



SUPPLEMENT

TO

The London Gazette

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India Board, June 3, 1826.

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 of a Letter from the Governor-General in Council at Fort William, in Bengal, to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated 9th December 1825.

WE have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee copies of some dispatches received this day from Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell, from which, we regret to say, you will learn that a body of Native troops, sent in advance to dislodge the enemy from a position they occupied on the route by which the British army was to move from Prome, failed in its object, and was compelled to return with the loss of its Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Mac Dowall killed, and thirteen Officers wounded.

Extract of a Letter from Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K.C.B. to George Swinton, Esq., Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Head-Quarters, Prome, 16th November 1825.

THE enemy having pushed forward a division of his army upon the road, by which we shall advance, to within a few miles of Prome, and it appearing desirable that our columns should not be harassed and delayed at the very commencement of our

march, I yesterday directed Colonel Macdowall, of the Madras army, to move forward with four regiments of Madras Native Infantry, and dislodge the enemy from his posts.

Copy of a Letter from Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K.C.B. to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Head-Quarters, Prome, 18th November 1825.

SIR,

IN continuation of my letter of the 15th instant, I much regret to state, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that the important movement therein contemplated could not be carried into effect, owing to the enemy's superior force, and the strength of his positions.

The point upon which the different corps were directed to move was the village of Watty-goon, distant from Prome twenty miles, where my information led me to suppose a body of only two thousand five hundred Shaums and Burmese were assembled, and from the easterly position they had chosen, with the apparent purpose of harassing our right flank in advancing, or of falling into our rear, annoying the garrison of Prome, and endeavouring to intercept our communication with that place.

For the purpose of dislodging this force (as I yesterday did myself the honour of stating) I placed two brigades of Madras Native Infantry under the command of Colonel M^r Dowall, directing him to approach the enemy's position at Watty-goon, with

three regiments of Native Infantry, so as to assail his left flank, while Major Evans with the 22d Native Infantry was ordered to move upon the front of the position, and to attack in concert with the main body: I also moved forward the 18th Native Infantry to the ground left by the 22d, to be in readiness to afford support to the latter corps if required. The uncertain state of the roads and country did not permit of the columns being accompanied by artillery.

The 22d Native Infantry came upon the enemy's position at Watty-goon, and Major Evans, from the firing on his right, considering Colonel Mac Dowall's column in the act of attacking, gallantly moved forward to take his share in the engagement; but finding himself mistaken in that point, and the enemy much too numerous and strongly posted to be assaulted by a single regiment, he deemed it prudent to retire, which appears to have been done with steadiness and regularity.

The columns under Colonel M'Dowall's immediate command immediately approached the position of Watty-goon by the left flank, as directed, and reached that point after a sharp conflict with the enemy's troops in advance, but the apparent strength of the position, and his very superior numerical force, did not, in the opinion of the senior Officers, warrant an assault with the means at their disposal, and a retreat was determined on, in the course of which the 38th Native Infantry, which had been delayed by unforeseen and untoward circumstances, came in most opportunely upon the enemy's flank, and materially checked his following up our retreating columns.

I have to lament the loss of a good and worthy Officer in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Mac Dowall, and several other brave Officers and soldiers, as will appear by the list of killed and wounded; but it affords me peculiar satisfaction to observe, by the concurring testimony of the Officers employed, and the official reports of Commanding Officers, herewith transmitted, that the troops engaged conducted themselves with that steadiness and valour which has ever eminently distinguished the Sepoys of the Madras army.

I have, &c.

A. CAMPBELL, Major-General.

Copy of a Letter from Major Evans to the Deputy Adjutant-General, dated Camp, Zeeoup, 17th November 1825.

SIR,

IN conformity with the orders received on the 14th instant, from the Quarter-Master-General's Department, I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of General Campbell, K.C.B., that I moved with the regiment from an encampment on the Nullah, at eight o'clock in the night of the 15th, to co-operate with Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant M'Dowall in a simultaneous attack upon that part of the enemy's force reported to be in the vicinity of, or at the village of Wartey-goon. At 12 o'clock, P.M. the guide reported that we were not far from the advanced guard of the enemy, on which I halted till about four o'clock, when I again advanced, and at about six came up with a body,

stated by the guide to be their advanced picquet, consisting of about five hundred men, on whom I commenced a skirmishing attack, following them through the jungle on either side of the road.

During this operation we heard a heavy firing in front to the right, which conceiving to be Colonel M'Dowall's column driving the enemy on his side, I expedited my advance, covered by the light company under Captain Bird.

