

The naval part of the expedition, both sailors and marines, supported the character that has ever been theirs, of undaunted courage.

I have been considered wanting some times in not more particularly naming corps or individuals, but in this peculiar warfare of constant assaults on well-armed and strong positions, often well defended, it has been the noble emulation of all to be first into the enemy's works. It was in such an effort of ambition that that fine and gallant young officer, Lieutenant Doran, of the 18th Royal Irish, fell, pierced with four balls, far in advance of his proper post: indeed I might fill my report with names, were all to be individualized.

I now beg particularly to bring to the notice of the Governor-General in Council Major Boul-derson, of the Madras Army, the Deputy Judge-Advocate-General of the force, who on this occasion accompanied me, and filled the two posts of Assistant Adjutant and Assistant Quarter Master General to the expedition, as I could not move from their important duties at Rangoon Adjutant General Mayhew nor Quarter Master General Allan.

The Major has been of much essential service to me in various ways, and the judicious manner in which he posted the pickets after the capture of Bassein, in that wilderness of houses and jungle, tended to the perfect security of the force. Captain Chads, my Aide-de-Camp, never leaves me, and always makes himself particularly useful.

Since my last report, nothing worthy of note has occurred at Rangoon. The town is increasing in importance by the crowds of natives who daily come in, with their families and goods, as is the case throughout the neighbourhood, but especially at Kemmendine, which is as large a place as Rangoon.

The conduct of the troops is excellent, and their health is improving daily since the rain has set in.

I have, &c.

H. GODWIN.

P.S.—When recalling the omissions I have been unaware of in my dispatches Nos. 1 and 2, it has occurred to me that I have not done justice to Captain J. J. Wood, of the 18th Royal Irish, who on the 14th of April commanded his corps, during the storm, into the Great Pagoda, Lieutenant-Colonel Coote holding at the time a separate command, that of the storming party. I shall feel greatly obliged by the notice of the Governor-General in Council of this deserving officer, who is of long standing.

*Major A. C. Errington, Her Majesty's 51st Regiment, to Lieutenant-General Godwin, C.B.*

SIR, *Off Bassein, May 22nd, 1852.*

THE operations being concluded, I have the honour now to lay before you a report of the assault and capture of the strong stockades erected by the enemy at Bassein, by the troops under my command, on the 19th instant,

The East India Company's steamers having anchored in succession at about half-past four, P.M., in front of Bassein, a signal was made for the troops to land. This was effected in a very short time, and the ground occupied was an open space running along the river in front of the stockade. The work was full of armed men, and several guns were in position. I formed the troops in line.

The whole force had not landed when a fire from the enemy was opened upon us. This was a signal for the troops to advance, which was done in the most gallant style; the stockade was surmounted, the Chief Pagoda gained, and the enemy were driven in every direction. Considering the sharp fire that was opened upon us in this gallant attack, our loss of killed and wounded was small.

Having formed the troops in the Pagoda, companies were sent out by your orders in different directions to disperse the enemy.

A most important duty still remained to be performed. The enemy's stronghold, a fortified position to the south of the town, was still un-molested.

A company of Her Majesty's 51st, under Captain Rice, and two of the Madras Native Infantry, under Captain Borthwick, were selected to assault this position. I accompanied this detachment myself, in order to be an eye-witness of what I knew would be a most dashing operation. I halted the party for a few minutes on the road, as Captain Borthwick had not come up, where it was joined by a few seamen and marines, under Lieutenant Rice, Royal Navy, by a party of Madras sappers, with ladders, under Lieutenant Ford, and by a subdivision of the 9th Native Infantry, under Lieutenant Ansley. As it was getting late, I decided upon not waiting for the remainder of the 9th.

Taking a circuitous route, we came out in rear of the stockade, in an open space which afforded us a distinct view of this formidable position. I here detached Lieutenant Ansley, with his party, to the right, to attack in reverse the north-east side.

Our further progress was impeded by water and low thick jungle, obliging us to take another direction, which brought the party out upon a brick road leading straight up to the north-east angle of the work. Upon opening the position, and when within fifteen yards of it, a severe fire of musketry, guns, and jingalls, was opened upon us by the enemy. I was struck in the groin, which disabled me at once. Lieutenant Rice, Royal Navy, whilst bravely leading on his men, was shot through the hand. Captain Rice, Her Majesty's 51st Light Infantry, whilst gallantly leading his company up to the assault, was shot through the lower part of the neck; his place was gallantly taken by his subaltern Lieutenant Carter, who, followed by his men, was the first on the parapet. He was struck down by a musket-ball, and rolled over the exterior slope, but still insisted upon being carried into the work. Lieutenant Ansley, of the Madras 9th Native Infantry, and Lieutenant Ford, Madras Sappers, mounted the parapet in the most gallant manner, the former receiving a wound through the right hand. The enemy now gave way in every direction, followed by the victorious troops under the command of Lieutenant Ford.

Thus, in forty minutes from the time the troops landed, the whole of the enemy's works were in possession.

In conclusion, I beg to bring to your notice the noble conduct of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of all arms, who took place in the assault, and the cheerfulness and alacrity with which every individual appeared anxious to perform his duty.

I beg to enclose a list of the killed and wounded.

I have, &c.

A. C. ERRINGTON, Major.