

Jones, to whose assistance, on all occasions, I have been much indebted, was well directed and serviceable; that of the French gun-boats attracted attention by its precision. Being placed well in on the mud on the northern bank of the river, at high water, only one English gun-boat was within long range of the South Fort, and all being more or less out of the line of fire of that which they attacked. The enemy, after a few shot, which fell short, ceased to fire on them, and consequently they sustained no casualties whatever.

7. While therefore I have not on this occasion to draw their Lordships' attention to conduct such as that which distinguished both officers and men in the attack of last year, I yet gladly avail myself of this occasion to express the sense I entertain of their unwearied exertions, not merely in effecting the landing of the army here, an operation continued without intermission until it was completed, but also in the fitting out of the transport fleet, the embarkation at Hong-Kong, as well as the disembarkation and embarkation at Talién-whan Bay, all of which, together with the keeping up the supplies of the army, has involved much heavy labour.

8. I am indebted to Commander Ward, and the surveying officers under his directions, for a chart of Talién-whan Bay, and the coast line of the extreme of the Gulf of Pechili, made early in the year, notwithstanding much bad weather; for accurate surveys of the Pehtang and Peiho rivers, while still in the possession of the enemy; and for much zeal and ability displayed in subsequently buoying those rivers.

9. I am unwilling to conclude this Despatch without acknowledging the cordial co-operation on all occasions of my colleagues, and more especially of Vice-Admiral Charner, on whose suggestion the effective position assigned to the gun-boats was adopted. I have, &c.,

J. HOPE,

Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable Lord Clarence Paget, C.B., M.P., Secretary of the Admiralty.

Copy.

[Inclosure to No. 287 of 1860.]

THE Undersigned, Hang Fuh, Viceroy of the Province of Chi Li, addresses the following communication to the English and French (French and English) Military and Naval (Naval and Military) Commanders-in-Chief.

On the 5th day of the present month (21st August) the Honourable Commanders-in-Chief advanced upon the Forts, both by sea and land, and took those on the northern bank; this success proves the efficiency of the troops of the Honourable Commanders-in-Chief, and the Chinese Army being defeated, tender their submission. The latter have accordingly withdrawn from all the Forts on the southern bank, and are now willing to surrender into the possession of the Honourable Commanders-in-Chief all these Forts, together with the whole of their munitions, and any fortified camps or entrenchments. The undersigned further engages to depute officers to point out to officers on the part of the Commanders-in-Chief the position of any mines that may be in the Forts, and of all secret defences placed in the river, in order that no injury may be occasioned thereby to the Honourable Allies. It is understood that the delivery of the Forts, as soon as effected, shall

be followed by the cessation of hostilities in this locality, and also that no injury shall be done to the inhabitants, who shall be efficiently protected both in person and property.

A necessary communication, dated Heenfung, 18th year, 7th month, 5th day (August 21st), 1860. Translated by

(Signed) HARRY PARKES.

True Copy.

(Signed) H. HOPE CREALOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
Military Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Special Embassy to China.

PROCEEDINGS OF BATTALION OF MARINES SERVING WITH THE ARMY.

No. 288, Coromandel, in the Peiho,
(One Inclosure.) August 27, 1860.

MY LORD,

HEREWITH I forward, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the report I have received of the late operations from Lieutenant-Colonel Gascoigne, who is in command of the battalion of Royal Marines serving with the army, and should they prove to have been so fortunate as to have obtained the favourable notice of the Lieutenant-General in command, I feel assured their Lordships will feel pleasure in meeting any request which may be made in their favour by His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief. I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. HOPE,

Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

Right Honourable Lord Clarence Paget, C.B.,
Secretary of the Admiralty.

[Inclosure in No. 288 of 1860.]

(Battalion of Royal Marines, (L.I.)

SIR, Tonku, August 24, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the proceedings of the Battalion of Royal Marines under my command, serving by your order with the expeditionary force, and attached to the Fourth Brigade in the Second Division, since landing at Pehtang on the 9th instant.

On the 12th August the whole force (excepting the 99th Regiment,) moved out for Sinho. The Tartar cavalry showed themselves in great numbers during the advance, and made demonstrations of attack, but were repulsed with considerable loss, the casualties being few on the side of the Allies. Our own battalion, though engaged, having none.

On the 14th, at daylight, the artillery, with the 3d and 4th Brigades, and a French force, were sent forward to take the strongly fortified village of Tonku. After a severe bombardment the 60th Rifles effected an entrance at the west angle upon the river, the casualties having been few on the part of the Allies. Two deep ditches encompassed the place, and the loss to the enemy was great.

On the 21st (having marched out of Tonku the previous evening), the Artillery, Engineers, Royal Marines, 44th and 67th Regiments, accompanied by about 1,500 French, moved to the attack of the strong North Peiho Fort. The right wing of the Royal Marines being sent forward under