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DISPATCHES, of which the following are a Copy and Extract, addressed to Lord Viscount Castlereagh, were received Yesterday Evening, at the Office of the Right Honorable William Windham, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Major-General Sir David Baird:

MY LORD, *Cape-Town, January 12, 1806.*

I HAVE the Honor to announce to your Lordship the Capitulation of the Town and Garrison of the Cape of Good Hope to His Majesty's Arms.

In my Dispatches of the 24th November last, from St. Salvador, I had the Honor to apprise your Lordship of the Measures adopted to refresh the Force under my command; and having, with much difficulty, procured about sixty or seventy Horses for the Cavalry, and the Sick being recruited, the Expedition failed on the 26th of that Month; and we had the good Fortune to reach Table Bay on the 4th instant.

It had been intended to disembark the Army immediately, and with a View of covering our Design, before entering the Bay, the 24th Regiment, commanded by the Honorable Lieutenant-Colonel McDonald, was detached, under Charge of the Leda Frigate, to make a Demonstration of landing in Campo Bay, but the wind having failed, the Fleet did not arrive at its Anchorage until the Day was too far advanced to attempt a Landing.

On the Morning of the 5th the First Brigade, under the Orders of Brigadier General Beresford, was embarked in Boats, and proceeded towards the only accessible part of the Shore, in a small Bay, sixteen Miles to the Northward of Cape-Town, where it appeared practicable to effect a Disembarkation, but the Surf had increased so considerably that, combined with the local Difficulties of the Spot, it was found necessary to abandon the Attempt.

The Rest of the Day was devoted to a careful Examination of the whole Shore, from Lospards Bay to within Gunshot of the Batteries at Cape-Town, but which produced only the distressing Conclusion that the Chance of effecting a Landing depended upon Contingencies, very unlikely to be realized but in a perfect Calm.

In consequence of this Inference, in order to obviate the Disadvantages of Delay in the Adoption of a Resolution which I apprehended would at last be necessarily imposed on me, I directed Brigadier-General Beresford to proceed with the 38th Regiment, and the 20th Light Dragoons, escorted by His Majesty's Ship Diomedé, to Saldanha Bay, where the Disembarkation could be accomplished with Facility, and a Prospect was afforded us of procuring Horses and Cattle; and I purposed following with the main Body of the Army in the Event of the Beach being impracticable the ensuing Morning.

The Surf along the Shore of Lospards Bay having considerably abated the ensuing Morning, I determined, with the Concurrence of Commodore Sir Home Popham, to make an Effort to get the Troops on Shore, and accordingly the Highland Brigade, composed of the 71, 72, and 93d Regiments effected that Object, under the Command of Brigadier General Ferguson.

The Shore had been previously very closely inspected by the Brigadier, and by his spirited Exertions and Example, our Efforts were crowned with Success; although a confined and intricate Channel to the Shore, which had been accurately pointed out by Beacons laid down by the Diligence and Activity of the Boats of His Majesty's Ship Diadem, and a tremendous Surf, opposed the Passage of the Troops.

The Enemy had scattered a Party of Sharp Shooters over the contiguous Heights, and commanded the Landing, but the Casualties of this Service arose principally from natural Difficulties, and

it is with the deepest Concern I have the Honor to inform your Lordship that we lost Thirty-five Rank and File of the 93d Regiment by the oversetting of One of the Boats, notwithstanding every possible Effort to rescue those unfortunate Men.

The Remainder of the Troops could only be brought on Shore on the succeeding Day, when the extraordinary Obstacles to all Intercourse with the Fleet, which nothing but the Courage and Perseverance of British Seamen could surmount, barely enabled us to obtain the indispensable Supplies of Water and Provisions for immediate Subsistence.

On the Morning of the 8th the Army, consisting of the 24th, 59th, 71st, 72d, 83d, and 93d Regiments, about Four Thousand strong, was formed into Two Brigades, with Two Howitzers and Six light Field Pieces, and moved off towards the Road which leads to Cape-Town; and, having ascended the Summit of the Blaw-Berg, or Blue Mountains, and dislodged the Enemy's Light Troops, I discovered their main Body, drawn up in Two Lines, prepared to receive us, and even in Motion to anticipate our Approach.

