



# The London Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1852.

*India Board, May 31, 1852.*

THE following Dispatches have been this day received at the East India House:

*The Governor-General of India in Council to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company.*

*Fort William, April 24, 1852.*

WE have the highest satisfaction in transmitting to you the enclosed copy of dispatches just received from his Excellency Rear-Admiral Austen, C.B and Lieutenant-General Godwin, commanding the Naval and Military Forces employed in Burmah.

2. They report the assault and capture of Martaban on the 5th, and of Rangoon on the 14th April, and announce the complete success of the combined operations of the army and fleet.

3. The necessity for immediately despatching this intelligence now by the last express which can safely be relied upon, renders it impossible for us to convey to your Honourable Committee our sentiments on the gratifying results which are announced, as fully as we desire to do. This duty we shall have the satisfaction of discharging by the ensuing Mail.

4. But we beg leave to take this earliest opportunity of assuring you that we feel we cannot use language too strong in making known to you our unqualified approbation of the admirable spirit which has been displayed in these combined operations of the naval and military forces, or express too warmly our gratitude to the Rear-Admiral and to the Lieutenant-General by whom the operations have been conducted, and to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of both services, who, as the several dispatches will show you, have so nobly performed their duty in the field.

We have, &c.  
DALHOUSIE.  
F. CURRIE.  
J. LOWIS.

*The Secretary to Rear-Admiral Austen to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

SIR,  
*Rattler, Rangoon River,  
April 2, 1852.*  
REFERRING to the seventh paragraph of the

instructions from the Indian Government to the Commander of the Forces, in which that functionary is desired before proceeding to Rangoon to ascertain by such means as may seem best through a flag of truce, whether any letter from the Court of Ava to the Government had been received, I have the honour by the desire of the Rear-Admiral Commander-in-Chief to state, for the information of the Governor-General, that the East India Company's steamer Proserpine was sent up the river with Captain Latta, Burmese interpreter, to the Governor of Dalla, to ascertain whether any letter had been received.

The steamer, with a flag of truce, was permitted to pass two stockades on the right bank of the river unmolested, but a third upon the left bank opened fire upon her.

In obedience to the instructions His Excellency had given her commander, she turned back; but as the flood tide was running very strong, this was a work of difficulty, and she had to remain for some time under fire, which she returned with shell and shot and blew up the stockade. The other two stockades then opened fire, but she succeeded in returning to the anchorage without damage, having been struck by only one shot from a 12-pounder gun.

I have, &c.,  
G. P. MARTIN.

*The Secretary to Rear-Admiral Austen to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

SIR,  
*Rattler, Rangoon River,  
April 10, 1852.*  
I HAVE the honour, by desire of the Rear-Admiral Commander-in-Chief, to enclose a return showing at one view the force assembled for proceeding against Burmah; together with a list of the transports employed.

I have, &c.  
G. P. MARTIN.

*Force employed in the Expedition against Burmah.*

Her Majesty's Ships.  
Rattler, Commander A. Mellersh, 130 men, 11 guns. Flag ship. Two guns received from Fox.

Fox, Commodore G. R. Lambert, 298 men, 40 guns. Two guns lent to Rattler, and 12 seamen to Maha Nuddie.  
 Hermes, Commander E. Fishbourne, 120 men, 6 guns.  
 Salamander, Commander J. S. Ellman, 135 men, 6 guns.  
 Serpent, Commander W. Luard, 125 men, 16 guns. Four guns received from Calcutta.  
 A gun boat, Mr. R. C. Copland, Acting Mate, 10 men, 1 gun.  
 Total—818 men, 80 guns.

#### Steamers of the Indian Navy.

Ferooz, Captain H. B. Lynch, 230 men, 7 guns. Senior officer.  
 Mozuffer, Commander H. H. Hewett, 230 men, 7 guns.  
 Zenobia, Commander A. Ball, 200 men, 6 guns.  
 Sesostris, Commander C. Campbell, 135 men, 4 guns.  
 Medusa, Lieutenant H. A. Fraser, 60 men, 5 guns.  
 Berenice, Lieutenant A. Nisbett, 97 men, 1 gun.  
 Total—952 men, 30 guns.

#### Uncovenanted Service.

Tenasserim, Captain W. Dicoy, 80 men, 6 guns.  
 Pluto, Captain C. Burbank, 86 men, 7 guns.  
 Phlegethon, Captain G. T. Neblett, 86 men, 6 guns.  
 Proserpine, Captain A. Brooking, 86 men, 6 guns.  
 Enterprize, Captain A. Fryer, 70 men, 2 guns.  
 Fire Queen, Captain H. Boon, 73 men, 2 guns.  
 Maha Nuddie, Lieutenant G. W. Rice, R.N. in temporary charge, 22 men, 4 guns. Tender to Fox. 12 men received from Fox.  
 Total—500 men, 33 guns.

#### Troops.

Her Majesty's 18th Royal Irish	...	850 men.
"    51st Regiment	...	900 "
"    80th do.	...	460 "
Five companies of Artillery	...	517 "
Three regiments of Native Infantry	...	2800 "
Gun Lascars	...	70 "
Two companies of Sappers and Miners	...	170 "
Total	...	5767 men.

#### Ordnance.

Howitzers,—8-inch, 2; 24-pounders, 6;  
 Guns,—9-pounders, 8; Total, 16 guns.  
 Ships of war, 19; men, 8037; guns, 159.

*The Secretary to Rear-Admiral Austen to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

*Rattler, Rangoon River, April 9, 1852.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to request you will be pleased to inform the Governor-General, that, agreeably with the intencion expressed in my letter of the 25th ultimo, the Rear-Admiral Commander-in-Chief hoisted his flag on board Her Majesty's steam sloop Rattler, and, accompanied by Her Majesty's steam sloop Salamander, left Penang on the 28th of March.

On the 1st of April, his Excellency arrived off the mouth of the Rangoon River, where he found lying Her Majesty's ships Fox and Serpent, the East India Company's steamers Phlegethon and Proserpine, three transports, and the ship taken from the

King of Ava. On the following morning the steamers and transports named in the margin\* arrived from Calcutta with the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces on board, and the Salamander came in shortly after.

The Proserpine was sent to Moulmein the same day to give notice of projected movements; and on the 3rd instant, the Rattler, bearing his Excellency's flag, the Hermes, with the Commander of the Forces on board, and the Salamander, sailed for Moulmein. Receiving troops on board there, to the number of fifteen hundred, the squadron proceeded off Martaban, and assisted at the capture of that place on the 5th instant, the particulars of which the Commander of the Forces will have the honour of communicating to his lordship. The Hermes grounded too far off to be of much use. The Salamander, owing to her draught of water, could not come so near as was desirable; nevertheless the shelling was most effective. The Rattler took up an admirable position, two hundred and fourteen yards from the stockades: her shot and shell did much execution. The Proserpine, admirably managed by her able commander (whom his Excellency would beg to bring under favourable notice), received the troops from the larger steamers and landed them, and at the same time kept up a constant fire upon the stockades. The only casualties that occurred in the squadron were on board the Rattler, where one seaman was wounded in the arm, and two of the Madras Native Infantry.

