



SUPPLEMENT
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India-Board, October 1824.

DISPATCHES have been received at the East India-House, from the Governor-General in Council, at Fort William, with inclosures, of which the following are copies and extracts.

Extract from a Letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, dated Fort William, 21st November 1823.

ON the 28th of September, Mr. Warner reported to us by an express, that a Burmese force of about one thousand men had actually attacked and taken the island of Shapuree, on the 24th, killing three Sepoys, and wounding three others.

Extract from a Letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, dated Fort William, 9th January 1824.

WE beg to inform your Honourable Committee, that the detachment sent by sea from hence to occupy the island of Shapuree, at the mouth of the Naaf River, and to reinforce the posts on the southern part of the Chittagong district, did not, owing to the unseasonable and tempestuous state of the weather, at the head of the bay of Bengal, reach the island until the 21st of November; no symptoms of further hostile designs, or preparations, were visible on the part of the Burmans at the period of their arrival; and two companies of the detachment accordingly took possession of Shapuree, without the slightest opposition being offered.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Hay, commanding the Chittagong Battalion, to the Secretary to Government in the Military Department, dated Chittagong, October 1823.

I BEG to inform you, that on the evening of the 23d September, the Jemadar's party of this corps, stationed on the island of Shapuree, was attacked by a body of Burmese, of about a thousand, from Arracan, and after some struggle, driven off the island, with the loss of three sepoy killed, and three more wounded, two of whom are since dead.

Extract from a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Shaplana to Major Patrickson, Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army, dated Shapuree, 22d November 1823.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of Government, that in consequence of the difficulty which the larger vessels of the detachment under my command, experienced in entering the Naaf River, they did not anchor off Tik Naaf, until the forenoon of the 20th instant, when three companies of the 2d battalion 20th regiment, were disembarked at that place; in the ensuing night two vessels, the Flora and Planet, dropped down to Shapuree, and the two companies on board of them were landed on the island without delay; an eligible spot for the erection of a stockade was then chosen, and the Mugs,* with the detachment are now employed in clearing the ground, and making preparations for the construction of one.

* Refugees from Arracan.

Extract from a Letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, dated Fort William, 23d February 1824.

ON the 30th January, we learnt that an affair had taken place between our party of observation on the Sylhet frontier, commanded by Major Newton, and one of the bodies of invaders coming from Assam; your Honourable Committee will learn from the correspondence which took place on that occasion that, disregarding the intimation which they had received of the determination of the British Government to resist the occupation of Cachar by the forces of a foreign power, and anxious only to effect their object of concentrating a large force on our immediate frontier, the parties from the northward and eastward hurried on, in avowed defiance of our repeated remonstrances and warnings; to the point where the Generals proposed to unite their forces; on the 16th Major Newton, finding that a body of about four thousand Burmese and Assamese had crossed into the plains of Cachar, at the foot of the Berteaka Pass, and were stockading themselves at Bikrampore; also that the force to the eastward had defeated the Manipore Chief, Rajah Gambhur Sing's troops; and that a third division were crossing into Jyntra, immediately north of the station of Sylhet, he resolved, under circumstances so threatening to his force, to concentrate his detachment at Juttrapore, a Cachar village, about five miles beyond the boundary of the Sylhet district, and move from thence due northward against the invading party from Assam, before they could have time to strengthen their position. The Burmese position was discovered early in the morning of the 17th of January, and hostilities commenced by the discharge of two shots from their stockade at the British advanced guard; an attack was then made by the British force under Major Newton, in two divisions which was completely successful though a party of Burmahs in the stockade, variously estimated at from two to five hundred, made a brave resistance, and were not overpowered without the loss of six of our sepoy killed, and eighteen wounded; about one hundred and seventy-five of the Burmah force were destroyed, the remainder fled towards the hills.

Copy of a Dispatch from Major Newton to the Adjutant-General of the Army, dated Budderpore, 18th January 1824.

SIR,

IN consequence of intelligence which I received on the evening of the 16th instant, that a body of about four thousand Burmese and Assamese had crossed into the plains at the foot of the Berteaka Pass, and were stockading themselves at the village of Bickrampore; also that a force to the eastward had defeated Rajah Gambhur Sing's troops, and that a third division were crossing the Mootagool Pass into Jyntra to the north west, I resolved, under circumstances so threatening to my force, to concentrate my detachment at Juttrapore, and move from thence with the whole due north, and attack the enemy before they could have time to

strengthen their position; I accordingly ordered Captain Johnston, to join me from Tilayn, leaving his camp standing; at two A. M. of the 17th, we moved off; at six A. M. just beyond an almost impervious grass and reed jungle, which we with considerable difficulty passed, we came into a comparatively plain country, where the situation of the enemy was discovered by the discharge of two shots at our advanced guard; their position extended along the villages at the foot of the hills, they were covered by the huts, bushes, &c. in a close and difficult country, and on their right they had a stockade on the banks of a steep nullah, occupied by about two hundred men; the attack was made in two divisions: the southern face of the stockade being assaulted by Captain Johnston, with part of the 23d native infantry, and Rungpore light infantry; and the enemy's line in the villages being attacked by Captain Bowe, with part of the 10th native infantry, the whole under my direction; this last was immediately successful, the greater part of the enemy, supposed to be Assamese, flying to the hills at the first fire; Captain Bowe then wheeled his force at the attack of the stockade which was making a brave resistance against Captain Johnston, and in a short time it was carried by assault by the united exertions of both parties.

I cannot in too strong terms bring to your notice, for the information of his Excellency the Commander in Chief, the exertions of the troops on this occasion, the Officers and men were equally conspicuous in their zealous endeavours; I cannot therefore particularize individuals, when all who were engaged claim an equal share of praise; but in justice to the merit of the European Officers, and Staff General and Medical, I do myself the honour to annex a list of their names, and an account of the killed and wounded on both sides.

General Staff—Lieutenant T. Fisher, D. A. Q. Master General.

1st Bat. 10th Regt.—Captain W. Bowe, Acting Adjutant; Ensigns, J. Buncombe and H. M. Grams; Surgeon J. Grierson.

2d Bat. 23d N. I.—Captain J. Johnston; Lieutenant Richardson, Actg. Adjt.; Lieutenant Ellis; Assistant-Surgeon Forrest.

Rungpore L. I.—Lieutenant A. Fuller.

I have, &c.

J. NEWTON, Major,
Comd. Detacht.

Statement of the probable loss of the Burmese, in the action of the 17th January 1824.

Killed in and about the stockade	-	-	34
Killed in the pursuit and adjacent country by estimation	-	-	150
Prisoner wounded	-	-	1
			185

There were taken one standard, several musquets, and kukrees; a quantity of grain, ammunition, &c. was destroyed by the stockade taking fire, at the close of the engagement.

T. FISHER, Lieutenant,
Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General

Return of killed and wounded in a Detachment under the Command of Major Newton, during operations against the Burmese, near Bickram-pore, on the 17th January 1824.

1st Battalion 10th Regiment Native Infantry.—
1 sepoy killed; 1 wounded.
2d Battalion 25th Regiment Native Infantry.—
3 sepoy killed; 1 naik, and 6 sepoy wounded.
Rangpore Light Infantry.—1 sepoy killed; 1 naik,
1 drummer, and 4 sepoy (one of whom is since
dead) wounded, 1 elephant wounded.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Johnston, commanding a Detachment of the 23d Regiment of Native Infantry, to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army, dated Budderpore, 14th February 1824.

SIR,

THE command of this post having devolved upon me, in the absence of Major Newton, I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of His Excellency the Commander in Chief, that the Burmese advanced yesterday morning in very great force to within one thousand yards of this post, on the north bank of the Soormah River, and commenced upon the construction of five separate stockades on most advantageous ground.

