



SUPPLEMENT
TO
The London Gazette

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1825.

India-Board, February 22, 1825.

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

Extract from a Letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated Fort William, July 14, 1824.

SUBSEQUENT to the fall of Rangoon the force under the command of Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell has been engaged in repeated affairs with the enemy, who, favoured by the nature of the country, and their own particular mode of warfare, hover around our outposts, and maintain a desultory, barbarous, and indecisive struggle, without affording any opportunity of coming to a general action.—Invariable success, however has attended our numerous assaults of their stockades and fortified positions, and several brilliant and striking lessons have been exhibited of British science, valour, and intrepidity, during the course of these harassing operations, as your Honourable Committee will observe on reference to the dispatches* from Sir Archibald Campbell.—The enemy have already lost several of their best troops, whilst the casualties on our part have been comparatively trifling, though we have to regret the loss of two brave young Officers (Lieutenant Kerr, of His Majesty's 38th, and Lieutenant A. Howard, of the 13th), and the severe

wounds sustained by the Officers mentioned in the margin*.

From the last accounts we learn that the enemy, after having been repeatedly dislodged from their stockades, and compelled to retire, had again collected in great force at a stockaded post near the village of Kemandyne, three miles north of Rangoon. Sir Archibald Campbell proceeded to attack this position with a force of three thousand men, heavy battering guns and mortars, on the 10th and 11th ultimo. The result of these operations† seem at last to have produced some decisive effect, and to have struck a terror in the enemy, who had retired to a distance from the front of the British position.

Your Honourable Committee will bear in mind, that when Sir Archibald Campbell sailed from Port Cornwallis, the place of general rendezvous, he detached two expeditions from the main body of his force, the one against the Island of Cheduba, on the Arracan coast, commanded by Brigadier M'Creagh and Captain Mitchell, of His Majesty's ship Slaney; the other against Negrais Isle, at the mouth of the Irawaddy, and eventually Bassein, or Persaim, under Major Wahab, of the Madras native infantry, and the Honourable Company's cruiser Mercury.

The attack upon Cheduba‡ was skilfully managed by Brigadier M'Creagh, and succeeded in all its parts, with trifling loss on our part. The Rajah, or Governor, was made prisoner, and the Island, which is described as very fertile and pro-

* Lieutenants Michell and O'Hallaran, of His Majesty's 38th regiment.

† For particulars see London Gazette of 25th November 1824, p. 1964.

‡ See London Gazette of 25th November 1824, p. 1966.

* See London Gazette of 25th November 1824, p. 1958, et sequ.

ductive, is now garrisoned by seven companies of the 40th native infantry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hampton, supported by a vessel of war; reinforcements are likewise on their way to Cheduba from Chittagong.

The operations against Negrais* were likewise conducted in a creditable and satisfactory style, and afforded to a detachment of the 17th Madras light infantry, under Lieutenant Stedman, an opportunity of distinguishing itself, by the gallant and successful assault of a strong stockade, garrisoned by a large force of the enemy, but the Island itself proved to be not worth holding; and a failure of provisions, combined with other considerations, induced Major Wahab to relinquish the design of proceeding up the river to attack Bassein.

We shall now turn to the state of affairs, and the progress of events on our eastern frontier.

The only proceedings of any consequence taken by the Burman Generals since the action of Ramoo, have been the capture of the stockade of Tek Naaf, garrisoned by about one hundred and fifty provincials† under a soobadar, with a gun, and an attempt to cut off the Honourable Company's cruiser Vestal with her gun boats in the Naaf. The former object they accomplished without any loss, owing to the treacherous and mutinous conduct of the provincials, who refused to fight, and went over to the enemy in a body, delivering up the whole of the ammunition in the hope of making good terms for themselves. In the other they were completely foiled, and received a severe and memorable chastisement from the Vestal and her gun boats, whose fire destroyed several of their war boats in the Naaf, and committed terrible havoc among the crews, and the troops who lined either shore, expecting to find the vessels an easy prey. The cruiser and gun boats immediately after made sail for Chittagong, where they arrived in safety on the 7th ultimo.

In Assam the progress of our troops has secured the important objects of depriving the enemy of nearly two thirds of that territory, of destroying a considerable portion of their force there, and, as we hope, of placing serious obstacles in the way of any attempt which the Burmese might be disposed to make to invade Bengal, by the route of the Burhampooter.