On the 7th instant eleven hundred European troops, with camp followers, baggage, &c. were embarked in the squadron, and the transport Jessie, and all sailed for the rendezvous, arriving on the 8th instant.

The steamers and transports named in the margin† had arrived at the rendezvous, and arrangements are this day being made for an advance upon Rangoon.

The Rear-Admiral will have the honour of communicating future proceedings as opportunities occur.

I have, &c.

G. P. MARTIN.

*The Secretary to Rear Admiral Austen, to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

*Rattler, Rangoon River,*

*April 9, 1852.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, by desire of the Rear-Admiral Commander in Chief, that, in compliance with an arrangement entered into between the Lieutenant-General Commander of the Forces and his Excellency, Commodore G. R. Lambert, in Her Majesty's ship Fox, ascended this river, in force, on the 4th instant, for the purpose of destroying the stockades below Rangoon; thus clearing the way for the advance of the squadron.

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter ‡ from the Commodore, reporting the execution of this service in a manner which, in the opinion of the Rear-Admiral, must meet with approval.

I have, &c.

GEO. P. MARTIN.

\* H. M.'s steam sloop Hermes. E. I. C. steamers, Fire Queen, Enterprize, Tenasserim. Transports, Tubal Cain, Julia, Monarch, Lahore.

† Steamers—Feroze, Sesostris, Mozuffer, Zenobia, Berenice, Medusa. Transports—Rockliff, Hemsyke, Atalanta, Sir Thos. Gresham.

‡ 6th April 1852.

*Commodore G. R. Lambert to His Excellency  
Rear Admiral C. J. Austen, C.B.*

*Fox, in the Rangoon River,  
April 9, 1852.*

SIR,

IN pursuance of the instructions I had received from your Excellency, I proceeded up the Rangoon River on the afternoon of the 4th instant, taking under my orders Her Majesty's sloop *Serpent*, and the *Tenasserim* and *Phlegethon*, steamers belonging to the East India Company, with three companies of H. M. 18th Regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Coote. I anchored off the Bassein Creek the same evening.

At daylight on the morning of the 5th I again weighed and went up the river, having previously given direction to Commander Luard, with the *Serpent* and *Phlegethon*, which I placed under his orders, with one company of the 18th Regiment, to attack and destroy the De Silva Stockade; which service he most effectually performed.

I proceeded myself with the *Fox* and *Tenasserim* to the Dunnout, and a new stockade that had recently been erected, nearly opposite on the other side of the river; as we approached, the enemy opened an ill regulated fire on us, (two of their shot striking the *Fox*,) which was soon silenced by Her Majesty's ship and the steamer. The troops and the marines of the *Fox* were then landed, and by the evening both stockades were burnt, and the whole force re-embarked without any casualty.

I have great satisfaction in stating that the energy and good feeling displayed by both services in performing this duty was such as to meet my highest approval, and I have to express my thanks for the assistance I received from Lieutenant-Colonel Coote and Commanders Tarleton and Luard, as well as from the Commanders of the East India Company's steam vessels of war *Tenasserim* and *Phlegethon*.

I have, &c.

G. R. LAMBERT.

*The Secretary to Rear-Admiral Austen to the  
Secretary to the Government of India.*

*Rattler, at Rangoon,  
April 16, 1852.*

SIR,

IN continuation of my letter of the 9th instant, reporting, for the information of the Governor-General of India, the proceedings of the naval squadron employed in these waters, I have the honour further to report, by desire of the Rear-Admiral Commander-in-Chief, that, on the 10th instant, the ships, steamers, and transports commenced an advance up the river, and anchored below the Hastings Shoal that evening.

The *Zenobia* had been sent a part of the way up on the day previous, for the purpose of watering, but grounding on the De Silva Shoal, was unfortunately unable to get out of her difficulties in time to take a part in the proceedings against Rangoon.

A copy of the Rear-Admiral's order to advance is annexed,\* by which it will be seen that it was intended on the following morning (Easter Sunday) to anchor above the shoal, but out of the range of fire from the enemy. I have the honour also to enclose a copy of the General Order† for the proceedings of the squadron while off Rangoon. Some alteration had, however, to be made in the

\* 10th April 1852.

† 11th April.

arrangements proposed. It was found that there would not be room for all the ships to anchor above the shoal out of gunshot, without a risk of their grounding, and it was for some time debated whether the squadron should remain below the shoal until Monday, or advance on the Sunday morning to take up their positions off Rangoon, and risk the commencement of the action on that day. The tides and other causes decided the authorities on adopting the latter course, and accordingly the shoal was crossed on the morning of the 11th by each ship as the water served. When the first vessels had anchored above it, the Dagon Pagoda fired several guns, apparently with a view to call in the people. Upon the East India Company's steamers *Feroze*, *Moozuffer*, and *Sesostris*, taking up their positions, fire was opened upon them from the stockades on either side, which was returned with shot and shell. In the course of an hour an explosion took place, the importance of which was only afterwards discovered. It was that of a stockade mounting nine 18-pounder guns, well planted, and would doubtless have done great mischief to our shipping, if not thus accidentally silenced so early. Upon the *Fox* advancing to take up her position, she poured effective broadsides into the stockades on both sides of the river. After consulting the Lieutenant-General Commander of the Forces, the boats of the *Fox* landed with a party of seamen and marines and a company of the 18th Royal Irish, and, under cover of the ships' guns, stormed two stockades on the Dalla side. Although a rapid fire of musketry was kept up from many hundreds of the enemy in these defences, yet this service was happily effected with but one man wounded on our side. Her Majesty's sloop *Serpent* and the East India Company's steamer *Phlegethon* then passed up the river, and anchored above *Kemmendine*, in order to capture the war-boats, and to prevent fire-rafts being sent down upon the squadron. The *Rattler* and *Tenasserim* next advanced along the line, and succeeded in silencing three more stockades. The party before alluded to in the boats of the *Fox*, and a few seamen, with thirty of the Royal Irish, from the *Rattler*, stormed another on the Dalla side, driving hundreds of the enemy out of it into the jungle. All the stockades that had been taken were then set fire to and burnt in succession. The ships returned to their respective positions, in readiness to land the troops, which commenced at four o'clock on the morning of the 12th, without opposition from the enemy. It was discovered that the Dagon Pagoda was not so far from the ships as was laid down in the charts, being at a good shelling distance; the ships accordingly commenced throwing shells into it. In the course of the evening a magazine blew up, and the outskirts of the pagoda were set on fire in several directions, creating great confusion among the enemy. Shells were occasionally thrown from the ships on the 13th instant, during the day and night, frequently setting fire to the stockades in various places. On the afternoon of that day a large party of men, with two elephants and riders, were seen to leave the pagoda. It was afterwards understood that this was the Governor of Rangoon, who had quitted the pagoda in despair of being able to hold it.