Having obtained the sanction of Mr. Scott, the Governor-General's agent, for dislodging them from positions which if permitted to be finished would form a serious hindrance to our future plans, and inevitably cause the sacrifice of many lives in their reduction, I was determined, if possible, to drive the enemy from them in their unfinished state, and with this view directed Captain Bowe, with part of the left wing 1st battalion 10th regiment, a detachment of the 2d battalion 23d native infantry, and a party of the Rangpore light infantry to cross the Soormah, whilst I proceeded, accompanied by Mr. Scott's interpreter, up the river, in order to induce them to desist from throwing up these fortifications, but seeing no probability of their acquiescence, and that they were rather waiting for further reinforcements, I thought proper to direct the advance of the column.

On reaching the first stockade the enemy fired upon the leading sections, who ascended the height and instantly drove the enemy with the bayonet from the stockade, and rapidly followed them up without giving them time to rally, till every stockade was carried in the same gallant manner and left in our possession; my instructions from Mr. Scott being not to commence firing, unless much resistance was made, prevented the enemy's loss from being so great as they otherwise must have sustained: with the stockades the enemy abandoned a number of gingals and muskets, and the whole of their ammunition.

I am sorry to add that this success on our part was not obtained without the loss of a jemadar of the 1st battalion 10th regiment and a number of men wounded, principally by spikes and bows set in the ground to impede the advance of the detachment.

I cannot close this dispatch without bringing to His Excellency's notice the gallant conduct of

Captain Bowe, who commanded the column of attack, and that of Lieutenant Ellis, who commanded the detachment 2d battalion 23d native infantry, and of whom Captain Bowe makes particular mention; indeed the whole of the detachment behaved with the utmost steadiness and bravery throughout.

I have, &c.

J. JOHNSTON, Capt. 23d Regiment.

Return of killed and wounded of a Detachment under the Command of Captain W. Bowe, in an Action with the Burmese, on the 13th of February 1824.

1st Battalion 10th Regiment.—1 jemadar killed; 1 quarter-master-serjeant, 1 subadar, 7 naicks, 1 drummer, 26 sepoy, wounded.
2d Battalion 23d Regiment Native Infantry.—2 sepoy wounded.

Copy of a Dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Bowen to David Scott, Esq. Political Agent on the Bengal Eastern Frontier, dated Camp, near Tiloy, 19th February 1824.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that agreeably to your requisition the whole of the detachment at Budderpore embarked on board the boats in which the right wing 1st battalion 10th regiment arrived under my command from Dacca, and proceeded up the Soormah River towards Juttrapore on the 16th instant. The same morning I detached Major Newton to the latter place by land, with two hundred men, for the purpose of occupying the stockades at that place, should it be found that the enemy had quitted them, as was supposed to be the case. About half way towards Juttrapore four stockades which had been deserted by the enemy were destroyed, and I had the satisfaction of learning here, that Major Newton had taken possession of Juttrapore, where we arrived on the 17th. It appears that the enemy had abandoned these very strong and extensive stockades on the evening of the 13th, after having been driven from those opposite Budderpore, by the detachment at that place; and that a considerable number of them had retired to the fort of the Berteaka pass, in the range of hills to the north-east of Juttrapore.

Having left Major Newton with a detachment of about two hundred men at Juttrapore, to protect the stockades and to prevent the enemy from returning in that direction and occupying them; and it being ascertained that several of the Burmese Chiefs had concentrated their forces and taken up their position under the Berteaka pass, the detachment continued its route in the boats to the mouth of the Jeltinghy River, where it disembarked at nine o'clock on the morning of the 18th, and moved in the best order towards the enemy's position, where we arrived about eleven A. M. and found them strongly posted in two stockades on the left bank of the river, the passage of which, at the only place where it was supposed to be fordable, was completely commanded by one of them. Their position was naturally very strong, and had been

made by the enemy and the late heavy falls of rain so difficult as to appear almost impracticable to human means. Having reconnoitered the river both above and below, and all my endeavours to discover a more eligible passage having failed, in consequence of the depth and rapidity of the stream, and no boats being procurable, the only expedient left to me was to endeavour to get the men across on the backs of the elephants which accompanied me, under cover of the fire of the light company 1st battalion 10th regiment and a party of the Rungpore light infantry.

Having in this manner succeeded, after some little delay and much difficulty, in crossing nearly the whole of the 1st battalion 10th regiment, detachment 2d battalion 23d, I directed an attack upon the stockades along the bank of the river, but having ascertained that there was a rivulet in that direction which was impassable, I was compelled to order the attack through the jungle higher up the bank. In this attempt the difficulties opposed to us by the jungle and muddy rivulet were of an almost insuperable nature; but the detachment having at length arrived at the north-east corner of the stockade, immediately formed and carried it with the bayonet, the enemy dispersing and flying in all directions, pursued by our detachment towards another strong and extensive stockade under the hills, where it was imagined they were prepared to offer a determined resistance; they however merely passed through it in their way to the hills, and the détachement advanced, took possession, and passed the night in it.

From all the accounts which have reached me, and from the number and extent of the stockades they had constructed, I cannot estimate the number of the enemy in this affair at less than five thousand, of whom the greater part are supposed to be Assamese, and the remainder Burmahs; their dispersion and flight towards the hills (in the greatest disorder and confusion) and passes into Assam, the capture of all their standards, gingals and eight gilt chattahs, are the fruits of this affair.

It is impossible for me to close this report without endeavouring to do justice to the good conduct of Captains Johnston and Bove, who led the attack at the head of the grenadiers 1st battalion 10th regiment, Lieutenant M'Laren, detachment staff, and Lieutenant Ellis, 23d regiment light infantry. The latter young Officer set a most noble example in dashing into the nullah and fording it neck high, followed by such of the troops as had not passed on elephants, which mainly contributed to our success.

I am happy to say that this service has been performed with little or no loss, only two men being wounded.

I have, &c.
H. BOWEN, Lieut.-Col. Comd.

Copy of a Report from Lieutenant-Colonel Bowen to Mr. Scott, Political Agent on the Bengal Eastern Frontier, dated Juttrapore, 22d February 1824.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that

agreeably to your requisition the detachment under my command again disembarked yesterday morning at eight o'clock, and after a march of two hours fell in with the enemy's stockades at Doodpatlee.

Several spirited attacks were made upon the enemy under cover of a heavy fire from three six pounders, all of which I am sorry to say failed, and after a most severe action, which lasted from ten o'clock A. M. till evening, I was compelled to draw off the detachment, and return to Juttrapore, leaving two European Officers and one hundred and fifty men (between the enemy and our present position) at the strong post of Tiloy, as a measure of observation and safety.

I regret to say, that our loss has been severe: a return of the killed and wounded is herewith transmitted; the enemy's force may be fairly computed at two thousand Burmahs, including cavalry, and they fought with a bravery and obstinacy which I have never witnessed in any troops. It is impossible to estimate their loss, but it must be very severe.

As you personally witnessed this action, it will not escape your observation, that the troops opposed to us at Doodpatlee, are a very different description from those who fought at Bickrampore and Burcollah, the former being wholly Burmese, and at the latter two places chiefly Assamese.

I have, &c.
H. BOWEN, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Commanding in Sylhet.

Return of Killed and Wounded during Operations against the Burmese, at Doodpatlee, on the 21st February 1824.

1st Battalion 10th Regiment Native Infantry.—1 lieutenant, 14 sepoy killed; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 ensign, 1 subadar, 4 jemadars, 6 havildars, 6 naiks, 84 sepoy, 1 lascar wounded.

European Officers.—Lieutenant Armstrong, killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Bowen, wounded slightly, Ensign Barberie, severely.

2d Battalion 23d Regiment Native Infantry.—2 sepoy killed; 1 captain, 1 havildar, 1 naik, 21 sepoy wounded.

European Officer wounded, Captain Johnston, severely.

Rungpore Light Infantry.—1 naik, 3 sepoy killed; 2 naiks, 4 sepoy wounded.

Copy of a Dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Bowen, Commanding in Cachar, to the Deputy Adjutant-General, dated Camp, near Juttrapore, 25th February 1824.