After two or three successful affairs with the enemy, in which a detachment of the 46th, under Captain Horsburgh, and the two Rissalahs of irregular horse, particularly distinguished themselves, operations had necessarily come to a stand, by the last accounts, owing to the state of the weather.

Extract from a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Shapland, C. B. commanding at Chittagong, to the Adjutant-General of the Army, dated 7th June 1824.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you, for the information of His Excellency the Commander in Chief, the report of Lieutenant Guy, commanding

the Vestal cruiser, relative to his proceedings in the Naaf, and the cause of his quitting the station.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Guy, commanding the East India Company's Cruiser Vestal, to Lieutenant-Colonel Shapland, C. B. dated Chittagong River, 6th June 1824.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival of the Honourable Company's cruiser Vestal in Chittagong river, having on board the under-mentioned passengers, viz. the subadar of the Chittagong provincial detachment, the daroga, the mug jemadar, and thirty-one of his sepoy, with a number of Mussulmen, who placed themselves under my protection.

On Thursday the 3d June, at seven A. M. the subadar in charge of the stockade at Tik Naaf, came on board, accompanied by one sepoy, and informed me, that the troops under his command had mutinied the preceding evening, by refusing to fire on the Burmese, who had surrounded the stockade with a force, amounting to about one hundred and fifty horse, with a numerous body of foot; that he had spiked the great gun, and thrown its ammunition into the well, and would also have destroyed the magazine, containing twenty-one boxes of musket cartridges, had not the sepoy threatened to kill him should he attempt it; he then fled the fort, and escaped to the ship. On hearing this, I weighed anchor, and stood down the river; I shortly after saw about one hundred war boats drawn out in a line off Mundoo creek; on our nearer approach, a canoe was despatched, with five hands in her, ordering me to surrender the vessel or they would take her by force, and kill every man on board; this message I answered with a broadside from my great guns; they kept up a smart fire for about ten minutes, then retreated into Mundoo creek; the two gun-boats, under Messrs. Laughton and Boyce, chased them upon this, and poured in several well directed showers of grape and cannister, which did great execution; they then returned, after having taken four prisoners from the above-mentioned canoe.

I then tacked, and stood towards Shahpooree island, under which several boats lay; they endeavoured to escape, but finding themselves cut off by the gun-boats, they ran their boats on shore and fled into the jungle, but not before numbers were destroyed by the volleys of grape poured into them from the gun-boats; the rest of the boats having escaped, I stood for the new stockade, fired a broadside into it whilst passing, then ran down and anchored off the south eastern point of Shahpooree island for the night. I should imagine about twelve or fourteen boats were destroyed, as I observed them floating out of Mundoo creek after the attack, completely shattered by the great guns. I also beg leave to report the great zeal and activity evinced by the Officers on board the vessel, as also the high spirited conduct of Messrs. Laughton and Boyce, each commanding a gun-boat. Finding the means of obtaining water and provisions thus cut off, and deeming my stay in the Naaf to be of no further utility, I weighed anchor

* See London Gazette of 25th November 1824, p. 1362.

† An irregular corps, not officered by Europeans.

the next morning at day-light for this place, where I now have the honour to report myself, and am,
Sir, Yours, &c.

J. W. GUY, Lieutenant, commanding
Honourable Company's cruiser Vestal.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Macmorine, commanding the Eastern Frontier, to Lieutenant-Colonel Nicol, Adjutant-General of the Army, dated Camp, Gowahatty, 22d May 1824.

SIR,

YOU have been already apprised, that Lieutenant-Colonel Richards had been detached to the eastward with the flotilla and 2d battalion 23d native infantry (not having at the time tonnage for the conveyance of more troops), to take up a position at Kulluabar for the purpose of giving protection to the country, confidence to the inhabitants, and prevent (if possible) the Burmese returning to that quarter, when he found on his arrival, that a party of the enemy had very unexpectedly made their appearance in the vicinity of that place. I have now the honour to acquaint you, for the information of His Excellency the Commander in Chief, that by intelligence received this morning from Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, dated Kulluabar, the 18th instant, it appears the enemy had evacuated the stockade at Haulbar, and had retired to a place called Rungby Ghur, about eight hours march from the further post. Lieutenant-Colonel Richards accordingly countermanded the order that had been issued for the movement to Haulbar, and proceeded himself to Captain Horsburgh's camp, to make another arrangement for the advance to Rungby Ghur.

