

good hackery road to Pegu,—consisting of half the Madras Horse Artillery, 50 of the Ramghur Horse, and 400 of the 67th Bengal N.I., but with instructions, if he should meet with any serious difficulty, to return; and I hope to have them up at Scephangoon.

I expect soon to furnish the Government with a detailed account of the proceedings of this Army.

Commodore Lambert has a steamer ready to convey this Dispatch on its arrival at Rangoon.

I have, &c.

H. GODWIN, Major-General,
Commanding the Forces in
Ava, Arracan, and Tenas-
serim Provinces.

*His Excellency G. R. Lambert, R. N., Commodore
First Class, Commander-in-Chief, to C. Allen,
Esq.*

SIR, *Rangoon, December 18, 1852.*

I HAVE the honour to request you may be pleased to inform the Governor-General of India in Council, that shortly after my return from Prome, on the 6th instant, I learned that a large flat which the Military authorities had sent up to Pegu, laden with commissariat stores and bullocks, under charge of 24 Sepoys, had been attacked and burnt by the Burmese; a havildar and three of the men being killed, the remainder had by some means reached Pegu with the loss of their arms and accoutrements.

2. Considering it desirable to keep open a communication with the garrison at Pegu, and being anxious to ascertain the true state of things, I sent Commander Shadwell, of Her Majesty's Ship Sphinx, with the boats of the squadron specified in inclosure A, on the 8th instant, on that service.

3. The day after his departure, a letter was brought to Rangoon by a friendly Burman, who found the greatest difficulty in escaping from Pegu. Major Hill stated he was surrounded on all sides and hardly pressed, and that his ammunition was getting very short. On receipt of this intelligence Major-General Godwin decided to send two hundred European troops to Pegu, and they embarked in the Nerbudda and left the same evening, in company with a force of armed boats from the squadron, under command of Commander Rowley Lambert.

4. On the 11th Commander Shadwell returned from Pegu, having failed to communicate with the garrison. On reaching the usual landing place he was received by the enemy with a heavy fire, and on landing he found the Burmese too numerous to contend with. He therefore deemed it prudent to retreat, having in a very short time had 4 men killed and 28 wounded, amongst the latter 2 officers severely; and his coxswain was shot dead by his side. A return of the casualties on this occasion is enclosed, marked B.

5. On his return he met the Nerbudda, but being quite uncertain as to the extent of the force he would be exposed to, he determined to bring them back.

6. I immediately consulted with Major-General Godwin, who determined to go himself to Pegu with a considerable force, and I appropriated for this purpose the Mahanuddy and Nerbudda steamers, and a number of native cargo boats, the long boats of the transports, and the boats of the

Before ten o'clock that night Captain Tarleton had about a thousand and fifty men, composing the land force, in the boats, and left

Rangoon for Pegu. The armed force under his command, belonging to the squadron, is detailed in inclosure C.

8. The steam-vessels Mahanuddy and Nerbudda had both been disabled, but through the activity and ability of Mr Berry, the superintending engineer, they were temporarily repaired; and Major-General Godwin having embarked with four hundred more Europeans in these vessels, started next morning.

9. A land force, under Colonel Sturt, of the 67th Regiment B. N. I., also marched for Pegu, leaving Rangoon on the morning of the 13th.

10. I will now refer his Lordship in Council to Captain Tarleton's letter of the 16th instant, for details of the naval operations at Pegu.

11. I fully coincide with the encomiums expressed by Captain Tarleton respecting the officers and seamen of this squadron serving under his orders—who, on this occasion, have been actuated by the same gallant and cheerful spirit to fulfil their duty that they have displayed throughout the War.

I have, &c.

GEORGE R. LAMBERT.

A

*Memorandum, shewing the Force of the Expedition
to Pegu.*

H. M. S. Sphinx's boat, Commander Shadwell,
4 men.

H.M.S. Sphinx's.

Starboard paddle-box boat—1 24-pounder howitzer; Mr Edgar Cookson, Midshipman; 15 men, 6 marines.

Port paddle-box boat—1 24-pounder howitzer; Mr Arthur Morphy, Master's Assistant; Mr John F. Johnson, Assistant Surgeon; 15 men.

H.M.S. Fox's.

Pinnace—1 12-pounder howitzer; Lieutenant Mason; Mr Hudson, Midshipman, 15 men, 6 marines.

Barge—1 12-pounder howitzer; Mr Pocock, Mate; Lieutenant Nightingale, R. M.; 13 men, 6 marines.

E.I.C.S. Mozuffer's.

Paddle-box boat No. 1—1 12-pounder howitzer; Lieutenant Robinson, I.N.; the Boatswain; 21 men.

Paddle-box boat No. 2—1 12-pounder howitzer; Mr Templer, Midshipman; an Apothecary; 20 men.

Total—133 officers and men, accompanied by Captain Mallock, Bengal Artillery, and 12 Artillerymen, in two cargo boats.

(Signed) CHARLES F. A. SHADWELL,
Commander.

B.

*List of Killed and Wounded at Pegu,
10th December 1852.*

H.M.S. Fox.

Mr C. A. B. Pocock, Mate, wounded, severely.

James Tilman, A. B., wounded, severely.

John Jones, A. B., wounded, severely.

Michael McAvoy, ordinary, wounded, dangerously.

Thomas Christian, marine, wounded, dangerously, since dead.

William Tucker, marine, wounded, dangerously, since dead.