SIR,

I REGRET to have to report to you, that Lieutenant A. B. Armstrong, of the 1st battalion 10th regiment of native infantry, was killed in action with the Burmese on the 21st instant, at Doodpatlee; this valuable Officer was shot at the head of the grenadiers among the stakes and spring guns, which were planted all round the enemy's stockades outside for a distance of from twenty to thirty yards, concealed for the most part in long grass.

It is my painful duty to mention by this opportunity, that Captain Johnston, of the 23d regiment

native infantry, and Ensign Barberie, of the 10th regiment native infantry, are in a very dangerous state; the former was shot through the thigh bone, and the latter had his leg shattered to pieces, which has since been amputated. I trust it will not be considered presumptuous in me to express my hope, that something may be done for these two Officers in the event of their recovery, and in consideration of their brave and gallant conduct in the actions of the 13th, 18th and 21st instant.

Captain Johnston, has been twenty years in the army, has seen much actual service, has never been absent from his corps during all that time (except on sick certificate for four months), and has rendered me the greatest assistance throughout.

I cannot close this letter without deeply lamenting our failure at Doodpatlee, and the loss we have sustained, and I sincerely hope his Excellency the Commander in Chief, will concur in opinion with Mr. Scott, the Governor-General's Agent, and myself, that we were justified in following up our former rapid successes in our attack at Doodpatlee, in order to prevent the junction of the Assamese and Burmese armies, and the invasion of our own territories, which they had repeatedly threatened by letter; since (notwithstanding our failure) it has caused the enemy to evacuate their strong stockades at and around Doodpatlee, and to proceed in disorder in the direction of Munnipore and Assam, of which authentic accounts reached me yesterday.

It has now been ascertained by people sent to examine the evacuated stockades at Doodpatlee, that the enemy had between four and five hundred men killed and wounded; they were wholly composed of Burmese, and they fought desperately, reserving their fire to the last moment, and seldom missing their object.

I beg leave to supply an omission in my report of this affair under date the 22d instant, and to state that Major Newton, with an hundred and fifty men of the detachment left to protect the stockades at Juttrapore, joined me by order on the evening of the 20th, near Doodpatlee.

I have, &c.

H. BOWEN, Lieutenant-Colonel Comd.

THE following Copies and Extracts of Dispatches addressed to the Government of Bengal, not having been received in regular course from that Government, are now taken from the Calcutta Gazettes:

Copy of a Dispatch from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. commanding the British Forces at Rangoon, to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated 12th May 1824.

SIR,

YOU are already apprised of the different periods of sailing of the transports with the troops from Bengal and Madras composing the expedition, which the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council did me the honour of placing under my command. Owing to calms and very light winds, the Bengal division did not reach the place of rendezvous at Port Cornwallis before the end of

last month, and the Madras division not until the 3d instant, at which period several ships from both Presidencies were still absent. I had however determined to sail with the force assembled, and would have done so that very day, had I not been prevented by a general report of the scarcity of fresh water on board the Madras transports, some of them not having more than four days' consumption. This difficulty was very speedily removed by Captain Marryatt, of His Majesty's ship *Larpe*, whose indefatigable exertions in collecting and appropriating the scanty supply which the land springs afforded, and distributing a proportion from such vessels as were well supplied to those most in need, enabled him on the following day to report the fleet ready to proceed to sea. As we were accordingly getting under weigh His Majesty's ship *Liffey*, Commodore Grant, C. B. appeared in the offing, as also several of the absent transports. Judging that some of them might also be in want of water, and being desirous of making the necessary arrangements with the Commodore relative to our future operations, I determined upon remaining in harbour one day longer. On the following morning (the 5th) we finally put to sea, detaching a part of my force under Brigadier M'Creagh against the island of Cheduba, and sending another detachment under Major Wahab, of the Madras establishment, against the island of Nagrais, (each of the force in ships and troops stated in the margin,*) proceeding myself with the main body for the Rangoon River, which we reached on the 10th, and anchored within the bar. On the following morning, every arrangement having been previously made, the fleet led by the *Liffey* sailed up the river, followed by the transports in the order I wished to employ the troops on the attack upon Rangoon, and in the course of a few hours arrived off the town, receiving on our passage up some insignificant discharges of artillery from one or two of the chokies on the banks of the river.

Commodore Grant anchored the *Liffey* immediately opposite the King's wharf, where we had observed a battery of apparently from twelve to sixteen guns, manned and ready to open its fire. Still from motives of humanity the Commodore and myself were unwilling to commence so unequal a contest, thinking the immense superiority on our side, within full view of the shore, would have induced the Authorities in town to make an offer of negotiating: their presumption and folly, however, led them to pursue a different course; a feeble, ill supported, and worse directed fire was opened upon us, which the first few guns from the *Liffey* effectually silenced, and cleared the battery: the Commodore consequently directed his fire to cease. I had previously ordered the plan of attack, and now gave directions for two brigades to be in readiness in their boats for landing: His Majesty's 38th re-

* Cheduba.—His Majesty's ship *Slang*, and Honourable Company's ship *Ernaad*.

Transports.—*Anna Robertson*, and *Francis Warden*.
Detachment.—His Majesty's 13th Light Infantry, and seven companies 20th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry.

Nagrais.—Honourable Company's cruiser *Mercury*.
Transports.—*Hermoine* and *Carron*.
1st Battalion 17th Madras Native Light Infantry, and a small detachment Madras Artillery.

gement, commanded by Major Evans, above the town; Major Sale, with His Majesty's 13th light infantry, at the centre, to make a lodgement in the main battery, should he be unable to force the gate of the stockade, and a brigade of the Madras division below the town under the direction of Brigadier-General M'Bean. The 38th and this brigade being ordered to push round by the rear and enter the town, should they find an opportunity of so doing.

These measures in progress, the Burmese again returned to their battery and commenced firing, which was again silenced by a broadside from the Liffey; and the signal being made for the troops to land in the order already stated, which they did in the most regular and soldier-like style, in less than twenty minutes I had the satisfaction of seeing the British flag flying in the town, without the troops having had occasion to discharge a single musket, and without my having occasion to regret the loss of one individual killed or wounded on our side; nor do I believe that of the enemy from their rapid flight could have been great, of the latter, killed, only eight or ten were left behind.

The news of our arrival in the river having reached Rangoon the preceding night, and our rapid progress up in the morning being marked by an occasional shot in answer to the fire from the Chokies, together with the preparations of the Burmese Authorities for defence, threw the inhabitants into such a state of consternation as to cause a general flight in every direction towards the jungles, so much so that out of a large population, I do not think one hundred men were found in the town on our taking possession of it.

The Members of Government fled at the first shot, carrying with them seven out of eleven Europeans whom they had ordered to be imprisoned and put in irons. On our arrival in their hurry three were left in the King's godown, whose irons were filed off by the troops on entering the town.

When we were actually in possession of the town, Mr. Hough, an American missionary, released from irons for the purpose, accompanied by a Burmese, came on board the Liffey, delegated by the Raywoon and other Members of Government (then some miles off in the jungle) to entreat that the firing might cease, and to ask what terms would be given to them, hinting that they had seven Englishmen put with them in irons, whose fate would probably depend upon the answer they received. The Commodore and myself told them, that it was too late to ask for terms, as the place was then in our possession: protection to persons and property was all they had to expect, and even that promise would not be confirmed to them until the prisoners were released and given up to us, warning them, that if they dared to injure them or put one of them to death, fire and sword should revenge the atrocious deed over the whole face of the country. The messengers left us, promising to return as soon as possible; but neither the Raywoon or his adherents could again be found, fear having driven them still farther into the country.

We remained in great anxiety for the fate of our countrymen during the night, but early next morning, in pushing forward some reconnoitring parties,

the whole seven were found safe in different places of confinement, strongly fettered, their guards having fled at our approach; a list of those gentlemen I beg herewith to transmit.

