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THE JAVA CAMPAIGN OF 1811-1816

INCLUDING A LIST OF EAST INDIA COMPANY OFFICERS WHO SERVED IN JAVA

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An expedition was mounted in India during 1811 to take control of the Dutch-held island of Java involving a combined force of British Army troops and volunteer units from the East India Company's Bengal and Madras Armies, all of whom had been ordered to assemble at the British settlement of Malacca prior to the invasion of Java. The expeditionary force was under the direct control of His Excellency the Governor-General of India, Gilbert Elliot, Lord Minto. Lord Minto, together with his family and staff, sailed from Bengal to Madras on the Company cruiser *Mornington*, and then re-embarked on the frigate HMS *Modeste*, which was under the command of his son Captain the Hon George Elliot. They then proceeded to Malacca where the force had assembled during April and May 1811. The composition of the expeditionary force included cavalry, artillery and infantry with the cavalry comprising of the Governor-General's Body Guard, HM 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons as well as a 'dismounted troop of Native Cavalry'.<sup>1</sup>

The composition of the Governor-General's Body Guard that embarked to serve in Java was:

- 1 Captain Commandant
- 1 Lieutenant and Adjutant
- 1 Assistant Surgeon
- 2 Subedars
- 3 Jemadars
- 5 Havildars
- 5 Naiks
- 2 Trumpeters
- 90 Troopers
- 40 Followers.

Captain George Herbert Gall was Commandant, and Lieutenant William George Augustus Fielding served as Adjutant. Fielding maintained a Journal which is held in the British Library (India Office Records) under reference G/21/10 *Java Factory Records*. The manuscript carries the title:

'A Journal kept by a military officer from 1 March 1811 to 20 July 1812 during the expedition to Java under Lord Minto and the writer's subsequent voyage from Calcutta to England'

The identity of the 'Military Officer' has been added to the original document erroneously as 'Lieut Geo Everest, RA'. The text of the document, the pages of which are un-numbered,

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<sup>1</sup> Major William Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java: with the subsequent operations of the British Forces in the Oriental Archipelago*, (London, 1815) p19.

shows that it was quite apparently written by an officer of the Governor-General's Body Guard and, apart from Captain G.H. Gall, who was the Commandant, the only other East India Company officer to serve with that unit during the move from India to Malacca was Lieutenant Fielding.<sup>2</sup>

The composition of the Governor-General's Body Guard that departed from India for Java is confirmed as being as listed by Fielding, plus the following:

- 1 Farrier
- 1 Native Doctor
- 6 Lascars
- 2 Bheasties
- 1 Native Riding Master
- 2 Rough Riders
- 1 Drill Havildar
- 1 Pay Havildar
- 1 Sirdar
- 5 Bearers for 1 Doolie<sup>3</sup>

The Body Guard embarked on the ship *Mary*, a vessel of 250 tons commanded by Captain Robert Allen (Allan),<sup>4</sup> on 22 March, having been instructed that their horses would follow 'if ships could be procured'. In addition the men were to be trained for the role of 'light infantry'.<sup>5</sup>

The *Mary* sailed on completion of loading and forty-three days later, on 3 May, it arrived off Malacca, but due to a violent storm the Body Guard did not disembark until the following day. The area round their initial camp site, which was with the 1<sup>st</sup> Division, was described by Fielding as being far from satisfactory and he commented that:

the whole of the coast here is sandy & jungle with little swamps; our camping ground is very confined.<sup>6</sup>

As part of the force the Madras Horse Artillery embarked 190 horses and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons 364, of which seventy were on the transport *Derriah Beggie* which was caught in the violent storm resulting in injuries to forty-two horses on board causing them to be destroyed.

The Governor-General's Body Guard increased its Europeans when, on 17 May 1811 Lieutenant Charles Scott-Waring, of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Bengal Native Cavalry joined at Malacca. The following day Lord Minto arrived, having travelled in HMS *Modeste* calling at the East India Company settlement on Prince of Wales Island (Penang Island) on Friday 10 May<sup>7</sup> then sailing through the Strait of Malacca. After disembarking the Governor-General

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<sup>2</sup> Major V.C.P. Hodson, *Officers of the Bengal Army 1758-1834*, Part II (D-K), (London, 1928), p181. William George Augustus Fielding was born in London, 26 Nov 1784. He became a Cadet in 1799. Admitted 15 Jan 1801, transferred from the infantry to the cavalry 5 May 1801. Cornet 17 Apr 1801 and Lieutenant 11 Mar 1805. He became Adjutant of the Governor-General's Bodyguard from 13 Mar 1806 until 12 Feb 1812. He proceeded on furlough to England from that day until 17 Mar 1817. Being present at the capture of Java he was awarded the 'Java Medal 1811' issued by the East India Company.

See also Lieutenant V.C.P. Hodson, *Historical Records of the Governor-General's Body Guard*, (London, 1910), p69.

<sup>3</sup> British Library (India Office Records), [BL (IOR)], L/MIL/8/20, *Bengal Military Statement for 1810-1811*, p198.

<sup>4</sup> BL (IOR) G/21/13, *Java Factory Records*, Captain Robert Allen was the owner and master of the *Mary* hired to the Company initially for six months to convey troops and stores for the expeditionary force.

<sup>5</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory Records*, Journal entry for 9 Mar 1811.

<sup>6</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory Records*, Journal entry for 4 May 1811.

<sup>7</sup> *Prince of Wales Island Government Gazette*, dated 11 May 1811.

met the troops that had assembled at Malacca however Fielding made only a very brief reference in his Journal to his arrival:

[May]18. Marched to Malacca in the morning; at noon Lord Minto landed. Got quarters in a large wooden house a mile to the South of the Fort.<sup>8</sup>

The troops remained at Malacca for several weeks before embarking for Java, and during this time a local chronicler, Abdullah bin Abdul Kadir, wrote an account of a cavalry training session that he had witnessed:

Crowds of the Malacca folk went to see the soldiers. I went with them and found some of the officers instructing troops on the parade ground. All the soldiers were mounted on horses. These were Arab steeds, tall, very fine, all of the same colour. I noticed that all the men looked the height of smartness, tall and full in build. All had whiskers. They wore grey coats, grey trousers and grey hats. Each one carried as his weapons a pair of pistols, a sword and a rifle slung across his back. Each wore a powder-flask strapped to his left side and a water-bottle to his right, and had a haversack for his rations strapped to his shoulders. Two leather straps were braced to hold the horse's saddle with clasps, and whenever the rider mounted the two ends were buckled to his waist so that he did not fall. For none of them held the reins when riding. By their natural skill they rode the galloping horses, looking as if they were flying through the air.<sup>9</sup>

The unit can be identified as the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons which, at that date was authorised to wear a uniform of 'French grey [with] crimson facings'.<sup>10</sup>

The Commander-in-Chief of the expeditionary force, Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty, arrived at Malacca on 28 May and on 30 May reviewed the troops that were awaiting embarkation to Java. A 'General Abstract of the Army under the command of Sir Samuel Auchmuty' lists the following number of troops as being at Malacca on 4 June 1811:

	Officers	Native Officers	NCOs & Privates	Total
European Force	200	-	5,144	5,344
Native Force	124	123	5,530	5,777
[Subtotal]	324	123	10,674	11,121
Pioneers Lascars &c	-	-	-	839
Grand Total	324	123	10,674	11,960

Of these, about 1,200 were sick and were unable to embark with the main expeditionary force.<sup>11</sup>

The troops commenced embarking for Java on 6 June with the first ships sailing on the following day. Further departures were made on 13 and 14 June.

The fleet left Malacca in small escorted divisions and Lord Minto wrote:

[The fleet] was despatched towards its destination in a number of small divisions, which sailed successively, each under charge of a frigate, and attended also by

<sup>8</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory Records*, Journal entry dated 18 May 1811.

<sup>9</sup> Abdullah bin Abdul Kadir, *The Hikayat Abdullah*, (Kuala Lumpur, 1970), p86.

<sup>10</sup> H.M. Chichester and G. Burges-Short, *Records and Badges of Every Regiment and Corps of the British Army*, (Aldershot, 1900), p139.

<sup>11</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p18.

sloops of war or Company's cruizers (*[sic]*). The *Modeste* was not attached to any division, and, being sure of overtaking the earliest and swiftest, we remained at anchor till the whole had departed. The fleet consisted of 81 sail of all description.<sup>12</sup>

The Governor-General's Body Guard re-embarked on the *Mary* on 16 June, with Lord Minto, his family and staff boarding HMS *Modeste* on 18 June 1811.