It will be the pleasing duty of the Commander of the Forces to report the advance of the troops and the gallant storming of the White Stockade, about half-a-mile from the landing-place, and ultimately the storming and capture of the Dagon Pagoda. The Rear-Admiral desires further to observe that he leaves to the Lieutenant-General

to report upon the conduct of the small naval brigade, composed as per margin\*, under the command of Senior Lieutenant J. W. Dorville of the flag-ship, employed with the forces upon this occasion, in the utmost confidence that ample justice will be done to them.

Enclosed is a list of the casualties that took place in the squadron while employed upon this service, and his Excellency desires to remark, that it is a subject not less of surprise than thankfulness that so few have taken place on the occasion.

I am, &c.

G. P. MARTIN.

GENERAL MEMORANDUM.

*To the Captains and Commanders of Her Majesty's ships and vessels and the East India Company's steamers, in the Rangoon River.*

*Rattler, Rangoon River, April 10, 1852.*

IT having been determined that the squadron of steamers and transports shall commence their advance up the Rangoon River at 1:30 P.M. of this day, it is my direction that the following arrangements be observed.

The steamers will, at the hour above named, take in tow the ships and transports expressed against their names.

Tenasserim.—Her Majesty's ship Fox.  
Enterprise.—King of Ava's ship.  
Fire Queen.—Tubal Cain, Lahore.  
Moozuffer.—Atalanta, Rockcliff.  
Feroz.—Sir Thomas Gresham, Hempsyke.  
Sesostris.—Futtee Allum, Fatle Rozaek.  
Zenobia.—Bengal, Monarch.  
Berenice.—Juliana.  
Salamander.—Jessie.

The steamers not named will take up their positions in the advance as convenient.

The gun-boat has been placed at the end of the De Silva shoal to mark its position. Her Majesty's sloop Serpent and the East India Company's steamer Phlegethon have been sent to place themselves in mid-channel off the Hastings Sand, in order to point it out.

It is intended that the squadron shall anchor this evening in two divisions at the lower end of the Hastings Shoal; the first to consist of Her Majesty's ships and the East India Company's steamers from Calcutta, anchoring with their transports on the starboard hand; the second division, to consist of the steamers of the Indian Navy, under the immediate charge of Captain Lynch, with their transports, are to anchor on the port hand.

The following forenoon, upon the signal to weigh being given, the steamers, with their ships and transports in tow, will proceed across the Hastings Sand, and anchor above the shoal, but not so far up as to be within range of fire from the stockades.

Directions for future movements will hereafter be given.

Particular attention is to be paid to signals, and an officer on board each ship is to be appointed to this important duty.

C. J. AUSTEN, Rear-Admiral.

\* Rattler.—Senior Lieutenant J. W. Dorville, commanding; Mr. T. S. Gooch, mate (second in command); Mr. O. J. Llewellyn, acting assistant-surgeon; 30 able seamen (10 lent from Hastings).

Hermes.—Mr. E. A. Tweeddale, mate, and 40 seamen.  
Salamander.—Mr. W. H. Nurse, acting mate, and 30 seamen.

GENERAL MEMORANDUM.

*To the Captains and Commanders of Her Majesty's ships and vessels, and the East India Company's steamers in the Rangoon River.*

*Rattler, Rangoon River, March 11, 1852.*

THE Captains, Commanders, and Commanding Officers of Her Majesty's ships and vessels, and of the East India Company's steamers under my orders, are hereby informed of the proposed arrangements for the contemplated attack upon Rangoon.

At 4:30 A.M. to-morrow, the steamers will weigh and proceed to take up their positions off Rangoon in the following order:—

East India Company's steamers—Zenobia (headmost up the river), Moozuffer, Sesostris, Feroz.

Her Majesty's ships—Fox (Commodore's broad pendant), Rattler (flag ship), Hermes (head quarters), Salamander.

The especial duty of the East India Company's steamers, Tenasserim, Enterprise, Medusa, Pluto, and Maha Nuddie, will be to assist in landing the troops, by towing the boats on shore, and in such other manner as they will from time to time be directed.

The Fire Queen is to take up a position close to the flag ship, as a tender to her and the head quarters, but, upon the signal to land being given, she is to draw near the ship King of Ava, to assist in landing her troops.

The order in which it is proposed landing the men and guns comprising the land force, is as follows:—

First, Her Majesty's 51st Regiment.—Ex Feroz, 515; ex Sesostris, 380; total, 895.

Second, Her Majesty's 18th Royal Irish.—Ex Fox, 115; ex Tenasserim, 102; ex Maha Nuddie, 81; ex Hermes, 300; ex Rattler, 100; ex Fatel Rozaek, 96; total, 794.

Third, the 40th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry.—Ex Enterprise, 270; ex Fire Queen, 240; ex King's Ship, 550; total 1060.

The Artillery and Park will be landed at this time in long-boats belonging to the transports, and towed by the Medusa and ships' boats.

Artillery.—Ex Hermes, 120; ex Bengal, 120; ex Berenice, 277; total, 517.

Ordnance.—Ex Berenice, two 24-pound howitzers, four 9-pounders; ex Lahore, two 24-pound howitzers, four 9-pounders; ex Hermes, two 24-pound howitzers.

Park.—Ex Salamander, Sappers and Miners, 160; ex Hermes, one boat for ladders and powder bags; ex Monarch, one boat for tools and materials.

There are also a few ladders on board the Fox, Monarch, Tenasserim, and Phlegethon, which it is desirable to be landed.

Finally, the Madras Infantry will be landed.

9th Regiment Madras Native Infantry.—Ex Moozuffer, 583; ex Medusa, 100; total, 683.

35th Regiment Madras Native Infantry.—Ex Zenobia, 350; ex Sir Thomas Gresham, 350; total 700.

Commander E. G. Fishbourne, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop Hermes, is to be on shore at the spot which will be pointed out to him by the Commander of the Forces, to superintend the landing of the troops, and from which place a white ensign will be hoisted, as a signal to the boats as the place at which to land.

Captain H. B. Lynch, Senior Officer of the Indian Navy, will make the necessary arrangements for the debarkation of Her Majesty's 51st Foot, by means of the boats of the steamers under his immediate orders. The boats are to be alongside of the steamers containing that regiment, in readiness to take them on shore directly the signal to land is given, which will be a white ensign hoisted from head-quarters, and repeated along the line.