On Lieutenant-Colonel Richards advancing with a havildar's guard and a few Suwars, to examine and give orders for demolishing the stockade which the enemy had evacuated, he was informed, on his arrival there, by a villager, that about sixty of them had returned to it; on this he immediately directed a party from Captain Horsburgh's detachment, of one ressalla of cavalry and a company of infantry, under Lieutenant Richardson, of the 2d battalion 23d native infantry, up to the place, and endeavour to surprise them; and as the Lieutenant-Colonel had previously made his observations of the ground, he was enabled to direct Lieutenant Richardson, on his approach to the stockade, to lead the cavalry, in a gallop, round the edge of a jungle to the first open spot in the rear and across the road, and to send the infantry direct on the enemy's position (an unfinished stockade), with the view of forcing them upon the cavalry. This measure, I am happy to say, had the desired effect, the enemy fired a few shot on the advancing party, without doing any injury, and then retired, in great confusion, in the direction where the cavalry were posted, who instantly charged and killed twenty of them and a Phekeen (all real Burmese), without our sustaining any loss; but three horses are reported to have been wounded.

Lieutenant-Colonel Richards speaks in high terms of Lieutenant Richardson in this affair, and

my thanks are justly due to both of them, as well as to the Officers and privates engaged on the occasion.

Lieutenant-Colonel Richards reports, that he had reinforced Captain Horsburgh's detachment, and instructed that Officer to advance slowly upon Rungby Ghur (where there is a stockade), whilst he himself, with the flotilla and the remainder of the force, intended to make a corresponding movement by water and get to the rear of it, and endeavour to place the enemy between two fires, and prevent their escape.

I have, &c.

G. MACMORINE, Lieutenant-Colonel.

Extract from a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, commanding the advanced Force in Assam, to Captain Bayldon, Major of Brigade at Gowahatty, dated on the Kullung River, near Rungby Ghur, 26th May 1824.

I HAVE the pleasure to report, for the information of Brigadier Macmorine, that the enemy got a good drubbing from Captain Horsburgh's detachment on the evening of the 23d instant. The Brigadier is aware that I posted Captain Horsburgh, with four companies and the Rissalahs, in the stockade at Haulbar, from which the enemy were driven by Lieutenant Richardson on the 17th instant. This position the enemy had the temerity to advance upon, with the view it is supposed of attacking it, for they were within three hundred yards before they were discovered by some of the camp followers who were driven in. The inclosed is Captain Horsburgh's report to me; by his account it appears the enemy suffered a good deal, and about two hundred men were deprived of their arms. This defeat induced them to evacuate their stockade at Rungby Ghur yesterday morning, which Captain Horsburgh has destroyed.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Horsburgh, commanding a Detachment of the 23d Native Infantry, to Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, commanding the Advance in Assam, dated Kulluabar, 24th May 1824.

SIR,

The enemy have had the hardihood to come out of their stockade and attack our party, for which I am happy to say that some of them have paid dearly.

About three o'clock this afternoon there was an alarm given that the enemy were cutting up our grass cutters. The picket marched out, and I got the rest of the men quickly under arms, cavalry as well as infantry. When I came out to the picket I found them carrying on a brisk fire (Lieutenant Jones at its head) with the enemy, who were in the jungle to the right of the road, where they had planted a number of jingals. I sent Lieutenant Jones to the right with the cavalry, with directions to endeavour (if possible) to get into their rear and intercept their retreat to their stockade at Rungby Ghur.

I ordered the picket to proceed along the bank,

of the river, and went myself with two companies into the jungle on the right of the road, advancing down in as good a line as the thick jungle would admit. The enemy only fired their jingals once and fled through the jungle, leaving their jingals behind. In the mean time Lieutenant Jones, by dashing across with the horsemen to the river, succeeded in cutting off the retreat of about two hundred; some escaped by swimming, about forty were killed by the Sowars, a number were drowned, and several sabred or shot in the water. The picket which had marched along the banks of the river, got up in time to kill several in the water; several of the enemy on horseback attempted to escape by swimming their horses, but were thrown from their saddles in the middle of the river; their horses or tattoos swimming back, fell into our hands: we captured about seven tattoos, about eighteen jingals, two very good brass drums, and a number of old muskets, &c.; and several of the jingals were loaded and contained seven balls.

I am happy to say we have suffered no loss among the sepoy's either killed or wounded.

