

Our mode and plan of attack may be considered as a complete surprise, and may account for the limited loss which attended our operations. The authorities evidently expected we should first attack Gough's Heights and the defences outside the city, considering the height of their wall a sufficient security against an attack by escalade. The main body of their troops were in that quarter, and the guns on the city heights, in newly-constructed forts, bore in the same direction.

15. At the North Gate the enemy appeared inclined to make a stand. Captain Key, with one-half of the 2nd Division, advanced and took up a position in an earth battery in an elbow of the wall inside the gate, turning the guns upon the Sailor's Fort and the enemy's troops to the westward. The rest of the Division, by order of the General, passed through the North Gate, and drove the enemy back. The services of Commanders Hood and Slight, Lieutenant A. Bogle of the Sanspareil, and Lieutenant Viscount Gilford of the Calcutta, who was severely wounded, as well as Lieutenant W. O. Butler of the Hornet, were conspicuous on this occasion.

16. Occasional guns were fired from the forts outside the walls, but the rocket-party of the Cruiser, under Mr. Armitage, Midshipman, soon set on fire the buildings round the Upper and Lower Blue Jacket Forts, and compelled their evacuation, whilst the 1st Division of the Naval Brigade made a sortie, and captured Gough's Fort and the Marines' Fort, the former mounting 9 guns, and the other 12, blowing up the magazines, and destroying the guns and carriages.

17. In the direction of the West Gate, the enemy kept up a sharp fire from the reversed guns on the ramparts, and notwithstanding the fire from the Calcutta's field-pieces, in charge of Lieutenants Goodenough and Beamish, approached, under shelter of the wall and of some brick guard-houses, to within 50 yards of the North Gate, when Captain Sir Robert McClure, assisted by Captain Cochrane, made a sortie, which effectually dislodged them. The covering buildings were then destroyed, and several guns spiked or thrown over the wall. Except a desultory fire, which was returned occasionally, we suffered no further annoyance, and the fire ceased at 9 P.M.

18. I would here mention the zeal displayed by Lieutenants Goodenough and Beamish in bringing their guns to the front. Lieutenant Goodenough's light 12-pounders arrived at Lin's Fort on the evening of the 28th, and were in time to do good service at the north gate. Lieutenant Beamish's task was more difficult, as his two heavy 12-pounders, with limbers and spare waggons, had to be drawn up the wall, a height of 28 feet. The good conduct and exertions of the junior officers and guns' crews with the field pieces has been notified to me.

19. The 59th Regiment, on scaling the wall, proceeded to the southward, and went as far as the centre of the south wall, where they sustained several casualties; amongst the rest Ensign Bowen, who was mortally wounded, and died on the 10th instant. Having overcome all opposition, they returned to the South-east Gate, which they occupied and held as the extreme left.

20. As a diversion, and with a view to carrying the South-east Gate, Captain Hall left the river, where he had been employed on important duty, at 9 o'clock, with 100 Marines and 600 officers and seamen, volunteers from the gun-boats. Their services, however, had been anticipated by the rapid success that attended our force on other directions of the city walls; but the readiness and

zeal displayed by Captain Hall and these officers and men, is not the less commendable.

21. As large bodies of armed men were seen passing into the city, through the West Gate, during the afternoon, it led to the impression that an attack was contemplated during the night; which induced Major-General Van Straubenzee, to give directions to burn the houses in the vicinity of the North Gate. This duty was entrusted to Captain Osborne, C.B., who with Lieutenants Browne, Cator, Davidson, of the Royal Navy, and Lieutenant Pritchett, R.M., executed it under a sharp fire, and with considerable difficulty, the houses containing little inflammable material.

22. I have avoided making prominent mention of the services of the military branch of the force, it being peculiarly the province of my gallant colleague, Major-General Van Straubenzee, who having been in every position where his onerous duties called him, will be better able to do justice to the merits of the gallant officers and men under his orders.

The Royal Marine Battalions, having been placed under his Excellency's immediate orders; I also refrain, from the same reasons, from particularizing the good services they performed in this important affair. The provisional battalion of Royal Marines, from Her Majesty's ships, composed an efficient force of 800 men.

23. It is hardly necessary for me to mention that our brave Allies took a conspicuous share in all the operations I have endeavoured to describe. Rear-Admiral Sir Rigault de Genouilly showed a noble example, which was gallantly emulated by the fine body of officers and men under his command. It is but justice to add, that the French were the first on the walls of Canton. The Rear-Admiral has begged me to mention prominently the services of Capitaines de Vaisseau Reynaud, of the Nemesis, Jules Collier, of the Capricieuse, and D'Aboville of the Audacieuse, and that the whole of the brigade under his command, performed their duty with zealous alacrity.

24. I am assured that their Lordships will feel satisfaction in knowing that the most cordial good feeling, and perfect understanding, have been maintained between my gallant colleagues and myself; the one object, the occupation of Canton, agreeably to the instructions of our respective Governments, having been steadily kept in view.

25. On the morning of the 30th the enemy sent in a flag of truce, begging permission to bury the dead, which was granted. In the afternoon the Commanders-in-Chief, with their Staff, accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel Walsh's Battalion of Royal Marines, Captain Key's Division of the Naval Brigade, Royal Artillery with 2 guns, and Sappers and Miners under Captain Knox, R.A., also a strong detachment of the French Naval Brigade, under Capitaine Jules Collier, proceeded to capture the West Gate. The guns on the parapet were loaded, and turned on our position, but all the defences were abandoned, and not the slightest opposition was offered. The guns, as far as the West Gate, bearing on our lines were spiked and thrown over the walls. The force then made the circuit of the city.

26. In the course of the day, an inferior officer came in with a message, stated to be from the Tartar General, but he was informed that we could only treat with the principal authorities.

27. The capture of the city having been now completed, it becomes my pleasing duty to bring to their Lordships' notice the good conduct of the officers and men composing the Naval Brigade, during the whole of these operations. Though brought together from so many ships, at short