The Commodore undertakes the arrangement for debarking Her Majesty's 18th Royal Irish, and will issue the necessary directions for this purpose, as also for the landing of the Artillery and Park.

The landing of the 40th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry is to be superintended by Commander J. S. Ellman, of Her Majesty's steam sloop Salamander, which will be accomplished by his own boats, assisted by the Medusa.

The Madras Native Infantry will finally be landed by the small steamers and the boats of the squadron, after their duties, before detailed, have been executed.

The troops having been landed, and the stockades having been silenced by the fire from the squadron, a party of seamen and marines will probably be directed by signal (a white ensign from the flag ship to be repeated along the line), to land from each ship, armed with pistols and cutlasses only, under the charge of a Lieutenant; the whole to be commanded by Commander Tarleton, of Her Majesty's ship Fox.

The vessels are not to land more men than will enable them in their absence to work the guns.

It is necessary that particular directions be given as to the necessity of keeping a vigilant look-out for signals. Any that should not be answered at once by the ship or ships indicated, are to be repeated by the other vessels.

The troops are to be landed with one day's provisions in their knapsacks.

C. J. AUSTEN, Rear-Admiral.

*A List of Casualties that took place on board Her Majesty's ships and vessels, and the East India Company's steamers, under the orders of Rear-Admiral C. J. Austen, C.B. during the operations against Rangoon and Dalla, 11th—14th April 1852.*

*Fox.*

Henry White, marine, burnt from gunpowder in stockade, not severe.

James Minton, boatswain's mate, burnt from explosion of a gun, not severe.

Charles Pittis, A.B., accidentally drowned on boat service.

Thomas Working, private 18th R.I., shot through parietes of the chest, not severe.

*Hermes.*

William Chapman, stoker, wounded, dangerously.  
Geo. J. Whitehead, ordinary, wounded, right arm amputated.

Henry Thompson, A.B., wounded, slightly.

William H. Parker, A.B., wounded, slightly.

John Jussett, A.B., wounded, slightly.

George Wright, A.B., Coup de soleil.

*Salamander.*

John Chapman, stoker, gun-shot wound in left leg; has since undergone amputation of the

*Feroze.*

Michael Moore, gunner, Artillery, gun-shot wound in right breast, severe.

*Moozuffer.*

Two seamen, wounded, slightly.

Five privates, 9th Regiment, M.N.I., wounded severely.

*Sesostris.*

Ensign Armstrong, H.M.'s 51st Regiment, wounded, mortally, at 10:30 A.M., died at 1:30 P.M.

*Tenasserim.*

William Poole, A.B., blown away from after pivot gun, gun exploded while loading.

*Serpent.*

Mr. C. Sproull, assistant-surgeon, and 7 seamen, wounded.

*Rattler.*

Mr. L. Campbell, boatswain, wounded, slightly.

Francis Skinner, wounded, slightly.

G. P. MARTIN, Secretary.

*Rear-Admiral C. Jno. Austen, to the Governor-General of India in Council.*

*Rattler, at Rangoon,*

MY LORD MARQUIS,

16th April, 1852.

WHILE congratulating your Lordship on the success that has hitherto attended the expedition against Burmah, in the storming and capture of the strongholds of Martaban and Rangoon, I trust your Lordship will permit me to bring under notice the support that I have received from all the officers and men under my command, forming the naval part of the expedition. The embarking and disembarking the troops, baggage, and military stores, the arrangements for the transports and for victualling the combined forces, have furnished almost incessant night and day work for the officers and men under my orders. It has been done on all sides with the utmost cheerfulness, and this large force has been moved up a rapid river, without any accident of moment having occurred; and I have, up to the present time, to thank every officer and man employed under my orders for the cheerful manner in which they have undergone so much toil in this distressing climate.

To the Commodore I feel under especial obligation. His local knowledge proved valuable, as his judgment and discretion were most useful. It would be impossible to value the services of an officer, second in command, more highly than I do those of the Commodore.

Captain Lynch, senior officer of the Indian Navy, has, by his ability, judgment, and discretion, rendered essential service.

Commander Mellersh of my flag ship, and Commanders Fishbourne and Tarleton, have rendered every possible assistance in carrying out all necessary arrangements. I was an eye-witness to Commander Tarleton's bravely leading his men to storm a stockade, to his being the first to mount the walls, and enter it. Commander Luard, of Her Majesty's sloop *Serpent*, has been employed many months in these waters. A more zealous and indefatigable officer is not to be met with, and, relying upon his ability, he has frequently been placed in charge of responsible duties. With the

assistance of the East India Company's steamer *Phlegethon*, commanded by G. T. Neblett, Esq. He destroyed the De Silva stockades. When the action on the 11th of April commenced, he passed along the line of fire in the sloop under his command, to above Kemmendine, for the purpose of preventing the removal of the war-boats; and while on this service he was attacked by a very important stockade, and an officer (Mr. C. Sproull, Assistant-Surgeon,) and seven of his men were wounded, but which he ultimately succeeded in silencing. Before the commencement of the war he took great pains in surveying the coast and river, and his information was afterwards of great use.

The Commanders and officers of the Indian Navy and of the East India Company's uncovenanted service have, without a single exception, performed their duties with all possible alacrity. Commander Brooking, of the *Proserpine*, had at Martaban an opportunity of particularly distinguishing himself, of which he took good care to avail himself, and it is with great regret that I found myself under the necessity of leaving him at Moulmein for the protection of British interests, and thus losing his valuable services here.

Lieutenant George Rice, in temporary command of the *Maha Nuddie*, rendered essential service to the cause, admirably handling his little vessel; he landed men on the beach to storm stockades, covering their landing with his own guns, and at the storming of them he was to be seen among the foremost ranks. In landing men, stores, and baggage, and ascending the narrow creeks of this river, the *Maha Nuddie* has proved most useful.

Senior Lieutenant Dorville, of my flag ship, commanded the naval brigade at the capture of Rangoon, and from the flattering manner in which the Commander of the Forces has been pleased to speak of his services, I feel assured he must be honourably mentioned in the Lieutenant-General's dispatches.

Among those that have fallen victims in the service of their country upon this occasion, it is my painful duty to record that of the Rev. Thomas T. Baker, Chaplain of Her Majesty's ship *Fox*. Incessantly employed in administering to the wounded and dying, and in burying the dead, he fell a victim to the prevailing epidemic, cholera, on the 16th instant, leaving, I am informed, a widow and young family, who were wholly dependent on him for support.

I was an eye-witness to the indefatigable exertions of Dr. Minter, Surgeon of the *Fox*, at the hospital on shore and on board the *Tubal Cain*. Dr. Montgomery, Superintending Surgeon, expressed himself to me as being under the greatest obligations to him for his assistance. In addition to the duties performed by Dr. Minter at the hospital, he had those of his own ship to attend to, where the cholera had broken out with some virulence. Mr. Seccombe, Assistant-Surgeon of the *Hermes*, was also employed at the hospital on shore.