Lord Minto was joined at this time by the newly-appointed agent to the Governor-General in Java<sup>13</sup>, Thomas Stamford Raffles,<sup>14</sup> who was accompanied by his wife Olivia Mariamne.<sup>15</sup>

The island of Java is described by contemporary author John Crawfurd as covering '37,029 geographical squares miles [and having a coastline] of about 1,400 English miles in extent'.<sup>16</sup> (See map on page 6). In the low-lying area at Batavia the Dutch had the opportunity to replicate the conditions that were similar to those in Holland. The roadstead at Batavia was exceptionally sheltered, being surrounded by a number of small islands which served as breakwaters. This included the island of Onroost where the VOC (Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie – Dutch East India Company) had its dockyard prior to its dissolution in 1799.

Into the basin formed by the island, including Onroost, there flowed the River Jacatra. Unfortunately the river tended to silt up the harbour, so that the anchorage, as time went on, became more distant from the town. When the first settlement was made a fort had been built at the point where the river entered the sea. By the end of the eighteenth century, however, the mud banks had grown to such an extent that the nearest place for a ship to drop anchor was far out of range of the guns.<sup>17</sup>

The combined British and East India Company's force reached Java on 4 August 1811 and the entry in Fielding's Journal for that date reads:

At 3p.m. anchored off Chillingchin [also spelt Chillingching] about 12 [miles] to the E of Batavia. The troops were immediately ordered into the boats and the whole army disembarked without opposition. The Advance Brigade moved to the other side of the village which is neatly built and only partly abandoned. Several boats full of rice were found in the river which runs through the village.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> C Northcote Parkinson, *War in the Eastern Seas 1793-1815*, (London, 1954), p414.

<sup>13</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/13, *Java Factory Records*, letter from The Hon Charles Andrew Bruce, Governor, Prince of Wales's Island, dated 27 November 1810.

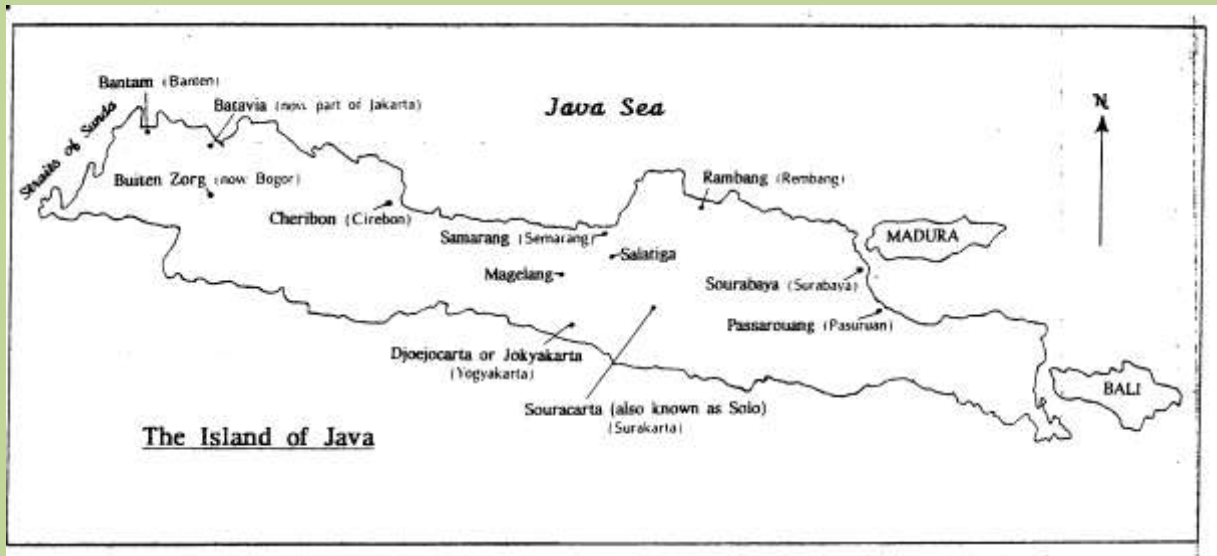
<sup>14</sup> Thomas Stamford Raffles. The son of Captain Benjamin Raffles and Anne Raffles (Nee Lyde), born 16 Jul 1781 on board the West Indiaman *Ann* three or four days out of Port Morant, Jamaica bound for England. In 1795 he was employed as temporary clerk by the East India Company at Leadenhall Street. On 8 Mar 1805 he was gazetted to fill the post of Assistant Secretary at the Settlement on Penang Island, at that time referred to as 'Prince of Wales Island' [Prince of Wales's Island]. Later Raffles is shown in the *East-India Register and Directory* for 1808 as being appointed 'Secretary to the Governor of the Settlement of Prince of Wales Island'.

<sup>15</sup> Olivia Mariamne Devenish was born 16 February 1777 and married Assistant Surgeon Jacob Cassivelaun (Casivelaunus) Fancourt at Madras in 1793. Fancourt died at Rayacotta on 5 April 1800. After her return to England she met and married Raffles at St George's Church, Bloomsbury on 14 March 1805.

<sup>16</sup> John Crawfurd, *A descriptive Dictionary of the Indian Islands & Adjacent Countries*, (Kuala Lumpur, 1971) p167.

<sup>17</sup> Parkinson, *War in the Eastern Seas 1793-1815*, p23.

<sup>18</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory Records*, Journal entry for 4 August 1811.



Unfortunately, apart from the book written by Major William Thorn, no trace has been found of any other journal or diary, written by any officer who was present at the occupation of Java. Therefore, the only first-hand account that is available is that written by Fielding of the Governor-General's Body Guard.

The disposition of the force on landing is recorded as being:

#### THE ADVANCE

Commanded by Colonel R.R. Gillespie

Right Flank Battalion	Major George Miller, 14 <sup>th</sup> Regt of Foot
Left Flank Battalion	Major James Fraser, 78 <sup>th</sup> (Highland) Regt of Foot <sup>19</sup>
Detachment of 89 <sup>th</sup> Regt	Major Richard Butler, 89 <sup>th</sup> Regt of Foot <sup>20</sup>
Royal Marines	Captain [Frederick] Liardet
Bengal Light Inf Vols	Major Dennis Harman Dalton, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Regt Bengal N.I.
Dismounted 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dragoons	Lieutenant Charles Dudley, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons
Governor-General's Body Guard	Captain George Herbert Gall
Pioneers	Captain Thomas Smithwayte, Madras Pioneers
[Madras] Horse Artillery	Captain John Noble, Madras Artillery
Detachment 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dragoons	Major Robert Travers [shown by Thorn as 'Traverse']

The Line Commanded by Major-General Frederick Augustus Wetherall

#### LEFT BRIGADE

Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Adams, 78<sup>th</sup> (Highland) Regt

78 <sup>th</sup> (Highland) Regt	Major Martin Lindsay
6 <sup>th</sup> Bn, Bengal Volunteers	Major William Raban, Bengal European Regt
69 <sup>th</sup> (South Lincolnshire) Regt	Lieutenant Colonel William Macleod

<sup>19</sup> Major H. Davidson, *History and Services of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs)*, (Edinburgh, 1901), p75.

<sup>20</sup> Rowland Brinckman, *Historical Records of the 89<sup>th</sup> Princess Victoria's Regiment*, (Aldershot, 1888), p10.

## RIGHT BRIGADE

Commanded by Colonel Samuel Gibbs, 59<sup>th</sup> Regt of Foot

59 <sup>th</sup> (Nottinghamshire) Regt	Lieutenant Colonel Alexander McLeod
5 <sup>th</sup> Bn, Bengal Volunteers	Captain Hugh Griffiths, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Regt, Bengal N.I.
14 <sup>th</sup> (Buckinghamshire) Regt	Lieutenant Colonel James Watson

## RESERVE

Commanded by Colonel George Wood, 27<sup>th</sup> Regt Bengal N.I

4 <sup>th</sup> Bn, Bengal Volunteers	Major Peter Grant, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Regt, Bengal N.I.
1 <sup>st</sup> Bn, 20 <sup>th</sup> or Marine Regt Bengal N.I.	Lieutenant Colonel Lambert Richard Loveday
3 <sup>rd</sup> Bn, Bengal Volunteers	No officer listed by Thorn. [The Bn was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel James Dewar]
Flank Battalion	Major Udney Yule, 20 <sup>th</sup> , or Marine Regt, Bengal N.I. <sup>21</sup>

The Staff officers with the force were drawn from both the British Army and the East India Company Army and are listed as being:

Adjutant-General	Colonel Patrick A. Agnew, 21 <sup>st</sup> Regiment, MNI
Quartermaster-General	Colonel [William] Eden, 84 <sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot
Deputy Adjutant-General	Major Patrick Vans Agnew, 24 <sup>th</sup> Regiment, MNI
Deputy Quartermaster-General	Major [Nathaniel] Burslem, 14 <sup>th</sup> Foot of Foot.
Assistant Adjutant-General	Captain [William] Carroll, 69 <sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot
Assistant Quartermaster-General	Lieutenant James Hanson, 14 <sup>th</sup> Regiment MNI
Chief Engineer	Lieutenant Colonel Colin Mackenzie, Madras Engrs
Engineer Officers	Captain William Farquhar Lieutenant William Garrard.
‘Doing duty under the Chief Engineer’	Ensigns Henry Fullerton Duncan Sim John Coventry Alexander Anderson John George Proby. <sup>22</sup>
‘Doing duty with Corps and Departments’	Captains Horace Durand, 5 <sup>th</sup> Regiment, MNI, and Robert Mears, 17 <sup>th</sup> Regiment, MNI  Lieutenants Alexander Stewart, 16 <sup>th</sup> Regiment, MNI John Low, 24 <sup>th</sup> Regiment, MNI James Bayley, 11 <sup>th</sup> Regiment, MNI Henry G. Jourdan, 10 <sup>th</sup> Regiment, MNI

<sup>21</sup> Captain R.G. Burton, ‘The Conquest of Java’, *The Journal of the United Service Institution of India*, Vol. XXXI, January 1902, No 146, pp2 and 3.

<sup>22</sup> Lieutenant Colonel W.J. Wilson, *History of the Madras Army*, Vol. 3, (Madras, 1882), pp323 and 324, and *The East-India Register and Directory* for 1812.

Thomas Clode, 25<sup>th</sup> Regiment, MNI  
 James Dalgairns, 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, MNI  
 Robert John Marr, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, MNI

Although not listed as being on the ‘Staff’ Major William Robison, 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot is recorded as being on the ‘quartermaster-general’s staff’ where he served with ‘much distinction’.<sup>23</sup>

The island of Java had, on the incorporation of Holland within the Napoleonic system, been placed under the control of the French. In order to reach the northern seaports and to ensure the rapid deployment of troops to these vital areas a thousand kilometre road, which became known as the ‘Great Post Road’, was constructed under the orders of Governor-General Herman Willem Daendals. The thousand kilometre road was completed in only one year, during which time thousands of Javanese forced labourers died whilst working on the road.<sup>24</sup>

Herman Willem Daendals<sup>25</sup> was appointed Governor-General of the Dutch possessions in January 1808 and relinquished command, due to ill-health, to General J.W. Janssens [in some documents his name is given as ‘Jansens’] who, in May 1811, became Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of Java and its dependencies in the neighbouring islands of Sumatra, Borneo and Madura. His appointment gave him little time to prepare his defences and the combined Dutch, French and local force for the invasion of the combined British and Indian expedition<sup>26</sup>.

The Dutch/Franco garrison on Java was estimated as being approximately 13,000 consisting of European and locally enlisted troops, which was made up of Staff, Artillery and Engineers, together with cavalry and infantry units as listed below:

	<u>Staff</u>	<u>European</u>	<u>Amboynese</u>	<u>Native</u>	<u>Total</u>
Staff & Engineers	56	-	-	-	56
3 Coys Horse Arty	6	106	-	427	539
2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn Arty	17	132	-	900	1,049
4 Sqdns of Dragoons	20	148	266	255	689
1 <sup>st</sup> Regt of the Line 3 <sup>rd</sup> Bn	33	356	200	1,501	2,090
2 <sup>nd</sup> Regt of the Line	24	262	272	1,540	2,098
3 <sup>rd</sup> Regt of the Line	33	140	405	1,405	1,983
4 <sup>th</sup> Regt of the Line 4 <sup>th</sup> Bn	21	199	-	2,138	2,358
Regt of Jagers, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn	17	161	183	884	1,245
Coy of Voltigeurs	1	146	-	-	147
1 <sup>st</sup> Garrison Bn	-	149	71	931	1,151
<b>Totals</b>	172	1,799	1,397	9,981	13,349

Recorded as being ‘Sick’:

<sup>23</sup> *Historical Records of the 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment from its formation in 1689*, (London, 1892, p94.

<sup>24</sup> *The Jakarta Post*, 8 January 2006.

<sup>25</sup> Herman Willem Daendals was born on 21 October 1762 at Hattem, Gelderland, Holland; he studied at the University in Harderwijk and graduated on 10 April 1783. He died of malaria at Elmina, Gold Coast (now Ghana) on 2 May 1818, although some references give the date as ‘8 May’. During his term of office in Java and due to his tyrannical personality he was known by the local Javanese as Tuan Besar Guntur (Great thundering Lord) and Mas Galak (Hot-blooded gentleman). See also Maya Jayapal, *Old Jakarta*, (Kuala Lumpur, 1993), p10.

<sup>26</sup> Jan William Janssens was born at Nijmegen in 1762. He entered the army as a Cadet aged 12 in 1774 and was promoted to the rank of Captain by the time he was 26. He was serving as the Governor-General of the Cape of Good Hope when it was invaded by the British, and he surrendered the settlement in January 1806. Janssens was sent out to Java to replace Governor-General Daendals, arriving in May 1811. Unable to reorganise his administration and forces before the British invasion he was again forced to surrender to the British. He returned to Holland and was appointed Minister of War, a post he held during the Waterloo Campaign. He became General of the Army in 1828 and died at The Hague in 1838.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>European</u>	<u>Amboynese</u>	<u>Native</u>	<u>Total</u>
3 Coys Horse Arty	13	-	32	45
2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn Arty	26	-	103	129
4 Sqdns of Dragoons	7	12	31	50
1 <sup>st</sup> Regt, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Bn	24	4	117	145
2 <sup>nd</sup> Regt	24	32	100	156
3 <sup>rd</sup> Regt	23	53	79	155
4 <sup>th</sup> Regt, 4 <sup>th</sup> Bn	26	-	224	250
Regt of Jagers, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn	12	8	47	67
Coy of Voltigeurs	46	-	-	46
1 <sup>st</sup> Garrison Bn	12	5	69	86
<b>Totals</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>1,129</b> <sup>27</sup>

As is shown the majority of the troops were locally enlisted and under the command of European officers. The disposition of the garrison troops was such that approximately 10,000 were stationed at the fortified camp at Cornelis<sup>28</sup> and the remainder were based at Weltevreden including those that had been stationed at Batavia who had been withdrawn from the chief town. Batavia is described as being surrounded by ‘a nearly stagnant ditch, every street was intersected by canal, and the whole neighbouring country covered with rice fields’.<sup>29</sup>

5 August was a day of reconnaissance and it is recorded by Davidson in his history of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders,

on the 5<sup>th</sup> the marines were greatly exhausted, and one of the rifle company of the 78<sup>th</sup> died on the road.<sup>30</sup>

The cavalry element of the Force was very small and included ‘a dismounted troop of Native Cavalry’; the actual Order of Battle records that a detachment of ‘dismounted men from the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons’ was serving in Java and, in addition, the Governor-General’s Body Guard was also being used in a dismounted role. Fielding wrote in his diary:

[August] 5 The Body Guard was left at Headquarters with orders to follow if there was any firing. We are well supplied here with fish, poultry & vegetables: the country is rich, highly cultivated, rather close in some places & much intersected by Canals. Went to our outpost in the Evening.

[August] 7 Marched at sun set, road very good along the sea shore for some distance; close jungle & canals on the left; after marching about 3 miles came to pretty large river which runs to the sea at Anjole; the bridge had been destroyed but some boats had been brought up from the Ships & placed stern to stern which enabled the Infantry to pass but the Artillery & Cavalry were left behind; we took up our quarters for the night in a large hut about a mile from the bridge.

[August] 8 This morning the City of Batavia surrendered at discretion, no Military force being stationed in it. At 3pm we marched to take possession; the bridges over the river being destroyed we were obliged to march along the right bank where there is no road, but not being encumbered with guns we got on very

<sup>27</sup> BL (IOR) G/21/13, *Java Factory Records*, p193.

<sup>28</sup> The area was also known as Meester Cornelis and had been named after Master Cornelis van Senen who had cleared and developed the area in 1621. Cornelis van Senen was born on the island of Banda a member of a well-to-do Dutch family; he died in 1661. In 1811 the area contained a small fort, several barracks and a defence line and artillery batteries all of which had been constructed under the orders of Governor-General Daendels.. The present day name of the area is Jatinegara and lies in the eastern part of Jakarta.

<sup>29</sup> Burton, *The Conquest of Java*, pp4 and 5.