The Enemy's Force apparently consisted of about Five Thousand Men, the greater Proportion of which was Cavalry, and Twenty-three Pieces of Cannon, yoked to Horses, the Disposition of which, and the Nature of the Ground occupied by the Enemy's Troops, made it evident that they intended to refuse their Right Wing, and with their Left attempt to turn our Right Flank; but, to frustrate their Design, I formed the Army into Two Columns, the Second Brigade under Brigadier-General Ferguson keeping the Road, whilst the First struck to the Right, and took the Defile of the Mountains. Having accomplished my Purpose, our Line was formed with equal Celerity and Order; and the Left Wing, composed of the Highland Brigade, was thrown forward, and advanced with the steadiest Step, under a very heavy Fire of Round Shot, Grape and Musquetry. Nothing could surpass or resist the determined Bravery of the Troops, headed by their gallant Leader, Brigadier-General Ferguson, and the Number of the Enemy, who swarmed the Plain, served only to augment their Ardour and confirm their Discipline. The Enemy received our Fire, and maintained his Position obstinately, but in the Moment of charging, the Valour of British Troops bore down all Opposition, and forced him to a precipitate Retreat.

The first Brigade, composed of the 24th, 59th, and 83d Regiments, and commanded in the Absence of Brigadier-General Beresford, by Lieutenant-Colonel Baird, was unavoidably precluded, by their Situation, from any considerable Participation in the Triumph of the British Arms, though the Flank Companies of the 24th had however an Opportunity of distinguishing themselves in dislodging a Number of Horse and Riflemen from the Heights on our Right Flank. This brilliant Achievement however was clouded by the Loss of Captain Foster, of the Grenadiers, whose Gallantry is best recorded in the Bosoms of his Brother Soldiers, and the universal Regret of the Army.

It is utterly impossible to convey to your Lordship an adequate Idea of the Obstacles which opposed the Advance, and retarded the Success of our Army, but it is my Duty to inform your Lordship, that the Nature of the Country—a deep, heavy,

and arid Land, covered with Shrubs, scarcely pervious to light Bodies of Infantry; and above all, the total Privation of Water under the Effects of a burning Sun, had nearly exhausted our gallant Fellows in the Moment of Victory, and with the utmost Difficulty were we able to reach the Reit Valley, where we took our Position for the Night. A considerable Portion of the Provisions and Necessaries with which we started, had been lost during the Action, and we occupied our Ground under an Apprehension that even the great Exertions of Sir Home Popham and the Navy could not relieve us from Starvation.

My Lord, on every Occasion where it has been found necessary to call for the Co-operation of British Seamen in Land Enterprizes, their Valour has been so conspicuous, and their Spirit of Labour and Perseverance so unconquerable, that no Tribute of my Applause can add a Lustre to their Character; but I discharge a most agreeable Portion of my Duty in assuring your Lordship, that on the recent Employment of their Services, they have maintained their Reputation: And in this Place it behoves me to inform your Lordship, that the uniform good Conduct of those gallant Fellows, and the Zeal of Captain George Byng who commanded them, together with that of every subordinate Officer, have merited my fullest Approbation.

The Loss of the Enemy in this Engagement is reputed to exceed seven hundred Men in killed and wounded; and it is with the most sensible Gratification that I contrast it with the inclosed Return of our Casualties. Your Lordship will perceive the Name of Lieutenant Colonel Grant among the wounded, but the heroic Spirit of this Officer was not subdued by his Misfortune, and he continued to lead his Men to Glory, as long as an Enemy was opposed to his Majesty's 72d Regiment. I have the cordial Satisfaction to add, that his Wound, though very severe, is not pronounced dangerous; and I indulge the Hope and Expectation of his early Recovery and Resumption of Command.

On the Morning of the 9th, recruited by such Supplies as the unwearied Diligence and Efforts of the Navy could throw on shore, the 59th Regiment however, being almost completely destitute of Food, we prosecuted our March towards Cape-Town, and took up a Position South of Salt River, which we trusted might preserve a free communication with the Squadron; for our Battering Train, as well as every other Necessary, except Water, was to pass to us from His Majesty's Ships. In this Situation, a Flag of Truce was sent to me by the Commandant of the Garrison of Cape-Town, (the Governor General Jaansens, having retired after the Action of the 8th into the Country, moving by Hottentots Holland Kloof,) requesting a Suspension of Hostilities for Forty-eight Hours, in order to negotiate a Capitulation. In Answer to this Overture, I dispatched Brigadier-General Ferguson, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Brownrigg, to stipulate, as the Condition of my Acquiescence, the Surrender of the Outworks of the Town within Six Hours, allowing Thirty six Hours for arranging the Articles of Capitulation.

