

Return of War Junks and Row Boats, &c. found in the Chinese Naval Arsenal on the 27th May 1841.

12 war junks building; 24 row boats; and 12 war junks lying at anchor off the Arsenal.

A large quantity of timber, gun carriages, and various stores.

T. HERBERT,
Captain and Senior Officer present.

No. 4.

To Captain Sir Humphry Le Fleming Senhouse,
K.C.H. &c. &c. Senior Officer in the Chinese Seas.

Her Majesty's Sloop Hyacinth, off Canton,

SIR, May 26th, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that immediately on the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, I weighed with the advanced squadron, and ordered Her Majesty's sloop Nimrod to attack the Samien Fort on the west end of the suburbs, supported by Her Majesty's sloop Pylades; Her Majesty's sloop, under my command, being placed abreast of the English factory to silence and dislodge any troops that might be there, and also with a view of covering the landing of Her Majesty's 26th regiment; Her Majesty's sloops Modeste, Cruizer, and Columbine, taking up a position to attack the Dutch Folly Fort, and to enfilade the line of batteries, lately thrown up in front of the city to the eastward of that fort. On the ships taking up their position, three fire vessels were sent adrift; and although the tide was running very strong, by timely dispatch of boats they were enabled to clear the ships, and tow three on shore, and set fire to the suburbs.

In the performance of this service they opened their fire on the boats and shipping. In half an hour the enemy were completely silenced to the eastward of the Dutch Folly Fort. After reconnoitring the Factory and finding it quite deserted, I immediately ordered the preconcerted signal for Her Majesty's Brig Algerine and Atalanta steamer to approach with Her Majesty's 26th regiment, when they landed and took possession of the Factory without the slightest casualty. This service being completed, I ordered Lieutenant Mason, commanding Her Majesty's brig Algerine, to proceed to attack a fort to the eastward, which I feel much pleasure in reporting to you was done in a particularly spirited and gallant style by that officer, but perceiving the firing to be so heavy from the forts, I ordered the boats of Her Majesty's ships to her support: Her Majesty's sloop Hyacinth's, under Lieutenant Stewart, and Mr. Peter Barclay mate; Modeste's, Mr. Fitzgerald mate; Cruizer's, Lieutenant Haskell, and Mr. Thomas J. Drake, mate; Pylade's, Lieutenant Hay; and Columbine's, Lieutenants Hamilton, Helpman, and Mr. Miller, mate. It is gratifying to me to inform you, by half-past seven the fort of eleven guns was silenced, and the guns spiked, under a heavy fire of ginjalls and musquetry from the houses; at the same time I regret to add, it was not done without considerable loss. It would be impossible to particularize upon an occasion where every officer and man engaged against an enemy defending themselves with

much vigour at all points, but in addition to my best thanks and acknowledgments to Commanders Barlow, Evres, Giffard, Anson and Clarke, and Lieutenant Mason, I hope you will give me leave to recommend to your particular notice my own 1st Lieutenant W. H. Morshead, who was wounded in the hand in a personal engagement with a Manderin. Lieutenant Mason of the Algerine speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of Mr. Dolling, mate, and Mr. Higgs, second master of that vessel. I cannot conclude without expressions of my approbation of the steadiness of Commander Rogers of the Indian Navy, in conducting the Atalanta to her station.

I beg leave to attach a statement of the killed and wounded, and damage sustained by the ships engaged.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WM. WARREN, Commander.

Admiralty, October 8, 1841.

DUPLICATES of Dispatches, addressed to Commodore Sir J. J. Gordon Bremer from the late Captain Sir H. Fleming Senhouse, were this day received at this Office, of which the following are copies or extracts:

Heights above Canton, May 29, 1841, continued on board Her Majesty's ship Blenheim, French river, June 2, 1841.

SIR,

I CLOSED my former with the detail of our proceedings up to the moment the expedition was about to leave Hongkong for Canton. I have now the gratification to enter upon the details of a succession of operations highly honourable I trust to Her Majesty's arms, and by which the large and populous city of Canton has been laid in complete submission at the feet of the Queen's forces.

As soon as it was decided that the whole combined force should move up to the attack of Canton, the Major-General and myself were decidedly of opinion that no minor attempts should be made until all was ready for a combined operation, when the whole force should be brought into play, and, having once commenced our measures, to follow them up with vigour and energy until Canton was our own.

I, therefore, instructed Captain Herbert, who had charge of the advanced squadron, that he was to abstain from all hostile movements, until the arrival of the force under the command of the Major-General and myself, excepting such as might be merely defensive.

The surveying vessels, under the command of that able and intelligent Officer, Commander Belcher, were sent on, on the 18th, to take up a position about the Sankut flats, to aid in getting the large vessels over the shoals once more, where Blenheim had already four times passed with great good fortune without injury.

It was my intention to take Blenheim within sight, and in as close neighbourhood of the very walls of Canton as possible, to form a good dépôt for stores, quarters for the sick or wounded, and to