



## SUPPLEMENT

TO

## The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY the 19th of APRIL.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1825.

*India Board, April 20, 1825.*

**A** DISPATCH has 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, 7th December 1824.*

WE have received dispatches from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, announcing the very gratifying intelligence of the capture of the valuable town and port of Martaban, by a detachment of Europeans and Natives, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin, of His Majesty's 41st regiment, and a party of British seamen of His Majesty's ships *Arachne* and *Sophie*. Copies of Sir Archibald Campbell's dispatches are transmitted as numbers in the packet, and will, we are assured, be perused by your honourable Committee with sentiments of great satisfaction.

We have received reports from the North-Eastern frontier of various successes gained by our troops in Assam, over the Burmese Governor and the small remnant of his army. The enemy in that quarter are obviously in a state of the greatest alarm, and anxiously endeavouring to effect their escape through the passes into Munnipore. The Burman troops in Munnipore are said to have received orders to retire rapidly upon the capital, and reports from that quarter state that the interior of the Burman Empire is in a very agitated and disturbed condition, in consequence of the Siamese having invaded it in great force.

*Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. to G. Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Head-Quarters, Rangoon, 7th November 1824.*

SIR,

FOR the last fortnight I remained under a very considerable degree of uneasiness at not hearing of, or from, the expedition I had sent against Martaban on the 11th ult., under the command of Lieut.-Col. Godwin, of his Majesty's 41st Regiment, apprehensive that the strong currents that prevail on this coast on the change of the monsoons, might have driven them either past the port or out to sea, and the consequent deprivation of provisions and water; but the arrival at Head-quarters last night of my Aid-de-Camp, who accompanied Lieutenant Colonel Godwin, as a volunteer, dispelled all apprehensions, and now enables me to transmit you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the detail of an achievement, no less honourable than beneficial to the British arms, reflecting the highest credit on the able, judicious, and gallant Officer that led, as well as every individual composing the force under his command.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

A. CAMPBELL, Brig.-General.

*Extract from a further Letter from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Head-quarters, Rangoon, 7th November 1824.*

BY this opportunity I have the honour to transmit you Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin's report of the fall of Martaban, which will be read with inter-

rest, as evincing another proof of the impression our arms have made on the minds of the enemy. It will scarcely be credited that upwards of four thousand men, well armed and well prepared for the attack, from the unforeseen impediments the expedition met with in reaching its destination, and fighting behind defences of a very formidable nature, should be driven out of them by a mere handful of British troops. On this occasion you will be pleased to see the handsome manner in which Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin speaks of the 3d Madras Native Light Infantry, one of the corps which retired from the stockade at Keykloo.\*

*Copy of a Report from Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin to Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. dated Martaban, November 2d 1824.*

SIR,

THE force you did me the honour to place under my command for the capture of the town of Martaban and its dependencies, cleared the Rangoon river on the morning of the 14th ultimo, but owing to the ignorance of the people acting as pilots, with calms and contrary currents, the expedition did not reach Martaban till the morning of the 29th.

It was my intention to have landed on my arrival at Martaban, but the tides which run rapidly here, rendered it almost impracticable, and the ships having it in their power to get nearer the defences in the evening, I deferred landing till the next morning at day-break. I took two opportunities this day to see the whole front of the place, with Captain Waterman, Assistant Quarter Master General, and Captain Kennan, commanding the Artillery. Its appearance was uncommonly strong and commanding, and differed from any thing we have seen about here. The place rests at the bottom of a very high hill, washed by a beautiful and extensive sheet of water; on its right a rocky mound, on which was placed a two-gun battery with a deep nullah under it. This battery communicates with the usual stockade of timber, and behind this a work of masonry, varying from 12 to 20 feet thick, with small embrasures for either cannon or musketry. The stockade runs along the margin of the water for more than three quarters of a mile, where it joins a larger pagoda, which projects into the water in the form of a bastion. The defences thence continue a short distance, and end at a nullah, on the other side of which all is thick jungle. The town continues to run in an angle way from the pagoda for at least a mile, and terminates in the house of the Mayoos, close to a stockade up the hill. The whole defence is the waterline with its flanks protected.

