

and the south east angle. The Cornwallis, Blonde, and heavy steamers, were accordingly placed in position, the first within 1,000 paces of the Hung gate, with her broadside bearing upon a sort of demi bastion, which it was proposed to breach; the Blonde, so as to take the defences of that gate and bastion in flank; and the steamers, so as to destroy the parapet of the wall on either side the point to be breached. I instructed Major General Bartley to enter the city at this point with his brigade, consisting of Her Majesty's 18th, and 49th, and the 14th Madras native infantry, amounting to 1,800 men, supported by 300 royal marines.

10th. On the 11th, and following days, the remainder of the force, consisting of Lord Saltoun's brigade, the flank companies of the corps at Chinkeang-foo, and the rifle company 36th Madras native infantry, together with one troop of horse, and three companies of foot artillery, with the whole of the light field train and sappers, were landed at a village about five miles down a creek, from whence a good paved road leads to the Taiping and Teshing gates. I established the force in and about a large village, equi-distant from these two gates, and decided upon my line of proceeding, in case we should be driven to active operations—this was to threaten the two flank gates, making the real attack to the right of the Taiping gate, covered by the concentrated fire of the guns from the commanding slope of the Chungshan hills. This point forced, the Tartar city would virtually be taken, as my guns introduced by the Taiping gate, could immediately be placed upon an eminence perfectly commanding the inner wall and town, at a distance of a few hundred yards, whilst the bulk of my force, by a rapid advance on the Drum tower in the centre of the Chinese city, might cut off the troops defending the north and east faces from the Tartar garrison.

11th. I have been thus circumstantial, my Lord, in regard to my dispositions, in order to show what I could readily have done, ably supported as I am, had not my country's interests, and I trust my country's honour been equally maintained by a mere demonstration. On the 17th I received the accompanying letter for the suspension of hostilities, from Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, who will no doubt fully report upon the various circumstances and communications that preceded the final happy result. I understand that full powers were sent to the Commissioners upon the Emperor's hearing of the fall of Chinkeang-foo, and from their anxiety to pay the first instalment, there can be little apprehension of the Emperor's refusing to ratify a peace, which is called for by the general voice of the country. In the meantime, until the whole of the first instalment shall be paid, nothing shall be relaxed in our state of preparation and precaution.

12th. To His Excellency Sir Henry Pottinger, I am much indebted for his friendly readiness to aid me with every information in his power, and for his uniform forbearance from all interference in the slightest degree with military operations and movements. But it is not for me to enlarge upon the able public services of this high functionary.

To Sir William Parker I must be permitted to say, that I cannot too strongly express my sense of obligation. We have worked together for the common cause, and I have ever found him, and the powerful arm over which he presides, desirous to meet my wishes, and prompt and cordial in every conjoint undertaking.

13th. It is now my pleasing duty to bring to your Lordship's notice those gallant officers and troops who throughout the active operations in China, in a warfare new to the British arms, exposed in various instances to temptations of no ordinary kind, assailed by sickness which in some cases left but few effective men in strong corps, and often subjected to great fatigue, under a burning sun, have never in any instance met a check, not because their foes were few in number, devoid of courage, or slow to hazard life in personal contact, but because their own science, discipline and devotion made them irresistible.

From the Officers commanding brigades, and corps, as from the General and my Personal staff, I have uniformly received the most ready and energetic assistance, and I shall beg hereafter to submit their names, with those of the several officers whom I have, on different occasions, felt myself called upon to mention. It will be a subject of no ordinary gratification to me in after life, if I am permitted to feel that I have been the happy means of bringing to the notice of my Sovereign conduct so much redounding to the maintenance of the high character of Her Majesty's arms.

I have, &c.

H. GOUGH, Lieutenant General Commanding Expeditionary Land Force.

*The Right Honourable Lord Stanley, Principal Secretary of State, Colonial Department, Downing street, London.*

P. S. August 29.—I have the satisfaction to add, that I have this day witnessed the signature of the treaty by Sir Henry Pottinger on the part of Her Majesty, and by the Commissioners Keyng, Elepoo, and Newkein, on that of the Emperor; and that the ratification of peace is no longer doubtful, the Emperor's assent to the terms having been previously received, as

will be seen by the accompanying copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, to the address of Sir William Parker and myself, with its enclosure.