On coming to an opening in a very thick part of the jungle, which the guide pointed out as the entrance to the enemy's position, I found my advance checked by a very heavy fire, on which I immediately formed the regiment into line in rear of the advance, and as much to the right as the jungle would admit of.

Conceiving the check experienced by the light company to be caused by a body of the enemy, drawn up for the defence of this entrance to their position, I brought up two companies to its support, with a view of forcing the passage, bringing my regiment into line upon their position, and commencing an attack in conjunction with that I hoped to find Colonel M'Dowall making on their main body.

On coming up with these two companies I found myself under a heavy, well-directed, and destructive fire, from what appeared to be a bastion of a fortified position.

I found the leading sub-division of the light company nearly annihilated, and both the Officers of that company wounded; that the men of the other companies were falling in numbers, and perceiving no indication that my hopes of a conjoint attack on the other side were correct, together with the guide's report that the enemy were five thousand strong, supported by cavalry, I determined to retire.

The regiment marched off in good order, and was almost immediately pursued by a strong body of the enemy.

On gaining some ground I thought it advisable to re-form my line to check their advance: seeing that the fire from the right wing, which was first formed, had the desired effect, and that the left was well locked up, I resolved on continuing my march, apprehensive that should the other columns of attack not have shewn themselves, the main body, with the cavalry, might have been brought to act against me.

We then continued our march without interruption, the enemy following with great boldness, and galling our rear for about three miles, during which operation we suffered severely in killed and wounded; those unable to move without assistance, of the latter, I regret to say we were unavoidably obliged to leave on the ground.

The regiment, though considerably exhausted from marching all night and the operations of the day, marched in good united order till we were within five or six miles of camp, when, unfortunately from the want of guides, all of whom made off at the commencement of the affair, we took a wrong road, the direction of which we followed for about five miles. On retracing our steps, we met two sepoy of the 18th regiment N. I., who thinking to lead us by a short road into Captain Ross's camp, brought us through a deep swamp and jungle, which caused our having many stragglers,

and prevented our arriving in our present position till four in the evening, the regiment having been under arms for twenty hours.

I think it my duty to state to you, for the General's information, my entire satisfaction at the constancy and perseverance with which the regiment sustained itself under the very heavy and destructive fire from the enemy's work, until they received my orders to move off, and the steady manner in which they retired under the enemy's galling fire.

I beg particularly to recommend to the General's notice the conduct of Captain Bird and Lieutenant Derby, who were both wounded with the light company; and I am much indebted to the whole of the Officers for their assistance and support under such trying circumstances.

Lieutenant Hay, though severely wounded, continued with his company till the enemy had ceased to interrupt our march.

To Lieutenant and Adjutant Bird I feel particularly indebted, for the very active and useful aid I derived from him during the whole of these operations.

Lieutenant D. Montmorency, of the Quarter-Master-General's Department, who conducted my march, displayed much gallantry and zeal in this affair, being almost constantly in advance under the enemy's fire.

I have the honour to transmit herewith a return of our loss, which I am sorry to say is very severe. Thirty-seven wounded men were brought into camp, although all the dooly bearers, with the exception of one set, ran off during the action.

Many of those reported missing fell into the rear from exhaustion during our long and harassing march.

The pain I still feel from my wound and the amputation of my finger will, I hope, plead my excuse for any inaccuracy in this report, as well as for my not having made it immediately on coming to my ground last evening.

I have, &c.
R. LACY EVANS, Major,
Comdg. 22d Regt. M. N. I.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Brook to Lieutenant-Colonel Tidy, Deputy-Adjutant-General, dated Prome, 17th November 1825.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Commander of the Forces, that the force under the command of the late Brigadier M'Dowall marched from this on the evening of the 15th, at six o'clock P. M., and had proceeded about twelve miles, when the advanced guard under Captain Coyles, of the 28th regiment, fell in with a party of the enemy to the number of one hundred or one hundred and fifty men, apparently advancing. After the exchange of a few shots during which time two sepoys were wounded, the enemy were driven back with loss, as we afterwards ascertained, by seeing on our return three bodies on the spot where the affair took place.

After crossing a nullah, the troops were halted for about an hour and a half, after which we pro-

ceeded forward, and heard a shout from a party of the enemy, who had occupied a village about four miles from the spot we had halted at.

