

have appalled the enemy (though he was not entirely silenced for a considerable time). The details of this very animating scene will no doubt be fully reported by his Excellency Sir William Parker, together with the deviation from our pre-concerted plan of operation, occasioned by the steamers having all grounded, except the small steamer Medusa. The troops were thus prevented from participating with their gallant comrades of the navy in occupying the river line of batteries, which were by half-past seven o'clock in possession of the naval force.

The troops were not landed until twelve o'clock, when having understood that a portion of the enemy, said to be about 1500 men, had retreated on Paonshaw, I immediately moved on that town in two columns, having directed Major-General Schoedde to move his brigade in rear of the place, so as to intercept the governor of the province, who was reported to be in that town. Upon reaching it by the sea-line, I found it was in possession of Major-General Schoedde's brigade, who had entered it without opposition from the rear, the Chinese troops and the greater part of the population having fled when they found their retreat likely to be cut off, leaving every thing behind them, with about fifty guns, seventeen of which were brass.

The enemy's force consisted of 4000 to 5000 men, under Admiral Chin, who fell in the batteries, in which from forty to fifty dead bodies were found. A portion of this force is stated to have fallen back upon a city within ten miles of Paonshaw, and disbanded themselves; the remainder with the Governor had fled to Soochoo. We have taken altogether, at Woosung and Paonshaw, about 250 guns, with quantities of powder, shot, gingals, and other munitions of war, all of which have been destroyed, with the exception of the brass guns.

Woosung is a wretched village, and Paonshaw, although surrounded by a wall and rampart in good repair, is a poor place, and the country around it by no means so populous or so fertile as we have hitherto found in China. The Yang-tse-Keang is a magnificent river.

Having arranged with the Admiral to proceed to Shanghai, a large commercial town, about sixteen miles up the Woosung river, Sir William Parker pushed on the light ships of war on the 17th instant. Captain Watson, who was in command, finding the batteries six miles up the river deserted, occupied them, destroying the iron and embarking the brass guns. I propose that one column shall move along the left bank of the Woosung, while I proceed myself in the steamers, with the remainder of the force.

The 2d Madras Native Infantry, and detachments of artillery and sappers and miners, from that presidency, joined the fleet on the 17th; they will accompany the force to Shanghai.

I am most thankful to be able to inform your Lordship that sixteen of our kidnapped men, seven of whom are Europeans, have been restored to us by Elepoo, of whose letter*, in reply to the one addressed to him by the Admiral and myself, I beg

to enclose a translation. This act of reciprocal good feeling portends well.

I have, &c.

H. GOUGH, Lieut.-General, Commanding Expeditionary Land Force.

Head Quarters, Woosung,

June 18, 1842.

(True Copy.)

H. GOUGH, Lieut.-General.

(Copy.)

From his Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir H. Gough, K. G. C. B., Commanding Expeditionary Forces, to the Right Honourable Lord Stanley, Principal Secretary of State, Colonial Department, Dated, the 24th June 1842.

MY LORD,

MY letter of the 18th June will have informed your Lordship of the entrance of the combined forces into the Yang-tse-keang, and of the capture of Woosung and Paonshaw, together with the dismantling of the forts which command the entrance of the Woosung river leading to Shanghai, and opening a very extended water communication into the interior of this province (Kanguan).

2. On the 19th the troops were embarked on board the steamers, with the exception of one column, consisting of the details named in the margin*, which I was anxious should move, if found practicable, by a road that I understand to exist between Woosung and Shanghai, so as to reach at the same time with the steamers this latter city, where I was informed that from 4 to 5000 troops were stationed for its defence. By this movement I was in hopes to have intercepted their retreat, at all events to prevent the abduction of the valuable property as well as the public treasure. This column I placed under Lieutenant Colonel Montgomerie, Madras Artillery, in whose sound judgment and practical resources I had every confidence.

3. At eight o'clock the steamers got under weigh, and by two o'clock reached two small batteries within half a mile of Shanghai; these opened upon the steamers and the smaller ships of war which they had in tow, and after a few shots were evacuated, some of the retiring enemy falling in with a flanking party of the land column were fired on, but from the country being one sheet of paddy cultivation or swamp, they could not be captured. The steamers pushed on with the troops and landed them close to the city, but we found Lieutenant-Colonel Montgomerie in possession of the place. This Officer hearing the firing, and conceiving it was from the city on the shipping and troops, rapidly pushed forward with his advance, and found himself unexpectedly close to the city walls. No enemy shewing himself at this point he advanced to the North-gate, which he entered unopposed, having got some men over the walls to open it. It appears that the Chinese authorities and troops evacuated the city the preceding evening except a

* Detachment Madras H. A., Do. Royal Artillery, Do. Madras Do., 18th Royal Irish, 49th Regiment, Detachment Sappers and Miners, 4 Light Field Guns; about 1000 men.

* Enclosure not received.