Under these circumstances, the Admiral has determined to send off a steamer direct to Bombay, and I take the opportunity to forward this dispatch by my Aid-de-camp, Captain Whittingham, who has been with me during the late operations, and is well acquainted with my views in regard to China, and whom I beg leave to bring to your Lordship's notice.

H. GOUGH, Lieutenant General.

(True Copy.)

H. GOUGH, Lieutenant General.

*Their Excellencies, Vice Admiral Sir W. Parker, K. C. B. and Lieut. General Sir Hugh Gough, G. C. B. Commanders in Chief.*

GENTLEMEN,—It affords me great satisfaction to have it in my power to inform you, that my negotiations with the Chinese high officers who have been appointed by the Emperor to treat for peace, have advanced to that stage that authorizes me to beg that you will consider hostilities suspended.

I had hoped to have been able some days earlier to make this communication to your Excellencies, but the necessity for carefully translating the already voluminous correspondence which I have had with the Chinese Commissioners, as well as for replying in Chinese (translations) to all their memoranda and messages, together with the distance which we are from the city, and which precludes more than one daily communication back and forward, have combined to unavoidably prolong my proceedings.

The treaty is now, however, drafted in English and Chinese and will this day be sent to the High Imperial Commissioners. After they have finally acceded to its tenor and forms (which latter are difficult to convey in a Chinese translation,) it is to be signed by those high officers and myself, and then dispatched to Peking for the Emperor's assent, which it is estimated will be received back here in about twelve or fourteen days from the date of its dispatch, so that we cannot at the soonest reckon on a final reply in less than three weeks from this date.

The High Commissioners would be very glad to persuade me to act at once on the provisions of the treaty, by requesting your Excellencies to withdraw the ships and troops, but I have distinctly informed them that that cannot be done; and it is almost needless for me to say, that in the (I trust most improbable) event of the Emperor declining to confirm the acts of his Commissioners, it will then become necessary to renew hostilities with increased vigour.

I have, &c.

H. POTTINGER, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary.

(True Copy.)

A. H. S. MOUNTAIN, Lieut. Colonel, Deputy Adjutant General Expeditionary Force.

*Steam Frigate Queen, off Nanking,*

17th August 1842.

Commissioner C. F. Simonin.

*Steam Frigate Queen, off Nanking, 29th August, 1842.*

GENTLEMEN,—The treaty of peace having now been happily signed, and the Emperor's assent to its provisions having likewise been intimated through an Imperial Edict, addressed to the High Commissioners and Governor General, of which I enclose a translation, I feel anxious to relieve the people from the great distress and inconvenience which the present embargo on this river causes, and should your Excellencies concur in these sentiments, I beg that his Excellency the Admiral will issue the necessary orders, and also send instructions by the steamers under despatch to Her Majesty's ships at Chinhae and Amoy, not to interfere further with the trade of those places.

Their Excellencies Vice Admiral Sir William Parker, K. C. B. and Lieut. General Sir Hugh Gough, G. C. B., &c. &c.

I have, &c.

HENRY POTTINGER, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary.

(True Copy.)

A. S. H. MOUNTAIN, Lieutenant Colonel, Deputy Adjutant General Expeditionary Forces.

N. B.—The enclosure to this letter is not forwarded, as it will of course be sent by Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, and being long, there was no time to copy it.

*New-Kim, His Imperial Majesty's Governor General of the Provinces of Keangnan and Keangse, &c. &c. makes this Communication—*

On the return of the officers whom he had sent, Keen Yangan and Lieshine, the Governor General learns that the honorable Envoy desires to arrange a conference with himself and the late Minister "Elepoo." It is with great joy and pleasure that the Governor General has heard it.

From this time forward, the feelings and wishes of the two countries will become known each to each, and peace and amity may be forever established.

But the Minister Elepoo is now residing at Wris at a distance