My Proposition being assented to, the 59th Regiment marched into Fort Knokke; and the next Day, in Conjunction with Sir Home Popham, the Terms were agreed upon, and His Majesty's Forces

were put in Possession of the several Defences of the Town. Of the modified Capitulation, as ratified by us, I have the Honor to inclose a Copy.

The cordial, able, and zealous Co-operation of Commodore Sir Home Popham, emulated by all the Officers under his Command, merits my warmest Acknowledgments and Commendation; and I have the Satisfaction to add, that no united Service was ever performed with more true Harmony than has uniformly been manifested by both Branches of His Majesty's Forces. Such of His Majesty's Ships as could be spared from the Service of Lospards Bay, constantly coasted the Enemy's Shore, throwing Shot among his Troops and People, and contributing to keep him ignorant of the actual Place of our Disembarkation; and a very spirited Effort was made by the Marines of the Fleet, and a Party of Seamen from the Diadem, under the Commodore's immediate Command, to occupy a Position in Reit Valley, and co-operate with the Army.

The Marines and the Honorable Company's Recruits, as well as their Cadets, headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Willett, of the Bengal Establishment, have been usefully employed in different Branches of the Service; but I have to regret the Deprivation of the Services of the 20th, Dragoons, and 38th Regiment, under a Conviction that they could not have failed to discharge their Duty in the same exemplary manner as the rest of His Majesty's Troops engaged in the Action.

Public as well as personal Considerations induce me to lament the Absence of Brigadier-General Beresford, from whose Talents and Experience I should have derived the most essential Assistance in our disputed and difficult Progress from Lospards Bay.

The Duties of the Quarter-Master General's Department were very ably and judiciously discharged by Lieutenant-Colonel Brownrigg; and although the Army had the greatest Cause to lament the Absence, from severe Illness, of Major Tucker, Deputy Adjutant-General, yet the Zeal and Activity manifested by Major Trotter of the 83d Regiment, and the Assistant-Adjutant-General Captain Munro, happily precluded all Deficiency in that Department. The Absence of Captain Smyth, of the Royal Engineers, with the Salqanha Detachment, was also a Matter of great Regret to me, for his Knowledge of the Country would have relieved me from much Embarrassment.

To the several Officers commanding Corps, I am under considerable Obligations for their gallant, spirited, zealous, and judicious Conduct and Example, in leading their Men up to the Enemy. British Troops, headed by such Men, must ever, under Providence, command Success; and every Man in this Army has, I trust it will be considered, preserved the Character of the British Soldier, and faithfully discharged his Duty to His King and Country.

This Dispatch will be delivered to your Lordship by Lieutenant-Colonel Baird, and to whom I beg Leave to refer for any additional Information your Lordship may wish to obtain, respecting our Proceedings; and I beg Leave to recommend this zealous and meritorious Officer to your Lordship's Protection.

I take the Liberty of mentioning to your Lordship, that not having been joined by the Narcissus

Frigate prior to our Disembarkation, and subsequent Operations in the Field, I was unfortunately deprived of the Services of Captain Sorell, Assistant-Adjutant-General, who was charged with my Dispatches from Madeira to Governor Patton, and with the Execution of my Wishes to procure Intelligence relative to the Strength and Condition of this Colony; and from whose extensive local Knowledge and professional Talents, I expected to derive great Assistance.

Herewith I have the Honor to inclose for your Lordship's Information, a Return of the Ordnance found in the Citadel and other Defences of this Settlement, but it is perhaps inaccurate, for the Reason assigned by the Commanding Officer of Artillery.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

D. BAIRD, Major-General,
Commanding in Chief.

To Viscount Castlereagh, &c. &c. &c.

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing of the Forces under the Command of Major-General Sir David Baird, in landing at Lospards Bay, on the 6th of January 1806.

First Brigade.—None.

Second, or Highland, Brigade.

71st Reg.—1 Rank and File, killed; 1 Field-Officer, 3 Rank and File, wounded.

