



# The London Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY.

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MONDAY, MAY 31, 1852.

*India Board, May 31, 1852.*

THE following Dispatches have been this day received at the East India House:

*The Governor-General of India in Council to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company.*

*Fort William, April 24, 1852.*

WE have the highest satisfaction in transmitting to you the enclosed copy of dispatches just received from his Excellency Rear-Admiral Austen, C.B and Lieutenant-General Godwin, commanding the Naval and Military Forces employed in Burmah.

2. They report the assault and capture of Martaban on the 5th, and of Rangoon on the 14th April, and announce the complete success of the combined operations of the army and fleet.

3. The necessity for immediately despatching this intelligence now by the last express which can safely be relied upon, renders it impossible for us to convey to your Honourable Committee our sentiments on the gratifying results which are announced, as fully as we desire to do. This duty we shall have the satisfaction of discharging by the ensuing Mail.

4. But we beg leave to take this earliest opportunity of assuring you that we feel we cannot use language too strong in making known to you our unqualified approbation of the admirable spirit which has been displayed in these combined operations of the naval and military forces, or express too warmly our gratitude to the Rear-Admiral and to the Lieutenant-General by whom the operations have been conducted, and to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of both services, who, as the several dispatches will show you, have so nobly performed their duty in the field.

We have, &c.  
DALHOUSIE.  
F. CURRIE.  
J. LOWIS.

*The Secretary to Rear-Admiral Austen to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

SIR,  
*Rattler, Rangoon River,  
April 2, 1852.*  
REFERRING to the seventh paragraph of the

instructions from the Indian Government to the Commander of the Forces, in which that functionary is desired before proceeding to Rangoon to ascertain by such means as may seem best through a flag of truce, whether any letter from the Court of Ava to the Government had been received, I have the honour by the desire of the Rear-Admiral Commander-in-Chief to state, for the information of the Governor-General, that the East India Company's steamer Proserpine was sent up the river with Captain Latta, Burmese interpreter, to the Governor of Dalla, to ascertain whether any letter had been received.

The steamer, with a flag of truce, was permitted to pass two stockades on the right bank of the river unmolested, but a third upon the left bank opened fire upon her.

In obedience to the instructions His Excellency had given her commander, she turned back; but as the flood tide was running very strong, this was a work of difficulty, and she had to remain for some time under fire, which she returned with shell and shot and blew up the stockade. The other two stockades then opened fire, but she succeeded in returning to the anchorage without damage, having been struck by only one shot from a 12-pounder gun.

I have, &c.,  
G. P. MARTIN.

*The Secretary to Rear-Admiral Austen to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

SIR,  
*Rattler, Rangoon River,  
April 10, 1852.*  
I HAVE the honour, by desire of the Rear-Admiral Commander-in-Chief, to enclose a return showing at one view the force assembled for proceeding against Burmah; together with a list of the transports employed.

I have, &c.  
G. P. MARTIN.

*Force employed in the Expedition against Burmah.*

Her Majesty's Ships.  
Rattler, Commander A. Mellersh, 130 men, 11 guns. Flag ship. Two guns received from Fox.