



SUPPLEMENT

TO

The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY the 7th of MARCH.

Published by Authority.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1815.

COLONIAL DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, March 8, 1815.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have been this day received by Earl Bathurst, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Major-General Sir John Lambert, K. C. B. commanding on the coast of Louisiana.

Camp, in Front of the Enemy's Lines, below My Lord, New Orleans, Jan. 10, 1815.

IT becomes my duty to lay before your Lordship, the proceedings of the force lately employed on the coast of Louisiana, under the command of Major-General the Honourable Sir E. M. Pakenham, K. B. and acting in concert with Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir A. Cochrane, K. B.

The report which I enclose from Major-General Keane, will put your Lordship in possession of the occurrences which took place until the arrival of Major-General the Honourable Sir E. Pakenham to assume the command; from that period I send an extract of the journal of Major Forrest, Assistant-Quarter-Master-General, up to the time of the joining of the troops (which sailed on the 26th of October last under my command), and which was on the 6th January; and from that period, I shall detail, as well as I am able, the subsequent events.

I found the army in position, in a flat country, with the Mississippi on its left, and a thick extensive wood on its right, and open to its front, from which the enemy's line was quite distinguishable.

It seems Sir E. Pakenham had waited for the arrival of the fusiliers and 43d regiment, in order to make a general attack upon the enemy's line; and on the 8th, the army was formed for that object.

In order to give your Lordship as clear a view

as I can, I shall state the position of the enemy. On the left bank of the river it was simply a straight line of about a front of one thousand yards with a parapet, the right resting on the river, and the left on a wood which had been made impracticable for any body of troops to pass. This line was strengthened by flank works, and had a canal of about four feet deep generally, but not altogether of an equal width; it was supposed to narrow towards their left: about eight heavy guns were in position on this line. The Mississippi is here about eight hundred yards across, and they had on the right bank a heavy battery of twelve guns, which enfiladed the whole front of the position on the left bank.

Preparations were made on our side, by very considerable labour, to clear out and widen a canal that communicated with a stream by which the boats had passed up to the place of disembarkation, to open it into the Mississippi, by which means troops could be got over to the right bank, and the co-operation of armed boats could be secured.

The disposition for the attack was as follows: a corps, consisting of the 85th light infantry, two hundred seamen, and four hundred marines, the 5th West India regiment, and four pieces of artillery, under the command of Colonel Thornton, of the 85th, was to pass over during the night, and move along the right bank towards New Orleans, clearing its front until it reached the flanking battery of the enemy on that side, which it had orders to carry.

The assailing of the enemy's line in front of us, was to be made by the brigade composed of the 4th, 21st, and 44th regiments, with three companies of the 95th, under Major-General Gibbs, and by the 3d brigade, consisting of the 93d, two companies of the 95th, and two companies of the