

grounded, were afterwards ordered to close and engage: and the "Conqueror," having the battalion of Marines on board, was, in consequence of the difficult navigation, directed to approach only sufficiently near to admit of her Armstrong guns bearing on the nearest batteries. During this operation the "Conqueror" grounded twice on a knoll of sand, but came off again without assistance and without sustaining any damage. The "Takiang," also fired several shots from her one Parrot gun, doing good service. The "Coquette," towards the close of the engagement, was withdrawn from her position with the flanking squadron, and sent to assist the foremost of the advanced corvette squadron, a service which Commander A. G. R. Roe performed with great promptness.

7. At daylight, on the 6th instant, No. 8 battery again opened fire upon the advanced squadron, doing some damage to the "Tartar" and "Dupleix," but on the squadron returning the fire, the battery was soon silenced, and only an occasional straggling shot was fired from it afterwards. The arrangements for the disembarkation having been completed, the Allied forces, composed of the small arm companies of the "Euryalus" and "Conqueror," under the command of Captain J. H. J. Alexander, of the "Euryalus," the battalion of Marines and Marines of the squadron under that of Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Suther, and detachments of 350 French and 200 Dutch seamen and Marines; the former under the command of Captain du Quilis and Lieutenant Layrle, Chef-d'État-Major, and the latter under that of Lieutenant Binkis, were distributed in the boats of the squadron, and towed to the opposite shore by the "Argus," "Perseus," "Coquette," "Tancredi," "Amsterdam," "Medusa," and "Takiang," the "Bouncer" assisting to cover the landing, which was effected without accident, under the able superintendence of Captain W. G. Luard, of the "Conqueror," assisted by Commander E. T. Nott, of that ship; and the force proceeded, under my personal directions, to assault and take possession of the principal batteries, which was accomplished with only trifling opposition. All the guns having been dismantled and spiked, carriages and platforms burnt, and magazines blown up, and deeming it inexpedient, from the very rugged and almost impenetrable nature of the country, to retain possession of any post on shore during the night, I directed the whole force to re-embark at 4 P.M.

8. The French and Dutch detachments were already in their boats, when the Naval Brigade, stationed at Battery No. 5, was suddenly attacked by a strong body of Japanese assembled in the valley in the rear of the battery. Colonel Suther's battalion of Marines coming up at this moment, a joint attack was immediately organized, and the enemy driven back upon a strongly placed stockaded barrack, from which they were dislodged after making a brief but sharp resistance, leaving seven small guns in our possession. I regret to say, that Captain Alexander, whilst gallantly leading his men to the attack of the stockade, received a severe wound in the foot, and many other casualties also occurred in this attack. The whole force having then been ordered to embark, reached their ships without accident, notwithstanding the violence of the currents, which presents serious obstacles to any operations in these straits.

9. During this day's action I noticed with great pleasure the coolness and gallantry of the Naval Brigade, under Captain Alexander, the excellent discipline, and steady bearing under fire

of the battalion of Marines under Colonel Suther, ably supported by Lieutenant-Colonels P. C. Penrose and C. W. Adair; and I observed with satisfaction the readiness with which the French and Dutch brigades occupied their assigned positions. It was, however, a source of regret to me that the embarkation of our Allies prevented their taking part in the gallant affair at the enemy's stockade.

10. The "Perseus," whilst covering the landing on the morning of this day, was driven on shore by a strong eddy of the current, and, resisting all efforts to get her off, she remained fast until midnight of the following day (7th), when, having been considerably lightened, she was towed off under the judicious management of Commander John Moresby, of the "Argus," and apparently without damage.

11. The batteries, from Nos. 1 to 8 inclusive, being now entirely in our possession, large working parties were landed early on the morning of the 7th, and commenced embarking the guns captured on the previous days; and during the afternoon, the "Tartar," "Matalen Kruis," "D'Jambi," and "Dupleix," moved round to the westward of Mozi Saki point, preparatory to an attack on Batteries Nos. 9 and 10.

12. On the 8th instant, I shifted my flag to the "Coquette," (Admiral Jaurés accompanying me), and proceeded, in company with the four ships named in the last paragraph, then composing the advanced squadron, to open fire upon Batteries Nos. 9 and 10. The fire not being returned, parties were shortly afterwards landed from the squadron to destroy the batteries and embark the guns, the whole of which was effected by the evening of the 10th, and all the guns are now on board the ships of the Allied squadrons; the embarkation of the guns, consisting of sixty-two pieces of ordnance, of various sizes, a work of much labour and difficulty, was very efficiently performed, under the directions of the Captains of the Allied squadrons. Captain W. M. Dowell, of the "Barrosa," who had charge of the embarkation at one of the principal batteries, has brought to my notice the zealous assistance rendered by Lieutenants W. H. Cuming, of the "Barrosa," and R. E. Tracey, of the "Euryalus," and by Lieutenant Costa, of the "Semiramis," which contributed largely to the success of the undertaking.

13. I forward, for their Lordship's favourable notice, copies of letters I have received from Captains Hayes and Alexander, Lieutenant-Colonel Suther, Commanders Moresby and Kingston, and the Surgeon of my flag-ship, and would beg leave to draw attention to the testimony borne by them respectively to the conduct of various officers and men whose duty was performed under their immediate directions, and in which I desire to assure their Lordships that I fully concur.

14. In addition to these reports it is my pleasing duty to record the high sense I entertain of the skill and gallantry displayed by the entire force under my command during the operations above described. Of the fire maintained by the "Tartar," in the conspicuous position I had assigned to Captain Hayes, as the Senior Captain, and of the gallant manner in which he was supported by—

Captain Franclieu, of the "Dupleix,"
 Captain de Man, of the "Matalen Kruis,"
 Captain W. M. Dowell, of the "Barrosa,"
 Captain Van Rees, of the "D'Jambi," and
 Captain C. T. Leekie, of the "Leopard,"
 I cannot speak too highly. I beg leave also to