N. B. 1 Drummer and 35 Rank and File, of the 93d Regiment, drowned in landing.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

Brevet-Major Weir, Brigade Major, slightly.
Lieutenant-Colonel Pack, of the 71st Regiment, slightly.

W. H. TROTTER, Major, 83d Reg.
Acting Deputy Adj. Gen.

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing of the Forces under the Command of Major-General Sir David Baird, in the Action of the 8th of January, 1806, at Blaw-berg.

First Brigade.

24th Reg.—1 Captain, 3 Rank and File, killed; 1 Drummer, 15 Rank and File, wounded; 2 Rank and File, missing.

59th Reg.—1 Rank and File, killed; 1 Captain, 5 Rank and File, wounded; 1 Rank and File, missing.

83d Reg.—2 Serjeants, 2 Rank and File, wounded; 3 Rank and File, missing.

Second, or Highland, Brigade.

71st Reg.—5 Rank and File, killed; 1 Field-Officer, 2 Serjeants, 64 Rank and File, wounded; 1 Rank and File, missing.

72d Reg.—2 Rank and File, killed; 1 Field-Officer, 1 Subaltern, 2 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 33 Rank and File, wounded; 1 Rank and File, missing.

93d Reg.—2 Rank and File, killed; 1 Field-Officer, 4 Subalterns, 1 Serjeant, 1 Drummer, 51 Rank and File, wounded.

Marine Battalion.—1 Rank and File, killed.

Total.—1 Captain, 14 Rank and File, killed; 3 Field-Officers, 1 Captain, 5 Subalterns, 7 Serjeants, 3 Drummers, 170 Rank and File, wounded; 8 Rank and File, missing.

OFFICER KILLED.

24th Reg.—Captain Andrew Foster.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

59th Reg.—Alexander M'Pherson, badly.

71st Reg.—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell.

72d Reg.—Lieutenant-Colonel Grant; Lieutenant Chisholm.

93d Reg.—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Honeyman.

78th Reg.—Lieutenants Scobie and Strachan, attached to 93d Regiment.

86th Reg.—Ensigns Heddrick and Craigh.

W. H. TROTTER, Major, 83d Reg.
Acting Deputy Adj. Gen.

ARTICLES of CAPITULATION proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel Hieronimus Casimirus Van Prophalow, Commandant of the Town, Castle, and circumjacent Fortifications of the Cape of Good Hope, to the Major-General in the Service of His Britannic Majesty, Sir David Baird, K. C. Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces, and Commodore Sir Home Popham, Commander in Chief of His Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces in Table Bay:

Art. I. THE Capitulation being signed, the Cape-Town, Castle, and circumjacent Fortifications, shall be immediately surrendered to the Troops of His Britannic Majesty; viz. The Fortifications of the King's Block-House, Craig's Tower, and all the Batteries within that Circuit, and one on the other Side of the Camp's Bay.

Art. II. The Garrison shall, at the Surrender, march out with all the Honors of War, and shall then lay down their Arms, and become Prisoners of War; but such Officers as are Natives of the Colony, or married with Natives, or in Possession of sufficient landed Property, to become regularly and bonâ fide domiciliated, shall be at Liberty to continue here so long as they behave themselves as becometh good Subjects and Citizens, or proceed to Great Britain with regular Passports, and having previously passed their Parole not to serve until regularly exchanged.

Art. III. All Officers who, according to the previous Article, must go to Europe, shall be provided with Passages at the Expence of his Britannic Majesty, and have Leave to realize their Property previous to their Departure, and receive the same Pay as they did in their own Service till the Day of their Embarkation.

Art. IV. The French Subjects who, belonging to the stranded Frigates L'Aralante, another stranded Privateer Le Napoleon, were casually here, and are comprehended in the present Capitulation, shall be treated on the same Footing as the Garrison; but they must all be embarked for Europe, as well as every other French Subject in the Colony.

Art. V. The Inhabitants of the Town who have borne Arms, to be considered as belonging to the Town, and may immediately return to their former Occupations; but the Distinction between the Burghers and other Inhabitants is to remain the same, and subject to the same Restrictions as under the Dutch Laws.

Art. VI. All bonâ fide private Property, whether belonging to the Civil and Military Servants of the Government, to the Burghers and Inhabitants, to Churches, Orphans, and other public Institutions of that Kind, shall remain free and untouched.

