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ADMIRALTY, August 28, 1854,

DESPATCHES, of which the following are Copies or Extracts, have been received from Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Baltic :—

No. 380.

*Bulldog, off Bomarsund,
August 19, 1854.*

I BEG to inclose a letter from Rear-Admiral Plumridge, who was stationed with the Hecla and the French steamer Cocyte (commanded by Lieutenant de Vaisseau A. Georgette du Buisson), on the north side of Bomarsund.

2. I had intended to have brought his squadron through the Presto Channel to have shelled the north side of Bomarsund, but when the breaching batteries were placed he could not take that station without endangering the men in the French batteries; he therefore very wisely took up a position so that he had the Presto Tower and Bomarsund in a line, and did good service against the Presto Tower, which I afterwards examined. He was rather too close, being within range of the enemy's fire, and received some damage, but no one was hurt.

3. The ships I stationed to the southward were out of range of the enemy's guns, and received no damage; but the shot and shells from the 10-inch guns, together with the fire from the four French mortars, which never missed, and the excellent fire from Captain Pelham's battery, together with the preparations the enemy saw in progress, I presume expedited the surrender.

4. Had the enemy held out till the following morning, when the breaching battery, judiciously placed by the French Engineer (General Niel) within 400 yards of the rear of the fort, and the ships the French and English Admirals intended to place in their flank, the fortress would have been reduced to ashes.

5. I have the honour of enclosing lists of the whole British Force landed, and of casualties, together with a list of prisoners and guns captured, being no less than 112 mounted, 3 mortars, 7 field pieces, and 79 not mounted.

6. The Commissioners are now taking an account of the stores, and they are preparing plans not only of the batteries in existence but of those in progress, which I shall send home as soon as possible.

7. This has been a most arduous and laborious service, and I have great reason to be satisfied

with the great exertions of all the officers, seamen, and marines, and their orderly conduct.

8. General Jones speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of Colonel Graham and his marines. The firing of the seamen and marines and marine artillery, under Captain Ramsay, was most precise; he himself was slightly wounded.

9. The shells thrown by the ships were most destructive, and had the fortress resisted till the following day, when all was ready on shore, they would have been irresistible.

I have, &c.,

CHAS. NAPIER,

Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

No. 10.

RESPECTING OPERATIONS AT BOMARSUND.

*Her Majesty's Ship Blenheim, Bomarsund,
August 17, 1854.*

SIR,

It is with great pleasure that I have to report to you, for the information of the Commander-in-Chief, the exceeding good conduct and gallantry displayed by the officers and men under my command on shore at Blenheim Battery, during the attack on Bomarsund on the 15th and 16th instant, when under a very heavy fire of shell and shot during the greater part of this period.

All deserve the highest praise, and I name in the margin* the two officers and captain of gun.

I have, &c.,

FREDK. PELHAM,

Captain.

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

*Edinburgh, off Bomarsund,
August 18, 1854.*

Submitted for the consideration of the Commander-in-Chief.

H. D. CHADS,

Rear-Admiral.

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

*Leopard, at Bomarsund,
August 17, 1854.*

SIR,

OBSERVING on the 16th instant the Presto Tower's fire was harassing the constructors of General Jones's battery, I moved (in obedience

* Fras. A. Close, Lieutenant; Leveson Wildman, Acting Mate; John Farrell, Chief Boats Mate and Captain of Gun.