



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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Whitehall, May 20.

THE Letters from the East Indies, of which the following are Copies and Extracts, were received Yesterday by the Deptford, one of the Company's Ships.

To the Honorable Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honorable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HONORABLE SIRS,

I Received Accounts a few Days after I wrote my last Letter, dated the 24th of October, that the North-East Monsoon had broke, and the Rains, which were heavier and of longer Duration this Season in the Carnatic than for many Years past, having fallen about the same Time, with little less Violence, above the Ghauts, the Transport of the various Stores, which were necessary for the Operations of the ensuing Campaign, has been attended with great Delay and many extraordinary Difficulties.

I have, however, the Satisfaction to inform you, that all those Obstacles were overcome by the Zeal and Exertion of the Officers who were employed with the different Convoys, and our Preparations are so far completed, that I have already been able to commence with Success upon the Execution of the general Plan which I had proposed for the Campaign.

I had the Honor to communicate to you in my last Letter my Intentions respecting the Fortrefs of Sevendroog; and having, upon a Consideration of it's numerous Garrison, and the Shelter which Bodies of Horse could receive, under it's Protection, in the rugged and woody Tract of Country with which it is encircled for several Miles, become daily more convinced that all the Means which it was in my Power to adopt, would be ineffectual to secure Supplies from the Northward to the Armies that are destined to invest the Enemy's Capital, unless that Fort could be reduced, I finally resolved some Time ago to make the Attempt.

It being necessary, in order to enable me to make my previous Arrangements, to ascertain what Part of the extensive Rock it would be most adviseable to attack, I took a Position with the Army about half Way between Bangalore and Sevendroog, and sent the Chief Engineer and other skilful Officers, under the Escort of a few Battalions, to reconnoitre the Place in the most minute and deliberate Manner.

After I had received their Report, I detached Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart, on the 11th Instant, with His Majesty's 52d and 72d Regiments and Four Native Battalions, Eight Eighteen-Pounders, Four Twelve-Pounders, and Two small Mortars, with Directions to attack the Place on the North-East Side, the Appearance of which, from the Plans and Sketches that had been laid before me, seemed to me to be the least discouraging; and I subsequently added the Flank Companies

[Price Eight-pence.]

