



SECOND SUPPLEMENT

TO

The London Gazette

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India-Board, August 9, 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 copies and extracts:

Extract from a Dispatch from the Governor-General in Council to the Secret-Committee of the Court of Directors, dated Fort-William, 11th March 1825.

WE have the honour to transmit, for the information of your Honourable Committee, a copy of a dispatch received from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, dated 11th ultimo, since the date of our last letter to your address, dated 25th ultimo.

Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Rangoon, 11th February 1825.

SIR,

DEEMING it of importance, previous to the troops finally breaking up from quarters, to dislodge the enemy's advanced division from their defences on the Lyng River, I directed Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin to proceed with a body of troops to Tantabain, and summon the enemy to retire from his works, which, in the event of the summons not being attended to, he was further directed to take possession of by force of arms. A detail of the operations of the column is herewith sent, affording me another opportunity of

bringing to the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council the judgment and decision of Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin and Captain Chads, R. N. (appointed by Captain Alexander to the naval command on that service), and bearing no less honourable testimony to the irresistible intrepidity so often displayed both by soldiers and sailors on this expedition.

I have, &c.

A. CAMPBELL.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin, commanding His Majesty's 41st Regiment, to Brigadier-General Sir A. Campbell, dated Rangoon, 9th February 1825.

SIR,

THE force you did me the honour to place under my command on the 5th instant, for the capture of the enemy's works at Quangalle, or Tantabain, reached that point on the 6th, at five in the evening. I am to premise that on the morning of the 6th a flag of truce was sent up with the two Burmese prisoners, conveying your Proclamation, and which was received by the enemy, and replied to most respectfully, explaining the inability of the Chief to surrender, in a language of mildness rarely used by this vain and barbarous people.

The position of the enemy was a strong and imposing one, upon the point of a peninsula, forming an angle of one thousand four hundred and forty paces, strongly stockaded, and abattised down to the bank of the river, but entirely open to the rear.

The Satellite armed ship, towed by the steamboat, and directed by Captain Chads, of His Majesty's ship *Arachné*, laid her broadside so admi-

rably as to enfilade the whole of the principal face of the works.

At half musket-shot we were received with thirty-six pieces of artillery, independently of jingals, and two thousand men: this was forcibly replied to by the guns of the Satellite, assisted by Captain Graham, of the Bengal rocket troop, who, by the most excellent practice with his rockets from the steam-boat, surprized them with an arm of offence that will prove a most formidable weapon.

I perceived from the Satellite that the work all round was easily assailable; and in ten minutes after the signal was made the place was stormed, leaving in our possession thirty-four pieces of cannon. The enemy suffered severely, and were followed for a mile and a half.

I have again the pleasure to mention the name of Lieutenant Keele, of His Majesty's ship *Arachné*, who, with Lieutenant Hall, of His Majesty's ship *Alligator*, and their boats' crews, were the first to enter the enemy's position, and their conduct was most conspicuous; these were followed by Captain O'Reilly, with the grenadiers of His Majesty's 41st regiment.

Our loss, I am most happy to say, is comparatively nothing, and this is accounted for by the boats, containing the troops, being placed under the land out of the enemy's opening fire, till they were to storm by signal.

The next day, the 7th, the two branches of the Paulang River were reconnoitred, the right by Captain Chads, whom I accompanied, and the left by Lieutenant Keele, for eighteen miles up, and an immense quantity of fire rafts were destroyed.

May I request your thanks to Captain Chads, of His Majesty's ship *Arachné*, commanding the naval part of the expedition, for the large share he had in the capture of this post, for Captain Graham, Bengal rocket troop, Captain Waterman, His Majesty's 13th light infantry, Assistant Quartermaster-General, and Lieutenant Cochran, His Majesty's 41st regiment, my acting Brigade Major.

The conduct of the details of the European and native troops reflects the highest honour on their respective regiments, and merits your warmest approbation.

I have, &c.

HENRY GODWIN, Lieut. Col.
H. M. 41st regt. commanding.

Return of the Killed and Wounded of a Detachment under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin, at the Capture of Quangalle or Tantabain Stockade, 6th February 1825.

1 serjeant or havildar, 2 rank and file, 4 seamen, 2 lascars, wounded; 1 seaman drowned.

Total—None killed; 9 wounded; 1 drowned.

H. GODWIN, Lieut. Col.
J. COCHRAN, Lt. Actg. M. B.

Return of Ordnance, &c. captured at Tantabain by the Force under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin, on the 6th February 1825.

Brass Guns—1 ten-pounder, 10 three-pounders, 1 one-pounder.

Iron Guns—2 seven-pounders, 1 six-pounder, 1 five-pounder, 4 four-pounders, 6 three-pounders, 1 two-pounder.

35 gun-carriages of sorts.

Of jingals, muskets, shot, powder, spears, &c. taken, no estimate made. The powder was mostly destroyed.

C. GRAHAM, Capt H. P.
comg. Rocket Details.

Copy of a Letter (transmitted by the Governor-General in Council to the Secret Committee), from Lieutenant-Colonel Hampton to Lieutenant-Colonel Nicol, Adjutant-General of the Army, dated Cheduba, 8th February 1825.

SIR,

CAPTAIN Hardy, commanding the Honourable Company's frigate *Hastings*, having sent me two Burmese prisoners taken at Ramree island, on the 22d ultimo, by a party sent on shore from that vessel, and having, from those individuals, obtained what I considered sufficient information regarding its localities, defences, and means of resistance, to justify my making a descent on the island, with the view of its capture; I addressed him on the subject, stating, that if he would make arrangements for the transportation of part of the force under my command, I should be most happy to join him (Captain Hardy being at this time most actively employed in surveying and reconnoitering the harbour and creek of Ramree), and had not the least doubt, provided the information proved correct, that, with his cordial co-operation and assistance, we should neither find much difficulty nor trouble in accomplishing the object.