<sup>30</sup> Davidson, *History and Services of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs)*, p76.

well & at 5 o'clock got into the great Square. . . . The troops lay upon their arms all night in the great Square. If the Enemy had any spirit of enterprise they might have taken or destroyed the whole of the troops in the City, as we had not more than 1,200 men & no Artillery; they might have taken possession of the bridge & brought as many guns & troops against us as they pleased. No part of their Conduct hitherto has impressed us with much respect for them.<sup>31</sup>

On 10 August the force under the command of Colonel Gillespie advanced towards Weltevreden and on reaching the cantonments found them abandoned, but, a little beyond, the rifle company of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders, under the command of Lieutenant [John] Pennycook, encountered an enemy picquet. The enemy withdrew but the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders advance was halted about two miles from Cornelis. The situation is described as follows:

[The enemy's] right was defended by the canal, called the Slokan, his left was exposed, but the approach in front or flank was covered by a marsh and pepper plantations, and the road rendered impassable by a strong abattis of felled trees. His infantry, about 300 strong, with four field pieces, was drawn up behind this barrier, and opened a destructive fire of grape upon the head of the column as it advanced.<sup>32</sup>

Captain A. [Alexander Mackenzie] Cameron, who was leading his rifle company of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders, was severely wounded and a number of men killed and wounded. Captain Arthur Forbes and the light company then charged the obstacle but met fierce resistance during which time he lost fifteen out of thirty-seven men, after which he retired and then crossed a ditch to the left of the enemy.

One of the British officers who had been detailed to command a cover party of the Expeditionary Force guns was killed. The grenadier company of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders, together with a detachment of the 89<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, attacked the enemy's guns and, after a stiff resistance, over-ran the position and killed all the enemy gunners, bayoneting many of them in a hand-to-hand skirmish. The French troops retreated towards the fortification of Cornelis but were pursued up to the batteries by a squadron of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Dragoons under the command of Colonel Gillespie. This action was important to the British in that it secured the cantonment of Weltevreden and brought the attacking troops within striking distance of the enemy lines at Cornelis.

The enemy's loss was estimated as amounting to 500 men and four guns, whilst a large quantity of stores and over 300 pieces of ordnance were found abandoned in the cantonment. The attacking force suffered the loss of one officer and 16 men killed and seven officers and 66 men wounded.<sup>33</sup>

During the period 14 to 21 August the men of the Body Guard served in an infantry role and were also employed as 'general duty men' helping with the construction of the artillery batteries to be used against Cornelis. The entry in Fielding's diary reads:

[August] 14. This evening the whole of the Body Guard went to reinforce one of the picquets, during the night the Enemy kept up a furious fire of cannon & musketry that at Weltefreden [*sic*] & Batavia they thought there was a great battle: however not a man was touched or a shot returned.

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<sup>31</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory Records*, Journal entry for 5, 7 and 8 August 1811

<sup>32</sup> Davidson, *History and Services of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs)*, p77.

<sup>33</sup> Burton, 'The Conquest of Java', p7.

[August] 15 to 20. Busy making gabions & fascines etc. for Batteries but they seem to get on very slowly.<sup>34</sup>

During the last two days 4 or 5 French officers have been shot whilst reconnoitring by our Riflemen. In the evening of the 20<sup>th</sup> strong working parties were ordered to erect the batteries.

[August] 21. At 2p.m. went with 50 men to the batteries as a working party; the Enemy fired occasionally, about 30 shots in all, two of which hit the batteries but did no harm. Relieved after sunset & returned to the Cantonment at Weltefreden [*sic*].<sup>35</sup>

Whilst the dismounted cavalry were involved in the construction of the field batteries the infantry were engaged in laying siege to Cornelis resulting in a number of sorties being made from both the British attacking force and the defenders. On 22 August the enemy made a sortie from their position and, although they initially captured two of the British advance gun positions, they were driven off by the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment, under the command of Major Martin Lindsay and Captain Donald Macleod, together with elements of the 59<sup>th</sup> Regiment. The casualties of the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment were given as five men killed and five injured during this short but fierce encounter. The incident is depicted in a painting entitled '*The Siege of Meester Cornelis, Java, August 1811*' by Dawn Waring.<sup>36</sup> [A plan of Cornelis is shown on page 15].

General Janssens had considered that his position was sufficiently well fortified that he need only hold Cornelis until the start of the rainy season when he calculated that the conditions would then compel the British Commander to retire and end the siege. The camp of Cornelis has been described as a rectangle of 1,600 yards long by 900 yards in width. It was strongly entrenched with the river Jacatra on the western side and the Slokan Canal running almost parallel to the east. Neither was fordable and both had steep banks thus making an attack from either of these directions almost impossible. The northern and southern sides of Cornelis were defended by deep ditches which would, when needed, be filled with water. The whole camp was protected by seven redoubts and by numerous batteries and entrenchments. The redoubts had been constructed so that a cross fire could be maintained in order that they could mutually defend each other. It was estimated that the entire circumference of the defence work was about five miles and that approximately 280 artillery pieces were mounted as a defence. On 24 August the Commander of the British Force, Lieutenant General Sir Samuel Auchmuty, ordered the British batteries to open fire with twenty 18-pounder guns and eight mortars and howitzers and an artillery battle between the two forces commenced with the British gaining a slight advantage as the standard of 'service' of the guns was superior to that of the enemy.

Auchmuty was very aware of the on-set of the rainy season and that any delay would seriously affect his plan to lay siege to Cornelis and attack the defences at a time of his choice and in view of this he gave order for the force to advance at midnight with Colonel Gillespie leading his troops as the advance guard. He was supported by Colonel Gibbs with the 59<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot and the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Bengal Volunteers. The terrain was such that at night advancing became extremely difficult and when daylight came it was found that the rear division, under the command of Colonel Gibbs had, in fact, lost its way.

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<sup>34</sup> Gabion – a kind of basket made of twigs, of a cylindrical form, having different dimensions according to the purpose for which it is used. Fascines – a kind of faggot made of small branches of trees or brushwood tied in 3, 4, 5 or 6 places, and of various dimensions according to the purposes intended.

James C. Charles *A new and enlarged Military Dictionary*, (London, 1805). un-numbered pages.

<sup>35</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, Journal entries dated 20 and 21 August 1811

<sup>36</sup> Colour plate 'The Siege of Meester Cornelis, Java, August 1811' Painting by Dawn Waring, *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research*, Volume LXXII, Number 291, Autumn 1994.



The advancing troops were challenged and, having fixed bayonets, the column advanced in the face of heavy grape and musketry fire but succeeded in taking possession of the Cornelis No 3 Redoubt.

The grenadiers of the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment managed to rush the bamboo bridge over the Slokan Canal and were able to prevent the bridge from being destroyed. The left flank of the attack advanced and stormed the large No 4 Redoubt and this successful action was followed by the taking and securing of No 1 Redoubt. However as this position was taken by the British force it was blown up by what was said to have been the action of a number of enemy officers who had fired the magazine which resulted in both sides suffering a number of casualties. Thorn gives the names of the two officers in the service of the French who caused the massive explosion as being ‘Captains Muller and Osman’.<sup>37</sup>

Following the action at Redoubts 1 and 4 an attack on the enemy’s No 2 Redoubt was mounted and Sir Samuel Auchmuty’s report, which was published in *The London Gazette*,<sup>38</sup> briefly covered the event as follow:

The Redoubt No 2, against which Lieutenant-Colonel [William] M’Leod’s Attack was directed, was carried in a gallant style; and I lament to state, that most valiant and most experienced officer fell at the Moment of Victory.<sup>39</sup>

The fighting continued with Lieutenants Richard Hart and John Pennycuik of the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment being wounded and, although opposed by a determined enemy, the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment pressed home their attack and succeeded in taking the enemy positions. The regiment then advanced along the high road under heavy grape and musketry fire but continued to take position after position. During the action Lieutenant Colonel William Campbell of the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment had both his thighs shattered by grape shot and despite medical attention died two days later.<sup>40</sup> [The memorial stone to William Campbell is now located within the grounds of All Saints Anglican Church in Jakarta. The church was built in 1829 and the tombstone was moved from ‘behind the General Post Office’ in November 1913.]<sup>41</sup>

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons fought alongside Colonel Gillespie and a contemporary report of this action gives the following detail:

The main struggles being now decided, and the cavalry soon after joined in the advance, poured destruction and defeat on the enemy. The attack against their retreat was remarkably fine. The French superior officers and sharp shooters all remained in the rear, using every means to get their people off, who retired between two rivers, along a broad road equally divided by a hedge. Across the approach, in many places, heavy carts, carriages and baggage wagons, were formed, and behind them were planted several light artillery guns. When the dragoons advanced, a severe fire of both of grape and musketry [*sic*] opened upon them, but the charge of our cavalry, though directed to a disadvantage, by being obliged to act in sections, in order to force their way through such passages as presented themselves, was made with such rapidity, that the rout was rendered complete, without any material loss on the part of the victors. An excellent

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<sup>37</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p59.

