Works, which, however, they cheerfully sub-
mitted to; under the Direction of Lieutenant-Colo-
nel Shipley, who, as usual, was unceasing in his
Exertions. Brigadier-General Hughes remained in
the Command there, giving every necessary Support