I am however sorry to say that a duffedar of Gilbert's horse was shot through the body and is since dead; three horses only were wounded.

Lieutenant Jones on this occasion acted with a great deal of credit to himself, and, but for his exertions, the enemy would have got back to their stockade with a trifling loss indeed. I fear however about three hundred of the enemy regained their stockade.

I have, &c.

A. HORSBURGH, Capt. Commg.
Detacht. 23d N. I.

THE following copy of a dispatch addressed on the 11th July 1824, by Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K.C.B. commanding the British forces, at Rangoon, to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, not having been received in due course from that Government, is now taken from the Calcutta Gazette of July the 29th.

SIR,

SINCE I had the honour of addressing you on 16th ultimo,* we have had several partial affairs with the enemy, except in one solitary instance, invariably sought for on our part, and all ending in the same brilliant manner that has hitherto marked the gallant and intrepid conduct of the troops under my command. About the end of last month, it was stated to me by some prisoners of war, and corroborated by a few Rangoon people, who had escaped from the jungle, that the Burmese Chief had received positive orders from Court to make a general attack upon our line, and drive us at once out of the country. Every movement of the enemy plainly indicated that something was intended: large bodies of troops were for two successive days seen crossing the river above Kenandyne, from the Dallah to the Rangoon side, and I felt the more inclined to give credit to the report, from being well aware that had any such order

been received by the Burman General, certain disgrace, or even decapitation, would be the inevitable consequence of his disobeying it. On the morning of the 1st instant, every doubt on the subject was removed. Three columns of the enemy, estimated at one thousand men each, were seen crossing the front of our position moving towards our right; and the jungle in front of the Great Dagon Pagoda, and along the whole extent of our line to the left, was occupied by a large force; but on this side, from the nature of the ground, it was impossible to ascertain either the disposition or strength of the enemy. The columns moving on our right soon came in contact with the piquets of the 7th and 22d regiments of Madras Native infantry, which received the attack with the greatest steadiness, none of them yielding one inch of ground. The enemy then penetrated in considerable force between two of our piquets, and took post on a hill about four hundred yards from our position, occupying an old pagoda and some houses in front, from which they commenced a feeble and harmless fire from some jingals and swivels. I instantly repaired to the point of attack with a gun and a howitzer from the Bengal artillery, and three companies of Native infantry, viz. one company of the 7th and two of the 22d regiment, the whole under the command of Captain Jones, of the latter corps. After a short but well directed fire from the artillery, I ordered Captain Jones to advance with his three companies and drive the enemy from his post at the point of the bayonet, and I had the satisfaction of seeing my orders carried into effect in the most cool and gallant style; the enemy flying in every direction towards their favourite haunt, and only place of safety, the jungle. During the firing on our right parties of the enemy felt the piquets along our line to the left, but never appeared in any force, and retired on the first fire from our advanced posts. Thus ended the mighty attack that was to have driven us into the sea: defeated with the greatest ease by three weak companies of the Sepoy's, and two pieces of artillery; although such an enemy might be well appalled at the appearance of the whole British line under arms.

From some prisoners who were taken, I am informed that twelve thousand men were marched to the attack: the left columns were ordered to engage with vigour, and as soon as they had succeeded in penetrating our line, the attack was then to have become general. Such were the orders issued, but nothing more contemptible than the conduct of the enemy on that day was ever witnessed. They paid for their folly, leaving at least one hundred men dead on the field. We had not one man either killed or wounded.

Before day-light on the following morning some hundred men of the Dallah force entered the town of Dallah, firing in the direction of our post. Captain Isaack, of the 8th Madras Native infantry, commanding, pushed forward with a few men, and was I regret to say, unfortunately shot; the Burmese mutilating his body with the most savage brutality during the few minutes it remained in their power.

While the enemy abstained from converting their town to the purpose of annoying us, I also res-

* See London Gazette of 25th November 1824, p. 1564.

pected and afforded it every protection, although uninhabited by one individual; but when they thought proper to make it a mighty scene of savage warfare, I razed it to the ground.