Art. VII. Public Property of every Description, whether consisting of Treasure, or Naval or Military Stores, Buildings, Estates, or Merchandize belonging to the Batavian Republic, or the Government of France, shall be faithfully delivered up, and proper Inventories given of them as soon as possible.

Art. VIII. The Burghers and Inhabitants shall preserve all their Rights and Privileges which they have hitherto enjoyed. Public Worship, as at present in Use, shall also be maintained without Alteration.

Art. IX. The Paper Money actually in Circulation shall continue current as heretofore, until the Pleasure of His Britannic Majesty is known.

Art. X. The Lands and Houses, the Property of the Batavian Republic, which must be delivered up, shall remain as a Security for that Part of the Paper Money which is not already secured by Mortgages upon the Estates of Individuals, by its having been lent to them. This is, however, to be without Prejudice to the free Use to be made of the said Lands and Houses for public Purposes.

Art. XI. Prisoners of War comprehended in the present Capitulation, shall not be pressed into His Britannic Majesty's Service, or engaged against their own free Will and Consent. With respect to other Persons they are provided for in Article the Fifth of this Capitulation.

Art. XII. The Inhabitants of Cape-Town shall be exempted from having Troops quartered on them.

Art. XIII. Two Ships having been sunk in Table Bay, to the great Detriment of the Roadstead, either after the Batavian Republic had sent out a Flag of Truce, or whilst it was in Contemplation so to do, they are to be raised again and delivered over in an entire State of Repair: This having been done without the Sanction of the Commandant, the raising of the said Ships shall be incumbent on those who sunk them.

Art. XIV. This Capitulation shall be signed at Four o'Clock this Afternoon, when the Castle of the Cape-Town, and all the adjacent Forts previously mentioned shall be surrendered to His Britannic Majesty's Troops.

Given under our Hands and Seals this 10th Day of January, in the Year of our Lord 1806, at Papendorp, near Fort Knokke.

(Signed) H. C. PROPHALOW.

D. BAIRD, Major-General,
Commanding in Chief.

H. POEHAM.

Executed in the Presence of

J. S. TRUITER.

J. PALMER.

General Return of Ordnance on the several Batteries of Cape-Town, Cape of Good Hope, and its Dependencies, 12th January 1806, viz.

Brass Guns.—2 Twenty-four-Pounders. 12 Eighteen-Pounders. 6 Twelve-Pounders. 4 Eight-Pounders. 19 Six-Pounders. 18 Four-Pounders. 24 One-Pounders.

Iron Guns.—32 Thirty-six-Pounders. 51 Twenty-four-Pounders. 67 Eighteen-Pounders. 76 Twelve-Pounders. 4 Nine-Pounders. 17 Eight-Pounders. 35 Six-Pounders. 16 Four-Pounders. 2 One-Pounders.



Brass Mortars.—7 Thirteen-Inch. 8 Twelve-Inch.
 Cohorn Mortars.—2 Three and Half-Inch.
 Brass Howitzers.—5 Twenty-four-Pounders. 1
 Eight-Inch. 1 Six-Inch.
 Iron Carronades.—14 Thirty-two-Pounders. 2
 Twelve-Pounders.
 Brass Swivels.—4 One-Pounders.
 Iron Swivels.—8 One-Pound and Half. 19 One-
 Pounders.

Total.—113 Brass and 343 Iron Pieces of
 Ordnance.—456.

W. SPICER,

Major commanding Royal Artillery.

W. H. TROTTER,

Major, Acting Deputy Adj. Gen.

N. B. There not being sufficient Time to send in
 a Return of the Whole of the Ordnance, Ammu-
 nition, and Stores, a correct Return will be sent as
 soon as possible.

*Extract of a Dispatch from Major-General Sir David
 Baird to Lord Viscount Castlereagh, dated Cape-
 Town, January, 13, 1806.*

GENERAL JANSENS has retired to Hottentots
 Holland Klooff, and Advances this Instant re-
 ceived state him to have sent his Forces over the
 Klooff, estimating them at Twelve Hundred Men,
 with Twenty-eight Pieces of Artillery, and Two
 Hundred Waggon. He has discharged the Farmers
 from the Service, and dismissed Fifty Waggon,
 which are said to be coming towards the Town, and
 consequently will be soon in my Possession.

This Account of his Force is probably exagger-
 ated, and particularly with regard to his Artillery.