<sup>38</sup> *The London Gazette*, dated 17 December 1811, pp2398-2400.

<sup>39</sup> *The London Gazette* dated 17 December 1811 (p2399).

<sup>40</sup> Davidson, *History and Services of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs)*, p81.

<sup>41</sup> Adolf Heuken, *Historical Sights of Jakarta*, (Jakarta, 1989), pp209-210.

officer, however, Lieutenant Hutchins [*sic*]<sup>42</sup> of the 22d Dragoons, was killed by grape-shot, by the side of Colonel Gillespie; and so close was the combat in general, that every officer was engaged at time hand to hand.<sup>43</sup>

Another account of the involvement of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons in the battle for Cornelis gives the following details:

The Dragoons now coming up, Colonel Gillespie mounted a horse which he cut from on the enemy's guns, headed the cavalry and by a fine charge dispersed the remnant of the defenders. He pursued them for over 15 miles, nearly half way to the strong post of Buitenzorg.<sup>44</sup>

The whole British attack had taken only three hours and although General Janssens escaped with some of his troops to Buitenzorg, some thirty miles from Cornelis, it was believed that he had lost about 2000 men, of whom 1000 were buried on the battlefield.<sup>45</sup>

It was during the action on 26 August 1811 that Lieutenant Charles Dudley, the officer in command of the detachment of 'dismounted' 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons, was severely wounded. The return of casualties as given by Thorn is as follows:

General Return of Killed, Wounded and Missing, in the British Army [which included the East India Company's troops], from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> August, 1811, both inclusive:

Europeans – 736, Natives [EIC troops] – 153, Total – 889  
Horses – 38.<sup>46</sup>

The cavalry casualties published in *The London Gazette* give more detail and record:

22d Dragoons

1 Lieutenant, 1 rank and file, 6 horses killed; 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 18 rank and file, 19 horses wounded, 2 horses missing.

Governor-General of Bengal's Body Guard

1 native rank and file killed; 5 native rank and file wounded.<sup>47</sup>

The officer casualties killed or mortally wounded during the period 4 to 26 August are recorded as being:

LIST OF OFFICERS KILLED

From 4 to 19 August 1811

78<sup>th</sup> Foot

Lieutenant [John] Munro [Monro]

On 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August 1811

Royal Artillery

Lieutenant P. [Philip] Patton

Madras Pioneers

Lieutenant G. [George] Shepherd

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<sup>42</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p68. Thorn gives the name as 'Lieutenant Huchins'. *The London Gazette*, p2401, dated 17 December 1811 gives the name as 'Hutcheon and this is confirmed in the *Army List* for 1811, p95, which shows the officer as being 'Lieutenant Alexander Hutcheon – 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons'.

<sup>43</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p78.

<sup>44</sup> Burton, *The Conquest of Java*, p9.

<sup>45</sup> Davidson, *History and Services of the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment (Ross-shire Buffs)*, p81.

<sup>46</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p69.

<sup>47</sup> *The London Gazette*, dated 17 December 1811, p2400.

Bengal Foot Artillery Lieutenant Fireworker [Leonard Motley] Farnaby  
[shown as Tarnaby']

On 26<sup>th</sup> August 1811

69 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Lieutenant Colonel William M'Leod [Macleod]
14 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Captain M. [Marinus] Kennedy
59 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Captain W. [William] Olpherts
69 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Captain Patrick Ross
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dragoons	Lieutenant [Alexander] Hutcheon
59 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Lieutenants W. [William] Warring R. [Richard] Litton, J. [John] Lloyd
69 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Lieutenant William A. Hipkins
Madras Native Infantry	Lieutenant [Henry] Ferguson
59 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Ensign [Richard] Wolfe. <sup>48</sup>

Burton, in his article *The Conquest of Java*, gives the following additional names of officer casualties:

22 <sup>nd</sup> Dragoons	incorrectly gives the name 'Hutchins' [see Note 42]
Royal Artillery	Lieutenant [Edward James Augustus] Driffield
14 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Captain [George] Rawlins Lieutenants [William Henry] Coghlan [Kenneth] McKenzie
59 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Lieutenants [Evan] M'Pherson [Robert Charles] Stevenson
69 <sup>th</sup> Foot	Lieutenant Colonel [Christopher] Clarges
Bengal Native Infantry	Captain [Francis] Shaw Lieutenants [Thomas William] Murrall [Robert] McDonald Ensign [Robert] Pringle
Madras Pioneers	Lieutenant [Henry] Ferguson Ensign [Norman] McLeod. <sup>49</sup>

Fielding noted in his Journal that the combined British and East India Company force was greatly inferior in numbers to the combined Dutch and French force, stating on 26 August that:

It appears by a Return found in [General] Janssens' house & dated only two days back that his force amounts upwards of 17,000 men, all the men we had present did not amount to 5,000 & a great part of these did not come into action.<sup>50</sup>

Following the withdraw to Buitenzorg Janssen had hoped to make a stand and on the evening of 26 August he had a meeting with Captain Robinson, aide-de-camp to Lord Minto, who offered proposals for an 'honourable capitulation'. The terms did not meet with Janssens approval and he is reputed to have replied:

'Tell Lord Minto that he has not yet conquered one tenth of the island; that I shall continue to defend it and shall never surrender as long as I still have a soldier at my disposal'.

<sup>48</sup> *The London Gazette* dated 17 December 1811, pp2401-2402. Forenames, as shown in the British Army List for 1811, have been added to the list where applicable.

<sup>49</sup> Burton, *The Conquest of Java*, pp10-11.

<sup>50</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory Records*, Journal entry dated 26 August 1811.

On 29 August the British force advanced to Buitenzorg but on arriving at Camp Malayo it was found that Janssens had departed to the eastern portion of the island first stopping at Cheribon and then moved on to arrive at Semarang on 1 September.

All action in the area of Cornelis and Batavia had ceased and on the day following the battle for Cornelis Fielding visited the Dutch fortification and commented:

Rode out this morning to see Cornelis; the works are certainly extremely strong but they are ill constructed in many respects: the ditches of some are not sufficiently deep: the timbers of which the fraises are made are too short, too thick, too far asunder and point upwards instead of downwards: they rather facilitated our ascent to the parapet than otherwise. Several of the entrances had no barrier, others had no traverses & the bridges were too strongly constructed: they could not be removed without difficulty.<sup>51</sup>

The details of the ranks of those officers who surrendered to the British were published in *The London Gazette* as follows:

Memorandum of the Number and Rank of Officers Prisoners of War.

3 Brigadiers, 5 Colonels, 4 Majors, 21 Lieutenant Colonels, 1 Commissary of War (1<sup>st</sup> Class), 1 Assistant Commissary of War (1<sup>st</sup> Class), 2 Assistant Commissaries of War (2d Class), 70 Captains, 134 Lieutenants, 7 Amboynese Lieutenants, 3 Native Lieutenants, 5 Sub-Adjutants, 1 Cadet.

From the Number of Prisoners hourly arriving, and the many wounded, whom it has not yet been possible to collect, the actual Number of Prisoners must considerably exceed the above Statement, which includes Commandants of Cavalry, Artillery and Engineers of the Army of Java, with Three Aids du Camp [*sic*] of the Governor General and Commandant in Chief.

(Signed) J.A. Agnew, Adj Gen, Headquarters, Weltevreden  
Aug 31, 1811.<sup>52</sup>

Part of the Governor-General's Body Guard returned to its cavalry role when, on 29 August, it became part of a small force to secure the town of Buitenzorg which was still held by a number of fugitives from the enemy's army. Fielding wrote:

...fugitives of the army had assembled at Buitenzorg & were plundering the magazine & country, a party was ordered there under Colonel Gibbs<sup>53</sup> (Colonel Gillespie being ill) with all expedition; we accordingly marched at 9 a.m. to join Col Gibbs at his post a mile beyond Cornelis and at 5 p.m. the following troops marched to Buitenzorg: 4 gallopers, 2 troops of Dragoons, 40 of the Body Guard *who were mounted*, the right Flank Battalion, the 4<sup>th</sup> Vol Bat<sup>54</sup> & a party of Light Infantry Vol. About 3 miles from our ground we passed Rustenberg where there were large magazines of spices burnt & still smoking.<sup>55</sup>

At 1 a.m. on the following morning, whilst advancing to Buitenzorg, the small force stopped at the house of Mr Tiency who provided the party with supplies. Having received a negative

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<sup>51</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory Records*, Journal entry dated 27 August 1811.

