

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY,

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16.

DOWNING-STREET, DECEMBER 16.

Captain Tylden, Military Secretary to Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty, arrived at the Secretary of State's Office this day with despatches, addressed to the Earl of Liverpool, by Lord Minto and Sir S. Auchmuty.

[Here follows a copy of a letter from Lieutenant-General Sir S. Auchmuty, addressed to the Earl of Liverpool, and transmitting a copy of his despatch to Lord Minto; and also copies of two letters from Lord Minto to the Earl of Liverpool and the Honorable the Court of Directors of the East India Company, inclosing the subjoined.]

Head-Quarters, Weltevreedé, August 31.

MY LORD,—After a short but arduous campaign, the troops you did me the honor to place under my orders, have taken the capital of Java, have assaulted and carried the enemy's formidable works at Cornelis, have defeated and dispersed their collected force, and have driven them from the Kingdoms of Bantam and Jucata.

Your Lordship is acquainted with the reasons which induced me to attempt a landing in the neighbourhood of Batavia. It was effected without opposition at the village of Chillingching, twelve miles east of the city, on the 4th inst. My intention was to proceed from thence by the direct road to Cornelis, where the enemy's force was said to be assembled in a strongly fortified position, and to place the city of Batavia in my rear, from whence alone I could expect to derive supplies equal to the arduous contest we were engaged in. As some time was required to make preparation for an inland movement, I judged it proper to reconnoitre the road by the coast leading to Batavia, and observe how far it would be practicable to penetrate by that route. I was aware that it was extremely strong, and if well defended, nearly impracticable. Advancing with part of the army, I had the satisfaction to find that it was not disputed with us, and the only obstacle to our progress was occasioned by the destruction of the bridge over the Anjol River. I approached the river on the 6th, and observing during that evening a large fire in Batavia, I concluded it was the intention of the enemy to evacuate the city, and with this impression, I directed the advance of the army, under Colonel Gillespie, to pass the river in boats on the succeeding night. They lodged themselves in the suburbs of the city, and a temporary bridge was hastily constructed on the morning of the 8th, capable of supporting light artillery.—On that day the burghers of Batavia applied for protection, and surrendered the city without opposition, the garrison having retreated to Weltevreedé.

The possession of Batavia was of the utmost importance. Though large storehouses of public property were burnt by the enemy, previous to their retreat, and every effort made to destroy the remainder, we were fortunate in preserving some valuable granaries, and other stores. The city, although abandoned by the principal inhabitants, was filled with an industrious race of people, who could be particularly useful to the army. Provisions were in abundance, and an easy communication preserved with the fleet.

In the night of the 8th, a feeble attempt was made by the enemy to cut off a small guard I had sent for the security of the place, but the troops of the advance had unknown to them, reinforced the party early in the evening, and the attack was repulsed. The advance, under Colonel Gillespie, occupied the city on the 9th.

Very early on the morning of the 10th, I directed Colonel Gillespie, with his corps, to move from Batavia, towards the enemy's cantonment, at Weltevreedé, supported by two brigades of infantry, that marched before break of day through the city, and followed his route. The cantonment was abandoned, but the enemy were in force a little beyond it, and about two miles in advance of their works at Cornelis. Their position was strong, and defended by an abattis, occupied by three thousand of their best troops, and four guns of horse artillery; Colonel Gillespie attacked it with spirit and judgment, and after an obstinate resistance, carried at the point of the bayonet, completely routed their force, and took their guns. A strong column from their works advanced to their support, but our line being arrived, they were instantly pursued, and driven under the shelter of their batteries.

In this affair so creditable to Colonel Gillespie, and all the corps of the advance, the grenadier company of the 78th, and the detachment of the 89th regiment particularly distinguished themselves, by charging and capturing the enemy's artillery. Our loss was trifling composed with the enemy's, which may be estimated at about five hundred men, with Brig. General Alberti, dangerously wounded.

Though we had hitherto been successful beyond my most sanguine expectations, our further progress became extremely difficult, and somewhat doubtful.

The enemy, greatly superior in numbers was entrenched in a position between the great river Jacatra and the Sloken, an artificial watercourse, neither of which were fordable. This position was shut up by a deep trench strongly palisaded. 7 redoubts, and many batteries, mounted with heavy cannon, occupied the most commanding grounds within the lines. The fort of Cornelis was in the centre, and the whole of the works was defended by a numerous and well organized artillery. The season was too far advanced, the heat too violent, and our numbers insufficient to admit of regular approaches. To carry the works by assault was the alternative, and on that I decided. In aid of this measure, I erected some batteries to disable the principal redoubts, and for two days kept up a heavy fire from twenty eight pounders and eight mortars and howitzers. Their execution was great, and I had the pleasure to find, that though answered at the com-

mencement of each day by a far more numerous artillery, we daily silenced their nearest batteries, considerably disturbed every part of their position, and were evidently superior in our fire.