I am sure it will afford the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council much satisfaction to know (and I believe my information to be correct) that there is not another Englishman, with the exception of a Mr. Gauger, now at Ava, in the power of the Burmese Government.

Although I am not yet enabled officially to communicate to you the subjection to the British arms of the islands of Cheduba and Négrais, together with Bassein, yet I have not the least doubt, from the calculation of time and the fineness of the weather, that the attack in these quarters has been so simultaneously made as to render their fall, about the same time with that of Rangoon, almost certain.

The captured ordnance far exceeds in number any thing we supposed the country to possess, although, generally speaking, of a bad description; the guns are now collecting from the different batteries, and as soon as a correct statement can be made out, I will have the honour of forwarding it.

It would be presumption in me to speak in terms of praise of an Officer so well known as Commodore Grant, but it is my duty to inform you, that the cordial co-operation I have received and continue to receive from him calls for my warmest acknowledgement.

I have, &c.

A. CAMPBELL, Brig.-Gen.

P. S. I am happy to say I have been able to put the troops under cover, one brigade in the town of Rangoon, and the other three in the houses in the vicinity of the great pagoda.

List of Persons imprisoned and placed in Irons by the Burmese Government at Rangoon, on the approach of the British Arms, for the purpose of being put to Death.

Mr. J. Snowball,	-	-	} British.
— J. Turner,	-	-	
— Wm. Roy,	-	-	
— Alex. Tench,	-	-	
— H. W. Thompson,	-	-	
— R. T. Trill,	-	-	} Country Born.
— R. Wyatt,	-	-	
— G. H. Roys,	-	-	
— Arratoon,	-	-	Armenian.
— P. Aide,	-	-	Greek.
Rev. J. Wade,	-	-	American Missionary.
Ditto Hough,	-	-	ditto ditto, taken out of irons and sent by the Burmese on board the Liffey to beg the firing, &c. &c. might cease.

A. CAMPBELL, Brigadier-General.

Extract of a Dispatch from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, dated 19th May 1824.

INFORMATION having been received that five rafts were constructing and war boats collecting at no great distance up the river, Commodore Grant some days ago sent the boats of his ship under

Lieutenant Wilkinson, of the Liffey, for the purpose of reconnoitring. They fell in with and destroyed one boat (the crew escaping) having seen several others, which effected their escape. Our boats had two seamen wounded by musketry from the shore. On the evening of the 14th, it was thought farther advisable that the river should be explored considerably higher up, and for this purpose Lieutenant Wilkinson, with the boats of the Liffey, accompanied by forty rank and file of His Majesty's 41st regiment, under Lieutenant M'Lean, went about eighteen miles up, receiving a smart fire of musketry from the villages on either bank, both in going and returning. At one place in particular the enemy assembled in considerable force, but were speedily dispersed by the fire from the boats; on which occasion Lieutenant Wilkinson expressed himself in terms of high admiration of the determined gallantry and coolness of the party of His Majesty's 41st regiment. They had three rank and file wounded.

A work having been observed in preparation at the village of Kemmendine, only four miles distant from the shipping, which if allowed to be completed might prove a very serious annoyance, the Commodore and I determined upon destroying it, for which purpose a sufficient number of boats were ordered from the fleet under the command of Lieutenant Wilkinson, and I ordered the grenadier company of His Majesty's 38th regiment, under Captain Birch, to be embarked on board of them. The whole were in readiness and sailed a little before day-light on the morning of the 16th.

Herewith I beg leave to inclose Captain Birch's report of the result, which leaves me to regret the loss of a valuable Officer, Lieutenant Kerr, of the 38th regiment, who, with one rank and file, was killed, and nine rank and file wounded. On the part of the navy that enterprising and active Officer Lieutenant Wilkinson, and five seamen were wounded.

The spirited decision of Captain Birch and Lieutenant Wilkinson, and the gallant manner in which their orders were carried into effect by both Officers and men merit every praise, and must have left a strong impression upon the enemy of what they have to expect should an opportunity offer of bringing them fairly into contact with the British Arms.

Copy of a Report from Captain Birch to Brigadier-General Sir A. Campbell, K. C. B. dated Rangoon, 16th May 1824.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that in obedience to your orders, I this morning embarked with the grenadier company of His Majesty's 38th regiment under my command on board the boats of His Majesty's ship Liffey, commanded by Lieutenant Wilkinson of the royal navy, having four row boats for the conveyance of the soldiers, for the purpose of dislodging the enemy from the village of Killyumidine and adjacent villages.

Agreeably to my instructions I landed the troops at a small village about a mile from Killyumidine, where I observed a party of the enemy had stock-

aded themselves, and immediately attacked their position, which I carried after exchanging a few rounds and killing ten or twelve of the enemy.

I then endeavoured to penetrate the jungle towards the village of Killyumidine, for the purpose of assailing it by the rear, while the boats attacked it in front, but I regret to say that I found the jungles so impervious as to prevent me from executing this part of my instructions.

I therefore re-embarked my detachment and proceeded in the boats.

On approaching a point higher up intending to land, we found ourselves suddenly exposed to a heavy fire from a stockade, till then unobserved, and as any attempt to retire would have exposed the detachment to certain destruction and would have given encouragement to the enemy, which I felt convinced you would have highly disapproved of, Lieutenant Wilkinson, R. N. and myself resolved upon immediately landing and storming the stockade.

We had many unforeseen difficulties to overcome, the enemy having placed bamboos and pikes so as to make landing both difficult and dangerous.

Nothing however could withstand the gallantry and determination of both soldiers and sailors; who shortly established themselves within the stockade, defended by about four hundred men, who were quickly driven out at the point of the bayonet, leaving sixty dead.

The enemy were well armed, a great proportion having muskets; and a small field piece was taken in the stockade, and I must do them the justice to say that they fought with very great spirit, many of them receiving our charge with their spears.

I again re-embarked my party and proceeded to the opposite side of the river, where we drove the enemy from a third stockade, which we destroyed in the same manner as we had done the two former.

In concluding, I regret to state, that Lieutenant Thomas Kerr, of His Majesty's 38th Regiment, and one private was killed, and nine privates wounded, in taking the second stockade; and I have further to regret, that Lieutenant Wilkinson, of the Royal Navy, was severely wounded through the thigh, with eight or nine of his crew, one of which had his arm subsequently amputated. I have much satisfaction in reporting the conduct of the Officers and men under my command, to have been steady and soldier like. I hope I may be allowed to express the highest admiration of the cool and intrepid conduct of Lieutenant Wilkinson, Royal Navy, who, although severely wounded, continued to render me the greatest assistance in giving directions from his boat, also of the Officers and men under his command.

I have, &c.

R. BIRCH, Capt. H. M. 38th Reg.

Copy of a Dispatch from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Rangoon, 1st June 1824.

SIR,

HEREWITH I have the honour of transmitting you a return of the ordnance captured at this place.

on the 11th ultimo, including ten small pieces brought from Negrais. The strength of the enemy in this arm, so far exceeding any thing reported, is now I conceive very much crippled, as in the different encounters we have since had, nothing larger than gingals, or small pieces, have been found with them.

I have, &c.
A. CAMPBELL, Brig. Gen.

Return of Ordnance captured at and near Rangoon, May 1824.

Iron long Guns, serviceable, mounted—1 twenty-four pounder, 1 twenty ditto, 1 eighteen ditto, 2 ten ditto, 3 nine ditto, 1 three ditto, 7 six ditto, 5 five ditto, 1 four and half ditto, 1 four ditto, 1 two and half ditto, and 3 two ditto—total 27. Dismounted—2 six pounders, 3 five and half ditto, 4 four ditto, 1 three and half ditto, 1 two and one eighth ditto, and 1 one ditto—total 12.

