

our Shots were thrown with uncommon Coolness and Precision, the Enemy's Fire was observed to decrease considerably, and at Five in the Evening Flags of Truce were seen hoisted in Fort Orange, upon which all Firing ceased, and Three Officers came on board, commissioned by the Civil and Military Governor to arrange Articles of Capitulation for the Surrender of the Island.

The Articles I have the Honour to inclose were then concluded, and next Morning ratified, signed and exchanged, and a further Arrangement made for the Entrance of the British Force, at Nine o'Clock in the Morning of the 31st, which was accordingly done, the Enemy marching out, and laying down their Arms, when the English Colours were displayed in all the Forts and Batteries, under a Royal Salute from each, also from His Majesty's Ship Dover. Thus has the Whole of this Island fallen in less than one Day to a very inconsiderable Force, though so famous for the Strength of its Fortifications, and memorable for its Defence in the last War against the English. By official Documents we find that Five Hundred Regular Troops, with a very large Proportion of Officers and Europeans, have defended the Place, aided by the Marine Department (many of whom are European Seamen), the Dutch Inhabitants and Burghers, in Number Two Hundred and Three, and also the King of Ternate's Force, Two Hundred and Fifty of whom were in the Field, and an equal Number from the Sultan of Tidore and adjacent Islands, in Alliance with the Dutch.

All these Circumstances duly considered, with the very small Force opposed to such evident Means of Defence, will, I trust, make it apparent that the Officers and Men employed on this Occasion cannot derive additional Credit by any Eulogy in my Power to pronounce; however I cannot refrain the Satisfaction of reporting to Your Excellency the Names of those Officers who from truly heroic Conduct have excited in me such Admiration.

With the Conduct of every Officer and Man on board the Dover, during our Attack on the Batteries and Fort Orange, I am most perfectly satisfied; to Lieutenants Inledon and Jefferies, Mr. Morgan the Master, Lieutenant Higginson Royal Marines, and Mr. Palmer the Purser, who assisted on the Main Deck, much Praise is due.

Let me remind Your Excellency that Lieutenants Jefferies and Higginson also shared in all the Fatigue and Glory attending the Storm on Fort Kayo Meirah.

It will be gratifying to you to learn that notwithstanding the heavy Cross Fire the Dover was exposed to from the different Batteries and Fort Orange, our Loss has been but trifling, having had only five Seamen wounded; nor has the Ship suffered materially, either in her Hull, Masts or Rigging.

I inclose herewith a Return of the Ordnance found on the Island, and a List of the Killed and Wounded. The Colours of Fort Orange are now on board the Dover, and I shall have the Honour of presenting them to you on my joining Your Excellency's Flag.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD TUCKER.

Rear Admiral Drury, Commander in Chief
of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the
East Indies.

NO. 16500.

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Names of the Officers who so conspicuously distinguished themselves at the taking of Ternate, but more particularly so when storming Fort Kayo Meirah.

Madras European Regiment—Captain Forbes, Lieutenants Forbes and Cursham.

His Majesty's Ship Dover—Lieutenant Jefferies, Royal Navy; Lieutenant Higginson, Royal Marines.

It will be remembered by Your Excellency, that all these Officers bore a distinguished Part in the Attack of Amboyna.

To Edward Tucker Esq; commanding His Majesty's Ship Dover.

SIR,

I HAVE the Honour to detail to you the Operations of the Detachment under my Command, from the Time of its leaving His Majesty's Ship Dover, until Hostilities ceased against the Island of Ternate.

After the Boats left the Ship on the Night of the 27th Instant, every possible Exertion was made by Lieutenant Jefferies, in Charge, to accomplish a landing before Day-Break, with a View of taking Fort Kayo Meirah by Surprize; finding, however, that so desirable an Object could not be effected, I directed him to proceed to Sasa (which is situated behind a Point of Land), where we landed without Molestation about Seven A.M. Lieutenant Charles Forbes then moved forward with a Party to occupy the Heights, where he remained until the Gun and Ammunition could be brought up; this became a fatiguing Service, from the Steepness of the Hills and deep Ravines. About Noon, after incredible Labour, we gained a commanding Position near the Sea, where we rested about two Hours. Having left a Party here to keep up the Communication with the Ship, we proceeded on to occupy a Height, and to command Fort Kayo Meirah, and which was pointed out as the Spot taken up by the English last War; but, to our great Mortification, on our gaining it we found that the Trees had grown so much as to preclude entirely our seeing the Fort; in the mean time we perceived the Flag of Truce hoisted on board His Majesty's Ship Dover. Being determined, in the Event of the Enemy's not agreeing to the Summons, to gain immediate Possession of Fort Kayo Meirah, I ordered One Hundred Men, with a Double Scaling Ladder, to be in Readiness to storm. The Moment I received your Letter, inclosing the Governor's Refusal, I proceeded on about Seven o'Clock P.M. with this Party, keeping the inland Road. After advancing some little Way, we found it impossible to proceed farther, owing to immense Trees cut down by the Enemy and thrown across the Road. I then turned to the Right, and after great Labour reached the Beach, and about Ten o'Clock arrived within nearly Eight Hundred Yards of the Fort undiscovered. We had not advanced Fifty Yards farther, before the Enemy's Out-Sentry fired his Musket. Immediately after, a Detachment of the Enemy, with a Brigade of Guns, fired a Volley. We now pushed forward, keeping up a Fire of Musketry on the Detachment outside, which drove them off. The Fort now opened a very heavy Fire of Grape and Musketry, notwithstanding which we crossed the Ditch and