<sup>52</sup> *The London Gazette* dated 17 December 1811, p2402.

<sup>53</sup> Samuel Gibbs was commissioned in the 102<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot in 1783. He served in Canada, Gibraltar and the West Indies and then commanded the 59<sup>th</sup> Foot at the Cape 1805-06; in Travancore 1808-09 and in Java. He left Java early in 1812 and was promoted to Major-General in 1813. He was knighted on 2 January 1815 a week before being mortally wounded during the battle of New Orleans.

<sup>54</sup> Thorn also lists the 4<sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion in his book *The Conquest of Java*, p72.

<sup>55</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory Records*, Journal entry dated 29 August 1811.

answer from the enemy in respect of a request to surrender, the force under Colonel Gibbs advanced towards their objective. Fielding notes that on arrival ‘we found a white flag flying & the troops there immediately surrendered unconditionally’.

With the western end of the island now firmly under the control of the British expeditionary force a campaign was still being fought at the eastern end of the island. Despite this Lord Minto wrote, on 3 September 1811, to the Honourable Select Committee, anticipating a successful conclusion to the campaign, giving details of the appointments he proposed to make on leaving Java:

I propose to vest the Chief Authority in the person of Mr Raffles under the title of Lieutenant Governor.

I propose to leave Colonel Gillespie in the Chief Command of the Garrison of the island and Colonel Gibbs of His Majesty’s 59<sup>th</sup> Regiment will be second in Command.<sup>56</sup>

Meanwhile the British sent a small force by sea to Cheribon in order to try to intercept General Janssens but it was found that he had already moved along the coast to the seaport of Samarang. On receiving this news Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty took up the pursuit on 5 September with a force consisting of a troop of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoon, the 14<sup>th</sup> and 78<sup>th</sup> Regiments of Foot, the grenadiers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion together with six field-pieces with artillerymen and pioneers. The whole force amounted to just under 1,000 all ranks which were embarked on the vessels *Mysore* and *Lowjee Family*. On 12 September the 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment and seven companies of the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment landed at Samarang and occupied the town without any opposition. Janssens had again retreated and set up a strong defence position in the hills of Serondole, about six miles from Samarang. On 14 September it was decided that the British force would attack and at 2 a.m. on 16 September the whole force, under the command of Colonel Gibbs of the 59<sup>th</sup> Regiment, advanced and once again the sheer determination of the attacking force over-ran the enemy and Janssens was yet again forced to retreat. On the night of 17 September, General Janssens sent a flag of truce proposing the terms for the surrender of the island. Auchmuty notified his intention that nothing less than ‘unconditional surrender’ would be acceptable and unless accepted immediately the British would continue their advance. On the morning of the 18 September troops continued their advance towards Salatiga and after an advance of about seven miles a second flag of truce was sent and on this occasion it was agreed the General should

surrender himself and his army [as] prisoners of war, resign the sovereignty of Java and all Dutch and French possessions in the East Indies into the hands of Great Britain.<sup>57</sup>

General Janssens formally surrendered and on 24 September he, together with Generals Lutzow and de Kock<sup>58</sup> attended a meeting with Lord Minto. On the following day Minto returned the call with an escort provided by the Governor-General’s Body Guard which was then being employed in its primary roll. Fielding wrote in his Journal:

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<sup>56</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/14, *Java Factory Records*, Vol 14, p37.

<sup>57</sup> Davidson, *History and Services of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs)*, p84.

<sup>58</sup> Balthazar Frederick Willem, Baron von Lutzow, born c1758, was in command of a brigade. He became a member of the Council-of-War set up following the British invasion. He was permitted to resign from the army and remain in Java, instead of being sent as a prisoner of war to England. Hendrik Merkus de Kock was born in Heusden, Holland in 1779. He arrived in Batavia in 1807 and was appointed Adjutant-General to Daendals and subsequently Brigadier and Chief of the General Staff. Following the fall of Cornelis he accompanied Janssens to Samarang and Ungaran. He departed from Java in October as a prisoner of war on the *Countess of Harcourt*. In 1817 he returned to the East Indies as the Dutch Governor of the Moluccas. He eventually retired to The Hague and died there on 12 April 1845.

Lord Minto proceeded in state to return Genl Janssens' visit; the Body Guard attended him & we found the Sun extremely hot.<sup>59</sup>

Lord Minto planned to return to India and on 3 October he gave a dinner to Sir Samuel Auchmuty and officers of the army and, in return, the officers gave a 'Ball and Supper' to Lord Minto and General Auchmuty. The festivities preceding the departure of Lord Minto concluded on 17 October when:

A great dinner and ball was given by Mr Raffles to Lord Minto. Genls Lutzow & de Kock were of the party & several of the principal civilians . . . Lord Minto as usual took the opportunity of paying some very handsome compliments to the Army to whom he certainly feels very grateful for his conquest. The ball went off very gayly & there was a display of fireworks after supper, which was unfortunately spoiled by a violent shower of rain. The party broke up at about 3 o'clock.<sup>60</sup>

Lord Minto and his family embarked on 19 October on HMS *Modeste*, with the Body Guard being transported in the *Borneo*.<sup>61</sup> Fielding recorded the departure from Java as follows:

His Lordship sails on the *Modeste*. We in the *Borneo*, a trim ship ... commanded by Capt Savage. As we did not know where she lay & it grew dark before we got out to the anchorage we could not find her & and after wandering a long time went on board the *Teignmouth* [the] Company's Cruizer where we supped and slept.

[October] 20. Got on board the *Borneo* early in the morning but it took some time to get the luggage in, we were not ready to sail before the sea breeze set in & must remain until tomorrow. The *Modeste* sailed early accompanied by the *Phoenix* and (HMS) *Acteon*.<sup>62</sup>

The element of the Governor-General's Body Guard that served in the Java Campaign was awarded an East India Company campaign medal under the authority of *General Order of the Governor-General* dated 28 October 1811 and was also awarded prize money, based on rank, with the senior officer Captain G.H. Gall receiving £151-1-11d scaling down so that a Private was awarded £3.8.10d.<sup>63</sup>

Prior to his departure from Java Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty issued a memorandum regarding the disposition of the Army setting out their responsibilities and advising which regiments should return to India. The following is an extract of his recommendations:

Samarang Garrison	6 Horse Artillery Guns 22 <sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons (less one troop at Batavia) 14 <sup>th</sup> and 89 <sup>th</sup> Regiments of Foot 3 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion Bengal Volunteers Detachment of the Amboynese Corps
Batavia Garrison	Colonel Alexander Adams to command 59 <sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalions

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<sup>59</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory* Records, Journal entry dated 25 September 1811.

<sup>60</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, *Java Factory* Records, Journal entry dated 17 October 1811.

<sup>61</sup> The ship *Borneo* – owned by the Calcutta firm of B Fergusson. Registered as 366 tons and commanded by Captain J. Savage.

<sup>62</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/10, Journal entries dated 19 and 20 October 1811.

<sup>63</sup> Lieutenant V.C.P. Hodson, *Historical Records of the Governor-General's Body Guard*, (London. 1910), p70.

The Amboynese Corps  
 A Troop of Cavalry (this would initially be a troop of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons)  
 2 Horse Artillery Guns  
 The Bengal Artillery detachment  
 Sourabaya<sup>64</sup> Garrison The King's Artillery  
 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot  
 7<sup>th</sup> (or Bengal Light Infantry) Volunteer Battalion  
 4<sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion.<sup>65</sup>

Auchmuty recommended the following reduction in the force that was occupying Java:

The 69<sup>th</sup> Regiment to be embarked immediately for India and to land at Goa if they cannot get to the coast. The Madras Pioneers [less] (a company under Lieutenant Macrae<sup>66</sup>), tent lascars, Gun lascars ([less] those at Sourabaya excepted) and Dooly Bearers to be also sent back and landed on the Malabar Coast.

Immediately after the rains I would recommend a Company of Bengal Artillery to be sent to Sourabaya to relieve the King's Artillery which should be returned to Ceylon. The 89<sup>th</sup> Regiment to be also sent back [to India] immediately after the rains.<sup>67</sup>

With the departure of Lord Minto and his staff Raffles quickly established his control over the island and his appointment as Lieutenant-Governor gave him authority to act as 'Commander-in-Chief of Java' and the other settlements that had been under the control of the Dutch. This was a senior appointment for which he had no previous experience.