The General himself is still on this Side the Klooff,
 but his Intentions seem Matter of Conjecture; and
 probably he meditates a Movement towards Zwart
 Kops River.

His Resources with respect to Subsistence, are of
 a Kind not very susceptible of Interruption, from
 the Disposition of the Farmers, or the Means I can
 immediately oppose to him, unless he should expe-
 rience a Deficiency of Ammunition by our Posses-
 sion of some of his Depôts. The Farmers are by no
 Means likely to assist him heartily for any Length of
 Time, for the Devastation of their Property must be
 the inevitable Consequence of a Prosecution of the
 Contest in the Interior.

To augment, or even preserve his actual, and, I
 trust, but temporary Superiority in that Particular,
 it will be necessary for General Jansens to move, in
 a Northerly Direction, into the District of Stel-
 lenbosch; but as the Measure is of a most desperate
 Tendency, and requires that his Heart should be
 steeled to those Sensations which are said to govern
 his Actions, I indulge a sanguine Expectation that
 Consequences so dreadful may be averted.

With this View, and from the Posture of our re-
 lative Affairs, I have deemed it both honorable and
 expedient for His Majesty's Government to make
 an Overture to General Jansens, a Copy of which is
 inclosed, deprecating the destructive Result of his
 further Opposition to His Majesty's Arms, and
 treating him with the Generosity and Distinction
 due to his Character.

But in order to give Weight to the anxious Desire
 I entertain of inviting General Jansens to a Paci-
 fication, I have, at an early Hour this Day, detached

No. 15893.

B

Brigadier-General Beresford, with the 59th and 72d
 Regiments, Two Howitzers, and Four Six-Pounders,
 to possess himself of the Village of Stellenbosch, and
 thence to forward my Letter to the General, accom-
 panied by such additional Arguments as the Briga-
 dier may consider expedient to submit to him, and
 with full Powers to conclude whatever Treaty ex-
 isting Circumstances may exact.

SIR, Cape-Town, January 11, 1806.

YOU have discharged your Duty to your Coun-
 try as became a brave Man at the Head of a
 gallant, though feeble, Army. I know how to
 respect the high Qualities of such a Man; and do
 not doubt that that Humanity which ever charac-
 terizes an intrepid Soldier, will now operate in your
 Breast, to check the fatal Consequences of a fruitless
 Contest.

The Naval and Military Forces of His Britannic
 Majesty, which have possessed themselves of the Seat
 of your recent Government, are of a Magnitude to
 leave no Question respecting the Issue of further
 Hostilities; and therefore a temporary and disastrous
 Resistance is all you can possibly oppose to superior
 Numbers.

Under these Circumstances, nothing can result,
 but the Devastation of the Country you casually
 occupy; and such a Consequence can never be con-
 templated without Anguish by a generous Mind; or
 be gratifying to the Man who feels for the Prosperity
 and Tranquillity of the Colony lately subject to his
 Administration. But if, unhappily your Resolution
 is formed to oppose an Enemy of such superior
 Force, by protracting a Contest which must entail
 Misery and Ruin on the industrious and peaceably
 disposed Settlers of this Colony, I shall be exonerated
 from the Reproach of my own Conscience by this
 frank Overture; and you must justify to yourself,
 and to your Countrymen, the further Effusion of
 Blood, and the Desolation of the Country.

You are necessarily so well acquainted with the
 Extent of the Calamities in which the Interior of
 the Country may be involved; that I shall not en-
 large upon your Power of causing Mischief to be
 done to all its Inhabitants; but, I persuade myself
 that Considerations of a more laudable Nature will
 influence your Decision on this Occasion; and that
 you will manifest an immediate Disposition to pro-
 mote a general Tranquillity.

I have the Honor to subscribe, with Sentiments
 of the highest Respect and Consideration, Sir,
 yours, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) D. BAIRD,
 Maj. Gen. Commanding in Chief.

To Lieutenant-General Jansens, &c. &c. &c.

Admiralty-Office, February 27, 1806.

*Copy of a Letter received this Day, by Captain Down-
 man, from Sir Home Popham, Knt. Captain of
 His Majesty's Ship the Diadem, to William Marsden,
 Esq; dated on board the said Ship, in Table-Bay, the
 13th January 1806.*

SIR,

WHEN I address you, for the Information of
 the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty,
 on an Occasion of such public Interest and Import-
 ance as the Capture of the Cape of Good Hope,

which is now in Possession of His Majesty's Troops under that renowned General Sir David Baird, I consider it unnecessary to trouble their Lordships with a detailed Account of the Proceedings of the Fleet from St. Salvador, which, however will be conveyed in another Dispatch.