In conclusion, I beg to remark that the whole conduct of the officers and men under my orders, employed on the present expedition, has been such as reflects much credit on themselves and on the services to which they respectively belong.

I have, &c.

CHAS. JNO. AUSTEN, Rear-Admiral.

*Lieutenant-General H. Godwin, C.B., commanding the Forces in Ava, Arracan, and Tenasserim, to C. Allen, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India.*

SIR,

Moulmein, April 6, 1852.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Governor-General in Council, that the force under my command left the Sand Heads on the 28th of March, for the Rangoon River, the place of rendezvous for the combined force from Bengal and Madras, where it arrived on the 2nd of April.

In obedience to my instructions, a flag of truce was immediately sent up to Rangoon, to enquire if any communication had arrived from the Court of Ava, in reply to the terms sent up to the Burmese Government, for the adjustment of the violences committed on the subjects of Her Majesty by the authorities at Rangoon: the flag was in charge of Captain Latter, of the Bengal army, and conveyed in the East India Company's steamer *Proserpine*, Commander Brooking.

On reaching the stockades that guarded the river on both its banks, the flag was fired on, and it was only by the excellent arrangement and brave conduct of Commander Brooking that his ship extricated herself, inflicting on the enemy a severe chastisement, by blowing up a powder magazine and destroying many men.

I found, on my arrival at the rendezvous, that the Madras division had not made its appearance, nor were there tidings of it, so that I resolved to go to Moulmein and make arrangements for the capture of Martaban.

In the Rangoon River I found that Rear-Admiral Austen, C.B., the naval Commander-in-Chief, had just arrived from Penang, in Her Majesty's steamer *Rattler*. His Excellency and Commodore Lambert immediately came on board the *Hermes*, Commander Fishbourne, in which I had my head-quarters, when it was agreed, in conference, that the Admiral would accompany me to Moulmein with Her Majesty's steamers *Hermes*, *Rattler*, and *Salamander*,—sending in advance to the mouth of the Martaban River the East India Company's steamer *Proserpine*. We accordingly left the Rangoon River at day break on the 3rd of April; reached Moulmein the next day at noon. Orders were immediately issued for the troops to be in readiness for embarkation by 4 P.M., and by 9 that evening a wing of Her Majesty's 18th Royal Irish, a wing of Her Majesty's 80th Regiment, a wing of the 26th Madras Native Infantry, with detachments of Bengal European Artillery, and Madras Sappers—in all about 1400 men—were on board.

Martaban stands on a noble sheet of water, with a river line of defences of about 800 yards. Inland lies a large pagoda, a wall running along the whole front, with an ascent from the water's edge of about 500 feet, on the top of which small pagodas stand, the slope being partially covered with fine trees and close jungle.

Arrangements were made for the attack at day break of the 5th. The Rear-Admiral made every disposition possible, in waters full of shoals and violent currents, for bombarding the position with his five steamers, and to cover the landing of the troops. It was the admiration of every one to witness the noble manner the *Rattler* worked her way within 200 yards of the wall, and close to the pagoda, doing tremendous execution. I changed from the *Rattler* at six o'clock, to superintend the landing of the troops, and went on board the *Proserpine*, a smaller vessel, with my staff. Colonel Reigolds commanded the attack. At half-past

six the steamer opened fire, and at seven the troops were in the boats, and landed, by the indefatigable exertions of Commander Brooking, under a smart fire of musketry and guns. Soon was the storming party under the walls, and over them, with less loss than I thought possible. Lieutenant-Colonel Reignolds immediately ascended to the pagodas on the height, and took possession of them, after some skirmishing with the enemy.

At 8 A.M. Martaban was won; and, considering the enemy's position and numbers, which report gives at 5000 men, we have got it very cheaply.

I have to ask his Lordship's and the Council of India's best consideration of the services of Lieutenant-Colonel Reignolds of the 18th Royal Irish, to whom is due the credit of this day's endurance of severe fatigue and privation under a burning sun.

To Captain Gillespie, in command of the Grenadiers of the 18th Royal Irish, whom I saw first on the wall, the soldier following him receiving three wounds, to Captain Campbell who commanded the wing of the 18th Royal Irish, to Major Lockhart in command of the wing of the 80th Foot, to Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson, commanding the wing of the 26th Regiment Madras Native Infantry, and to Captain Rundall, commanding the detachment of Madras Sappers and Miners, my warm approbation is due.

I beg also to recommend to the consideration of His Lordship in Council, the Assistant-Adjutant-General of the Force, Captain Mayhew, whose exertions during the disembarkation of the troops tended greatly to its success, as also my Aides-de-Camp, Lieutenant Chads, of Her Majesty's 64th Regiment, and Lieutenant Lambert, of the 56th Bengal Native Infantry, son of the Commodore, who were highly useful to me during the whole day.

Major Fraser, the Commanding Engineer of the Force, and Major Turton, in command of the Bengal Artillery, were with me the whole day, but from the nature of the operations, their particular services were not called into play, though they had made every disposition for the efficiency of their respective departments.

It will be obvious from the foregoing how greatly the success of the operations I have detailed has depended on the cooperation of the sister branch of the service. His Excellency Rear-Admiral Austen, C.B. has throughout afforded me the most cordial assistance. Her Majesty's steamers Rattler, Hermes, and Salamander, worked in concert with the troops throughout the day.

On my departure to-morrow, I intend to take with me to the Rangoon River the wings of the 18th and 80th Regiments, and the Company of Bengal Artillery, and the detachment of Madras Sappers and Miners doing duty at Moulmein.

In conjunction with Lieutenant-Colonel Bogle, the Commissioner of these provinces, I have put the 26th Madras Native Infantry and a Company of European Madras Artillery, with a suitable battery of guns, as a garrison at Martaban, relievable from Moulmein, when it may be thought desirable.

In addition to which a war steamer has been placed by the Naval Commander-in-Chief on the station. These arrangements are I think adequate to the protection of the place, and will I trust meet with the approbation of the Government of India.

In conclusion, I beg to remark that I am greatly indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel Bogle, who ac-

companied me during the whole of the operations of the 5th, and was from his local knowledge of much use to me.

I have, &c.

HENRY GODWIN.

*Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing at the attack and capture of Martaban, on the 5th April 1852.*

*Assistant Adjutant-General's Office,  
Rangoon, 17th April, 1852.*

Her Majesty's 18th Royal Irish Regiment of Foot—7 rank and file, wounded.

26th Regiment Madras Native Infantry—1 havildar, wounded.

Total, 1 havildar, 7 rank and file, wounded.

Warrant and non-commissioned officers, rank and file, 8 wounded.

Grand total of killed, wounded, and missing, 8.

