



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1810.

Downing-Street, October 25, 1810.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is an Extract, was last Night received by the Earl of Liverpool, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Keating, dated Bourbon, 23^d July 1810.

I HAVE much Pleasure in forwarding to your Lordship a Copy of my Dispatch, under this Date, to the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India; and I hope the Conduct of the Forces confided to my Command may meet with the gracious Approbation of His Majesty.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq; Chief Secretary to Government, Calcutta.

SIR,

I HAVE the Honour to report that the Force, consisting of One Thousand Eight Hundred European and One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Native Troops, which the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India, in Council, has been pleased to confide to my Orders and Directions, for the Conquest of the Island of Bourbon, arrived at Roderigues on the 20th of June, at which Time I was absent on the important Duty which has already been detailed, for the Information of his Lordship, in my Letter of the 16th of the same Month.

The Intelligence which I then obtained enabled me at once to decide upon a Plan of Attack.

On the 24th June Commodore Rowley, commanding the blockading Squadron before the Isles of France and Bonaparté, anchored in His Majesty's Ship Boadicea off Fort Duncan, in the Island of Roderigues.

No Time was lost in making the necessary Arrangements for the Reduction of this Island, as well

as for carrying into Effect the ulterior Object of the Expedition.

From the unfavorable State of the Weather we were delayed at Roderigues until the Morning of the 3d Instant, when we weighed Anchor, and proceeded to the Point of Rencezvous, Fifty Miles to Windward of the Island of Bonaparté, which Point we reached at Four o'Clock on the Evening of the 6th, when, in consequence of the judicious Arrangements made by Commodore Rowley, and the indefatigable Zeal and Exertions of Captains Pym of the Sirius, Lambert of the Iphigenia, Curtis of the Magicienne, Willoughby of the Nereide, and Lieutenant Robb, First of the Boadicea, the whole of the Troops were removed from the Transports and embarked in the Frigates, which immediately stood in for the Points of Debarkation.

It will appear by the Disposition made in the Plan of Attack, for striking the first Blow at the Enemy's Capital, that there were Two Objects in view; first, to prevent a protracted Warfare in the Interior of a Country almost inaccessible to an invading Army; and secondly, to ensure the final Reduction of the Island in the shortest Time possible, by securing the principal Garrison, and the Governor and Commander in Chief, whom I knew to be at St. Denis.

The First Brigade composed of His Majesty's 86th Regiment, the First Battalion 6th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, and a small Detail of Artillery and Pioneers, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Frazer, was ordered to land at Grand Chaloupe, and to proceed by the Mountains direct against the West Side of the Enemy's Capital; whilst the Second, Third and Fourth Brigades were to land at Riviere des Pluies, and to force the Lines of Defence extending from the Butor Redoubt on the North or Sea Side, to the Redoubt No. 11. on the