

I had almost forgotten to mention the services of my Flag-Lieutenant Mr. Sweny, who, besides buoying off the channel across the bar of the river, was invaluable to me in communicating orders to the ships of war and transports. His coolness during the action, when performing the office of Flag-Lieutenant, was conspicuous.

Mr. Rogers, my Secretary, likewise deserves being brought to notice for his services on the occasion, which were such as to meet with my warm approval.

Colonel E. Lugard, C.B., Chief of the Staff, to
Commodore J. A. Young, I.N.

Camp, near Mohumra,
March 27, 1857.

SIR,

I AM instructed by Lieutenant-General Sir James Outram, K.C.B., commanding the expeditionary force, to express to you in warm terms his appreciation of the great service rendered by the Indian Navy, yesterday, in reducing the strong batteries which the enemy had erected on the left bank of the Euphrates to defend their position at Mohumra, a service so ably planned and conducted by yourself, and so gallantly and effectually performed by the armed steamers and sloops of war, Ferroz, Semiramis, Assaye, Ajdaha, Victoria, Clive, and Falkland, with their brave crews, commanded by Captains Rennie, Selby, Grieve, Manners, Adams, and Lieutenants Tronson and Worsley, that nothing was left for the Army to do, after being conducted by the Navy past the silenced batteries, than to land and take possession of the enemy's entrenched camp, which they had abandoned so precipitately as to leave behind all their tents and property, public and private, with a vast amount of ordnance stores and 16 guns, having carried away only a small portion of the personal effects of the Shahzada and five guns.

The Lieutenant-General tenders to you, your officers and crew, his best thanks for your services and his hearty congratulations upon the successful issue of the undertaking: he further begs you will thank Lieutenant Chitty and Mr. Holland for the important services they rendered in the Berenice and Comet, and also the Masters commanding the several steamers and transport ships, for their zealous assistance throughout the expedition.

I have, &c.,
EDWARD LUGARD, Colonel,
Chief of the Staff.

*Return shewing the number and description of
Ordnance Stores abandoned by the Enemy at
Mohumra, on the 26th instant.*

Camp before Mohumra, March, 28, 1857.

16 Guns and 1 Mortar:—

- 1 12-pounder brass gun, Russian, requires bouching.
- 1 12-pounder brass gun, Persian, in good order.
- 1 12-pounder and 2 9-pounder brass guns, spiked.
- 1 9-pounder brass gun in good order.
- 2 brass guns, 12-pounders, taken by the Navy from the Southern Fort.
- 2 brass guns, calibre not known, being buried in the mud, but apparently 18-pounders.
- 1 8-inch brass mortar, unserviceable, mounted on a platform cart.
- 2 9-pounder and 4 6-pounder iron guns; these are old ship carronades, and are mounted on ship truck carriages, apparently made here: they are unserviceable.

132 tents of different sizes; 30 of these were found in the upper or Khauler Mirza's camp: 80 in the lower or Ebrahim Mirza's camp: 22 in the camp by the Northern Battery. They have all been distributed among the troops.

16 gun wheels (spare), found in the enemies magazines.

13 gun axletrees; some old iron work for guns; some incomplete sets of harness; found in the enemy's magazines.

100 cartridges attached to shot and shell, found in the enemy's magazines.

300 boxes, containing 36,000 of fixed or gun ammunition, 3,600 loose shot or shell, 14,400 lbs. of powder, found in the enemy's magazines.

4,000 loose shot and shell; these are being collected and brought in.

144,000 lbs.* of powder destroyed by the explosion.
14,400 lbs. of powder captured.

* During the morning of the 26th instant, there were, apparently, one very large and six smaller explosions, near the Northern Forts; in the afternoon, one very large and one small explosion, in Khauler Mirza's camp. Near this latter large one, I have found the remains of about 500 ammunition boxes. It may, therefore, be assumed that 6,000 cartridges, attached to shot and shell, were then destroyed. Estimating the large one in the morning at the same, and each of the eight (sic) smaller, at one-half, we have—

	lbs. powder.
In the two large magazines, 6,000 × 2 =	12,000
12,000 × 4 lbs. powder =	48,000
In eight small magazines, 3,000 × 8 =	24,000
24,000 × 4 lbs. powder =	96,000
Total destroyed	144,000
We have captured	14,400
These make the total loss to the enemy	158,400

M. FINNIMORE, Captain,
Field Commissary of Ordnance.

Lieutenant-General Sir James Outram, K.C.B.,
Commanding Expeditionary Force, to His
Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir H. Somerset,
K.C.B., K.H., Commander-in-Chief, Bombay.

Camp, Mohumra,
April 4, 1857.

SIR,

IN my Despatch, dated the 27th ultimo, I announced to your Excellency my intention of immediately, despatching up the Karoon River to Ahwaz, an armed flotilla, being the only means I had of effecting a distant reconnoissance, owing to the total want of baggage-cattle; but, as the steamers had to be coaled, and seven days' provisions for the troops put on board, whilst all were busily engaged disembarking tents and stores from the transports, some little delay occurred; and it was not until the afternoon of the 29th that the party could be despatched.

2. The flotilla I placed under the immediate command of Captain Rennie, Indian Navy, aided by Captain Kemball, Political Agent in Turkish Arabia, who zealously undertook the political conduct of the expedition: Captain Hunt, 78th Highlanders, commanded the military detachment: and Captain Wray, Deputy Quartermaster-General, and Captain M. Green, my Military Secretary, accompanied the expedition, for the purpose of reporting upon the country in the vicinity of Ahwaz.