The rear of the town and works is composed of thick jungle and large trees, and open to the summit of the hill: as we moved along the place all was silent, not a gun to be perceived, but a slight wicker-work to hide every thing behind the embrasures in the pagoda, and few men to be observed on the works. They never offered to fire on the

boat, though rather close in shore. The second time we went to look at it, the same silence prevailed, so that we were induced to think the place abandoned. Shortly, however, after this remark, the ships had approached nearer the works, when a well-directed fire was opened on them from the fort on the height, and down the line a well pointed gun, from the pagoda, with grape, was at the same time, fired at my boat and wounded a seaman of the Moira, whose arm was amputated an hour after. I was prepared for a determined resistance by the quantities of boats filled with men crossing; as we went up the river, two chokeys opened a smart but useless fire on us—I made it a rule never to fire first.

All the night of the 29th, there was a cannonade from both sides, and the excellent practice of Captain Kennan, of the Madras artillery, commanding, assisted by Lieutenant M'Gregor, of the Bengal artillery, in the bomb vessel, must have done great execution among the defenders of the works; whose repeated cheers informed us that their numbers were great.

I had made up my mind to storm the escalade immediately under, and to the left of the rocky battery on the enemy's right; and when in, to storm the battery itself, and then the business could be but easy, as we should take all the works in flank.

At five o'clock in the morning of the 30th, the men composing the first division, were in their boats. Ninety-eight men of His Majesty's 41st regiment, seventy-five of the 3d Native light infantry, eight of the Bengal artillery, and thirty-eight seamen of the Royal Navy—about two hundred and twenty men; and I was fully aware that these men would have the business to themselves, as I had no where to wait for the remainder of the force, and every boat was already occupied. The advance sounded a little after five, and the boats rowed off, and soon came under a very heavy fire of all arms. On approaching the shore, I perceived there had been a misunderstanding with respect to the spot at which I wished to land, and we had got on the wrong side of the nullah, as we could not carry the ladders through the mud. I ordered the boats to push off and put in at the place I appointed; at this time a heavy fire of artillery and musketry was on us, and the lascars would not face it. Lieutenant Keele, of the Arachne, commanding the naval force, with me, pushed on shore, and gallantly went to see if the nullah could be passed; he came back almost directly, and informed me, there was a boat in the nullah, over which the men could go, and the side of the rock to the battery appeared practicable. Trusting to the gallantry of the people with me, I determined to try it, and from the men getting on shore, there was not a halt till we had possession of it. It was stormed under a heavy fire of musketry, and the rock not high, but to appearance impracticable, and in the opinion of the enemy it was so.

The enemy did not leave the fort till we were within a few paces of them, and they even threw stones at us, when we were too much under the fort for the fire to reach us. It is due to Captain Burrows, of His Majesty's 41st regiment, and Lieutenant Keele, Royal navy, to say they were in first. I now felt secure of the place, and after waiting till the men had recovered from the exertion, and to

\* See London Gazette 25th of March 1825, p. 501 et sequ.

get them together, they marched down along the works, and cleared all before them. The 3d light infantry flanking us in the wood, I proceeded to the pagoda, near which they appeared disposed to stand, however they only suffered the more by it. On entering the pagoda I was surprised not to find it full, but on looking over the wall, they were in hundreds, rushing down, taking the water, and crossing the jungle. There were about one hundred and twenty muskets bearing on them, and their loss was very severe.

All opposition was now at an end, and on marching through the town it was, as usual, deserted, except by a great many women. The Woonghee had six elephants ready, and had escaped with, as I am told, a good deal of property. The emptiness of the houses showed every preparation had been made, if the place was captured, to prevent our getting any property. I inclose you a return of the guns taken, as also the ordnance stores, and the quantities of the latter immense, kept in a stockade about half a mile up the hill, and a regular manufactory to make the powder. I had it blown up yesterday.

Our loss has been comparatively small, seven killed and fourteen wounded. Captain Booth is not badly wounded. In this immense place, with so many facilities to escape, I cannot guess what the enemy's loss may have been, but from the prisoners, of whom we have a great many, and other sources, it must have been great, as, allowing that two-thirds of the numbers reported were within this place at the attack, there must have been between three and four thousand.

Where every one contended honourably, it would be difficult to select for your particular notice. I must ask your best thanks, however, for Captain Waterman, 13th light infantry, Assistant-Quartermaster-General, for the advice and assistance I have had, and still have, from him; for Lieutenant Cochrane, His Majesty's 41st regiment, Acting Brigade Major; for Captain Kennan, Madras artillery, commanding; Captain Hepelin, detachment 41st regiment; Captain Williamson, 3d native light infantry, which regiment vied in this attack with British courage; and Lieutenant M'Gregor, of the Bengal artillery, who armed his men with muskets, and were distinguished in the attack. Lieutenant Keele, of the Arachne; Lieutenant Baizely, of the Sophie, and their respective crews, behaved with their usual gallantry.