Numerous reinforcements daily joined the enemy's army in our front, a thing much to be desired, as tending to increase the distress and discontent already prevailing in their lines; and having observed a disposition to re-cross part of their force to the Dallah side of the river, I determined, on the 8th instant, to make as general an attack as the very woody and inundated state of the country would possibly admit of. For that purpose I formed the force to be employed into two columns of attack; one proceeding by land under the command of that excellent and indefatigable Officer Brigadier-General M'Bean, for the purpose of surrounding the enemy on the land side, while I with the other proceeded by water to attack their stockaded position, along the banks of the river in front. To this post the enemy appeared to attach the greatest importance, and the stockades were so constructed as to afford mutual support, presenting difficulties apparently not to be overcome without a great sacrifice of lives. I therefore resolved to try the effect of shelling, and consulted with Captain Marryat upon the employment of such armed vessels as he might select to breach, in the event of our mortar practice not succeeding. The shells were thrown at too great distance to produce the desired effect, and the swampy state of the country would not admit of any advance. The armed vessels, viz. the *Satellite*, transport, (lately in His Majesty's service) the Honourable Company's cruisers *Teigumouth* and *Thetis*, commanded by Captain Hardy and Lieutenant Greer, and the Penang Government yacht the *Jessie*, Captain Poynton, the whole under the command of Lieutenant Frazer, of His Majesty's ship *Larne*, now took their stations according to a disposition made by Captain Marryat, and opened a fire which soon silenced that of fourteen pieces of artillery, swivels and musketry, from the stockades, and in one hour the preconceived signal of—breach practicable,—was displayed at the mainmast head. The troops, as previously arranged, entered their boats on the signal being made, consisting of a detail of the 3d, 10th, and 17th Native infantry, commanded by Major Wahab, of the latter corps, ordered to lead the attack, and supported by Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin, with two hundred and sixty men of His Majesty's 41st regiment, and one company from the Honourable Company's Madras European regiment. The assault was made in the best order and handsomest style: Major Wahab with the Native infantry, landed and immediately attacked the breach, while Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin almost at the same instant pushed ashore a little higher up, and entered the work by escalade; the enemy kept up a sharp, but ill-directed fire while the troops were landing, but, as usual, fled on our making a lodgment in the place. I now ordered Colonel Godwin to re-embark with the detachment of the 41st regiment and attack the second stockade, which was immediately carried in the same style. The third stockade was evacuated by the enemy.

The cool and gallant conduct of both European

and Native troops on this occasion was to me a most gratifying sight. To the Officers and men of the breaching vessels every praise is due; and I much regret that severe indisposition prevented Captain Marryat from being present to witness the result of his arrangements.

The inundated state of the country did not admit of any communication with Brigadier-General MacBean from the shipping, nor did I know the result of the operations of his column until I returned to Rangoon in the evening. Nothing could be more brilliant and successful:—he took by assault seven strong stockades in the most rapid succession, throwing the enemy into the utmost consternation: and he had also the good fortune to fall in with a large body flying from a stockade attacked by the shipping, of whom a great number were killed. The Brigadier-General assures me the ardour of his column was irresistible, and speaks highly of the able aid he received from Brigadier MacCreagh. He also reports most favourably upon the judicious and gallant style in which Majors Sale and Frith, of His Majesty's 13th and 38th Regiments, led the troops under their respective command.

Ten stockades were thus taken from the enemy in one day, and upwards of (500) eight hundred of his best troops were left dead on the ground:—thirty-eight pieces of artillery, forty swivels and three hundred muskets were also captured,—a loss of no small importance, where fire arms are so scarce. Three of the enemy's Chiefs, whose names are not yet known, were found among the dead. The chief destruction of the enemy was by the land column.

Our loss has been comparatively small—four rank and file killed; one Captain and thirty-five rank and file wounded.

To Brigadier-General MacBean my particular thanks are due upon this and on all occasions. To Lieutenant-Colonel Tidy and Major Jackson, Deputy Adjutant and Quarter-Master-Generals, and to my personal staff, I feel very much indebted for their indefatigable exertions in carrying on the duties of the service occasionally under every disadvantage; and I also beg leave to bring to the notice of the Supreme Government, the name of Lieutenant-Colonel Snow, Deputy Adjutant-General to the Madras division, whose ability, zeal and activity I have often had occasion to remark.

I cannot conclude without again adverting to the high feeling which animates every corps and every soldier under my command. Their patience in frequently undergoing the greatest fatigue, marching over a country almost wholly under water, merits every praise, and their intrepidity and valour whenever the enemy can be found, cannot be sufficiently extolled.

I have, &c.

A. CAMPBELL, Brigadier-General.

General Return of Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Troops composing 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 16th June to the 12th July 1824.