About day-break a bugle was heard a considerable distance to our left, and about half-past seven it was again heard, and shortly after a heavy firing commenced from the spot where the bugle sound was heard, which was then answered by our bugles; we then advanced as rapidly as possible for about the space of an hour, during which the firing continued on the left, principally of musquetry, but latterly of heavy guns also, when we discovered the enemy in front, to which we were advancing. Six companies from the 28th were ordered as a flanking party to the right, when a severe conflict took place; the enemy being in great force, and provided with jingals and muskets, disputed every inch of ground with great resolution. About this period Captain Coyle was wounded in the arm by a musket ball, and a contusion on the breast by a spent jingal ball. After proceeding in this manner about four miles, the 43d regiment was ordered to take the place of the 28th, which was in front of the column, and proceeded fighting their way for about a mile, when they unexpectedly arrived in front of some strong works, from which a well-directed and heavy fire was kept up. The grenadier company, under Ensign Elsy, of the 43d, was ordered to advance to that part of the works from which the heaviest fire proceeded, to endeavour to keep it under, on which service it advanced with the most determined resolution; but, on arriving near the works, the firing became so heavy and galling, that it was found necessary to return: at this time I regret to state Brigadier M'Dowall was shot in the head by a musket ball, and died immediately; and nearly at the same moment Lieutenants Manning, Rankin, and Ensign Elsy, of the 43d regiment, were obliged to be brought away, being all severely wounded. Lieutenant Rankin, I am sorry to say, is since dead of his wounds.

Unprepared as the force was with means for assault, I found it necessary, after taking the advice of the senior Officers, to direct the retreat to be sounded. The rear-guard was commanded by Captain Wiggins, assisted by Captain M'Leod, who, in a most gallant and judicious manner, covered the retreat, which was made in as regular a manner as circumstances and the nature of the country would admit of, being a complete jungle, and under a severe and heavy fire from great numbers of the enemy, who were in the jungle, and on our right and left, nearly surrounding our column, and threatening to cut off our retreat, assisted by numerous bodies of cavalry to the number of five or six hundred.

After a dreadful harassing march of ten miles, which, during the latter part, was rendered still more distressing, by the men dropping on the road from fatigue, having rested only an hour and a half since their departure from Prome, we at length reached a river, or large nullah, about nine miles from Prome, which, having crossed, I halted the troops, for about an hour, (the enemy had left pursuing us), when we proceeded, and arrived at Prome at about half-past seven last evening.

I am sorry to say, from the want of a greater number of doolies and absolute exhaustion of the

hearers, notwithstanding the exertion of the Sepoys and the Officers giving their horses to bring in the wounded, &c. I was obliged to leave the dead and some wounded men in the rear.

I feel the greatest pleasure in making known to the Commander of the Forces, that the conduct of both Officers and men deserves every praise, especially for their conduct during so harassing a retreat, their exertions were unremitting.

I am particularly indebted to Captain Wiggins, commanding the 43d Regiment, and Captain M'Leod, for the able manner they covered the retreat, also to Captain White, Assistant-Quarter-Master-General, and Captain Johnston, M. B. Captain Coyle was, I am sorry to say, wounded early in the action, whereby I was deprived of the service of that valuable Officer during the retreat, and the command of the regiment devolving on Captain Bell, his conduct and exertions deserve my best thanks. Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Sutherland, of the 28th, deserves every praise for his attention to the wounded, in his attention to the men he was unremitting; as also Mr. Assistant Surgeon Cumming, 43d, who was equally so.

I reckon the enemy, from the very large body I saw in different parts of the jungle, to amount at least to ten or twelve thousand infantry, and in every way well armed.

Enclosed is a list of the killed and wounded, &c. of the two regiments under my command.

I have, &c.

CHARLES BROOK,

Lt. Col. 28th Regt.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Smith to the Deputy-Adjutant-General, dated Camp, near Prome, 17th November 1825.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Commander of the Forces, that in obedience to orders, I marched from Camp, at Thom-bala, with the 38th regiment M. N. I., at seven P. M. on the 15th instant, and arrived near to the village of Saagie, at four o'clock next morning. Here the guides refused to proceed from not being able to find the road in the dark, and I was obliged to wait until day-light, and only reached Saagie at six A. M., 16th instant. I was induced to make this movement in preference to proceeding by the direct route to Watty-noon, in the hope of finding Colonel M'Dowall's detachment, whose bugles were heard near this place, and also on account of my being too late to proceed direct to Watty-noon, which I could not hope to reach before twelve o'clock.