Lieutenant Keele's unremitting exertions with this little force, as also the share he has taken in the fall of the place, together with the good understanding kept up between the services, I leave for you, Sir, properly to appreciate.

Your son and Aide-de-Camp, Lieutenant Campbell, of His Majesty's 38th regiment, will present you this dispatch, a volunteer on the expedition, whose gallantry and other qualities make me very sorry to part with him.

I have the honour to be, &c.

HENRY GODWIN, Lieut. Col.

*Return of Killed and Wounded of a Detachment under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel God-*

A 2

*win, in the Approach to and Attack of Martaban, on the 30th October 1824.*

*Martaban, 2d November 1824.*

Madras Artillery—1 gunner killed; 2 gunners wounded.

His Majesty's 41st Regiment—2 rank and file killed; 1 captain, 1 serjeant, 3 rank and file, wounded.

3d Light Infantry—1 rank and file killed; 1 havildar, 3 rank and file, wounded.

Navy—1 mariner, 1 seaman, killed; 1 mariner, 1 seaman, wounded.

Row-Boats—1 gun-boat lascar killed; 1 gun-boat lascar wounded.

*Name of the Officer wounded.*

Captain Booth, of His Majesty's 41st Regiment, slightly.

J. COCHRANE, Lieut. Actg. M. B.

*Return of Ordnance and Stores captured at Martaban by the Troops under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin, H. M. 41st Regiment, on the 30th of October 1824.*

Iron Guns, &c. mounted on the Works—4 four-pounders, 3 three-pounders, 1 one and half-pounder, 2 one-pounders, 3 half-pounders, 48 wall pieces. The wall pieces destroyed.

Iron Guns, &c. found in the Arsenal—1 six-pounder, 2 one pounders, 52 wall pieces. The wall pieces and unserviceable guns destroyed.

In the Expense Magazine—2000 round iron shot of different sizes, 500 grape shot, 10,000 musket cartridges, 6000 cartridges for wall pieces, 500 lbs. loose gun-powder.

In the Arsenal and Magazine—5000 round iron shot of different sizes, 1000 grape shot, 26,000 lbs. gun-powder, 10,000 lbs. salt-petre, 5000 lbs. sulphur, 500 muskets, 52 wall pieces, 20,000 flints, 100,000 musket balls, 9000 lbs. lead.

T. W. B. KENNAN, Captain,  
Commanding Artillery at Martaban.

*Extract from a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, Commanding in Assam, to D Scott, Esq. Agent to the Governor-General, on the North East Frontier, dated on the River, off Gowahatty, 15th November 1824.*

I COMMENCED operations about the 20th ultimo, by detaching Majors Cooper and Waters, the former to Kulliar, and the latter to Rajachokey, with the intention of repossessing ourselves of the country west of Kulliar, which is as much as I can do, being without the means of marching a corps in the interior, which I consider absolutely necessary.

From the result of several successful enterprises, of which I have the pleasure to send you copies, I am happy to say this object has been accomplished, but as the Baora Rajah and his followers are still on the borders, I have sent orders and instructions to Majors Cooper and Waters to attempt their destruction, and I have every hope they will

fall into our hands; or be obliged to try the road to Munnipore, in which case their annihilation is certain, as the Naghas will no doubt cut them up.

*Copy of a Letter from Major Cooper to Captain Bayldon, Major of Brigade, in Assam, dated Kulliar, 31st October 1824.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, commanding the troops in Assam, that having obtained information of a party of sixty Burmahs being at Dickaree, in Chardoar, under Cogcutie and Hillee Fookans, belonging to the Moogum Rajah, I detached a party of forty men there, under the command of Lieutenant Watson (Chumparun light infantry), in three police row-boats, on the evening of the 29th instant, considering my detachment to be within one day's journey of Kulliar.

I have now the satisfaction of reporting, that Lieutenant Watson's party succeeding in surprising the enemy yesterday afternoon in some huts at Dickaree, in which little affair Cogcutie Fookan and six Burmahs were killed, Hillee Fookan and four Burmahs, two Doannees, and thirteen women and children, taken prisoners; also a small war-boat and nine indifferent muskets have been taken.

The surprise of the enemy, I am happy to state, has set at liberty two Christians (natives) in the employ of Mr. Bruce, of Juggy-gassal, named Henry Collins and Frederick Swain, also a native merchant, named Shaik Saharge, who were permitted, on paying a sum of money, to leave Joorhaut eight days ago.