Iron long Guns, unserviceable, mounted—2 twelve pounders, 1 six ditto, 5 five and half ditto, 1 four and half ditto, and 1 two and half ditto—total 10. Dismounted—1 ten pounder, 8 nine ditto, 2 six ditto, 1 five and half ditto, 4 three ditto, 1 one and half ditto, 1 three quarters ditto, and 8 one half ditto—total 26.

Carrónades, serviceable, mounted—3 eighteen pounders, and 1 twelve ditto—total 4. Dismounted—3 twenty-four pounders, 4 eighteen ditto, and 6 twelve ditto—total 13.

Carrónade, unserviceable, dismantled—1.

Iron Swivel, serviceable, mounted—1.

Brass Swivels, serviceable, dismantled—2.

Brass Guns, serviceable, dismantled—3 one pounder, and 2 three quarters ditto—total 5.

Iron Gingals, unserviceable—9.

Of the above guns, 5 brass and 5 iron were captured at Negrais.

Shot, twelve pounder	-	-	133
Ditto, nine ditto	-	-	30
Ditto, six ditto	-	-	276
Ditto, three ditto	-	-	475
Ditto, three ditto (box)	-	-	44
Ditto, irregular and foreign	-	-	299
Total			1257

Gun-powder, computed at lbs. 2400.

W. BURTON, Major,
Commanding Artillery.

Copy of a Dispatçh from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Rangoon, 1st June 1824.

SIR,

SINCE I last had the honour of addressing you, the detachment sent against Negrais has returned to head-quarters. The reports of the Officers commanding, relative to the operations against that part of the enemy's coast, I beg herewith to inclose, and under all the circumstances therein stated I hope Major Wahab's evacuation of a place so little calculated for a mili-

tary post may be approved of. Indeed I am fully of opinion that the object which the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council had in view has been accomplished, by reports of the simultaneous attacks upon Rangoon, Negrais, and (I make no doubt) Cheduba, reaching the Court of Ava at the same time; and it will appear by Lieutenant Stedman's report, that the enemy again experienced the valour of the British arms.

Here little change has taken place in our situation. Every act of the enemy evinces a most marked determination of carrying hostility to the very last extremity; approaching our posts, day and night, under cover of an impervious and incombustible jungle; constructing stockades and redoubts on every road and path-way, even within musket-shot of our sentries, and from these hidden fastnesses carrying on a most barbarous and harassing warfare, firing upon our sentries at all hours of the night, and lurking on the outskirts of the jungle, for the purpose of carrying off any unlucky wretch whom chance may throw in their way.

At one post in particular they have been unusually bold and troublesome, often appearing in large bodies in front of the picquet, and had been constantly heard during the night felling timber, and making other preparations for defence.

On the 27th ultimo my Aide-de-Camp, Captain Snodgrass, having observed a body of the enemy a short distance in front of this post, apparently making their observations on our line, he advanced with a small patrol for the purpose of feeling them, and ascertaining their strength and intentions. They found sentries and posts regularly established, which having driven before them to where the path-way on which they were advancing joins a main road, they were suddenly fired upon from a stockade only forty yards distant, and an entrance being observed in an angle of the work, which the enemy in his hurry had neglected to shut, an immediate charge was ordered, and this small party, consisting of eighteen men of His Majesty's 38th regiment, drove from a strong and well constructed stockade, at least two hundred men, with the trifling loss of three men wounded.

From the precautions which the enemy, on the preceding evening, appeared to have adopted for the defence of the road above alluded to, I felt convinced it must lead to grounds which it was intended we should not approach; I therefore, on the morning of the 28th, left camp, with four companies of Europeans from His Majesty's 13th and 38th regiments, two hundred and fifty sepoy, and one gun and a howitzer from the Bengal artillery. On approaching the stockade taken on the preceding evening, we found it re-occupied, but only a few shots were fired from it, wounding one man of the 13th regiment. About a mile further on, we came upon two more stockades, admirably constructed upon well chosen ground, not quite finished, and abandoned by the enemy, all of which were destroyed. Continuing to advance through a thickly wooded country, we observed, at every opening in the road, parties of the retreating enemy, beyond the reach of musketry, but some excellent practice was made with round shot and shrapnels by the artillery. After marching in this manner seven

miles from camp, I found the artillery soldiers quite exhausted with fatigue, and was under the necessity of sending back the guns, escorted by the native infantry. Having determined to advance with the four companies of Europeans as far as a large plain, which my guide informed me was then only a mile distant, at length the road did debouch from the jungle into an extensive valley of Paddy Fields (already some inches under water), at the end of which, two miles distant, stands the village of Jauayhyvaug, where immediately I observed quantities of smoke, as if arising from a concourse of people cooking, and concluded that the long desired object of releasing the wretched inhabitants from the hands of their cruel tyrants was now within my reach. The rain fell in torrents, but I pushed on with my small party, confident of victory, should the enemy meet us in the field, which I flattered myself was intended, from seeing their Generals drawing out a long line in rear of the village, flanked by impenetrable jungles. Our advance was by echelon of companies, left flank leading direct for the village Jauayhyvaug, close to which a heavy fire was suddenly opened upon us from two stockades, so well masked as not to be distinguished from a garden fence, even at the short distance of sixty yards; not a moment was to be lost, I ordered Brigadier-General Macbean to keep the plain with the light company outflanking the stockades and village, and keeping the enemy's line in check, while the other three companies, led by that gallant soldier Major Evans, of the 38th regiment, at the head of the two flank companies of his regiment, and Major Dennie, of the 13th light infantry, in like manner at the head of a company of his regiment, were destined for the attack; on the order being given, they rushed forward to the assault, with an interpidity and gallantry I have never seen surpassed, and, in less than ten minutes, the first stockade was carried and cleared of the enemy, at the point of the bayonet, many escaping into the thick jungle in the rear; the troops then moving out, formed up for the attack of the second work, with the coolness and regularity which only an eye witness could sufficiently appreciate. The second stockade, resolutely and obstinately defended, was carried in the same gallant style; the garrison within, fighting man to man, was put to the bayonet, many escaped to the jungle in their rear, but those who fled to the plain met a similar fate with their comrades within, from the company under Brigadier-General Macbean, who allowed few to get away; he took no prisoners.

The disadvantages under which the attack was made, considering the heavy fall of rain, and the strength of the three companies, commanded by Captains Piper and Birch, of the 38th, and Captain M'Pherson, of the 13th regiment, not exceeding in number two hundred men, carrying by assault, two formidable stockades, defended by six or seven times their force, and that in the face of what has been ascertained to be the main body of the enemy in this part of the country, amounting to about seven thousand men, I need not, I trust, endeavour to speak in praise of the gallant band I had that day the honour to command. Indeed I feel that nothing I might say could in adequate terms do them justice. Every man appeared to

feel and act as if the honour of his country, and the success of the enterprise, depended upon his own personal conduct and exertions. The enemy left three hundred dead in the stockades and adjacent fields, and I hope the nature of the contest will not admit of our loss being considered great, although some valuable Officers and men have been lost to the service, among whom I have to regret Lieutenant Alexander Howard, of the 13th Light Infantry, killed, and Lieutenants Michell and O'Halloran, of His Majesty's 38th regiment, very severely wounded, each having since lost a leg by amputation. After carrying the stockades, I drew up my small force and remained an hour in front of the Burmese army, which even then, although late in the day and ten miles from home I would have immediately attacked, had I seen any prospect of bringing them into action, but a forward movement on our part at once satisfied me of their intention to retreat into the jungle had we approached them.

During the whole of this day as on every other occasion since we landed, I received the most able assistance from Brigadier-General Macbean. To him, my Adjutant-General Lieutenant-Colonel Tidy, and the Officers of my personal staff my best thanks are due.

At day-light next morning, I detached Brigadier-General MacBean with two regiments and some Camel howitzers to endeavour to fall in with the enemy on the same ground he had occupied in the preceding day, but on arriving there not a man was to be seen, even some strong stockades were found evacuated and abandoned, and from the observations of the Brigadier-General and others, I have reason to believe the slaughter of the enemy on the day preceding must have been even greater than that already stated.