Captain Hardy came over to Cheduba on the 27th, and after a short consultation (although he was of opinion that our European force was not sufficient, yet he was unwilling to throw any obstacle in the way), the business was determined on.

By five P. M. on the 29th the detachment, detailed in the margin,* was embarked on board the de, dt ship *Francis Warden*, the armed brig *Planet*, and the flotilla of gun-boats. The brig having the artillery on board sailed that afternoon, and on the following morning the remainder of the vessels got under weigh, but from light and variable winds, and the intricacy of the entrance into Ramree harbour, we did not reach the mouth of the creek until the morning of the 2d instant.

At one P. M. Captain Hardy, accompanied by Major Murray, Captain Hall, commanding the artillery, and my staff Lieutenant Margrave, went for the purpose of examining the localities of the creek, and ascertaining the landing place, which had been pointed out by one of the guides. About five P. M. the party returned, and reported that the place pointed out appeared a favourable spot for landing at high water, and just above it the creek was strongly staked across. About three hundred yards further up the creek there was a second row of stakes much stronger, and defended by a battery,

* 48 artillery men, with two brigades of guns.—520 men of the 40th regt. N. I.

from which the enemy opened a heavy but ill-directed fire upon the boats from jingals and musketry. About half a mile up the creek, beyond the second row of stakes, the angle of a stockade was visible.

Arrangements being made for landing the troops as early in the morning as possible, to benefit by the flood tide, the distance from the vessels to the landing place being about four miles, by halfpast nine, A. M. nearly the whole force was landed without opposition.

I immediately formed a column, of the strength specified in the margin*, with the view of attacking the enemy in the flank, and driving him from the breast-work which defended the creek, to enable Captain Hardy to proceed up with the gun-boats, to remove the stakes, and to accompany the troops to the principal stockade, leaving Captain Skardon with the reserve of about one hundred and eighty men, and the two brigades of guns, under Captain Hall, to act in concert with Captain Hardy as circumstances might render necessary.

The column of attack, I regret to say, was led by the guides in quite a different direction to the place I wished to carry, and had to surmount obstacles never contemplated from the information received. The gallantry of the party, however, overcame every difficulty which presented itself, and drove the enemy from all his entrenched positions at the point of the bayonet, obliging him to take shelter in his usual place of resort, the jungle, from which a galling fire was kept up until he was dislodged by our troops.

It being now half past three P. M. the detachment quite fatigued and exhausted for want of water, and finding that it was totally impracticable to advance by the road pointed out, the jungle being so very close as not to admit of a file of men abreast, and lined by the enemy who had now opened a fire upon our rear, and being about five miles distant from the boats, without any possibility of communication, and it appearing evident that we had been most treacherously deceived, it was deemed prudent and advisable to return to the boats so as to arrive in sufficient time to recross the nullahs, which had so greatly impeded our advance.

The enemy reoccupied every hill and plain as we quitted, and continued firing on us from jingals and matchlocks, until checked by the arrival of the reserve, when a few well directed rounds from the six pounder field pieces dislodged them from their lurking places, and effectually silenced their fire, which enabled us to re-embark the whole force by six P. M.

* H. M. 54th Regt.	-	-	-	-	6
Marines of the Hastings	-	-	-	-	30
Seamen	-	-	-	-	60
40th Regt. Native Infantry	-	-	-	-	330
					426

However much it is to be lamented that our enterprize has not been crowned with that success, which the information I had received gave me every reason to expect, as well as the loss we have sustained, yet I trust his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will view it as trifling, compared with the information which has been acquired respecting the harbour of Ramree and its localities by the zealous and indefatigable exertions of Captain Hardy, and which no doubt may prove of the utmost importance should Government deem it expedient hereafter to send an adequate force to take possession of, and occupy it.

From my own personal observation, if I may be permitted to offer an opinion, the island is particularly strong; and from the localities of the country its natural defences and means of resistance, it will require a force of at least fifteen hundred or two thousand men including five hundred European troops, with a due proportion of artillery and pioneers to take and maintain it.

When every man composing the force did his duty, it is difficult to discriminate individual merit, but I should consider myself wanting in duty were I not to bring to the notice of his Excellency the gallant conduct of Lieutenant Bell, of the Bombay European regiment, commanding the marines, and of Lieutenant Cox, commanding the light company of my own regiment, who were conspicuously forward on every occasion, shewing an example to their men, which did them honour and credit.

To Captain Hardy, who commanded the naval part of the force, and who was engaged with the gun-boats during my absence endeavouring to remove the stakes and force a passage up the creek to the enemy's breast work, and whose Officers and seamen exerted themselves to their utmost, my sincere and grateful thanks are due, as well as for his cordial cooperation and assistance on every occasion wherever the public service required it.

Herewith I do myself the honour to inclose a return of killed and wounded.

I am, &c.

R. HAMPTON.

Return of Killed and Wounded during Operations on the Island of Ramree, on the 3d of February 1825.

H. M. 54th Regt.—1 killed; 1 wounded.
European Regt.—1 killed; 3 wounded (1 since dead).

Seamen—4 wounded (1 since dead).
40th Regt. N. I.—3 killed; 12 wounded.
Total—5 killed; 20 wounded.

1 master's mate killed, and 1 seaman and 1 lascar wounded, in the gun-boats.

ROBERT MARGRAVE, Lieutenant.