He established his headquarters and residence at Ryswick<sup>68</sup>, a suburb of Batavia, which he used when officially entertaining and took over the residence of the Dutch Governor General at Buitenzorg (shown on some contemporary maps as Buiten zorg) about 30 miles from Batavia in the hilly area to the south. Raffles and his wife Olivia Mariamne used this as their permanent home and where they did most of their entertaining. His aide de camp, Captain Thomas Otho Travers, commented:

It was the kind of life lived by Raffles and Olivia at Buitenzorg that probably did more than anything else to set a standard of dignity and decency for social relations in Java<sup>69</sup>

The officer in command of the military, Colonel Robert Rollo Gillespie<sup>70</sup> was quite different from Raffles which brought about a serious clash of personalities. Raffles started his career as a temporary clerk working for the East India Company at Leadenhall Street, London, and

<sup>64</sup> Sourabaya, also spelt Surabaya and Soera Baja.

<sup>65</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/14, *Java Factory Records*, pp19-20.

<sup>66</sup> The name is incorrect and should have read 'Lieutenant (Robert) McCreith, 22<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, Madras Native Infantry who served in Java with the 1<sup>st</sup> Madras Pioneers.

<sup>67</sup> BL (IOR), G/21/14, *Java Factory Records*, p21.

<sup>68</sup> *Ryswick* - also spelt Rijswijk, Rijswyck, Ryswyck or Ryswyke is about 2 miles east of Weltevreden and described by Thorn, in his book *Memoirs of the Conquest of Java*, p257, 'At Ryswyck are good barracks, and pleasant officers' quarters for both infantry and cavalry'. It was also the location of Government House, used for Council Meetings and it was also the town residence of Governor Raffles.

<sup>69</sup> Wurtzburg, *Raffles of the Eastern Isles*, p188.

<sup>70</sup> Hugh Robert Rollo Gillespie was born at Comber in January 1766. Served in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Irish Horse from 1783 and won distinction during his service in the West Indies. Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in HM 19<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons, He transferred to HM 25<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons in 1809 and was appointed OC Troops at Bangalore. On his return from Java in 1813 in the rank of Major-General he commanded the Meerut Garrison. He was killed during the attack on Fort Kalanga, near Dehra Dun, on 31 October 1814 and was named as KCB on 1 January 1815.

had achieved his position by diligence and therefore lacked Gillespie's polish and sophistication. As Raffles was required to include all military matters in his reports to the Court of Directors in London it soon became clear that the two senior officers on Java seldom agreed and openly showed their dislike of each other.

From the time of handover of military command to Gillespie the recommendations put forward by Auchmuty were, generally, implemented as was his other recommendation that:

The Horse Artillery and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons may then also be withdrawn, and I would recommend their being replaced by a Corps of Light Artillery and Cavalry of 6 guns with their complement of men and 300 troops to be raised at Madras by drafts from the Cavalry and active Light recruits – they should receive Horses of the present Horse Artillery ... It has been suggested that many Hungarians and Poles [serving with the Dutch/French force] might be employed as Cavalry to a great advantage. Colonel Gillespie might be empowered to enlist and organise them, their establishments to be one or at most two troops.<sup>71</sup>

The 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment which was to be part of Sourabaya garrison reached Samarang and embarked on the *Mysore* for Sourabaya where it arrived on 28 September. The French flag was still flying over Fort Ludowick at the entrance to the harbour. However, when the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment prepared to land to attack, the French hauled down their flag and surrendered. Davidson, in his regimental history wrote:

The quarters occupied by the regiment at Sourabaya were very indifferent, and owing to the circumstances and the privations it had undergone during the campaign together with the easy access which the men had to native liquors, they became very unhealthy, losing during some months between twenty to twenty-five men. A high rate mortality existed until the latter end of the next year, when the regiment was moved into comfortable barracks at Denoyo, about three miles from the town of Sourabaya, where the number of deaths rapidly decreased, not being more than three to five a month and sometimes not so many.<sup>72</sup>

It was whilst they were in the Sourabaya garrison that the 'women and children of the regiment were permitted to join them from India'.

On the island of Sumatra, during March 1812, the Sultan of Palembang attacked and destroyed the Dutch factory at Palembang<sup>73</sup> murdering all the inhabitants of the Dutch factory. An expedition was mounted, under the command of Colonel Gillespie, consisting of the following units:

Detachment H.M. 59<sup>th</sup> Regt, 3 Companies, Rifle and Flank Companies

Detachment H.M. 89<sup>th</sup> Regt, 5 Companies.

Detachment Madras Horse Artillery, and Hussars dismounted.

Detachment Bengal Artillery, detail and detachment of Sepoys [from the] 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Battalions [Bengal Native Infantry]

Detachment Amboynese [Corps].<sup>74</sup>

The expedition travelled along the Palembang River and on 24 April had reached a point 20 miles from the Sultan's capital. On the morning of 25 April news was received that the Sultan had fled and that the Sultan's troops were sacking the town and setting houses on fire.

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<sup>71</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p128.

<sup>72</sup> Davidson, *History and Services of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs)*, pp 84-85.

<sup>73</sup> Palembang, also spelt Palimbang,

<sup>74</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p128.

Having received this report of the disturbances in the town Gillespie, accompanied by a few officers and 17 grenadiers of the 59<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, left the main body and proceeded up-river in canoes and boats arriving at Palembang at nightfall. During the night his small party was supplemented by 60 men of the 89<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot. The remainder of the force arrived on 26 April and the British flag was raised on the Sultan's bastion on 28 April.<sup>75</sup> The Sultan, Mahmoud Budruddin, was formally deposed and the sovereignty conferred upon his brother Pangarang Adipatti who was given the title Sultan Ratu Achmed Najmuddin.

With peace restored the expedition withdrew to Java arriving there at the end of May, having stopped to take possession of the island of Banca en route. The island had been ceded, from 20 May 1812, to the British Government by the new Sultan and was formally accepted by Colonel Gillespie who named the island 'Duke of York Island' [also referred to as 'Duke of York's island'].<sup>76</sup> Before leaving Palembang Gillespie ordered the confiscation of building material that had been taken from the remains of the former Dutch factory and shipped it to Banca Island to be used in the construction of a barracks to house a detachment of Company troops. Captain Robert Mears, 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Madras Native Infantry, raised a native battalion and was placed in charge of Duke of York's Island which was then under the Governorship of Raffles. Unfortunately Mears was killed on 15 September 1812 during an attack on a stockade which was being held by rebel forces who had remained loyal to the former Sultan of Palembang.<sup>77</sup>

The expeditionary force returned to Java, having left behind a small force to secure this new outpost, and on reaching Batavia on 1 June Gillespie and the troops that accompanied him on the expedition to Palembang then marched overland to Samarang, arriving there on 6 June. On the same date Governor Raffles published an order congratulating Gillespie on a successful mission.<sup>78</sup>

Prior to this, on 23 May 1812, a general order was issued by the Commander-in-Chief in which he passed on the 'approbation' of His Royal Highness, the Prince Regent for the distinguished way in which the Java campaign had been waged and for the many acts of distinguished gallantry. Medals were granted to all East India Company troops and to 'such of the superior European officers, as had distinguished themselves'.<sup>79</sup> Gordon in his *British Battles and Medals* wrote the following description in respect of the 'Java Medal':

Obverse:	A scene of the attack on Fort Cornelis with the inscription 'Cornelis' at the top.
Reverse	A Persian inscription and 'Java conquered XXVI August MDCCCXI.

The medals were engraved and struck by the Calcutta Mint.

Qualification: the medal was issued by the H.E.I.C. to the native troops of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteers, Madras Pioneers and the Governor's Bodyguard [*sic*].

<sup>75</sup> Burton, *The Conquest of Java*, pp13-14.

<sup>76</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p163.

<sup>77</sup> Lieutenant Colonel W.J. Wilson, *History of the Madras Army*, (Madras, 1882), Vol. 3, p329.

<sup>78</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, pp165-167. The General Order by the Lieutenant-Governor was issued at 'Cheribon, May 27<sup>th</sup> 1812' and signed by 'C.G. Blagrave, A.Sec to Gov'. Charles G Blagrave was on the establishment of the Moluccas and had been on his way, via Java, to take his appointment at Amboyna. Raffles having no one else available, retained him on Java to serve as 'Acting Secretary to the Government'. Raffles later dismissed him for misconduct in March 1813, an event which led to enmity with Blagrave accusing Raffles of obtaining land grants illegally.

<sup>79</sup> Wilson, *History of the Madras Army*, Vol. 3, p328.