During the night of the 29th, a piquet posted in front of the great Dagon Pagoda was repeatedly fired upon from the jungle in their post, and from the noise of voices heard it was concluded that the enemy was there in some force. The light company of His Majesty's 38th regiment was in consequence ordered to the front at day light to reconnoitre, and at no great distance came upon a strong masked stockade. With Captain Piper at their head, they charged and carried in their usual gallant style, the enemy leaving twenty-one men dead on the field; on our part only five men were wounded.

On the 29th I detached Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin, of the 41st regiment, with a small force against Lyuain. He found the place totally deserted, and too insignificant and unimportant to merit further notice. He returned here next day.

I have, &c.

A. CAMPBELL, Brig. Gen.

P. S.—Herewith I have the honour to inclose a return of the killed and wounded in the different affairs with the enemy since the 21st up to the 31st ultimo inclusive. A. C.

General Return of Killed and Wounded and Missing of the Troops composing the Expedition under

the Command of Brigadier-General Sir A. Campbell, K. C. B. serving against the Dominions of the King of Ava.

H. M. 13th Light Infantry—1 lieutenant killed; 1 bugler and 9 rank and file wounded; 1 bugler and 1 private since died of their wounds.

H. M. 38th Foot—2 rank and file killed; 2 lieutenants, 2 sergeants, and 15 rank and file wounded; 2 privates since died of their wounds.

1st Batt. 9th N. I.—1 serjeant or havildar and 2 rank and file wounded; 1 private since died of his wounds.

2d Batt. 10th N. I.—1 rank and file wounded.

H. M. 13th Light Infantry—Name of the Officer killed, Lieutenant Alexander Howard.

H. M. 38th Foot—Names of Officers wounded, Lieutenants George Michell and Edward O'Halloran; the former suffered amputation of the right leg and severely wounded in the left; the latter suffered amputation of the left leg. 1 seaman of the H. C. cruizer Teignmouth killed, whilst sounding.

F. TIDY, Lt. Col. D. A. G.

Copy of a Report from Major Wahab to Brigadier-General Sir A. Campbell, K. C. B. dated on board the Heroine, 25th May 1824.

SIR,

In conformity to the instructions I had the honour of receiving from you, the three ships thereby ordered separated from the fleet on the 5th instant, and on the evening of the 11th anchored off Pagoda Point near Negrais.

On the morning of the 12th we again got under weigh, and with some difficulty got in the river, and at noon anchored off the middle of the island. Toward four p. m. boats were seen making from the northern part of the island towards the main land. I desired Captain Goodridge to get the ships under weigh immediately, and I got the troops on board the Heroine ready for landing, having previously got the flat bottom boat launched for that purpose. Accordingly about sunset I landed with a party of troops, and having gone over the northern extremity without seeing any one, I returned towards the point where I landed. Two companies having landed by this time, I directed guards and sentries to be posted in various directions for its security and returned to my ship.

On the following morning at day light, two parties (previously warned for this duty) one under the command of Captain Ogilvie, composed of the troops on board the Carron, was directed to explore and search the island from the southward; the other under Captain Tod, of four companies from the Heroine, to proceed along the foot of the hill until he met with Captain Ogilvie.

The latter party, after six hours of indescribable labour through an almost impenetrable jungle, and up to their middle in water, returned without being able to see or discover any thing. The former, after searching the southern side of the island, came up by its eastern side and joined at sun-set; the rest of the troops landed at its northern extremity, with the same success, and without discover-

ing a single spring of fresh water or habitation of any kind.

From the above survey it is evident, that the island of Negrais is perfectly barren and covered with an almost impenetrable jungle and deep inlets of salt water, not producing any article of subsistence for troops. The only spot is in the northern extremity of it, where the jungle has been cleared away sufficiently to build a few fishermen's huts, without any signs of cultivation.

Under these circumstances, it became necessary to search for some place where supplies of provisions might be procured for the subsistence of the troops destined to keep possession of the island. With this view, I crossed over to the Main Land, with a party of troops, and, accompanied by two or three Officers, I proceeded in search of some village; after sailing up nearly ten miles, we came to a village whence, on seeing us, the inhabitants began to fly, but as it was my desire to conciliate them as much as possible, I made them understand, by signs (not having any one to interpret), that we would not molest them, and directing the sepoy to keep at a little distance, I proceeded to the village with the other Officers. The inhabitants, after a little, seemed pleased at our visit, and those that had fled, began to return with their families and goods, and we made them understand by signs, that we wished to have provision, for which we would pay in money; they appeared satisfied, and as well as we could understand, said they would bring us provisions of all kinds.

Under an idea that these people would be induced to bring supplies of provisions to the troops destined to keep possession of the island, without which they could not possibly remain long there, as there was only a few weeks supply on board, I directed five companies to be disembarked, with their baggage, and directed the two ships, that were to return with me, to complete their water as quick as possible.

The next evening a number of people were seen collected at a point on the main land, opposite to the island, about five miles distant, but thinking that they came out of curiosity, I took no further notice of them, than ordering a strict look out to be kept towards them.

The following days were occupied in completing the water of the two ships; but on the morning of the 17th, observing the numbers collected on the opposite side to be very considerable, and continually increasing, and that they were accompanied by boats of a large description, I considered that their intentions could be no longer deemed peaceable, and as I discovered that a stockade had been thrown up, I ordered immediately two companies, under Lieutenant Stedman, to embark in boats and cross over to the main land, and three other companies, under Captain Ogilvie, for their support, to embark on the return of the boats, there being only five capable of conveying troops, and that not above two hundred and fifty men at a time. Accordingly they were embarked about noon, but the wind and current were so much against them, it being flood tide, that they were carried away four miles beyond the point I intended to land them at, and were brought close to where the stockade had been constructed; fortunately the boats reached

orders, and to acquaint you, in compliance with the instructions received from Commodore Grant, of His Majesty's Royal Navy, I effected the purpose, on the 12th May, P. M. for which I was directed to accompany Major Wahab, of the 17th Madras native infantry, to the island of Negrais, on which a party was landed by Major Wahab, and the British flag hoisted, without opposition.

On the 16th our attention was called to a collection of men and boats on the opposite side of the river, a party was sent, accompanied by the Mercury, which produced a letter from the Governor of Bassine.

On the 17th a stockade was perceived, of some extent and strength, P. M. We weighed anchor in company with a party of troops. At half-past four anchored off the stockade, the party having previously landed from all the boats procurable. At five P. M. the Birmahs opened an indifferent fire on the troops, when I commenced a long range shot, and after firing a few rounds from our long guns, the troops marched into the stockade without further opposition, on which occasion I have to report the capture of twenty-eight boats (all of which were destroyed), and fourteen pieces of small cannon.

The island of Negrais is confined to about six miles in circumference, extending N. E. and S. W. On the S. W. end, there is a plain of some extent, covered with grass, on which I saw a number of cattle, and inclosures for a very small quantity of rice; the hills and other parts are quite woody, no run of water was discovered, but confined to wells, they are capable of producing a great deal with a little attention.

The entrance into Negrais harbour I considered difficult, and only to be effected with great precaution, the channel being extremely narrow, it is quite secure from all winds; the river beyond that to Bassine is, from my own observations, and what I have since collected, clear and safe from the island to Bassine.

I have the honour to be, &c.

R. GOODRIDGE, Captain
H. C. C. Mercury.

Extract from a Dispatch from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, dated 4th June 1824.

ON the 2d instant I received information that the enemy had assembled in great force, and were stockading themselves at Kemmendine, intending to attack our lines, and that the messengers who had been sent in, were, as I suspected, spies, I therefore ordered two strong columns of reconnoissance from the Madras division to move on the following morning upon two roads leading from the Great Dagon Pagoda to the village of Kemmendine, the right column under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Hodgson, the other under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, proceeding myself up the Rangoon River with two of the Honourable Company's cruizers and three companies of the 41st regiment, for the purpose of observing the enemy's force, and making a diversion in favour of any attack which might be made by land. In the course of two

hours we were abreast of the enemy's encampment. The troops landed and burnt every hut to the ground, brought away one war boat and destroyed another, carried off an eighteen-pound carronade, all without the least annoyance from the enemy, who either fled into the jungle or retired into a very large stockade, which I observed close by, and from which some guns were fired, killing and wounding a few men.

