

for the purpose of preventing any opposition by new defences.

Our united force consisted of the ships and vessels named in the margin, comprising, in their crews, officers, seamen, and marines inclusive, about 3,200 men; out of which about 1000 officers, seamen, and marines were landed, to serve with the army. The military force under that gallant, distinguished, and experienced Officer, Major-General Sir Hugh Gough, consisting of about 2,223, besides the staff of the army, and the camp-followers: and the whole force, taken collectively, excepting transports' crews, including every individual in the fleet, could not have been more than 6000 persons, of all ages and of all classes.

On the morning of the 24th, orders were given to be ready to land about noon, in two columns, with two days dressed provisions.

The major-general commanded the right column. I had intended to have taken the command of my naval-brigade in this column, but the major-general begged I would remain at his side, and feeling it to be only a sacrifice of my own gratification and desire, once more to lead my brave fellows, and sensible that nothing could be lost to the public service by transferring the command on this occasion, I resigned it to my gallant and intelligent friend, Captain Burchier, and joined the general's staff with my own immediate assistants, Commander Belcher, Lieutenant Pitman, and Mr. Norman, mate of the Royal Navy.

I left to the judgment of Captain Herbert, of the Calliope, to act according to circumstances, in endeavouring to drive the enemy from the French fort, and to endeavour to open the communication with the ships of war to the westward, and with the commanding officer of the left column, stationed at the factories. I beg to inclose a letter I have received from Captain Herbert, detailing the part he took in the affair that followed; when the usual gallantry and zeal were displayed by Her Majesty's seamen and royal marines.

So effectually and vigorously did Commander Warren execute his instructions, that when the right column passed his station every thing had been completed, and all was still. The detail of this gallant affair is annexed in a copy of his letter, where I regret to observe the loss of men was more than had been ordinary.

The day chosen for the landing happened to be the 24th, the anniversary of our Gracious Queen's birthday. I issued a general order that the salute should be fired, though in the midst of the preparation, and it was done even under the muzzles of the enemy's guns.

The right column, piloted up the creek by Commander Belcher, profiting by the local knowledge he had gained the previous day, arrived safely at its destination as the day closed in.

The General immediately landed with a wing of the 49th, and proceeded to throw out reconnoitring:

* Blenheim, Blonde, Sulphur, Hyacinth, Nimrod, Mōdeste; Pylades, Cruizer, Columbine, Algerine, Starling, Atalanta and Nemesis steamers, forming the Macao fort division.—Calliope, Conway, Herald, Alligator; forming the Whampoa division.—Wesley, at Wantong, in the Bocca Tigris, sent up her marines, and 160 seamen.

picquets. About 9 o'clock some detached parties of Chinese soldiers came around us with shouts, burning false fires, but they never came to the attack, and contented themselves with cutting off a poor camp-follower who struggled a little, taking off his head, and leaving both head and body on the ground. All remained quiet until daylight.

On the morning of the 25th the troops marched on in extended lines, and a demonstration was made to the right, where the enemy appeared nearest and numerous in the adjoining vilages. But they felt no inclination to approach, and the low grounds appearing more swampy and extensive in that direction than to the left, the General drew off to that quarter, and we went most cautiously forward to allow of the guns keeping up, the dragging being very laborious, the weather sultry, and the swamp between the hills precluding the possibility of getting any but small guns forward.

As we approached the city, four distinct forts were observed outside of the walls, on steep heights, all either square or round in their forms, and entirely inclosed. The city walls were armed with guns and ginjels, and the three nearest forts were completely under their fire. The enemy's troops were numerous within and without; but they kept at a distance, and unwilling to close with the troops, although their distant fire was sufficiently exact. After occupying several heights successively on the advance, by many connected movements, the 49th were ordered with the 37th native infantry, to occupy a height on the left nearest the outer fort. The 18th and the Royal Marines on the heights opposite the square tower, and the naval brigade to take and occupy a height on the right in front of the two oblong forts near the north-gate. From these the different divisions advanced ultimately to the storming. The Chinese came down in great numbers, crowned the ridges near the forts, but the 49th being a little in advance, pushed on and succeeded first in entering both of the forts on the left with the native troops, but the 18th were united with them; the Chinese fled towards the city, and the forts were immediately secured.

At this moment our situation was not the most secure in face of a force, which by all accounts, must have amounted to 40,000 men. We had gained the exterior forts gallantly, but a warm fire soon came from the town walls, and numerous bodies advanced, drew out, and came under the ridges within pistol shot of our gates. A camp of about 4,000 men appeared below; a smaller camp further off. A large body of men approached the vilages, commanding our communication with the beach. The skirmishers were, however, soon driven back, and in their retreat drawing our troops after them; they gradually approached their large camp, and circumstances accomplished that, which prudence would hardly at first have undertaken. Our men were warmly fired at from the heights, divided from them by a rice field, two narrow paths only led to it, but the Royal Irish led in the most gallant manner by Captains Grattan and Sergeant on one pathway, the former of whom encouraged his grenadiers amidst a heavy fire, preceding them at some distance; and by Colonel Adams on another pathway to the left. A company of Royal Marines, under Lieutenant Maxwell of the Druid, joining the 18th, the Chinese abandoned the height,