On arriving at the village of Saagie I heard some firing in the direction of Watty-noon, and which appeared about seven miles distant, the reports becoming heavier and more frequent. I proceeded towards Watty-noon at seven o'clock, and came up with the firing at twelve o'clock, here I observed the enemy in considerable numbers, consisting of cavalry and infantry, with jingals and small guns. I directed the light company to advance in front, and skirmish with what appeared to be the rear of the enemy, while the regiment

emerged from the narrow road in the jungle, and formed column of companies when they proceeded to the attack, the light infantry ceasing firing and joining the regiment; the enemy were so much taken by surprize, that they fled before the regiment could reach them, having only lost a few men by the firing of the light infantry.

The enemy's cavalry having made some movements, which I thought indicated an attack on the regiment, I formed square, and remained for some time in this position, repeatedly sounding the bugles to attract the attention of Colonel M'Dowall's detachment, but without effect, as no answering sounds were heard: the firing which on our arrival had been very heavy, now entirely ceased, and not being able to ascertain the position of the detachment, I had no option left but to retreat, or permit myself to be surrounded by an overwhelming force, without hopes of succour or subsistence of any kind: I therefore commenced my retreat about one o'clock, and as I heard no more firing on either part, I trust the diversion made by the 38th regiment N. I., in favour of Colonel M'Dowall's detachment, suggested and arranged by the Commander of the Forces, was effected, although from the badness of the roads, and the distance being much greater than expected, not precisely in the manner dictated to me; the retreat was effected without any opposition by the enemy, and the regiment reached the village of Saagie at four P. M., 16th instant, halted two hours, and marched into Prome at seven o'clock, A. M., 17th instant.

The nature of the duty in which the regiment was employed did not afford an opportunity of distinguishing itself by any shining military exploit, except that the light company under Captain Dowden and Lieutenant Willis dashed down upon the enemy in a most spirited style, and retreated and ceased firing upon the signal being given in the most orderly manner, and the whole of the regiment prepared for action with zeal and alacrity, as well as the best order. I must, in justice to the regiment, beg leave to call your attention to the severe and harassing march endured by the corps throughout the whole affair, in which the Officers and men bore almost total want of rest for two nights and one day, with the greatest patience and cheerfulness.

I have, &c.

D. C. SMITH, Lt. Col.

Comdg. 33th Regt., N. I.

General Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing in the Army under the Command of Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. in Action with the Enemy on the 16th November 1825.

Head-Quarters, Prome, November 17, 1825.

1 Lieutenant-colonel, 2 havildars, 51 rank and file, killed; 1 major, 4 captains, 6 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 1 soubadar, 6 havildars, 104 rank and file, wounded; 2 havildars, 40 rank and file, missing.

Names of the Officers killed and wounded.

Killed.

Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant R. M'Dowall.

Wounded.

22d Regiment Madras N. I.—Major R. S. Evans, severely; Captain C. M. Bird and Lieutenant J. P. Hay, severely, not dangerously; Lieutenants F. Darby, J. Shepherd, and M. Poole, slightly.

28th Ditto—Captain Coyle, severely.

43d Ditto—Captains H. Wiggins and A. M'Leod, slightly; Lieutenant T. C. Ranken, dangerously, since dead; Lieutenant E. C. Manning and Ensign W. Elsey, severely; Soubadar Soobiamony, slightly.

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

Extract of a Letter from the Governor-General in Council, at Fort William, in Bengal, to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated 30th December 1825.

WE hasten to transmit to your Honourable Committee, by the *Minerva*, on the very eve of departure, copies of dispatches* received this morning from Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell, announcing the very gratifying intelligence of the defeat of the Burman armies, on the 1st, 2d and 5th instant, and to offer our congratulations on the splendid achievements of the British troops.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor-General in Council at Fort William, in Bengal, to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated the 20th January 1826.

WITH sentiments of the liveliest satisfaction, we have now the honour to announce to your Honourable Committee, the arrival of the steam vessel *Enterprize* from Rangoon, with the important intelligence that the preliminaries of peace with the Government of Ava were signed, by Commissioners on both sides, at Patnagob, on the 3d instant, and that the treaty ratified by the King of Ava was to be delivered to the British Commissioners in fifteen days.

Captain Snodgrass, Military Secretary to Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell, had sailed from Rangoon on the 9th instant, with the dispatches announcing the signature of the preliminary treaty, and may be expected to arrive in a few days. The ratified treaty not being expected to reach Rangoon until the 24th instant, Brigadier Smelt, commanding at Rangoon, determined not to detain the *Enterprize*, as the time admitted of her conveying to us intelligence of what had occurred, and returning to Rangoon for the expected treaty. We propose, accordingly, to dispatch her to Rangoon this day.

