



SUPPLEMENT
TO
The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY the 22nd of AUGUST.

Published by Authority.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1854.

Admiralty, August 23, 1854.

THE following additional Despatch has been received from Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B., detailing operations connected with the fall of the Fortress of Bomarsund :

No. 340. *Bulldog, off Bomarsund,*
SIR, *August 11, 1854.*

BY the last mail I informed their Lordships of the arrival and debarkation of the troops ; I now beg to acquaint you that, on Wednesday morning, the 9th instant, the troops were in position, both to the north and south, and the western battery of the enemy completely invested.

2. It was now time to land the guns, and as we had no horses, it was necessary to employ the ships' companies instead. Enclosed is a copy of the order I gave to Rear-Admiral Chads, and his report of proceedings.

3. There were many instances last war of guns being placed in extraordinary positions, but I do not believe that in any one case such difficulties were overcome as in the present instance.

4. The moving of the guns was under the command of Captain Hewlett, of the *Edinburgh*, but Admiral Chads, with his usual activity was there to cheer them on, and indeed all the captains occasionally gave the benefit of their presence to the men employed on this hard and fatiguing service.

I have, &c.,

CHAS. NAPIER,

Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Enclosure No. 1, in Sir Charles Napier's letter,
No. 340.

Bulldog, off Bomarsund,
August 9, 1854.

(Memorandum.)

I WISH as many thirty-two-pounder guns as General Jones may require to be landed from the *Belleisle*, and conveyed to him.

Having the fullest reliance on your skill and exertions to perform this difficult and important service, I shall give you no other instructions than to get them there.

If the portion of your squadron now here is not sufficient, you shall have what further assistance as is in my power to give you.

(Signed) CHAS. NAPIER,
Vice-Admiral.

Rear-Admiral H. D. Chads, C.B.
H.M.S. Edinburgh.

Enclosure No. 2, in Sir Charles Napier's Letter,
No. 340.

No. 18. *Edinburgh, off Bomarsund,*
SIR, *August 12, 1854.*

IN obedience to your directions to give every aid from the four ships of my squadron named in the margin*, to Brigadier-General Jones, to form a breaching battery, I consulted with that officer, who proposed to compose his battery of six thirty-two pounders of 42 cwt., which guns you had forwarded in the *Belleisle*, when the following operations were undertaken.

Each ship having previously prepared two sledges, after a pattern made by Captain Ramsay, for dragging the guns, four were landed on the morning of the 10th, to convey three guns and the carriages and the gear, with 150 men to each sledge, under their respective senior lieutenants, the whole being under the command of Captain Hewlett, of my flag-ship, encouraged occasionally by their own captains.

The situation selected for the battery from the landing-place was four and a half miles distant, over execrable ground, the greatest portion of steep rocky hills and ploughed fields.

* *Edinburgh*... Donald Mc L. Mackenzie, Senior Lieut.
Hogue Thomas Davies (B), Senior Lieut.
Blenheim ... Geo. H. Clarke, Senior Lieut.
Ajax Walter J. Potlard, Senior Lieut.

At five o'clock the boats left the ships, erected shears, landed the guns, and had them in the General's camp by one o'clock; the exertions and good will of the officers and seamen created much astonishment in the encampment of the French troops, who cheered them in passing, and on some of the most difficult ascents, went in voluntarily and most cheerfully to the drag-ropes, and gave their assistance.

On arriving in camp the men were much exhausted and laid down to rest, and prepare their dinners, when an order arrived that they were to embark immediately, as the *Penelope* was on shore under the fire of the enemy, and their ships might be required; the order was received with cheers, and, forgetting dinners and fatigue, rushed down to their boats in three quarters of an hour by a short route, but close under the enemy's fire.

On the next morning the same number of guns were landed, but on this occasion, with 200 men from each ship—as the parties the previous evening were much fatigued—these guns were in the camp by 10.30.

The bands of the ships attended the parties, and the whole march was one of triumph over difficulties that previously had been considered almost insurmountable; the spirits of the men were occasionally excited by a dropping shot from the enemy.

It is unnecessary for me to expatiate on the merits of Captain Hewlett, the officers, and seamen, in performing this arduous service, but to express my admiration of their great zeal and

perseverance, as from personal observation on the spot you will have formed your own judgment.

I have, &c.,

H. D. CHADS,
Rear-Admiral, &c.

Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure No. 3, in Sir Charles Napier's Letter,
No. 340.

Bulldog, off Bomarsund,
August 12, 1854.

(Memorandum.)

THE Commander-in-Chief begs to convey to Rear-Admiral Chads his admiration of the great exertion made by Captain Hewlett, the officers and men employed in landing and transporting six thirty-two pounders to General Jones's camp, a distance of four miles and a half. The Commander-in-Chief, in the course of his service, has seen guns moved in difficult places, but never on such roads and to such a distance as in the present instance. The cheerfulness and exertions of the men were wonderful, nor must it be forgotten, when the *Penelope* got on shore under the enemy's battery, and it was probable they might be wanted on board their ships, regardless of their fatigue, they abandoned their dinner and hurried down to their boats to embark and render assistance to the *Penelope* in distress.

(Signed) CHAS. NAPIER,

Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

Rear-Admiral H. D. Chads, C.B.

H.M.S. Edinburgh.

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.

Wednesday, August 23, 1854.

Price Four Pence.