In the course of the morning the two columns, coming down from the Great Dagon Pagoda, met close to the stockade of Kemmendine, just alluded to, and an effort was made to enter it, which I have no doubt would have succeeded, but for the occurrence of some mistake, and as the attack was never in any way persevered in, I do not much regret the result, as it will tend to lull our crafty foe into a security that may soon prove fatal to him. I am anxiously employed in preparing transport for the future progress of the expedition. We have already captured fifty or sixty large cargo boats, which are getting cut down and made more manageable, and are calculated, on an average, to carry a complement of sixty men each.

The second embarkation from Madras, consisting of His Majesty's 89th regiment, and two battalions of native infantry, has arrived in the river.

Extract of a Dispatch from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated 16th June 1824.

SINCE I last did myself the honour of addressing you, Brigadier M'Creagh and the European part of the detachment sent against Cheduba have returned to head-quarters, having fully executed the orders given by me, agreeably to the instructions I had received from the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council; The able and satisfactory manner in which Brigadier M'Creagh carried on the operations intrusted to him, will appear by the inclosed report, and the result has been such as might have been expected from the judicious arrangements of that experienced officer.

Having completed my arrangements for striking a blow upon the enemy's force assembled here, on the morning of the 10th instant, although the weather continued most unfavourable, I moved upon the enemy's fortified camp and stockades at Kemmendine, with about 3000 men, four eighteen-pounders, four mortars and some field pieces, sending two divisions of vessels up the River to prevent the enemy from escaping on that side. It was my intention not to lose a man if it could be avoided. The enemy had already frequently experienced the irresistible influence of the British bayonet, and it was now my wish they should also know that we had still other and perhaps more dreadful means of exterminating them in every stockade they might be found in. The country, season, and roads rendered the undertaking extremely arduous, but not beyond the inexhaustible spirit of such soldiers as I command. About two miles from town, the head of the column was stopped by a stockade, apparently very strong and full of men; I ordered two heavy guns and some field pieces to open upon it, while the

troops surrounded it on three sides, but the jungle was so very thick and close as to prevent the possibility of altogether cutting off the garrison. In less than half an hour a considerable gap was made in the outward defences of the work, and the defenders not daring any where to show themselves, I ordered a part of the Madras European regiment, supported by part of the 41st regiment, to charge, and the work was immediately carried, with a trifling loss on our part, the enemy leaving one hundred and fifty men dead on the ground. Major Chalmers, leading the support of the 41st regiment, and one of the first men in the breach, received a wound in the face from a spear which I am happy to say is not dangerous. While this was going on under my own eye, a very spirited and successful attack was made on the other side of the stockade, by the advanced companies of the 13th and 38th regiments, who by assisting each other up to the face of the stockade (at least ten feet high) entered about the same time as the party by the breach, putting every man to death who opposed their entrance; and it affords me pleasure to state that the first man who appeared on the top of the work, was, I believe, Major Sale, of His Majesty's 13th Light Infantry.

This point gained, the column again moved forward nearly a mile, when our left was posted, communicating with the flotilla on the river about half a mile, under the great stockade and fortified camp: the head of the column moving up to the right with great toil and labour, through the thick and tenacious jungle, for the purpose of gaining the river above the stockade, and thus completely investing the enemy's great stronghold. In this I was partly disappointed, the enemy having thrown up other works above the stockade, which would have exposed my right to certain loss, and not being able to invest the whole of the enemy's extensive fortifications, I was under the necessity of leaving about one hundred yards, between our right and the river, unoccupied; but as the principal work appeared full of men, animating each other with loud and boisterous cheering, I still hoped they would remain till the impression I intended had been made. At four P. M. my troops were in position in many places within a hundred yards of the place; but in all parts with a very thick jungle in front extending to the very bottom of the stockade. The night passed in erecting batteries, and making preparations for opening the guns at day light next morning; the enemy continuing loud and incessant cheering till after day light in the morning. The moment we had sufficient light on the following day, a heavy and well directed fire was opened from our breaching and mortar batteries, which was kept up for nearly two hours, when a party advancing to observe the breach, found the enemy, during the cannonade, had evacuated the place, carrying off their dead and wounded. The chain of posts occupied by the enemy rendered flight at all times easy, and the thickness of the jungle necessarily prevented our observing when it took place.

The stockade is one of great strength, and capable of being obstinately defended. It was garrisoned by the most desperate crews of the enemy's war boats, and it cannot be doubted that the dreadful example of the day before, and awful effects of

our opening firing, alone could have induced men possessed (as the Burmese unquestionably are) of great personal courage, to give it up.

The object I had in view has been thus beautifully accomplished; a general pause and terror of our arms at present prevail among the troops, lately opposed to us, and from one or two reconnoitring parties which have since been out, I find that every stockade in our neighbourhood has been evacuated, and I have reason to think the enemy has retired to some distance from our front.

I continue to receive every assistance and co-operation from Captain Marryat, R. N., and the ships employed under his command.

General return of killed, wounded and missing of the Troops comprising the Expedition, under the Command of Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. serving against the Dominions of the King of Ava, from the 1st to the 16th June 1824.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Madras European Regt.—1 captain, 1 lieutenant, wounded.
H. M. 13th L. I.—1 lieutenant, wounded.
H. M. 38th Foot.—1 lieutenant, wounded.
H. M. 41st Foot.—1 major, wounded.
Madras European Regt.—1 lieutenant, wounded.

NON COMMISSIONED, RANK AND FILE.

H. M. 38th Regt.—1 rank and file, wounded.
H. M. 41st Regt.—9 rank and file, wounded.
Artillery.—1 serjeant or havildar, and 1 rank and file, wounded.
Madras European Regt.—2 serjeants or havildars, and 7 rank and file, killed; 2 serjeants or havildars, and 30 rank and file, wounded.
1st Bat. 3d Regt. N. I.—2 rank and file, wounded.
2d Bat. 8th Regt. N. I.—2 rank and file, wounded.
1st Bat. 9th Regt. N. I.—2 serjeants or havildars, wounded.
2d Bat. 10th Regt. N. I.—1 rank and file, killed; 3 rank and file, wounded.
Pioneers—1 rank and file, killed; 2 rank and file, wounded.
H. M. 13th L. I.—1 rank and file, killed; 10 rank and file, wounded.
H. M. 38th Foot.—1 rank and file, killed; 8 rank and file, wounded.
H. M. 41st Foot.—22 rank and file, wounded.
Madras European Regt.—1 serjeant, killed; 2 serjeants or havildars, and 6 rank and file, wounded.
1st Bat. N. I.—2 rank and file, wounded.

NATIVES ATTACHED.

Bheestees.—1 killed; 1 Matross, 5 Bearers, 4 gun lascars, 1 Tindal, wounded.
Total—Commissioned Officers, 6 wounded; non-commissioned, rank and file, 14 killed; 105 wounded; natives attached, 2 killed; 11 wounded.

REMARKS.

His Majesty's 13th Light Infantry.—Name of Officer, Lieutenant James Petry, slightly wounded.
His Majesty's 38th Foot.—Name of Officer, Lieutenant Henry Grimes, slightly wounded.

His Majesty's 41st Foot.—Name of Officer, Major P. L. Chambers, severely, but not dangerously wounded.

Madras European Regt.—Names of Officers, Captain Kyd, Lieutenants Stinton and Robertson, severely not dangerously wounded.

Two men of the Madras European regiment were missing, soon after the arrival of the army at Rangoon, and have not been inserted in any of the returns, having been taken whilst straying from their line, and not whilst engaged with the enemy.

