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Admiralty-Office, April 25, 1826.

Copy of a Letter from Commodore Sir James Brisbane, C. B. to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated on board the Honourable Company's Steam-Vessel Diana, above Prome, on the Irawaddy, the 3d December 1825.

SIR,

THE enemy having approached Prome in large bodies of men, evidently with the intention of drawing a line of circumvallation round the British position; I beg you will be pleased to inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the Commander of the Forces moved out on the 1st instant, for the purpose of attacking the left column, a short distance in the interior, and requested that I would, at the same time, make a diversion in his favour, by engaging the enemy's centre position at Pagoda Point, with the flotilla under my immediate command. It is extremely strong both by nature and art, and is situated on the left bank of the river, a few miles in advance of Prome. I am happy to say that the result of these arrangements was decidedly favourable; the enemy's left column, consisting of about fourteen thousand men, being completely overthrown; their ordnance and the whole of their commissariat captured, and a heavy loss of men. The next day (yesterday) the Major-General determined on following up the blow by an attack upon Pagoda Point, the object of the former diversion; the flotilla covering the advance of the army along the shore. After a cannonading of several hours, the troops rushed forward to the assault,—overcame the natural obstacles which presented themselves—and carried the position in the most gallant style. The flotilla at the same time pushed on up the river, and captured the whole of the enemy's boats (amounting to about three hundred) together with several guns, four hundred muskets, and a large quantity of stores.

I have much satisfaction in stating that the whole of the Officers and men employed in the flotilla, conducted themselves throughout this service in a manner that reflects the highest credit on each individual, composed as this force is of various establishments. The Officers of the Honourable Company's Marine vied with those of the Royal Navy in gallantry and exertion. Captain Chads, of the Alligator, who commanded the light division, displayed the same zeal, judgment, and intrepidity which have characterized his conduct since the operations in this quarter began. I have, however, the painful duty of announcing the death of Captain John F. Dawson, of the Arachne, whose high professional character had induced me so recently to promote him to the rank of Commander. The gallantry of this much lamented Officer was conspicuous on all occasions, inviting, by his example, the exertions of all under his direction; he fell just as success had crowned our efforts.

I cannot close this letter without expressing my admiration of the steadiness, good order, and discipline of the troops in advancing along a line of march, intersected with thick jungle, and a succession of intrenchments, until the storming took place. The two arms of His Majesty's service are in full and hearty co-operation for the objects of the present expedition; and every success may be hoped for from the perseverance and resolution of Sir Archibald Campbell, the distinguished Commander of the Forces.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) JAMES BRISBANE, Commodore.

Foreign-Office, April 25, 1826.

The King has been pleased to appoint His Grace the Duke of Devonshire to be His Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Emperor of All the Russias, on the occasion of His Imperial Majesty's Coronation.