The accompanying copies of dispatches from Brigadier Smelt to Mr. Swinton will afford your Honourable Committee all the information we have received by the *Enterprize*, and we beg leave to offer our cordial congratulations on the recent success of the British arms in Ava.

* These dispatches were published in a Supplement to the London Gazette, dated April 26, 1826.

Copy of a Letter from Brigadier Smelt to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Rangoon, January 13, 1826.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you a copy of two letters, dated the 4th and 6th January 1826, from Lieutenant-Colonel Pepper, commanding a detachment in the Pegue district, detailing a gratifying account of his operations in that quarter.

Private accounts have reached me, which I have no reason to doubt, that an attack on the strong post of Setoung, which was supposed to have been evacuated, with a party detached by Colonel Pepper, of the 3d regiment L. I. under Lieutenant-Colonel Conroy, did not succeed, with the loss of two Officers and ten men killed, two Officers and sixteen men wounded. I regret to say, that Lieutenant-Colonel Conroy, a most able and intelligent Officer, was killed, also Lieutenant Adams; Lieutenant Harvey wounded severely, Lieutenant Power slightly. I am in expectation that Colonel Pepper, with a reinforcement and guns, will have taken Setoung before he receives Sir A. Campbell's recall to Pegue, in consequence of the treaty of peace having been agreed to.

I have, &c.

W. SMELT, Lieut. Col.
Commanding Lower Provinces.

Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Pepper to Brigadier Smelt, commanding in the Lower Provinces, dated Camp, at Shoeegeen, 4th January 1826.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that this place fell into my hands yesterday, without opposition; indeed I found it completely deserted. Our preparations were all made for storming it, and it was not till reaching its base that I had the least idea of its being abandoned, as our route was opposed in several instances by parties in the jungles, who fired on our advance. It was particularly fortunate that by taking the route of Meckeoo, instead of the high road, I was enabled, by sending forward the 3d light infantry, to secure the whole of the boats at that place, and drawing off three hundred of the enemy to relieve the inhabitants, otherwise I should have found it most difficult, if not impossible, to have succeeded.

The resources of this province I have not yet been able to ascertain, but nothing indicates them to be great. There is little or no rice here, nor do I yet observe a single bandy or any number of cattle. Some of the people are returning, and I expect the whole will do so in a few days. Our march, for the most part was through bad roads, particularly the nearer we approached this, but the troops are in good health and excellent quarters.

Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Pepper to Brigadier Smelt, commanding in the Lower Provinces, dated Camp, Shoeegeen, 6th January 1826.

SINCE my letter to you of the 4th, I have the honour to acquaint you that a communication has

reached me from the Officer I left in command of the detachment at Meckeeo, stating that his post was attacked, on the morning of the 4th instant, by a party of the enemy, to the amount of four or five hundred men, from Setoung; that he was fortunate enough to beat them off, and with little injury to his own men, one only being wounded in the groin. The various calls I have for the services of my men, has forced on me the necessity of directing the party I left at Pegue to join me, and to escort the provisions, ammunition, &c. in store there to this place; but as there is little doubt of the fall of Setoung, Pegue requiring but a very small detail, a Native Officer's party I considered as sufficient, and therefore directed Captain Kitson to leave one, as well as the sick and convalescent men, and a native dresser to attend them.

Extract of a Letter from Brigadier Smelt to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, dated Rangoon, 13th January 1826.

THE sloop-of-war *Champion*, sailed on the 9th

instant, for Calcutta, with Captain Snodgrass on board, with dispatches to announce that Sir A. Campbell and the army reached Patnagoh, on the 27th ultimo, and that negotiations were opened with the Burmese Authorities on the 30th; and that a treaty of peace was agreed to between them and the Civil Commissioners, (by the latter of whom it was dictated), and signed on the 3d January 1826. The outline of the treaty is as follows:

“The cession of Assam and other states in that quarter; the four provinces of Arracan, the provinces on the coast of Tenaserim, viz. Ya, Tavoy, and Mergue. Moneypoor to be given to Gumber Sing, and one crore of rupees to be paid. The treaty is to be ratified by the King of Ava, and returned to the Commissioners at Meloun, with the European prisoners who may be at Ummerapoor, and three lacs of rupees, on or before the 18th instant. Some minor clauses regarding the good treatment of the Peguers, who may have joined or assisted the British during the war.”

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