

of the Code of Finance, alluded to in the 4th Article of this Decree, is as follows :

"Are excepted : Cargoes destined for a port in which public order is disturbed ; these shall be carried by the same vessel to the nearest port of entry and be introduced in the Custom-house with the formalities required by law until the owners shall make their wishes known. These latter can, if they please, enter them in the Custom-house for consumption, the permission of the National Executive having been first obtained. " R. BUNCH."

India Office, April 27, 1880.

THE following Despatches have been received at the India Office :—

GENERAL ORDER.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

Fort William, February 27, 1880.

FIELD OPERATIONS.

No. 123.

HIS Excellency the Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct the publication, for general information, of the following correspondence relating to the operations against the Naga Village of Konoma, on the 22nd day of November, 1879 :—

KONOMA DESPATCHES.

No. 238-B, *Fort William, February 23, 1880.*

From Colonel Allen Johnson, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Adjutant-General in India.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter No. 1043, of the 22nd January last, forwarding reports relating to the operations against the Naga Village of Konoma, on the 22nd November, 1879.

2. In reply, I am to state that the Governor-General in Council cordially recognises the gallantry and devotion displayed by the officers and men in the capture of this formidable stronghold, and I am to request that, under the orders of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the thanks of the Government of India may be conveyed to them.

3. His Excellency in Council shares in the appreciation expressed by Brigadier-General Nation of the services rendered by Colonel Johnstone, Political Officer of Manipore, Captain Williamson, Inspector-General of Police, and Lieutenant Maxwell, Assistant-Commissioner, and I am to state that the acknowledgments of the Government of India will be communicated to them through the Civil Department.

No. 1043—*Camp, dated January 22, 1880.*

From Major-General G. R. Greaves, C.B., Adjutant-General in India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Commander-in-Chief, to forward, for submission to Government, the accompanying despatch* and annexures from Brigadier-General J. L. Nation, relating to the operations against the Naga Village of Konoma on the 22nd November, 1879.

2. In submitting these reports, it is his Excellency's most pleasing duty to bring to the notice of Government the gallantry and devotion displayed by the officers and men engaged under the immediate command of Brigadier-General Nation in the capture of this formidable stronghold.

3. The casualties on our side were heavy, and in addition to the loss of Lieutenant Forbes, attached to the 44th Native Infantry, on proba-

on for the Staff Corps, and so may brave men of the 43rd and 44th Native Infantry, the army has to deplore the death of a most gallant and excellent officer in Major Cock, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General ; but while lamenting this loss, the Commander-in-Chief feels that the capture of Konoma is well worthy of a prominent place in the long list of gallant deeds performed by the Native Army of India.

4. When the operations have been concluded, it will be his Excellency's duty to bring before Government the names of those who he considers should be rewarded for their conduct on this occasion.

5. Meanwhile Sir F. Haines has in separate communications submitted the recommendation of Brigadier-General Nation that the Victoria Cross be bestowed upon Lieutenant (now Captain) Ridgeway, and that one native officer, one non-commissioned officer, and three sepoy of the 44th Native Infantry, should receive the Order of Merit for conspicuous gallantry during the attack.

No. 16, dated 29th November, 1879.

From Brigadier-General J. L. Nation, Commanding Naga Expeditionary Force, to the Adjutant-General in India.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the result of my operations against the Angami Nagas of Konoma.

2. On the 22nd November, about 7 A.M., I marched from my camp with the force as per margin* under my command, and after a very difficult and toilsome march, especially for the guns, I arrived within a mile of the Konoma Hill about 11 A.M. (a distance of only about 6 miles from camp), and disposed the troops as follows.

3. The detachment of the 43rd Native Infantry, under Major Evans, accompanied by Captain Williamson, Inspector-General of Police, with 29 of the Frontier Police, was directed to take the right flank of the attack, keeping up the main valley well under cover, so as to threaten the rear and cut off the retreat. The 44th Native Infantry were ordered to form the front and left attack, and were disposed of by Colonel Nuttall, C.B., as follows :—2 companies skirmishing up the north-west face, 2 companies in support, and 1 company in reserve. Lieutenant Raban, R.E., with the rocket party, took up a position half-way up the Mozema Hill, with instructions to fire into and set the village on fire, while I myself went with the guns to a hill to the east of Konoma.

4. The attack was commenced by the rockets, all of which entirely failed owing to some injury in transit. At the same time the guns came into action, but the distance was too great for any effective practice ; still they did good service in allowing the infantry to advance under their fire. The 44th Native Infantry advanced with little molestation up the first portion of the hill, the Nagas keeping so quiet within their defences as to make one believe they were almost unoccupied ; but as they drew nearer, they could only advance by a narrow and tortuous lane and had to diminish their front, and were now met by a deadly fire in their more condensed formation from a series of stockades rising one above the other along the whole of the ridge (see Assistant Field-Engineer's

* Artillery—2 7-Pounder Mountain Guns ; 1 British Officer ; 3 British Bombardiers ; 1 Native Officer and 30 rank and file, 44th Native Infantry. 43rd Native Infantry—2 British Officers ; 4 Native Officers ; 133 rank and file. 44th Native Infantry—7 British Officers ; 10 Native Officers ; 359 rank and file. Frontier Police—3. Inspectors ; 26 Constables.

* No. 16, dated 29th November, 1879.