

No. 8.

*Return of General Officers employed on the Expedition against the Island of Guadaloupe, February 9th, 1810.*

Major-General Hislop.  
 Brigadier-General Gledstanes, Quarter and Barrack-Master-General.  
 Brigadier-General Harcourt.  
 Brigadier-General Maclean.  
 Brigadier-General Sir Charles Shipley, Chief Engineer.  
 Brigadier-General G. W. Ramsay, Adjutant-General.  
 Brigadier-General J. Barrow.  
 Brigadier-General John Skinner.  
 Brigadier-General Charles Wale.

(Signed) G. W. RAMSAY,  
 Brigadier and Adjutant-General.  
*Sir G. Beckwith, K. B. Commander of the Forces.*

*Admiralty-Office, March 15, 1810.*

**D**ISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies, were this Morning received at this Office, by Captain Stanfell, of His Majesty's Sloop the Scorpion, from Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Alexander Cochrane, K. B. Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels at the Leeward Islands, addressed to John Wilson Croker, Esq.

*Pompée, Basseterre, Guadaloupe, February 8, 1810.*

**SIR,**  
**H**AVING on the 10th January left the Charge of the Blockade of the Island of Guadaloupe to the senior Captain then present, I proceeded to Fort Royal Bay, Martinique, where I arrived on the following Night; and upon consulting with His Excellency Lieut.-Gen. Sir George Beckwith, the Commander of the Forces, no Time was lost in embarking the Artillery and Stores, and in sending the Ships of War to collect the Troops from the several Islands and Colonies in this Command, intended to be employed on the Attack of Guadaloupe, all of which I directed to rendezvous in Prince Rupert's Bay, Dominica.

On the 22d of January, our Arrangements being completed, and the Lieutenant-General with his Staff embarked on board this Ship, together with Major-General Hislop, Brigadier-General Harcourt, and all the Heads of Departments, we proceeded with several Transports and hired Armed Vessels to the Rendezvous, where, on my Arrival on the 24th, I had the Pleasure to see all the Ships assembled or in Sight of the Anchorage, with the Exception of Three or Four Transports having Troops on board, which I however sent out Frigates to tow in, and they all met us at Guadaloupe in Time to give their Assistance.

The Army being divided into Two Divisions and a Reserve, I ordered Commodore Ballard, of the Sceptre, about Eight o'Clock on the 26th, to go on to the Saintes, with the Second Division, commanded by Brigadier-General Harcourt, to arrange there for the Debarkation.

As soon as the Second Division had left Prince Rupert's, I ordered the First to get under Weigh, and follow the Pompée; and about Noon of the 27th,

we anchored off Gosier, Guadaloupe, where having hoisted out all the Boats, the Troops of this Division, under the Command of Major-General Hislop, and under the immediate Superintendance of the Commander of the Forces, left the Ships about Four o'Clock in the Morning of the 28th, and proceeded under the Orders of Commodore Fabie, to the Village of St. Marie, where they landed without Opposition at Nine, and soon after moved onwards to Cabaisterre, in the Road to Trois Rivieres.

While this Division was advancing, I sent Directions to Commodore Ballard to get under Weigh from the Saintes with his Division, to draw the Enemy's Attention, by a Feint, upon Trois Rivieres, by which the Enemy was deterred from opposing the Progress of the Troops through the difficult Pass of Trochien; and after the Close of the Day he was ordered to land the Troops to the Northward of Basseterre, which he effected, without Opposition, about Three Leagues distant from the Town, when they marched in a Direction for the Enemy's Right.

I followed along the Shore in this Ship the Route of the principal Division, which enabled me to keep up a constant Communication with Sir George Beckwith, and about Noon anchored in the Bay of Trois Rivieres, the Enemy having evacuated all his Batteries as the Army advanced.

On the 2d of February, Five Days Provisions having been prepared for the Troops, they proceeded on to the Heights of Palmiste, and the Shipping anchored again about Two Miles to the Northward of Basseterre. At half past Six o'Clock in the Afternoon, on my appearing off the Town, the Chiefs of the provisional Government sent off a Flag of Truce to implore Safety for themselves and the Town; to which I replied by assuring the Inhabitants that their Persons and Property should be protected and held inviolable, provided they gave up the Forts which commanded the Town, but on their sending off a second Time to say they had no Power or Controul over the Troops garrisoning them, and that there were only peaceable and defenceless Inhabitants in Basseterre, I forbore to fire on the Forts, for fear of injuring the Town; but on the following Day, at Two o'Clock, I sent Commodore Fabie with Detachments of Marines from all the Ships to march in and take Possession of it, and to guard all the Avenues leading to the Forts, so as to keep the Enemy's Troops in them in Check, which Service was performed greatly to my Satisfaction.

In the Forenoon of this Day (3d,) we saw from the Ships, Brigadier-General Harcourt's Division warmly engaged with the Enemy, who was beaten back with considerable Loss; and in the Evening, the Reserve, under Brigadier-General Wale, having turned and beat the Enemy's Left in the Mountains above Matouba, and gained his most important Pass, it alarmed him so much; and also being astonished by the Vigour of the Attacks of the British Troops on each Side, he on the following Morning (the 4th,) hoisted Flags of Truce in all his Positions, and the Captain-General Ernouf sent his Aid-de-Camp with Proposals for the Surrender of the Island. In consequence of this, I immediately proceeded to the Head-Quarters of the British Camp, and it was agreed that Commissioners should meet at Tea o'Clock on the 5th, to settle the Terms of Capitulation.

