

India-Board, June 22, 1853.

THE papers, of which the following is a copy, have been received at the East India House :

NOTIFICATION.

Fort William, April 22nd, 1853.

THE Most Noble the Governor-General in Council has much satisfaction in publishing, for general information, extracts from despatches, reporting the operations of Brigadier-General Sir John Cheape, K.C.B., against the force under Myat-toon, who had established himself near to Donabew.

The Governor-General in Council regards with the highest admiration the gallantry, perseverance, and cheerful endurance displayed by the force under the Brigadier-General's command, throughout a service which was rendered peculiarly severe, not more by the formidable resistance that was offered than by the sufferings incident to prolonged exposure in pestilent jungle, and at such a time.

His Lordship in Council, regretting the loss that has been incurred, fully appreciates the service that has been done, and he requests the Major-General Commanding the troops in Ava, to convey to Brigadier-General Sir John Cheape, to the officers and soldiers whom he has specially named, and to all who were under his command, the approbation and cordial thanks of the Supreme Government.

By Order of the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council.

C. ALLEN, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

Extract of a letter from Major-General H. Godwin, C.B., Commanding the Forces in Ava, Arracan, and the Tenasserim Provinces, to C. Allen, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, April 1st, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of the Governor-General in Council, reports from Sir J. Cheape, dated the 13th and 25th ultimo, detailing the proceedings of his force since his report of the 3rd ultimo, forwarded in my despatch, of the 15th instant.

The Governor-General in Council will see and appreciate this most arduous service; protracted as it has been from time to time by the difficult nature of the country, added to which unwilling, if not false guides, leading him in wrong directions.

The Brigadier-General so forcibly represents his various attacks, and the gallantry of the troops on every occasion, that I can add nothing more than my high sense and appreciation of their admirable conduct.

Extract of a Despatch from Brigadier General Sir J. Cheape, K. C. B., Commanding the Bengal Division, to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army of Ava.

Donabew, March 25th, 1853.

WHILE at Kyomtano I ascertained the jungle to the westward to be quite impenetrable, and that there were only two routes to Kyomenzeen, one to the Southward via Gyet-thoun-zeen, and the other to the northward, by Ngyoung-youn; the distance by these routes was said to be about equal, and the same opposition and obstacles were to be expected by either. I resolved to follow the latter route.

It was desirable to give the enemy as little time as possible for preparation, and on the eve-

ning of the 17th instant, at 2 P.M., I sent on the right wing under Major Wigstone, 18th R. I., consisting of H. M.'s 18th R. I. Regiment, H. M.'s 80th Regiment, and the 4th Seikh Local Regiment, with a detail of Sappers and some rockets, to take post at a breastwork about three miles in advance, in the middle of the forest and on the verge of a large lake. It was of importance to clear the road so far, to enable the force to march early next morning without waiting for the fog to clear off.

Major Wigstone found the road clear till within about a mile of the breastwork; he had then to cut his way through many obstructions, and to open the road round felled trees and to clear away abattis. On reaching the breastwork, he found it occupied, and it was most gallantly carried by the 18th R. I. who were leading, and by the 4th Seikh Local Regiment in support; several jingals and arms of different sorts were captured. Major Armstrong, 4th Seikh Local Regiment, on this occasion personally distinguished himself, and I beg to send a copy of Major Wigstone's letter of date the 20th instant, reporting most favourably of the conduct of the troops. A prisoner was taken upon this occasion, who was of some use in our further advance in describing and pointing out the enemy's position.

Major Wigstone bivouacked here for the night and was undisturbed; and early next morning (the 18th instant), I moved on with the force from Kyomtano, carrying seven days' provisions. We passed Major Wigstone's party, and moved with our left wing, under Lieutenant-Colonel Sturt, consisting of H. M.'s 51st K. O. L. I., and the 67th B. N. I. in front, followed by the guns, and irregular cavalry, and leaving the right wing to bring up the rear and to furnish the rear guard.

As the road was greatly obstructed and the progress slow, I took the opportunity to send back to Kyomtano, with some irregulars, the sick and wounded of Major Wigstone's party; the escort rejoined us again with the empty doolies.

After going about two miles through forest and passing breastworks from which only an occasional shot was fired, our guides, instead of going further by the road we had traversed on the 11th instant, turned sharp off to the left; along this path the obstructions and felled trees continued for about a mile, and the road was so rough that one of the ammunition waggons was overturned and the pole broken; it was necessary to leave it, and the ammunition boxes were packed on spare hackeries.

We arrived at noon at a piece of water on our right, where I halted for an hour to refresh the men; and at 1 P.M., we moved on; the obstructions were very great, and it occupied about two hours getting a mile further; there was some firing also, and the enemy were reported to be in a position close at hand.

We at last had a very sharp fire opened on us from the left. A fire had been lighted in that quarter to obscure the vision, and the whole place was obstructed and entangled with abattis in front and along the left; part of the 67th N. I., with the rifles, engaged the enemy to the left; and we managed to clear the path to the front so as to advance the 51st K. O. L. I., and to bring the guns and rockets to bear upon the enemy, whose position, however, was so covered and hidden that we could only judge of it from the direction of the fire on our troops.

The road or path was at length sufficiently cleared, and the charge was ordered; the breastwork was most gallantly carried by H. M.'s 51st K. O. L. I., and the 67th N. I., Captain Singleton, 51st Regiment, leading the advance. Ensign