On the 3d Instant, we made Table Land; and on the 4th, in the Evening, we reached our preconcerted Anchorage to the Westward of Robben Island; though too late to do any Thing but take a superficial View of Blue Berg Bay, where it was proposed to land the main Body of the Army; making however a Demonstration off Green Point, with the Leda Frigate, and the Transports containing the 24th Regiment, which was certainly well executed by Captain Honyman.

On the 5th, at Three o'Clock in the Morning, the Troops were put in the Boats and assembled alongside of the *Espoir*, but the Surf ran so high, that a Landing was deemed totally impracticable, and consequently the Troops returned to their Ships; and I immediately accompanied the General on board the *Espoir* for the Purpose of making a close Examination of the whole Coast from Craig's Tower to Lospard's Bay; on no Part of which did it appear possible to land a single Boat without extreme Danger.

To the evil Consequences of Delay in commencing Operations on an Enemy's Coast, was to be added the very alarming Possibility that some Reinforcement might arrive by one of the various Squadrons in Motion when we left Europe; and therefore the General and myself were induced to consider that however difficult the Task might be of advancing from Saldanha Bay, yet it was an Object of very great Moment to accomplish a safe and speedy Landing for the Troops; and the instant the Decision was made, the *Diomedæ*, with the Transports of the 38th Regiment, the Cavalry Ships, and a Proportion of Artillery, under the Orders of Brigadier General Beresford sailed for Saldanha, preceded by Captain King in the *Espoir*, having on board Captain Smyth of the Engineers (an Officer well acquainted with the Country) with a View of seizing the Post Moller, and as many Cattle as possible, antecedent to the Arrival of the advanced Division of the Fleet.

Soon after the *Diomedæ* weighed, the Westerly Wind began to abate; and on the 6th in the Morning, the Officers examining the Beach reported that the Surf had considerably subsided during the Night; which indeed was so evident from the Diadem when she stood in Shore, that I requested Sir David Baird to permit General Ferguson, and Colonel Brownrigg, the Quarter Master General, to attend the Officer on his second Examination, that their Feelings might in some Measure be balanced against those of professional Men, and to satisfy the Army that no Measure, in which its Safety was so intimately connected, should be determined on without due and proper Deliberation.

In the mean Time the *Diadem*, *Leda*, and *Encounter* were placed in a Situation to render the most effectual Assistance; and the 71st and 72d Regiments, with Two Field Pieces and a Howitzer ready mounted, in the Boats of the *Raisonable* and *Bellequeux*, rendezvoused alongside the Two former Ships, manifesting the most ardent Desire for the Signal from General Ferguson, at this Moment the Pro-

jector joined the Squadron, and Captain Rowley, who was well acquainted with the Anchorage, volunteered his Services to place her to the Northward, so as to cross the Fire of the *Encounter*; and more effectually cover the landing of the Troops.

Captain Downman at the same Time went in Shore with a light Transport Brig drawing only six Feet to run her on the Beach as a Break Water, if it would in any Degree facilitate the Debarkation of the Troops.

At Half past Twelve the *Encounter* conveyed by Signal General Ferguson's Opinion, that a Landing might be effected, and the Joy that was manifest in the Countenance of every Officer, heightened the characteristic Ardour of the Troops, and under an anxiety probably to be first on shore, induced them to urge the Boats to extend their Line of Beach further than was prudent, and occasioned the Loss of One Boat, with a Party of the 93d Regiment.

I report this Event to their Lordships with the most unfeigned Regret; and it is doubly painful to me, because from all the Efforts of an Enemy posted on an advantageous Height, the Army had only Two Men wounded in landing. This Circumstance must fully prove how well the Covering Vessels were placed, and how ably their Guns were served; and I trust my Country will acquit me of having applied every Expedient that could be devised to prevent the Occurrence of an Accident which I so sincerely deplore.

The Surf increased considerably towards the Close of the Evening, and about Eight o'Clock the Landing of any more Troops was stopped, but recommenced in the Morning, when all the Men, and Prisoners which the General judged necessary to take, were disembarked without a Moment's Loss of Time.