W. MAYHEW, Capt. Assistant Adjutant-General of the Forces.

*Lieutenant-General H. Godwin, C.B., to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

*Head-Quarters, Rangoon,  
April 18, 1852.*

SIR,

ON my return from Martaban on the 8th of April, I had the satisfaction to find the Madras division had arrived on the previous day, so that no time had been lost by my going to Martaban.

It was arranged that, during my absence at Moulmein, Commodore Lambert should, on the 5th instant, aided by some troops, destroy the stockades on the Rangoon River, which had long been troublesome, and had fired on the flag of truce. This had been so effectually performed as to leave hardly a sign of where the stockade had stood.

I shall now have the satisfaction of acquainting you, for the information of the Governor-General in Council, of the proceedings of this force, inclusive of the capture of the Great Dagon Pagoda at Rangoon, and the consequent fall of all around it.

The 9th of April I devoted to making every disposition for the landing of the troops, and to becoming acquainted with the heads of the departments of the Madras Division. I informed the Admiral, on the evening of that day, that my preparations were complete, and his Excellency proceeded up the river next day, close off Rangoon. On the 11th the Admiral moved opposite the old town, with the intention, the next morning, to bombard the whole line of stockades on both banks of the river; but some of the flotilla getting very near the shore were fired on, which brought on a return from our side, and ended in the general destruction of the whole line of defences, though the fire of the enemy proved fatal to many on board the shipping. The Admiral and Commodore took a most distinguished part in the operations, landing and setting fire to all around them. This powerful attack, from the steam-frigates of both Her Majesty's and the East India Company's navy, completely cleared the ground for nearly a mile for our landing. On Monday the 12th, at daybreak, the troops were ready, and by about 7 I had landed Her Majesty's 51st Light Infantry, the 18th Royal Irish, the 40th Bengal Native Infantry, and part of my Artillery. The Bengal guns, under Major Reid, were ordered to move in advance, covered by four companies of the 51st Light Infantry. They had not

proceeded far, however, when on opening some rising ground to our right, guns opened on us, and shortly after skirmishers showed themselves in the jungle. This was a new mode of fighting with the Burmese; no instance having occurred last war of their attacking our flanks, or leaving their stockades, that I remember ever to have taken place. I make this remark as they are now not only good shots, but bold in their operations, and clever in selecting their ground and covering themselves. Our casualties for the past three days will prove it—our dress exposing us, and their garb and colour concealing them.

On looking at the stockade whence the fire came, I perceived it was a strong work, which used to be called in the last war the White House Picquet, a very strong position, and just in the way of our advance. A battery of four guns was immediately opened on it by Majors Reid and Oakes, the whole being under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Foord, Commandant of that arm. The fire of these guns was very effective. A storming party was formed of four companies of the 51st Light Infantry, under Lieutenant-Colonel St. Maur, with the Madras Sappers, under Major H. Fraser, Commanding Engineer, and advanced under cover of a jungle, on getting through which the musketry was so steady and effective from the stockades and adjoining buildings, that a great many of our party were killed and wounded; amongst whom were several officers. I have to deplore the temporary loss of Lieutenant-Colonel Bogle, the Commissioner of the Tenasserim Provinces, who was very bravely attending the army to witness its operation. Major Fraser took the ladders to the stockade most gallantly, and alone mounted the defences of the enemy, where his example soon brought around him the storming party, which carried the stockade, but at very severe loss on our part.

It was my intention to move on to the main object of our operations; but on looking around me at the complete exhaustion of the storming party, it now being 11 o'clock, under a sun that may be understood since Major Oakes of the Madras Artillery was struck down by it at his battery, and died. Brevet Major Griffith, Madras Army, whilst conveying an order, died on the road. Lieutenant-Colonel Foord, Commandant of Artillery, was nearly a victim to the heat, and obliged to quit the field; Brigadier Warren and Lieutenant-Colonel St. Maur also suffered greatly; so that, under such destruction, I resolved to halt where I was, and to concentrate the force in as strong a position as the country admitted of. We were teased by parties of the enemy hovering around us till the night closed, when all was quiet under the protection of our guns, which had been brought up to the front.

On Tuesday the 13th it was reported the heavy battery guns could not be landed and with me before the middle of that day, and also that rations for the troops could not be prepared in time to enable me to advance. I, therefore, held my position till the next morning.

His Lordship in Council knows well the spot where I proposed to force my way into the Great Pagoda; and the road I was about to move on entirely turned all the defences of this real stronghold. The present position of Rangoon is entirely altered since the last war; within a few years the old town, which stood on the river bank, has been utterly destroyed, its bricks now lying in heaps on its site. A new town has been formed about a mile and a quarter from the river; it is nearly a square, with a bund or mud wall about sixteen feet high and eight broad; a ditch runs along each

side of the square, and on the north side, where the Pagoda stands, it has been very cleverly worked into the defences, to which it forms a sort of citadel. The distance from the Pagoda to the south entrance of the town is about three quarters of a mile, and it is something more than that breadth from east to west. The old road from the river to the Pagoda comes up to the South Gate, running through the new town, and it was by this road the Burmese had settled that we should attack it, and where they had made every preparation to receive us, having armed the defences with nearly a hundred pieces of cannon and other missiles, and with a garrison of at least 10,000 men. The attempt to assault on this side would, I am convinced, from the steady way the Burmese defend their works, have cost us half our force.

On Wednesday the 14th the troops were under arms at 5 A.M., all in as fine a temper as ever men were. Our march was to the north-west, through thick jungle; four light guns, 9-pounders, their flanks protected by two companies of Her Majesty's 80th Regiment, the rest of the wing of that corps following, with two more guns, and the 18th Royal Irish and the 40th Bengal Native Infantry formed the advance. The 51st Light Infantry and the 35th Madras Native Infantry were in reserve; the 9th Madras Native Infantry keeping open the communication with the shipping. We proceeded in this order for about a mile, when we opened the Great Pagoda, and its fire was turned on us. An excellent position for two guns was taken by Major Turton to our left flank, these were left under the command of Major Montgomery of the Madras Artillery, who served them well. The ground to the front getting very difficult barely admitted of the 80th and Royal Irish occupying it in close order. We had now completely turned the enemy's position, having passed their stockaded town, and got opposite the east side of the Great Pagoda, our main object. Major Turton informed me, that he had a favourable position to place in battery his heavy guns; but it took some time to bring them up, a service in which the navy brigade of about 120 men, under the command of Lieutenant Dorville, of Her Majesty's frigate Fox, assisted by the Artillery, rendered their invaluable aid, under a heavy fire of guns and wall pieces from the Great Pagoda and town, from which they suffered severely. Whilst this was going on, the enemy's artillery had got the range of our crowded position, and their skirmishers had somewhat closed upon us, and it took 500 men to keep down their fire. The practice of the heavy battery under Major Back was very effective. My intention was to have stormed the Pagoda at noon, but at a little after 11, Captain Latter, of the Bengal Army, my interpreter, assured me he felt confident, from what he could see of the east entrance of the Pagoda, on which our battery was playing, that the entrance was clear, and that he was prepared to show the way. As our people were dropping fast where we stood, I determined on an immediate assault. The storming party was formed of the wing of Her Majesty's 80th Regiment, under Major Lockhart, two companies of the Royal Irish under Lieutenant Hewitt, and of two companies of the 40th Bengal Native Infantry, under Lieutenant White, the whole commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Coote, of the 18th Royal Irish, Captain Latter accompanying the party to show the road. The advance to the east entrance of the Pagoda was of about 800 yards which the troops crossed in a most steady manner, under the fire of the walls crowded with



