

tended, Colonel Anson informed me that the services of the Naval Brigade could now be dispensed with, and accordingly the following morning (the 26th,) I detached my force from the main body and taking the road over the Sri Menanti hill, passed through Terrachee, and encamped for the night at "Bandole." The next morning the march was continued over the Bukit Patas Pass, by Parroci, into Rassa, a distance of 18 miles, where we remained the night.

Finding the following morning that many of the men were unfit to march to Lukut (a distance of 18 miles over a very bad road), I determined to send them down in boats by the Lingey River; and leaving Navigating Sub-Lieutenant Beatty and Mr. Harrison to carry out this, I myself proceeded to Lukut, and getting on board the same evening brought the ship round to the mouth of the Lingey River next day, and the party returned to the ship on the morning of the 30th December.

I beg to bring to your favourable notice the great zeal and energy displayed by Navigating Sub-Lieutenant M. S. Beatty and Mr. Thos. F. Harrison, Assistant-Paymaster of this ship, throughout the operations, and it is due to their exertions that the Naval Brigade earned the reputation of being always ready.

The conduct of the seamen and Marines has also been most praiseworthy during the fortnight they have been landed, though much of the marching was of a most arduous nature, trying even to regular troops, they behaved with the utmost steadiness.

I beg to enclose a sketch of the country of Songir Ujong, Sri Menanti, &c., showing the route and position of the stockades, &c.; also the copy of a letter addressed to me by the Honourable Colonel Anson, Lieutenant-Governor of Penang and Special Political Agent in Songir Ujong, with reference to the operations.

On the 31st December I got under weigh for target practice, returning to the same anchorage at noon.

On the 5th the Honourable Colonel Anson returned from Rassa, and requested me to convey him to Penang, at the same time informing me that he did not consider the presence of a man-of-war to be any longer necessary in that part of the coast. I accordingly got under weigh the same afternoon, communicating with Her Majesty's ship "Modeste" at the Dindings, and the "Philomel" off Larut yesterday, and arrived at this port this morning at 9 A.M.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) F. STIRLING,
Commander.

Captain Alexander Buller,
Her Majesty's ship "Modeste,"
Senior Officer, Malacca Straits.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 5.

Her Majesty's ship "Thistle,"
January 6, 1876.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to express my thanks for the ready and cheerful assistance which, under considerable difficulties, you and the officers and men of Her Majesty's ship "Thistle" who co-operated with the expedition to Songir Ujong have rendered me. I have not failed to communicate my appreciation of your services and theirs to the Governor of the Straits Settlements, and to request that he will be good enough to bring them to the notice of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

To yourself personally I desire also to express my acknowledgments for the courtesy and consideration which I have received from you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) A. E. H. ANSON,
Colonel.

Commander F. Stirling,
Her Majesty's ship "Thistle."

The Services of the Naval Brigade in the Malay Peninsula.

Acknowledgments of the Major-General Commanding the Forces engaged.

"Audacious," at Singapore,
January 20, 1876.

SUBMITTED for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty with reference to my letter of the 17th instant.

A. P. RYDER,
Vice-Admiral, Commander-in-Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Head Quarters, Penang,

January 11, 1876.

SIR,

ON the probable conclusion of active operations in Perak district of the combined naval and military expeditionary force, I beg to be allowed to express to you my sincere thanks and acknowledgments for the cordial and able assistance I have at all times received from you as senior naval officer during these operations, as well as for the personal courtesy and kindness I have experienced while on board Her Majesty's ships, commanded by yourself, Commander Singleton, Commander Stirling, and Commander Bruce. I also beg to express my grateful sense of the alacrity in providing for, and attention to, the men's comfort shown by these officers while the troops were on board their respective vessels.

I shall esteem it a great favour if you will oblige us by conveying to the officers, petty officers, and men of the Naval Brigade forming part of the Perak Expeditionary Force my high appreciation of their indefatigable exertions during the whole period of a very arduous advance by water as well as by land. In the former, the labour undertaken by the men, unaccustomed to the work of poling against a strong current, and under a hot sun, was excessive; and on the land, from the extreme badness of the jungle road, the heavy weight of ammunition and rockets to be carried, the exposure at night and occasional shortness of provisions, the service was a most trying one.

On both occasions the cheerful willingness, the good spirits and temper that invariably prevailed, excited my warmest admiration, nor must I omit to refer to the promptitude with which, as occasion required, the rockets were brought into action, and the good service done by them. In conclusion, I beg to assure you of the honour I have felt it to be associated, in command with the Naval Brigade; on this occasion, and of my best wishes for their welfare and happiness.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) FRANCIS COLBORNE,
Major-General Commanding Forces,
China and Straits Settlements.

Captain Alexander Buller,
Commanding Her Majesty's ship "Modeste,"
Senior Naval Officer.