At dawn of day, on the 26th, the assault was made. The principal attack was entrusted to that gallant and experienced officer Colonel Gillespie. He had the infantry of the advance and the grenadiers of the line with him, and was supported by Colonel Gibbs, with the 59th regiment and the 4th battalion of Bengal volunteers. They were intended, if possible, to surprise the redoubt No. 3 constructed by the enemy beyond the Sloken, to endeavour to cross the bridge over that stream with the fugitives, and then to assault the redoubts within the lines, Colonel Gillespie attacking those to the left, and Colonel Gibbs to the right.—Lieutenant Colonel M'Leod, with six companies of the 69th, was directed to follow a path on the bank of the great river, and when the attack had commenced on Sloken, to endeavour to possess himself of the enemy's left redoubt No. 2. Major Tule, with the flank corps of the reserve reinforced by two troops of cavalry, four guns of horse artillery, two companies of the 69th, and the grenadiers of the reserve, was directed to attack the corps at Campurg Maylayo, on the west of the great river and endeavour to cross the bridge at that post.

The remainder of the army, under Major-General Wetherall, was at the batteries where a column, under Colonel Wood, consisting of the 78th regiment, and the 5th volunteer battalion was directed to advance against the enemy in front, and at a favourable moment, when aided by the other attacks, to force his way, if practicable and open a position for the line.

The enemy was under arms, and prepared for the combat, and Gen. Jansen, the commander in chief, was in the redoubt where it commenced. Col. Gillespie after a long detour through a close and intricate country, came on their advance, routed it in an instant, and with a rapidity never surpassed, under a very heavy fire of grape and musketry, possessed himself of the advanced redoubt, No. 3. He passed the bridge with the fugitives, under a tremendous fire, and assaulted and carried with the bayonet, the redoubt No. 4, after a most obstinate resistance. Here the two divisions of the column separated. Colonel Gibbs turned to the right, and with the 59th, and part of the 78th, who had now forced their way in front, carried the redoubt No. 1. A tremendous explosion of the magazine of this work (whether accidental or designed is not ascertained) took place at the instant of its capture, and destroyed a number of gallant officers and men, who at the moment, were crowded on its ramparts, which the enemy had abandoned. The redoubt No. 2, against which Lieutenant Colonel M'Leod's attack was directed, was carried in as gallant a style; and I lament to state that most valiant and experienced officer fell at the moment of victory. The front of the position was now open, and the troops rushed in from every quarter.

During the operations on the right, Colonel Gillespie pursued his advantage to the left, carrying the enemy's redoubts towards the rear; and being joined by Lieutenant Colonel M'Leod, of the 59th, with part of that corps, he directed him to attack the park of artillery, which that officer carried in a most masterly manner, putting to flight a body of the enemy's cavalry that formed and attempted to defend it. A sharp fire of musketry was now kept up by a strong body of the enemy, who had taken post in the lines in front of fort Cornelis; but were driven from them, the fort taken, and the enemy completely dispersed. They were pursued by Colonel Gillespie, with the 14th regiment, a party of Sepoys, and the seamen from the batteries, under Captain Sayer, of the royal navy. By this time, the cavalry and horse artillery had effected a passage through the lines, the former commanded by Major Traverse, and the latter by Captain Noble; and, with the gallant Colonel at their head, the pursuit was continued, until the whole of the enemy's army was killed, taken, or dispersed.

Major Tule's attack was equally spirited, but after routing the enemy's force at Campurg Malayo, and killing many of them, he found the bridge on fire, and was unable to penetrate further.

I have the honor to enclose a return of the loss sustained, from our landing on the 4th to the 26th inclusive. Sincerely I lament its extent, and the many valuable and able officers that have unfortunately fallen; but when the prepared state of the enemy, their numbers, and the strength of their positions are considered, I trust it will not be deemed heavier than might be expected. Their's has greatly exceeded it. In the action of the 26th, the killed were immense, but it has been impossible to form any accurate statement of the amount. About 1000 have been buried in the works, multitudes were cut down in their retreat, the rivers are choked up with dead, and the huts and woods were filled with the wounded who have since expired. We have taken near 5000 prisoners, among whom are three general officers, 34 field officers, 70 Captains, and 150 subaltern officers; General Jansens made his escape with difficulty, during the action, and reached Buitenzorg, a distance of 30 miles, with a few cavalry, the sole remains of an army of 10,000 men. This place he has since evacuated, and fled to the eastward. A detachment of our troops is in possession of it.

The superior discipline and invincible courage which have so highly distinguished the British army, were never more fully displayed, and I have the heartfelt pleasure to add, that they have not been clouded by any acts of insubordination.