Lieutenant Watson's party and prisoners joined me again to-day; he reports, that the men of the corps behaved in a steady and spirited style. I must, in a great measure, attribute their success to the judicious arrangements adopted by Lieutenant Watson for the attack, and to the military ardour and zeal, for the good of the service, I have on all occasions observed him to possess, and which I trust will, at a proper time, meet with His Excellency the Commander in Chief's favourable consideration.

I have also to report, that the Champarun light infantry and four gun-boats reached Kulliar this evening, and that the post is unoccupied by the enemy, who I am informed are principally collected at Namgong.

This detachment has been much longer in reaching Kulliar than I expected, owing to the easterly winds, strong current, and the tracking grounds being covered with strong and high reeds.

I have, &c.

G. COOPER, Major, commanding Chumparun Light Infantry and Detachment.

*Copy of a Letter from Major Waters, commanding the Dinagore Local Battalion, to Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, commanding in Assam, dated on the River Kullung, 29th October 1824.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report to you, that I ar-

rived on the evening of the 27th instant, at a point of the river opposite the village of Moree Kullung, about one third of the distance between Jaggee and Raha Chokey, where I received intelligence from Lieutenant Neuville, of the Quarter-Master-General's Department, of a party of the enemy, amounting to about two hundred and fifty men, being stationed at the village of Hautgong, a few miles inland on the north bank.

I determined on surprising them, and with that view proceeded at one o'clock A. M. yesterday morning, with a detachment of one hundred light infantry of the Dinagore battalion, which I deemed sufficient, having ascertained that their post was open. After a very fatiguing march of seven hours we reached their position, and completely succeeded in effecting our purpose, the enemy having no intimation whatever of our approach; owing however to the thickness of the jungle, and the numerous outlets from the village, their loss has been comparatively small; we did not remain to ascertain the exact amount, but those found killed were chiefly Usseel Burmese. Had a small party of cavalry been with the detachment not a man could have escaped, as the enemy effected it with great difficulty, and only by abandoning their women and baggage. After continuing the pursuit some distance over very heavy ground and through grass jungle, and finding I could not gain upon them, I returned to the village of Hautgong and subsequently to my boats.

I have every reason to be highly satisfied with the steadiness and cheerful exertion of the men in this fatiguing march of thirty-five miles; exposed to almost incessant rain, and through country mostly inundated; and feel particularly indebted to the Officers who accompanied the detachment (all being on foot), Lieutenant Neuville, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, Lieutenant Jones, of the 46th regiment, temporarily doing duty with my corps, and Mr. Assistant-Surgeon C. Stewart, for the active assistance afforded me by them in every respect; and I beg further to add, that the correct information I received from the Intelligence Department, paved the way to ultimate success.

I have, &c.

E. F. WATERS, Major, commanding Dinagore local battalion.

*Copy of a Letter from Major Waters to Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, dated Rahachokey, on the River Kullung, 3d November 1824.*

SIR,

IT is with extreme satisfaction that I have the honour to report to you the successful result attending an attack on this post, on the morning of yesterday.

On approaching Rahachokey, I had every reason to believe, from the information received from Lieutenant Neuville, of the Quartermaster-General's Department, that my attack on Hautgong had directed the attention of the enemy to the line of the great river, and that they were quite unaware of my advance up the Kullung, or that our attack had been made from that quarter.

I therefore again resumed the expectation of being able to effect another surprize, which was confirmed by repeated intelligence in progress.

On the night of the 1st instant, I arrived at the situation, which was conceived the best distance from the enemy's post, from whence, to push on the detachment destined for the surprize, and having embarked one hundred men on the gun and light boats, I reached the landing place about two miles below the point of attack, which I reached, by this arrangement, at early day-break.

Having rapidly reconnoitred the situation, I divided my men in two parties, directing Lieutenants Neuville and Jones, of the 46th regiment, to conduct the one by the right into the village, and proceeding myself, with Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Stewart, with the other by the left through an unfinished stockade, which the enemy were throwing up.

The party under Lieutenant Neuville immediately pushed on and fortunately came first on the enemy's chief guard, all of whom were either bayoneted or shot; and the alarm being given, the body rushed out of their houses for the purpose of escaping on the opposite side, under a heavy fire; this threw them on my party, which had made a detour by the left, where they were received with great loss. The remainder were pursued nearly two miles, and left many killed and wounded in the jungles; their loss cannot be estimated at less than one-third of their number. I am happy to say no casualty occurred on our side, with the exception of one sepoy wounded by a musket ball.