the enemy, the remainder of the force following closely. When the storming party reached the steps a tremendous rush was made to the upper terrace, and a deafening cheer told that the Pagoda no longer belonged to the Burmese. The enemy ran in confusion from the southern and western gates, where they were met by the fire of the steamers. All the country around has fallen with the Pagoda; and Junderstand, the once strong post of Kemmendine, has been abandoned and destroyed.

In this united service there has been not only a cordial cooperation between the army and navy, but so much good-heartedness, that their joint efforts have tended to secure the rapid success of this expedition. I cannot presume to say of Rear-Admiral Austen, C. B. commanding the Navy, more than to express my admiration and respect for his qualities, and to thank him for his able and never-failing assistance. Commodore Lambert, whose spirit never is at rest whilst any thing is to be done, and whose heart is ever ready to accomplish what he undertakes, has my cordial thanks and warmest gratitude. I particularly wish to draw the attention of his Lordship in Council to Commander Fishbourne, of H. M's. steamer *Hermes*, who from the first fitting out of the expedition in Calcutta, to the close of these operations has been indefatigable in assisting in the embarkation of stores and troops, and in removing difficulties, and finding resources, which alone enabled the expedition to sail at the time appointed; and nothing will give me such satisfaction as his aid, were a forward movement to be made hereafter.

My most difficult task now commences, that of recommending to the protection of the Governor-General in Council a number of brave men who have had opportunities of distinguishing themselves in a service where the utmost emulation and gallant devotion were shown by all.

I beg the Governor-General's consideration of the services of Brigadier Elliot, who was conspicuous in every place where he could be useful; of Lieutenant-Colonel Reynolds, who commands the Bengal Brigade, in consequence of Brigadier Warren's prostration by the sun, and who has borne a very large share in these operations, including Martaban; of Lieutenant-Colonel Coote, of the 18th Royal Irish, who commanded the storming party when he was severely wounded; of Lieutenant-Colonel Thomson, commanding the 40th Bengal Native Infantry in the assault; of Major Lockhart, commanding the wing of H. M's. 80th, on the same occasion; of Major Fraser, Commanding Engineer of the Force, who not only distinguished himself most gallantly at the White House Stockade, but whose indefatigable exertions have never for a moment ceased; of Major Turton, who commanded the Artillery after Lieutenant-Colonel Foord's retirement, from illness, and whose labours in his department have been the cause of his suffering, I regret to say, under severe indisposition at the present moment; of Majors Reid, of the Bengal, and Montgomery, of the Madras Artillery; of Captain Rundall, commanding the Sappers and Miners; to all of whom I am deeply indebted.

The Assistant Adjutant-General of the Force, Captain Mayhew, was everywhere present during these three days' operations, and the assistance he has rendered me on all occasions has been very valuable. Major Allan, the Assistant Quartermaster-General, was severely wounded at the White House Stockade; since when, Major Boul-derson, my Deputy Judge Advocate-General, has been performing his duties, and has rendered

essential assistance since the operations commenced. I beg to bring all three to the notice of Government.

The officers commanding brigades have recommended to my notice the valuable aid they have received from their respective Brigade Majors, Captain Call, of the 18th Royal Irish, and Captain Smith, of the 13th Madras Native Infantry; and Major Turton has brought to my attention the indefatigable exertions of Lieutenant Robertson, the Deputy Commissary of Ordnance, in landing his guns and stores.

I beg leave to bring to his lordship's notice the assistance I have received from my aides-de-camp Lieutenant Chads, of Her Majesty's 64th Regiment, who was wounded at the White House Stockade, but did not leave me during the operations, and Lieutenant Lambert, of the 56th Bengal Native Infantry, who, after great exertion, was one of the victims to the sun on that day, which obliges him to return to Calcutta, and who will convey these despatches.

In conclusion, I regret that the order of the landing of the troops did not afford me an opportunity of availing myself of the services of the 9th Madras Native Infantry, and 35th Madras Native Infantry, in the front, but they tended greatly to give freedom to my leading column, and will from their soldierly bearing doubtless do honour to the distinguished service to which they belong, when they are brought more closely under fire.

I have, &c.

HENRY GODWIN, Lt.-Gen.

*Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing at the attack and storming of Rangoon, on the 11th, 12th, and 14th April 1852.*

*Assistant Adjutant-General's Office, Rangoon, April 17, 1852.*

Personal Staff—1 European officer, wounded.

General Staff—1 European officer, 1 serjeant, wounded.

Total—2 European officers, 1 serjeant, wounded.

Engineer Department—3 European officers, wounded.

Madras Sappers and Miners—3 rank and file, killed; 2 European officers, 1 havildar, 8 rank and file, wounded.

#### Artillery.

Bengal Contingent—1 serjeant, killed; 6 serjeants, wounded.

Madras Contingent—1 serjeant, killed; 1 serjeant, 1 lascar, 3 syce drivers, wounded.

#### Infantry.—1st or Bengal Brigade.

Her Majesty's 18th Royal Irish—1 European officer, 1 serjeant, 2 rank and file, killed; 3 European officers, 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 37 rank and file, wounded.

Her Majesty's 80th Foot (one wing)—1 serjeant, killed; 1 European officer, 3 serjeants, 1 drummer, 21 rank and file, wounded.

40th Bengal Native Infantry—1 drummer, 3 rank and file, killed; 11 rank and file, wounded.

#### 2nd or Madras Brigade.

Her Majesty's 51st Regiment of Foot—1 European officer, 1 rank and file, killed; 1 European officer, 3 serjeants, 13 rank and file, wounded.

9th Regiment Madras Native Infantry—1 rank and file, killed; 1 European officer, wounded.

35th Regiment Madras Native Infantry—1 European officer, 1 havildar, 5 rank and file, wounded.

Total—2 European officers, 4 serjeants: 1 drummer, 10 rank and file, killed; 12 European officers, 16 serjeants or havildars, 2 drummers, 95 rank and file, 1 lascar, 3 syce drivers, wounded.

