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India Board, April 28, 1853.

THE papers, of which the following is a copy, have been received at the East India House this day:

NOTIFICATION.

Fort William, March 19, 1853.

THE Most Noble the Governor-General in Council has much satisfaction in publishing, for general information, extracts of a despatch from Brigadier-General Steel, C.B., dated the 23rd of February, in which he reports the occupation of Toung-hoo, by the force under his Command, and the expulsion of the Burmese troops from the eastern side of the province.

Although the invariable retreat of the enemy before the force has afforded it little opportunity of proving its superiority in the field, yet its steady discipline, its forbearance from all excesses, and its alacrity in the performance of every duty, have well deserved the applause of the Governor-General in Council, and command his confidence.

His Lordship in Council desires to convey to Brigadier-General Steel his best thanks for the manner in which he has conducted the expedition to its successful issue; as well as to the several officers whom the Brigadier-General has specially named in his despatch.

And to all, officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, the Governor-General in Council has to offer the assurance of his approbation.

By Order of the Most Noble the Governor-General in Council.

C. ALLEN, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

Extract of a Despatch from Brigadier-General S. W. Steel, C.B., Commanding the Martaban Column, dated Camp Toung-hoo, February 23, 1853, to C. Allen, Esq.

MY last despatch, dated the 15th instant, reported my having marched that day from Shoee-Gyne. Between that place and Kyouk-Ghee, the villages were entirely deserted, from fear of the Burman forces; a few of the inhabitants stole in from the jungle, to communicate with us; they were supplied with copies of the Proclamation, and encouraged to return to their homes.

The force arrived at Kyouk-Ghee on the 17th instant, apparently before it was expected. No

one had come out to meet us; and the few people outside of the stockade, looked in silent wonder on our approach across the fine running stream which nearly surrounds the place. The highest authority left within the town was an officer of inferior rank, called a Goung, who opened the gates and accompanied us around the enclosure, pointing out the guns, and other arms, of which a return is enclosed. The stockade is on the same simple plan, and about the same size as Beeling, but more dilapidated. Safeguards were posted to protect the place, and a fine bazaar was opened, to which the troops and followers were admitted. Captain Clogstoun, an officer of the Quarter-Master-General's Department, had proceeded with an escort of Irregular Horse, to reconnoitre the road in advance, when it was discovered that some of the chiefs who had left Kyouk-Ghee during the previous night, were but a short distance in front: the remainder of the horse were immediately sent on under their Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Lambert, to join the escort in advance. They fell in with the party, and a number of carts loaded with families, women, children, and baggage, about five miles from camp. There were with this party about 100 or more men, armed with muskets, two guns and some jingals; and in the first encounter, before it was discovered that they did not intend to fire, two or three of their men were hurt. Two of the chief officers belonging to Kyouk-Ghee, with two Tseetkays, or assistants to Mounbwa, Ex-Governor of Martaban, were brought in. They had no desire to escape, but asserted that they had been forced by Mounbwa to accompany him. I permitted them all, according to their desire, to return and reside in the town of Kyouk-Ghee. Mounbwa, riding in a cart and commonly dressed, was not recognised, and escaped in the crowd. A company of the 5th Madras Native Infantry, under Captain James, was sent out to escort the families into the town, which was safely effected by the evening. Five elephants and twenty-five ponies were captured on this occasion.

The force marched again the following morning, the 18th, and, coming on without a halt, was able to reach the Sitang river, at Thantabin, by a march of 18½ miles, on the 21st instant. On the opposite bank of the river, attended by a party of thirty men, armed with muskets, a mounted officer was seen, who hailed the first of our advance who entered the bed of the river, asking what we wanted; saying we were both great nations and ought not to be at war! He was informed in reply,