I have the honor to enclose a copy of the orders I have directed to be issued, thanking the troops in general, for their services, and particularising some of the officers, who, from their rank or situations, were more

fortunate than their equally gallant companions, in opportunities of distinguishing themselves, and serving their Sovereign and their country.

It is with particular pleasure I assure your Lordship, that I have received the most cordial support from the Honorable Rear-Admiral Stopford, and Commodore Broughton, during the period of their commanding the squadron. The former was pleased to allow a body of 500 seamen, under that valuable officer, Capt. Sayer, of the Leda, to assist at our batteries. Their services were particularly useful, and I have the satisfaction to assure you, that both the artillery and engineers were actuated by the same zeal, in performing their respective duties, that has been so conspicuous in all ranks and departments, though from the deficiency of the means at their disposal, their operations were unavoidably embarrassed with uncommon difficulties.—I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL AUCHMUTY, Lieut.-Gen.  
(Signed) T. RAFFLES, Sec. to Gov. Gen.  
The Right Hon. Lord Minto, Governor  
General, &c. &c. &c.

THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

We were yesterday politely favored with Boston papers to the 4th inst. from them the following highly important information has been hastily copied.

BOSTON, MARCH 3.

Two days later from Cadiz.

[From our friend and correspondent in Charleston, we this day received the Charleston Courier of the 14th February, from which we extract the following.]

The very fast-sailing ship Fair-American, Captain Hobson, arrived at this port yesterday in 26 days from Cadiz, from whence she sailed on the 17th January.

By this arrival we have the most flattering news of the success of the Allies against the French in that part of Spain. It will be recollected by our readers, that the schooner Treaty, which arrived at this port some time since, from Algeiras, passed Tariffa on the 20th Dec. at which time that place was invested by a French force supposed to amount to from 13 to 15,000 men. It appears, that this French force, after having bombarded the fortress for some days, succeeded in making several breaches, when they attempted to carry it by storm.—In this attempt they were repulsed with considerable loss, by the British garrison, consisting of about 2000 men, under the command of Col. SKERRET. Several other unsuccessful attempts were afterwards made to gain possession of Tariffa, until about the 7th of January, when finding they could not accomplish their object, and having suffered much from the inclemency of the weather, THEY STRUCK THEIR TENTS AND BEAT A RETREAT—in this retreat they were pursued by the British garrison, who attacked them—and fortunately at the same moment they were attacked in the rear by General BALLESTEROS, with about 5000 Spanish troops, who had, by a circuitous rout, come upon them very unexpectedly, both to the British and French; in this critical situation the French were COMPLETELY ROUTED AND DEFEATED, with the loss of all their baggage, Artillery, &c.

We also learn by this arrival, that on the morning of her sailing, news was received in Cadiz, that Gen. HILL, with 13,000 men, was advancing upon Seville, and that he had approached very near to that place—which being garrisoned but by about 8000 men, it was expected he would be able to take it—in which case it was thought he would come down upon the rear of the French troops investing Cadiz, and it was very sanguinely expected by the Spaniards that they should soon be able to wrest that part of their Country from the hands of their CRUEL invaders.

Left at Cadiz, January 17.—The same list vessels as reported in the last Repository.

MARCH 4.

FROM WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 25.

"The bill authorizing a LOAN of ELEVEN MILLIONS of dollars was read a third time to day. Before the question was put on its final passage, Mr. Matthew Clay, (of Virginia, perhaps pushed to it by the Executive and Cabinet Ministers) moved, that it be postponed at least until next week; when he should also move to have the Report of the Committee of Ways and Means on Internal Taxes and Excises, postponed for two or three weeks. The reasons he gave were—That the Executive had received despatches from Europe, and he wished to give Mr. Madison time to peruse and prepare them for the House. They might, he said, be important; and there was no necessity for alarming the People with Loans and Taxes at present, even in case of War.—And, he added, perhaps an accommodation will yet take place.

"Mr. FISK (of Vermont) advocated a postponement.—He said, if the House proceeded to consider the subject of Loans and Direct Taxes now, they might perhaps spend three weeks in debate, and after all, the Taxes might not be wanted, and so much time would be entirely wasted. He wished to wait the arrival of the Hornet.

"Col. TALMADGE wanted no more postponement.—There had been already enough of that. The American People are anxious to know what Congress will determine upon, Peace or War. Their determination with regard to internal taxes will be the touchstone by which to ascertain who are the real, and who the pretended advocates of War.

"Mr. PORTER, (of Rhode-Island) said, We had been postponing nearly four months, and had done little beside running in debt. It was high time to take decisive measures. He was tired of waiting for further advices from Europe. We had been asked to wait the arrival of the Constitution.—She has arrived; and what has she brought? Perhaps the compliments of the Emperor of France to our Government, and, he