European officers, 2 killed; 14 wounded.

Warrant and Non-Commissioned officers, rank and file, &c. 15 killed; 114 wounded.

Lascars, syce drivers, syces, &c. 4 wounded.

Total—17 killed; 132 wounded.

Grand Total of killed, wounded, and missing, 149.

H. GODWIN, Lieutenant-General  
Commanding the Forces in Ava,  
Arracan, and Tenasserim.

W. MAYHEW, Captain,  
Assistant Adjutant-General of the Force.

#### OFFICERS KILLED AND WOUNDED.

##### *Killed.*

Her Majesty's 18th Royal Irish—Lieutenant R. Doran, 14th April.

Her Majesty's 51st Foot—Ensign A. N. Armstrong, 11th April.

##### *Wounded.*

Personal Staff—Lieutenant W. J. Chads, (slightly).

General Staff—Captain G. Allan (severely).

Engineer Department—Second Lieutenant E. C. S. Williams (slightly); Second Lieutenant L. Donaldson (mortally, 12th April); Second Lieutenant W. S. Trevor (slightly).

Madras Sappers and Miners—Captain J. W. Rundall (slightly); Lieutenant B. Ford (slightly).

Her Majesty's 18th Royal Irish—Lieutenant-Colonel C. J. Coote (severely); Captain W. T. Bruce (slightly); Lieutenant G. A. Elliot (slightly).

Her Majesty's 80th Foot—Lieutenant J. L. W. Nunn (slightly).

Her Majesty's 51st Foot—Captain W. Blundell (dangerously).

9th Madras Native Infantry—Ensign G. F. C. B. Hawkes (slightly).

35th Madras Native Infantry—Lieutenant W. C. P. Haines (dangerously).

Commissioner, Tenasserim Provinces—Lieutenant-Colonel A. Bogle (severely).

*The Governor of Bombay in Council to the Secret Committee.*

(Extract.) *May 3, 1852.*

WE beg to forward a copy of a letter from Captain H. B. Lynch, of the Indian Navy, Commanding the Indian Naval Squadron in the Bay of Bengal, to the address of Sir Henry Leeke, containing particulars of the capture of Rangoon by the British Naval and Military Forces, on the afternoon of the 14th ultimo.

*Captain H. B. Lynch, Commanding the Squadron of the Indian Navy in the Bay of Bengal, to Commodore Sir Henry Leeke, Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy.*

SIR,

IN continuation of my last letter of the 10th instant, I have the honour to inform you, that

Rear-Admiral Austen, and the whole of the squadron having joined us below the Hastings Sand, on the evening of Saturday the 10th, the squadron under my command, each vessel having two transports in tow, on the morning of the 11th (with the exception of the Zenobia, which vessel unfortunately grounded on the De Silva Shoal, and was not in company), crossed the Hastings Sand, and anchored a little below the stockades, having cast off the transports when clear over the Hastings Shoal. Almost immediately on our anchoring at 9:30 A.M. the enemy opened fire, which was returned by the Ferooze, Sesostris, and Moozuffer, the Berenice and Medusa having anchored some distance below. At 9:40 A.M. the magazine of the principal stockade, at the King's Wharf, was blown up by a shell from the squadron; at 10 A.M. Her Majesty's ship Fox passed up in tow and opened fire; the enemy's fire was soon silenced; at 10:15 A.M. ceased firing, and at 30 minutes past noon, a party from the Fox landed, took and burnt the Dalla Stockade on the right hand of the river. At 5 P.M. weighed and stood up the river, anchoring ahead of Her Majesty's ship Fox, abreast of the King's Wharf, the Admiral having previously taken and burnt the stockades on the right or Dalla bank of the river. At 5:15 P.M. two stockades, just above us, having opened fire, were quickly silenced by our fire, and the magazine of the stockade, on the upper wharf, blown up, when the enemy's fire ceased for the night. At 4 A.M. next morning (12th April), landed Her Majesty's 51st Regiment from the Ferooze and Sesostris, and the 9th and 35th M.N.I. from the Moozuffer and Zenobia; the Zenobia having joined during the night. Having landed the troops, and obtained the Admiral's permission, proceeded up the river and anchored abreast the upper stockade, with the Sesostris, Moozuffer, and Zenobia, and landed parties from the vessels of the squadron under the command of Captain Campbell, and burnt the stockades without opposition, the enemy having evacuated them previously to the landing of the party. Being now abreast the Great Pagoda, and the line of the principal stockade at the upper end of an open plain, commenced shelling, and found we could do so with effect, the shells bursting over the pagoda. Ceased firing by signal from the Admiral.

Commodore Lambert came on board and desired me to proceed to Kemmendine, where Her Majesty's brig Serpent, and Phlegethon steamer had attacked the stockade; weighed and stood up, Moozuffer in company, and anchored at dark, ahead of the Serpent, about three-quarters of a mile below the Kemmendine stockade.

The next morning (13th April), flood tide having made (the river being too narrow to allow the ship to swing at anchor off the stockade), dropped up in company with the Serpent, Moozuffer, and Phlegethon, abreast the stockade, which not returning our fire, landed a party from the vessels, as previously arranged, under command of the 1st Lieutenant of the Serpent, and burnt the stockade, the enemy having evacuated it on the approach of the steamers. I then returned, Moozuffer in company, and rejoined the Admiral off Rangoon, anchoring in the same position as yesterday, abreast the Great Pagoda, and the squadron shelled the Pagoda during the night, by order of the Admiral; at 2 A.M. ceased firing, to allow the troops then near the stockade to advance, and I am happy to inform you that Rangoon was taken by our troops this afternoon.

I send this off too hurriedly to be able to forward any other papers from the squadron, which I am happy to state is all in good order and health.

It is probable the Moozuffer will be detached for the protection of Martaban, the Zenobia and Berenice for troops to Vizagapatam, and Sesostris to Calcutta, with despatches.

I have, &c.,

H. B. LYNCH.

NOTIFICATION.

*Friday, April 23rd, 1852.*

THE Governor-General in Council has the highest satisfaction in announcing that despatches have

this day been received, reporting the capture of Martaban and of Rangoon, by combined attacks of the naval and military forces now employed in Burmah.

The Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct that, in honour of this success, a royal salute shall be fired at every principal station in India.

The despatches will be published for general information.

C. ALLEN,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

Published by FRANCIS WATTS, Editor, Manager, and Publisher, of No. 1, Warwick Square, Pimlico, in the Parish of St. George, Hanover-Square, at No. 45, St. Martin's Lane, in the Parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, both in the county of Middlesex.

Printed by THOMAS RICHARD HARRISON and THOMAS HARRISON, Printers, at their Office, No. 45, St. Martin's Lane, in the Parish and County aforesaid.

Monday, May 31, 1852.

Price One Shilling.

