

Bannaniers River, where it took Post. The Reserve at the same Time abandoned the Landing-Place at St. Mary's, and reached the Grande Riviere that Night, with Two Days Provisions for the Corps acting to Windward. On the 30th, the First Division advanced by the strong Pass of Trou au Chien, which was not defended, and the Head of the Column reached Three Rivers about Eleven o'Clock, pushing small Detachments on the Enemy with the Light Troops. The Reserve marched early in the Morning from its Position, gaining Three Rivers about Sunset.

The Enemy marked a Disposition to defend the Heights, D'Olet and other Places strengthened with Field Artillery, but in the Afternoon he abandoned all his Posts with Precipitation, leaving his Ordnance behind.

It became necessary for the First Division and the Reserve to remain at Three Rivers until the Morning of the 2d Instant, to land Five Days Provisions from the Fleet, which, owing to the uncommon Exertions of Commodore Fahie, Captains Dilkes and Dowers, with other Naval Officers, (whose Activity on this Occasion, as well as at the landing at Saint Mary's, was most conspicuous,) was promptly effected.

The Corps marched in Two Columns, the Reserve forming the Right, and advancing by the Mountains took Possession of Palmiste, at his upper Extremity, whilst the First Division marching by D'Olet, and the great Road to Basseterre, subdivided at the Foot of this Height, the Fourth Brigade ascending it near the Centre, the Third Brigade at its lower Extremity the Reserve found the Posts of Langlais abandoned, and the Guns spiked. The Possession of Morne Houël being of the highest Importance, I directed Brigadier-General Wale to March with the Reserve at Four o'Clock in the Afternoon, who occupied it without Resistance about Eight at Night, the Cannon being spiked and dismounted, and the Ammunition in general wasted or destroyed.

On the Morning of the 3d, the First Division marched from Palmiste, crossing the River Gallion in one Column at the only practicable Pass, the Fourth Brigade taking Post in the Centre, about a Mile from the Bridge of Noziere on the River Noire, and the Third Brigade occupied Mr. Peltier's House, where the Enemy abandoned a Magazine of Provisions.

In the course of the 29th, the Second Division, under the Command of Brigadier-General Harcourt, weighed from the Saintes, and standing across towards Three Rivers, gave the Enemy some Jealousy in that Quarter, facilitating the Advance of the Rest of the Army, but in the Night bore up, landing the next Morning to Leeward near the River du Plessis; and marching immediately towards the Enemy's Right, inclining to his Rear, excited his Attention to such a Degree as to induce him to abandon his Defences at Three Rivers, Palmiste, Morne Houël, and to retire beyond the Bridge of Noziere, putting the River in his Front, and extending his Left in such Manner into the Mountains as in his Opinion to secure his Position.

The Second Division was enabled, from the Nature of the Country, to land two Royal Howitzers and two Field Pieces, and to mount them in

Battery, to which two Eight-inch Howitzer Mortars were afterwards added.

The Enemy being now compressed within narrow Limits, the Difficulty, (and that a considerable one,) was the Passage of the River Noire, to the Defence of which he had paid the utmost Attention; it appeared me to be necessary to turn his Left by the Mountains, notwithstanding all the Obstructions of Nature and of Art which opposed this Decision. I therefore gave the necessary Orders to Brigadier-General Wale, commanding the Reserve, to carry this important Service into Execution during the Night of the 3d; but, after my separating from the Brigadier-General, he obtained Intelligence of a Nature so important as not, in his Opinion, to admit of consulting me upon an Alteration in the Time; and he proceeded to execute his Orders, although by a shorter Route than we possessed the Knowledge of at the Period of my quitting him.

I entirely approve of the Brigadier-General's Determination on the Grounds on which he decided, although it created a temporary Embarrassment.

This important Service was greatly and successfully executed, as will appear more fully by Brigadier-General Wale's separate Report; and my Sentiments of what is due to Major Henderson, commanding the Royal York Rangers, who was wounded upon this Occasion, and to the Officers and Soldiers of this Regiment, are fully expressed in my public Order forwarded with this Letter; which I request your Lordship will be pleased to lay before the King, with my earnest Hope, that His Majesty will promote Major Henderson, whose Merits are beyond my Praise.

I lament on this Occasion the Loss sustained by this young Corps, which has suffered considerably, amounting to no less than Four Lieutenants killed; One Field Officer and Four Captains wounded, with upwards of Eighty Men killed and wounded; but the Effort decided the Campaign, the Enemy being so confounded in finding his Flank turned, and the Heights occupied, that the Captain-General instantly hoisted White Flags at his own Quarters and other Places, whilst the Troops were advancing; and indeed this Officer's Person was greatly exposed in his Position.

I am concerned to add, that Brigadier-General Wale, commanding the Reserve, and Captain Grey, an Assistant in the Quartermaster-General's Department, were wounded on this Service.

Commissioners appointed on both Sides having met the next Morning (the 5th), a Capitulation was agreed upon, which was ratified on the Morning of the 6th, and which I trust will be honoured with His Majesty's Approbation.

I have the Honour to inclose the following Documents:

- No. 1. The Proclamation addressed by the Admiral and myself to the Inhabitants of Guadeloupe.
- No. 2. Major-General Hislop's Report of the First Division.
- No. 3. Brigadier-General Harcourt's Report of the Second Division.
- No. 4. Brigadier-General Wale's Report of the Attack made by the Royal York Rangers, with the Feint of the Second Battalion of