Head Quarters, Rangoon, July 12, 1824.

21st June.

Madras European Regt.—2 rank and file wounded.

24th June.

2d Bat. 10th N. I.—1 subadar killed.

1st July.

H. M. 13th L. I.—2 rank and file wounded.

H. M. 38th Foot.—1 serjeant, 2 rank and file, wounded—1 rank and file, missing.

1st Bat. 22d N. I.—1 rank and file wounded.

3d July.

H. M. 41st Foot.—1 serjeant, 3 rank and file, wounded.

2d Bat. 8th N. I.—1 Captain killed; 1 rank and file wounded.

1st Bat. 9th N. I.—3 rank and file wounded.

5th July.

Engineer's Department.—1 rank and file killed.

H. M. 13th L. I.—1 Captain, 1 serjeant, and 15 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file killed.

H. M. 89th Regt.—1 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file wounded.

Madras E. Regt.—1 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file, wounded.

1st Bat. Pioneers.—4 rank and file wounded.

8th July.

H. M. 13th L. I.—1 Captain, 2 corporals, 5 rank and file, 1 Lascar, wounded; 2 serjeants killed.

H. M. 38th Foot.—2 rank and file killed; 1 serjeant, 1 corporal, 13 rank and file, wounded.

H. M. 41st Foot.—5 rank and file wounded.

H. M. 89th Regt.—3 rank and file wounded.

1st Bat. 7th N. I.—1 rank and file wounded.

1st Bat. Pioneers.—2 rank and file wounded.

TOTAL—1 Captain, 1 subadar, 1 serjeant, 6 rank and file, killed; 2 Captains, 4 serjeants, 3 corporals, 66 rank and file, 1 Lascar, wounded; 1 rank and file missing.

2d Bat. 8th N. I.—Name of Officer killed, Captain G. H. Isaack.

H. M. 13th L. I.—Names of Officers wounded, Brevet Captain Knox Barrett, severely, arm amputated; and Captain Johnson, severely and dangerously.

F. S. TIDY, Lieutenant-Colonel, D. A. G.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is an extract, from the Governor-General in Council, at Fort William, to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated 6th September 1824, has been received.

HAVING received some interesting dispatches from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell and the Political Agent, since the dispatch of our last address to your Honourable Committee of the 12th ultimo*, and the ship Greenock being still in the river, and on the eve of sailing, we have the honour to transmit copies of the dispatches above adverted to, and other papers of importance relating to the Burman war, for the immediate information of your Honourable Committee.

It is with sentiments of sincere sorrow that we announce to your Honourable Committee the de-

* This dispatch has not been received; but it is presumed that the foregoing letter from Sir A. Campbell, of the 11th of July, was inclosed therein.

mise of Major Canning, at this Presidency, on the morning of the 2d instant. This valuable Officer had been compelled to leave Rangoon from indisposition; and he was the more induced to visit Calcutta for change of air, as he conceived that his presence here at this time would be of material service, in affording us information on many points connected with the further prosecution of the war.

Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Headquarters, Rangoon, 22d July 1824;

SIR,

I AM now enabled to inform you, from information received from deserters, and through other sources which can be relied on, that the loss of the enemy, in the action of the 8th, was much more severe, and its consequences much more fatal and disastrous, than I could at the time have formed an idea of. The number of killed very much exceeds that stated in my dispatch of the 11th, and great numbers have since died of their wounds in the jungle. All accounts agree, and I have no doubt of the fact, that Soomba Woorgbie (3d Minister of the Empire), a Woondock, and two other Chiefs of the first class, were among the slain; and the troops, deprived of their leaders, have either dispersed or fled in confusion to the rear, there to await the arrival of the Prince of Sarrawaddy, said to be advancing with seventy thousand men.

The only body of the enemy I could hear of was a small force of nine thousand men, assembled at a place called Keyttoe, about twelve or fifteen miles from Rangoon, and measures were adopted for immediately attacking them. On the morning of the 19th instant I ordered twelve hundred men to proceed by land direct to the spot, proceeding myself with six hundred more up the Puzendown creek, running in its whole course nearly parallel to, and at no great distance from, the road upon which the land column was directed to advance.

