

2. I have now the honour to enclose a copy of that letter, and to draw their Lordships' attention to the excellent arrangements made by Lieutenant Hewett, as well as to the gallant and able way in which his orders were executed by Mr. Martin Tracey, Midshipman, of the *Vesuvius*, Mr. John Hayles, Acting Gunner of the *Beagle* and the boats' crews, one of whom, Joseph Trewavas, Ordinary Seaman, lent from the *Agamemnon*, was wounded, and is particularly mentioned as having cut the hawsers.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND LYONS,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty.
London.

Beagle, off the town of Ghenitchesk,
4th July, 1855.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on my arrival off this place I immediately proceeded to minutely examine the communication between the town and Arabat Spit, and, on so doing, found it to be by means of a ferry of two large flats and hawsers, which I determined to destroy if possible.

Accordingly on the forenoon of yesterday I despatched my gig, under Mr. John Hayles, Acting Gunner of this ship, and paddle-box boat, under Mr. Martin Tracey, Midshipman, of the *Vesuvius*.

I have much pleasure in reporting that they succeeded entirely in destroying it by cutting the hawsers and casting the boats adrift, which was done under a very heavy fire of musketry at about 80 yards, the troops completely lining the beach, and the adjacent houses being filled with riflemen.

Great credit is due to Mr. Hayles for his activity and zeal in destroying the same, and to Mr. Martin Tracey for the effectual fire he kept up in covering his retreat, the firing from the ship and paddle-box boat at the same time causing great confusion and loss amongst the enemy as they retired from their exposed position.

Mr. Hayles speaks in the highest terms of the boat's crew, especially of Joseph Trewavas, Ordinary Seaman, lent from the *Agamemnon*, who cut the hawsers.

I enclose a list of casualties, which, I am happy to say, is very small, although the gig and paddle-box boat were riddled with musket balls.

I have &c.,

(Signed) W. N. W. HEWETT,
Lieutenant Commanding.

To Commander S. Osborne,
Senior Officer of Her
Majesty's ship *Vesuvius*.

Her Majesty's ship Beagle, off town
of Ghenitchesk, July 3, 1855.

Return of Wounded on 3rd July, 1855, during
boat attack of Her Majesty's ships *Vesuvius*
paddle box boat, and gig of Beagle, in destroy-
ing the Ferry of town of Ghenitchesk and
Arabat Spit.

John Hayles, Aged 36, Acting Gunner, slight
contusion of left forearm from spent musket ball.
Stephen Trewavas, Aged 20, Ord., contused
wound of right shoulder from musket ball
Approved,

(Signed) W. N. W. HEWETT,
Lieutenant Commanding.

(Signed) W. H. CAMERON,
Assistant-Surgeon.

Admiralty, July 23, 1855.

DESPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have been received at the Admiralty from Rear-Admiral the Honourable R. S. Dundas, Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Baltic.

Duke of Wellington,
at Nargen, July 17, 1855.

SIR,

I TRANSMIT herewith, to be laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a report of proceedings during the past week from Captain Yelverton, who rejoined me yesterday at this anchorage in Her Majesty's ship *Arrogant*, and who, with the *Magicienne* and *Ruby* gunboats in company, visited the south coast of the Gulf of Finland, and attacked some military posts of the enemy at Kounda Bay and in the River *Portsoiki*.

Returning afterwards to his former station in the Bay of *Viborg*, he proceeded with boats towards the town, and engaged with a superior force of the enemy defended by batteries.

I request you will express to their Lordships my approbation of the conduct of this enterprising officer upon all occasions; and I would beg to recommend to their favourable notice the conduct of Captain *Vansittart*, of the *Magicienne*, and of Lieutenant *Haggard*, of the *Arrogant*, and Lieutenant *Dowell*, of the *Royal Marine Artillery*, and the excellent behaviour of all the officers and men.

Captain *Yelverton* has spoken favourably also of the conduct of Mr. *Hale*, mate, in command of the *Ruby*.

I regret much to have to report the loss of Mr. *Story*, midshipman, of the *Arrogant*, with nine others wounded in the boats of the two ships, of whom one is since dead.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. S. DUNDAS.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Enclosure in Admiral Dundas's Letter.

Her Majesty's ship, Arrogant,
off Viborg, July 14, 1855.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you with my proceedings during the week.

The *Magicienne* rejoined me on Wednesday, and I proceeded direct to *Kounda Bay*, on the South Coast, where I had reason to think that troops were concentrated. It turned out to be a large Cossack encampment, on a most commanding position, from whence I dislodged them, with shell and rockets from the *Ruby* and ship's boats. Some opposition was made to our landing, and shots fired from behind hedges, &c.; but I succeeded in examining the place, which I did not injure, as it only contained private property.

The following morning I anchored at the mouth of the River *Portsoiki*, and landing on its right bank, destroyed a Cossack barrack and stables, driving the soldiers into the country. I then came on here.

Having anchored the ships as close as I could to the Island of *Stralsund*, I proceeded in the *Ruby*, accompanied by Captain *Vansittart*, of the *Magicienne*, and Captain *Lowder*, R.M., of this ship, the latter officer having under his command a strong detachment of marines; we towed with us the boats of this ship, under the command of Lieutenants *Haggard* and *Woolcombe*, and those of the *Magicienne*, under the command of Lieutenants *King* and *Loady*.

Having opened the bay, called *Trangsund*, we saw a Russian man-of-war steamer with two large