Rumb. 21754.



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TUESDAY, JULY 31, 1855.

Admiralty, July 30, 1855.

DESPATCH, of which the following is an extract, has 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.

Extract of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Honourable R. S. Dundas to the Secretary of the Admiralty, dated Duke of Wellington, at Nargen, 23rd July, 1855.

I HAVE the satisfaction of transmitting a copy of a report which I have received from Captain Yelverton, detailing the circumstances under which, with the Cossack, Magicienne, and Ruby in company, he has again availed himself of an opportunity to attack, with good effect, a position occupied by troops of the enemy, assembled in considerable force, for the defence of Fredericksham; and I have much pleasure in submitting to their Lordships this additional proof of the zeal and gallantry of the officers and men under his orders, and of their good conduct, especially of Mr. H. G. Hale, Mate, and the crew of the Ruby gun-boat.

I have, &c.,

R. S. DUNDAS. (Signed)

Enclosure in Admiral Dundas's Letter.

SIR.

Her Majesty's ship, Arrogant, off the Crops Islands, July 22, 1855

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, on leaving the Fleet, I proceeded off the Island of Hogland, where I was joined by the Cossack, Magicienne, and Ruby gun-boat.

Information having reached me that the enemy had sent 3000 troops to Fredericksham, and were making every possible exertion to put the place in

a state of defence, I lost no time in getting there. I arrived on the afternoon of the 20th, and would have attacked them that evening, but that the Ruby got on shore in examining the intricate channel leading to the town, and it was too late

to take the ships in by the time she was off. Early the following morning I succeeded in getting the ships up to the town, and at 9.40 we opened fire. After an engagement of one hour, the enemy ceased fire, and abandoned their guns, some of which were dismounted.

If I judge by the number of men we saw them carrying away on stretchers, they must have suffered severely.

I am happy to say the injury on our side has been trifling, though our hull bears evidence of the precision with which they fired, but generally speaking their shot fell short.

I regret to say that one man belonging to the Ruby was dangerously wounded by a round shot.

I must not allow this opportunity to pass with-out mentioning Mr. Hale, Mate, Commanding the Ruby gun-boat, who, together with his gallant crew, deserve the highest praise for the way in which they worked and fought their long gun, so close to this, that I had an opportunity of observing the precision of their fire.

One portion of a suburb caught fire and was destroyed, but I am happy to say the town remained uninjured, owing to the strict observance of an order I gave to fire on the fort only.

I beg to enclose a list of casualties.

I have, &c.,

H. R. YELVERTON,

Captain.

Rear-Admiral the Hon. R. S. Dundas, åс. ĝс. &c.

List of Casualties on board Her Majesty's ship Arrogant, and Ruby gun-boat, attached at present to the Arrogant, on the 21st of July, 1855, during an attack on the enemy's battery at Fredericksham.

WOUNDED.

Arrogant.

John Feast, A.B., slightly

Ruby.

Edward Quinn, A.B., dangerously William Brandon, Ord., severely

Approved.

(Signed) JOHN GALLAGHER, Surgeon.

(Signed) H. R. YELVERTON. Captain.