

place until 3.30 p.m., and carried it after fifteen minutes' firing.

Mr. Ponsonby was hit by a spent ball which caused him to fall, also two Houssas hit, one seriously. The enemy held the bush or border of the village for about five minutes until dislodged by two rockets, when they retreated in direction of Coomassie or Juabin.

In the meantime I had left Abogoo at 7 a.m., and forming junction with 100 men under Captain Sartorius, who had left the day previous and encamped two and a-half hours in advance, I proceeded for Conomo, three miles due east of this place. It was quite dark when we arrived within a mile of this place, and I encamped intending to attack at daybreak, but a reconnoissance made by the King of Eastern Akim and twenty men found it deserted, and it was immediately occupied by his force, about 400 men.

On the 27th I moved to this place, leaving Dr. Rowe and 200 Houssas and Yorubas with King of Akim to prevent Akim force from going off in a sudden panic. The King himself is brave, so is his General, and, perhaps, 100 out of 700 of the entire Akim force with me.

Captain Butler does not inform me of his line of march after crossing Prah, and the few Ashantee prisoners with me give no information. The slaves taken know nothing except the road from the farm they work on to the village in which they are taken. I cannot get the Akims to reconnoitre, so that unless Captain Sartorius should succeed in getting this despatch to Captain Butler, I do not know how I shall effect communication with your Excellency.

I am awaiting reinforcements of Aquapims with spare ammunition, also King of Crobo with a large force, all of whom are within three or four marches of not being in lat. 6° 38' N. and long. 1¼ W. 15 or 20 miles from Coomassie or Juabin.

From such information as I can gather, the enemy will oppose my crossing the river. Assoom six hours from this.

Excepting "Abogoo," every place occupied has been found swept of sheep and fowls, consequently my force has been living on yam and plantains for the last seven days, and the officers have no preserved meat up of any description.

One of my messengers was robbed and flogged by some West India soldiers, consequently the Akims at Assoom refuse to convey letter, and I am too far in advance to influence them.

I shall endeavour to get duplicate of this and previous one of 21st instant, sent to your Excellency by route south of Prah.

Inclosed is a copy of Lieutenant Barnard's (19th Regiment) report of attack and occupation of this place, Odumassie.

It is with much pleasure that I bring to the notice of your Excellency the conduct of Lieutenant Barnard, 19th Regiment, a most promising and indefatigable young officer. Captain Sartorius, in command of the advanced force which carried Abogoo, brought to my notice his gallant bearing on that occasion; and he displayed great discretion and judgment while in command of the column which I found in possession of this place yesterday. I therefore hope your Excellency will remember Lieutenant Barnard's gallant conduct on this second occasion when this campaign is finished.

I take the opportunity of bringing to the notice of your Excellency the invaluable assistance which I have received from Captain Sartorius, 6th Bengal

Cavalry. It was entirely owing to his indefatigable exertion and great personal influence that the Croboes and Aquapims were induced to move on the Volta, when they did, thereby showing the Acceras and enabling me, with the assistance of Dr. Rowe on the seaboard, to cross a large force of 17,000 men over the Volta by 27th December, nor could any force have reached the Prah on 15th instant, but for the amount of pressure put upon the King and Chiefs of Eastern Akim by Captain Sartorius. I shall, on another occasion, bring this Officer's service more fully to the notice of your Excellency, trusting that you will forward them to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER,
Special Commissioner.

His Excellency Major-General
Sir G. Wolseley, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Admiralty, March 7, 1874.

THE following Despatch and Enclosures have been received by the Secretary of the Admiralty from Commodore W. N. W. Hewett, V.C., Senior Naval Officer on the Gold Coast:—

Transmitting Reports of Movements of Naval Brigade, received from Captain W. Hunt Grubbe.

"Active," at Cape Coast,
February 7, 1874.

SIR,

ADVERTING to my letter of the 2nd February, 1874, I have now the honour to forward for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of letters I have received from Captain W. Hunt Grubbe, detailing the movements of the Naval Brigade under his command during the three engagements at Bobo-assie, Amoaful, and Becquah, which have already been reported by me.

In continuation of my despatch above referred to, I request you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty a further letter which has been addressed to me by Captain Grubbe, giving an account of the proceedings of the Naval Brigade at the engagement which took place on the 4th instant, during the crossing of the River Dah, and subsequent movements.

The European troops having captured and burnt Coomassie are now on their way back to Cape Coast.

I have much pleasure in informing the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the conduct of the Naval Brigade during the whole time it has been disembarked has been unexceptional, and, when in action, the men have behaved with great coolness and courage.

I cannot pass by the zeal and energy displayed by Dr. Henry Fegan, Staff-Surgeon 2nd Class, of Her Majesty's ship "Active," in his arrangements for the care of the sick and wounded.

His kind attention to their wants has been unceasing, notwithstanding the great fatigue he must have often been suffering, during the trying time experienced since crossing the Prah, and I beg to call the attention of their Lordships to the paragraph in Captain Grubbe's letter, wherein he mentions the gallant conduct of this officer, who, while the rear guard (to which he was attached) was being attacked, succeeded in bringing in a wounded marine at great personal risk.