The inundated state of the country precluded all possibility of proceeding to any great distance with the troops by land; and having proceeded rapidly up the creek in the Diana steam-boat, I did not hear of the impassable state of the country, and consequent return of the land column to their quarters, till the following day, when I had reached the point where I intended to co-operate, or act in concert, as circumstances might require. In our progress up, some small parties of the enemy were seen flying towards the jungle, in evident dread and consternation, without firing a shot at us, or we at them; we also passed several villages, visited for the first time by our troops, from each of which I had the pleasure of restoring to their homes some Rangoon families, found in the extreme of wretchedness and misery. We could distinctly observe there were some armed men in the villages, who, apparently, connived at their escape, and who, it may be presumed, will remain in arms only until an opportunity offers of providing for the safety of their wives and families.

It was not to be expected that a people, unacquainted with the customs and manners of the civilized nations of Europe, should, on our first approach, have placed unlimited confidence in us; at all the villages the greater part of the inhabitants fled from their houses to the fields, where they remained as spectators, but at each we found a few men left to converse with us, and receive every assurance I could give them of safety and protection, if they remained quietly at their homes; on our return yesterday to quarters, I had the satisfaction of seeing some of these villages thickly inhabited, the people quite at their ease, and saluting us as we passed.

Although this expedition, upon which I was out for three days, has terminated differently from what I intended, I feel confident much good will result from it. The favourable impression made shall be cultivated to the very utmost of my power, and happy indeed shall I be to sheath the sword, as often as the object in view can be obtained by kindness and mercy.

I have, &c.

A. CAMPBELL, Brigadier-General.

Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Head-Quarters, Rangoon, the 5th August 1824.

SIR,

BEING informed that the Governor of Syriam had assembled a force on the banks of the Pegue or Syriam river, and had ordered the whole conscription of the district to repair, without delay, to the place of rendezvous, for the purpose of finishing and defending a large field-work, which was to command the river, and protect the surrounding country; although aware that few had obeyed the summons, I determined upon dislodging the enemy, and for that purpose I yesterday morning proceeded up the Syriam river, with three hundred Europeans, and an equal number of native infantry, the whole under the command of Acting Brigadier Smelt. Upon approaching the landing-place leading to the town and pagoda of Syriam, I observed the old Portuguese fort (long concealed from view by trees and overgrown brushwood), cleared and scarped where the old wall had fallen down, and from fifteen to twenty feet high; upon this the enemy had raised a parapet, and suspended huge logs of wood on the outside, intended to be cut away during the assault, and to carry the assailants before them in their descent.

The troops landed under the fire of the Penang Government brig Jessie, and the Powerful, sloop,

employed as a mortar-vessel, and the advanced party moved on until stopped by a deep impassable nullah, the bridge over which had been destroyed, and threatened to check our progress; but the difficulty was speedily removed, and a very tolerable bridge constructed by Captain Marryat and part of the Officers and crew of His Majesty's ship Larne. The enemy's fire from musketry and artillery was even unusually feeble and contemptible, and they abandoned the place with the utmost precipitation when the troops moved forward to the attack, leaving behind them eight pieces of good artillery.

I next directed Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly, of the Madras European regiment, to proceed with part of the force to the Syriam pagoda, which I was informed was also occupied by about three hundred men. The Lieutenant-Colonel, on arriving at the pagoda, found the enemy inclined to dispute the possession of their almost impregnable post, but they lost confidence while the troops were ascending the long flight of steps leading up to the pagoda, and fled in the utmost confusion, leaving four pieces of artillery and a great quantity of powder.

Although in these affairs the enemy afforded little opportunity for displaying the discipline and gallantry of the troops, their usual feeling and ardour were by no means less conspicuous, and I had every reason to be satisfied with the arrangements of Brigadier Smelt, and Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly in conducting the different attacks.

From Captain Marryat and the Officers of His Majesty's Navy, I ever receive the most prompt and cordial co-operation.

I have, &c.

A. CAMPBELL, Brigadier-General.

Return of Killed and Wounded from the 12th July to the 5th of August 1824.

Rangoon, 5th August 1824.

8 rank and file wounded.

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

Return of Ordnance and Ammunition taken and destroyed at Syriam, on the 4th of August 1824, by Detachments of the Force on the Expedition commanded by Brigadier-General Sir A. Campbell, K. C. B.

Rangoon, 5th August 1824.

1 brass four-pounder, 2 brass three-pounders, 2 iron eighteen-pounders, 5 iron six-pounders, 2 wall pieces.

A considerable quantity of gun-powder destroyed, and about one hundred weight of grape.

W. LAW.