F. TIDY, Lieut.-Col. D. A. G

N. B.—The quantity of slugs made use of by the enemy, will account for great disparity in the proportions of killed and wounded.

Copy of a Report from Brigadier-General M'Creagh to Brigadier-General Sir A. Campbell, dated on board the Honourable Company's Ship Ernead, River Rangoon, 11th June 1824.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, that in execution of the service you assigned me, I anchored on the eastern side of the island of Cheduba, with the transport Anna Robertson in company on the night of the 12th of last month, and found the other transport and His Majesty's ship the Slaney already there. I immediately conferred with Captain Mitchell, and on the 13th Lieutenant Mathews of that ship, made a bold and very intelligent reconnaissance up the small river on which the enemy's town is situated, and in our entire ignorance of the localities, his report was of essential use to me in arranging the disembarkation.

The ships lay three miles from the shore, outside of a mud flat, which stretches parallel with the land, and is nearly dry at low water, and the coast on this side is covered with jungle to the edge, indeed the mouth of the river is not distinguishable at a very little distance. We moved towards it on the morning of the 14th, with as many men as the boats would hold—two hundred of His Majesty's 13th light infantry regiment, and one hundred of the 20th native infantry.

On the southern bank a short distance up was an out post which was immediately taken possession of by a small party from the leading boat, the Burmese retiring from it without resistance. The river varies in breadth from about forty to one hundred yards, the jungle on both sides extending far into the water. About half a mile farther up the ground is clear and cultivated, and the enemy became visible lining a trench of three hundred yards extent, on the edge of the northern bank, with their right flanked by a bridge over the river. They permitted our boats to range along until the headmost arrived opposite their right, and then opened a fire of musketry, and swivels accompanied by flights of arrows. The bank was steep and somewhat difficult, but two or three parties of the 13th were soon on its summit in spite of the enemy's efforts, who opposed them with considerable boldness, a few minutes firing followed while the remaining boats landed their men, and they fled, leaving upwards of twenty killed and many wounded. Their village or town

commences near the spot at which we had landed, and I immediately moved up the street in pursuit, on arriving at the end of it (about a quarter of a mile) we found a stockade, into which they had retired, and from which they opened a fire as soon as we appeared. It was a square of about two hundred yards each face, the outward piles from sixteen to twenty feet high, an embankment and a parapet within them, salient gateways in each face, and a triple row of railing round the entire exterior; appeared to be in good order, and the fire was from several six pounders as well as swivels of various calibre and musketry.

I immediately lodged parties at such points close to the work as afforded tolerable cover, ordered the Howitzer and two or three ship guns ashore, together with the remainder of the sepoy and meantime marked off a battery within a hundred yards of their front gateway. The weather now became exceedingly unfavourable, but as all gave their most hearty and zealous endeavours to the execution of what was pointed out to them, our want of proper materials, implements, and workmen was surmounted. Repeated feints upon the enemy's left sufficed to turn his attention from our working parties on his right, and during the night of the 19th two nine-pounders and a carronade on ship carriages, were placed in the battery, the hut that masked it pulled down, and it opened in the morning. Its fire was decisive on the gateway which having been their last thoroughfare, was not so strongly embanked as the others. Having prepared some seamen with axes and ropes to accompany the column I ordered it forward. It moved rapidly to its point, headed by Major Thornhill's company of His Majesty's 13th, a few moments sufficed to complete the destruction of the wounded spars, and we were speedily in the stockade followed by the reserve under Lieutenant-Colonel Hampton of the 20th Native Infantry. The Burmese chief in command was killed near the point of attack: they abandoned their interior defences (a trench and breastwork) and fled through their rear gate, leaving a great number killed.

Considering that throughout these little operations our investments were very close and the enemy's fire kept up without any intermission, I am happy to say that our loss has been singularly small.

Where all evinced not only ready obedience but the utmost zeal, it would be difficult to remark upon individual claims to notice, but my thanks are due to Lieutenant Colonel Hampton, commanding the detachment of the 20th native infantry, and to Brevet Major Thornhill, of his Majesty's 13th regiment, for the manner in which they and their Officers and men fulfilled their duties; the latter Officer was wounded by a spear, while leading his men into the stockade. I am also much indebted to Lieutenant Malins, of the 13th, (Brigade Major), for the active and valuable assistance he afforded me throughout.

I must do myself the pleasure to acknowledge the cordial co-operation that I received from Captain Mitchell, of His Majesty's ship Slaney, who accompanied me at the disembarkation, and to whose readiness in affording me every assistance his ship could supply, the service was importantly indebted, and the exertions of his seamen under the

immediate command of Lieutenant Matthews in getting the guns landed and assisting in the battery contributed essentially to accelerate the result.

On the 19th, one of our reconnoitering parties under Captain Aiken of His Majesty's 13th succeeded in capturing the Rajah who was concealed with some of his followers in the jungle a few miles in the interior. It appears that of six hundred Burmese who about a month previous to our attack were sent over to assist in the defence of the island, little more than three hundred survived the contest unhurt, and the Chedubans, whom they had mustered to assist in defence of the stockade, have also suffered considerably. The surviving Burmese passed over to the main land.

Having made such arrangements regarding the island as circumstances admitted, I re-embarked the European part of my force, in conformity with your orders, and sailed with the ships Ernaad and Anna Robertson on the 3d of the present month, leaving Lieutenant-Colonel Hampton, with his detachment of the 20th Native Infantry, and His Majesty's ship Staney, in possession, and on the most friendly understanding with the inhabitants. On the 6th, we lost sight of the islands, on the 9th, we made Negrais with the intention of visiting and reporting to you the situation of the detachment you had ordered there, but the weather becoming so threatening as to render it unadvisable to risque ships in such a situation, I stood on for this place and anchored off the bar of the river this day.

I enclose returns of our killed and wounded, and am happy to add that most of the latter are doing well.

I have, &c.

M. M'CREAGH,
Brigadier-General.

List of Officers, Seamen, and Marines, belonging to His Majesty's Ship Staney, Charles Mitchell, Esq. Commander, who were killed or wounded at the Reduction of the Island of Cheduba.

John Parr, Corp. Mar. killed; John Thompson, quartermaster, wounded dangerously; Louis Paget, able, wounded dangerously, since dead;

Bathurst Matthews, First Lieutenant, slightly; James Manyng, boatswain, slightly; Edward Chamberlain, Captain's steward, slightly.

C. MITCHELL, Captain H. M. S. Staney, in Cheduba Roads.

Return of Killed and Wounded of the Force under the Command of Brigadier M'Creagh, C. B. from the 14th to the 17th of May 1824, both Days inclusive.

H. C. Artillery—1 gunner, 1 gun lascar, wounded. Total 2.

H. M. 13th Light Infantry—1 rank and file killed; 1 brevet major, 1 ensign, 1 serjeant, 1 bugler, 16 rank and file, wounded.

Total—1 killed; 20 wounded.

2d Batt. 20th Regt. Native Infantry—1 rank and file killed; 1 lieutenant, 1 havildar, 6 rank and file, wounded.

Total—1 killed; 8 wounded.

Followers—6 lascars wounded. Total 6.

Grand Total—2 killed; 36 wounded.

(Signed) G. W. MALINS, Major of Brigade.

Names of Officers wounded.

H. M. 13th Light Infantry—Brevet Major Thornhill, slightly; Ensign Kershaw, slightly.

2d Batt. 20th Regt. Native Infantry—Lieutenant and Acting Adjutant Margrave, severely.

Return of Arms and Ordnance taken in the Enemy's Work, at Cheduba, 17th May 1824.

5 European six-pounder guns.
30 smaller guns and swivels, of various calibre.
40 European muskets, and a few matchlocks.
12,525 leaden balls, of various sizes.
200 six-pound shot.
A few hand grenades.
1080 European flints.

G. W. MALINS, Major of Brigade.