I had previously been informed that a party of sixty Burmahs, from the main body at this post, had been detached the preceding morning in the direction of Hautgong (for the purpose of ascertaining from what quarter the attack of the 28th ultimo had been made, and also to arrange themselves in the villages), and on my return from the pursuit I directed my attention towards them, as Lieutenant Neuville had received information of their expected return to their headquarters.

At mid-day their approach was announced, apparently in total ignorance of the defeat of their main body; and in consequence I proceeded with the Officers and a party of forty men, with a view of lying in ambush. The plan was, I am happy to add, attended with complete success; and the enemy's loss in killed and wounded amounts to nearly half their number, the remainder flying in the greatest confusion towards Namgong, after a feeble attempt at returning our fire.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I have sent down those of the prisoners brought in from the jungles by the villagers, who are Usseel Burmese, to await your orders. The Doannees will be useful here in clearing our ground.

It is with just satisfaction that I again bring to your notice the active and zealous assistance I derived from the Officers under my command (Lieutenants Neuville and Jones, and Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Stewart); in the second affair Lieutenant Jones contributed personally to the loss of the enemy.

The very steady and spirited conduct of the men, was also very praise-worthy.

I have, &c.

E. F. WATERS, Major, commanding  
Dinagapore Local Battalion.

P. S. I had omitted to notice, that many of the enemy's arms were found in the guard-room and other places, consisting chiefly of old muskets and a great number of swords, of which some belonged to Chiefs.

*Copy of a Letter from Major Waters to Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, dated Namgong, 6th November 1824.*

SIR,

IN continuation of my dispatch, of the 3d instant, I have the honour to report, that early on the following morning information was given me, that the main body of the enemy, under the Boora, or Moogaum Rajah (the Burmese Governor of Assam), had quitted the stockade, in which they had taken post at Namgong, and had moved to another situation, with the intention of retreating across the hills into Munnipore. I accordingly ordered out a strong reconnoissance, in the hopes of surprising them, or at least of compelling them to retire within their stockade; and having a sufficient party for the protection of the guns and fleet, I proceeded with Lieutenants Neuville and Jones, and Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Stewart, towards Namgong.

After marching a few miles, I received intelligence that the enemy had commenced their flight towards the hills, leaving a Fookan and eighty Burmese to cover their retreat; in consequence I pushed on, but was not able to cover the distance in one march, and after continuing it for twenty-five miles, bivouacked for the night. The next morning I advanced, and occupied the stockade, which I found quite evacuated by the enemy, who had gained too much upon us to render a pursuit practicable, unless by the cavalry. From the villages I learnt that immediately on the alarm being given by the fugitives from Rahachokey, of our attack on them, and the loss sustained, together with the appearance of the wounded, the main body of this post were seized with the utmost panic and consternation; and the Boorah Rajah and Fookans determined on instant and precipitate flight; this they effected, leaving behind them all their baggage, plunder, military store, and heavy property; the greater part of the plunder was immediately seized and secreted by the villagers, and we found the stockade already much destroyed.

We have captured twenty iron guns, a number of boxes of powder, a manufactory of which had been established, and for which the materials captured are of a superior quality, three war boats (one, very large), the state boat of the Boora Chief, and a number of small ones.

From the appearance of the stockade, and the intelligence gained from the villagers, I am of opinion that our account of their numbers must have been correct, and that there were at least

thirteen hundred in all, of whom four or five hundred were Usseel Burmese. The stockade is defended principally by stakes and spikes thickly set all round, but could not have held out if attacked, being clearly exposed to the fire of the guns, and also commanded from the opposite banks of the river. The enemy appear to have been totally unprepared for our rapid advance, as all their houses and works were in progress, in a very extended scale, as if for permanent residence. They have fled towards the hills, in a south easterly direction; but I have not yet been able to ascertain whether they will attempt to cross, or whether they propose to skirt them, directing their flight

towards their former positions at Mauroo and the eastward.

I am informed by Lieutenant Neuville, Deputy Assistant-Quartermaster-General, that a body of Sauns and Unjphas is said to be at Jookauth, but as they are now opposed to the Burmese, the latter must find themselves on every side beset with difficulties.

I have left a subadar's party, with the gun-boats, at Rahachokey. I have taken post for the present at Namgong, pending your further instructions.

I have, &c.

E. F. WATERS, Major, commanding  
Dinagapore L. B.

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