Conceiving that a Detachment of the Squadron might be of Service at the Head of the Bay, I proceeded there with the *Leda*, *Encounter*, and *Protector*, and a Division of Transports, and I understand, from firing occasionally that Evening over the Bank towards the Salt Pan, that the Enemy was obliged to move from an eligible Situation which he had before occupied.

On the following Morning we discovered the British Army advancing, with an unparalleled Rapidity, over a heavy Country, defended by a numerous Train of well-served Artillery; and as I conceived a few fresh Troops might be applied to Advantage, I desired Captain Downman to land with the Marines of the Squadron, and Two Field Pieces, to await the Arrival of Sir David Baird at Keit Valley, whom I very soon after had the Pleasure of personally congratulating on the Victory he had obtained over a General of such high Military Fame as General Jansens.

When the Army was in Motion to take up its Position at Craig's Tower, and while I was proceeding up the Bay to anchor in the most convenient Place for landing the Battering Train, a Flag of Truce was discovered coming towards the *Diadem*, by which I received the Letter No. 1. from the Commandant of the Town and Castle; and the next Day, in Conjunction with Sir David Baird, the Capitulation No. 2. was accepted, and at Six a Royal Salute was fired from the Squadron, on His Majesty's Colours being once more hoisted on the Castle.



Although their Lordships will perceive by the detailed Account of our Transactions here, and the accompanying Plan of the different Dispositions which were made, that no brilliant Service fell to the Lot of the Squadron I have the honor to command, yet it is what I owe every Officer and Seaman to state, that under the most laborious Duty I ever experienced, their Zeal never abated. To Captain Rowley I feel personally indebted for his Readiness on every Occasion; and I have no Doubt but the highest Satisfaction will be expressed of the Conduct of Captain Byng, who commanded the Marine Battalion, by an Authority far exceeding mine: And I enclose, for their Lordships Information, a Copy of the Report he made me on the Conduct of the Officers serving in that Battalion; to which, exclusive of those belonging to the Squadron, are added Captain Hardinge, of the Saffette, and several other Officers, now on their Passage to India to join their Ships.

Captain Butterfield and Lieutenant Cochrane of the Transports, were on all Occasions ready to forward the Service, and we are particularly indebted to Captains Cameron, Christopher, and Moring, of the Honorable Company's Ships Dutchess of Gordon, Sir William Pultney, and Comet, who particularly exerted themselves in assisting the Troops through the Surf.

It is impossible for me to transmit any Returns of the Stores taken, by this Opportunity, or of the State of the Bato of Sixty-eight Guns, in Seamen's Bay; but it is, however, so strongly reported that the Enemy has not completely succeeded in his Attempt to burn her, that I have sent Captain Percy to take Possession of her, and, if possible, to move her into Safety, as the Enemy has totally abandoned her.

Captain Downman, of the Diadem, will have the Honor of delivering this Dispatch to their Lord-

ships, and from the intelligent Manner in which I am satisfied he will explain every Movement; and the Causes by which I have been actuated, I trust he will require no further Recommendation to their Lordships' Protection.

I cannot, however, conclude this Letter without assuring their Lordships that I know no Instance where a stronger Degree of Confidence and Unanimity has been exemplified between the two Professions than on the present Occasion, and I humbly hope this Circumstance, coupled with the meritorious and successful Issue of Sir David Baird's Military Dispositions will recommend this Armament to His Majesty's most gracious Favour and Protection.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
HOME POPHAM.

His Majesty's Ship Belliqueux, Table Bay,
SIR,
14th January 1806.

AFTER the public Orders issued by General Sir David Baird, I feel it unnecessary to trouble you with any further Report on the Conduct of the Marine Brigade than to send you a Copy of it. I never witnessed more Zeal and determined Spirit than was universally prevalent; and I take the Liberty of annexing the Names of all the Volunteer Officers,* and I return my Thanks to them, as well as those Officers from the Indiamen, so ably led by Captain Edmeads, of the William Pitt, to whom I am particularly indebted for his Exertions.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) GEO. BYNG.

To Sir Home Popham, K. B. Commodore,
&c. &c. &c.

* Captain Harding, Lieutenants Pigot, Graham, Sutherland, Mingay, Carew, and Pearce.

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