One hundred and thirty-three gold medals were issued; 5761 natives received silver medals as well as about 750 Europeans. Only those in the service of the Company were allowed to wear their medals...<sup>80</sup>

British Army troops that took part in the capture of Java were entitled to the Military General Service Medal (1793-1814) with the clasp 'Java'. The qualification period for the clasp was from 14 to 26 August 1811 both dates inclusive.<sup>81</sup>

Gordon records the following units as having officers and men eligible for the issue of the medal and clasp:

22 Light Dragoons; RA (10), 14, 59, 69, 78, 89 Foot,  
3, 4, 6 Bengal Volunteers.<sup>82</sup>

The situation on Java was relatively peaceful and Raffles, accompanied by Colonel Gillespie commenced a tour of the island which included visiting Djoejocarta.<sup>83</sup> On 17 June 1812, as they approached the Djoejocarta area, they were halted by troops of the Sultan of Mataram, who was determined to oppose the British occupation of Java. The Sultan's troops included 'strong bodies of horse' who intercepted communications to the rear of the British troops by burning and destroying bridges and laying waste to the countryside.<sup>84</sup> As a result of this development Colonel Gillespie set out escorted by fifty Dragoons and Mr John Crawford, the Resident who was acting as interpreter, and on encountering a body of the 'Sultan's Horse' he failed to persuade them to return to their master, The Sultan. Eventually they did agree to return to Djoejocarta but when it became dark the Javanese suddenly attacked the escort of Dragoons.

[They] threw their spears at our men by which a serjeant and four dragoons were wounded. Thus they were the first to provoke hostility, which ended in their defeat. This act of treachery was followed by several other attacks during the night upon the cavalry patrols, which obliged our Dragoons to cut their way sword in hand through the surrounding multitudes, with the loss of one man killed and one wounded.<sup>85</sup>

This action by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons is also mentioned, briefly, in a letter written by 2<sup>nd</sup> Captain William Macbean George Colebrooke, Royal Artillery to his father, in which he comments:

At 4 in the morning [19 June 1812] we passed the strong Ravine where the Dragoons had been cut up after entering it. The Road was cut thro' the opposite side, forming a precipice on either side truly formidable; in the dark I thought it was a regularly fortified pass, and with the least resistance we never could have passed it with the caissons. The Dragoons were here lying mangled most shockingly ... and on entering Colonel Macleod's camp I found a friend of mine Lieutenant [Francis] Hale of the Dragoons, whose party had so suffered, and himself so severely wounded. It seems the enemy attacked them with great boldness, and dismounted them with their spears of immense length.<sup>86</sup>

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<sup>80</sup> Major L.L. Gordon, *British Battles and Medals*, (Aldershot, 1962), p23.

<sup>81</sup> Colonel K.O.N. Foster, *The Military General Service Medal 1793-1818*, (Berlin, 1946).

<sup>82</sup> Gordon, *British Battles and Medals*, pp37-38.

<sup>83</sup> Djoejocarta, also spelt Djoejo Carta, Jokyakarta and Yogyokarta and is now known as Yogya. See Bill Dalton, *Indonesian Handbook*, (California, 1988), p285.

<sup>84</sup> Thorn, *Memoirs of the Conquest of Java*, p178.

<sup>85</sup> Thorn, *Memoirs of the Conquest of Java*, p179.

<sup>86</sup> Major (Brevet Lieutenant Colonel) J.H. Leslie, 'Campaigning in Java – 1812', *Journal of the Royal Artillery Institution*, No 62 (1935-1936), pp478-479.

The force had been increased and included detachments of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons, Madras and Bengal Artillery, 14<sup>th</sup>, 59<sup>th</sup> and 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot and detachments from the Bengal Volunteer Battalions. The principal fort at Djoejocarta, which was also the palace, was an oblong quadrangle and was enclosed by a good rampart with a bastion at each angle, the whole surrounded by a broad wet ditch. It was garrisoned by about 15,000 men and defended by nearly 100 guns.<sup>87</sup> The palace was attacked on 20 June and after a fiercely fought battle the palace was taken with the loss of ninety-nine killed or wounded and with a great number of the enemy killed. Captain Henry Thomas Rudyard and Lieutenant Charles William Black, of the Madras Horse Artillery, were commended for conspicuous gallantry.<sup>88</sup>

The casualty list from the combined British and East India Company's force was given by Thorn as being:

Killed

His Majesty's Twenty-second Dragoons	8 rank and file
His Majesty's Fourteenth Regiment	8 rank and file
His Majesty's Seventy-eighth Regiment	1 rank and file
[Bengal] Light Infantry Battalion	3 rank and file
[Locally enlisted troops]	3 rank and file

Wounded

	Colonel R R Gillespie		
Staff			
	2 rank and file		
Horse Artillery			
	Major [Edward] Butler,		slightly.
Bengal Artillery	1 Drummer, 11 rank and file		
	Lieutenant [Francis] Hale,		severely.
Twenty-second Dragoons	12 rank and file		
	Lieutenant [Hector] M'Lean,		severely, since died
HM's Fourteenth Regiment	30 rank and file		
	Lieutenant [Charles] Robertson,		slightly.
HM's Seventh-eighth Regiment	3 rank and file		

<sup>87</sup> Wilson, *History of the Madras Army*, Vol. 3, p329. Some accounts give the number of defenders as much as 17,000, while Raffles put the figure as much less.

<sup>88</sup> *Ibid*, Vol. 3, p331.

HM's Eighty-ninth Regiment	Lieutenant Young, Brigade Major, LI Battalion
[3 <sup>rd</sup> ] Bengal Volunteer Bn	Lieutenant J H Paul, 7 rank and file 2 rank and file
[4 <sup>th</sup> ] Bengal Volunteer Bn	Lieutenant [George] Hunter
Amboynese Corps	1 Havildar
Royal Navy	Captain Teesdale [RN]
Total Wounded	78
Total Killed and wounded	101 <sup>89</sup>

Following the surrender of the Sultan's force the Commander of the Force, Colonel Gillespie issued a General Order from the 'Headquarters, Djoejocarta' dated 21 June 1812 in which he congratulated all troops on their discipline and gallantry during the campaign, mentioning the mounted cavalry in particular:

The conduct of Lieutenant [Francis] Hale, and his party, has already been mentioned in terms of just applause; but the Command of the Forces cannot refrain from again testifying his sense of the activity and exertion that have been manifest by Captain [Thomas H] Dawes, and the officers and men of His Majesty's 22d Dragoons, during the progress of the service.<sup>90</sup>

In respect of the 'dismounted Dragoons' he commented that 'Lieutenant [Charles] Dudley, and the Hussars, were all conspicuous from the same gallantry and zeal'.<sup>91</sup> The bravery of Lieutenant Francis Hale was also mentioned in the General Order issued by the Commander-in-Chief in India on 30 September 1812.<sup>92</sup>

Having secured the Kraton [Palace] at Djoejocarta the role of the military changed from being an active force to one whose main occupation was 'keeping the peace' and as garrison troops. The 20<sup>th</sup>, or Marine, Bengal Native Infantry were withdrawn from Java with the exception of those officers filling a Staff or command appointment. The *General Order* reads:

The party of the 20<sup>th</sup> or Marine Regiment remaining on this Island, and attached for some time past to the 5<sup>th</sup> Volunteer Battalion, will proceed to rejoin their Corps and will embark on the *Helen* Transport, which vessel will touch at BANCA to receive the men on duty at that place.<sup>93</sup>

With the withdrawal of the 'King's' troops from Java Raffles wrote to the Secretary to the Court of Directors, William Ramsay, giving details of the military garrison as at January 1813 together with the anticipated reinforcements to be sent from Bengal to bring the Bengal Volunteer Battalions up to strength:

<sup>89</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p191.

<sup>90</sup> *Ibid*, p195.

<sup>91</sup> *Ibid*, p194. The order in fact refers to Lieutenant Charles Dudley and the dismounted detachment of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons and not the 'Hussars'.

<sup>92</sup> *Ibid*, p199.

<sup>93</sup> BL (IOR) L/MIL/17/2/411, *Java General Order* Batavia, dated 4 May 1813.

There are at present on the island three King's regiments, the 14<sup>th</sup>, 59<sup>th</sup> and 78<sup>th</sup> averaging about 800 men each, two troops of His Majesty's 22d Dragoons, a detachment of Royal Artillery from Ceylon; two troops of hussars raised on the island but not yet attached to either the King's or Company's army. The Sepoy battalions, of which there are five, are weak, but recruits to complete them to 800 men each, are daily expected from Bengal, beside a Corps of Native Cavalry raised expressly for service on the island.<sup>94</sup>

The cavalry reinforcement was raised under the authority of a General Order issued at Fort William on 6 January 1812. In addition to authorising the recruitment of volunteers for service with the infantry battalions already serving in Java the order stated:

His Lordship in Council has further resolved on the formation of a Light Corps of Cavalry, with Horse Artillery attached, for Service on the Island of Java to be constituted and hereafter specified, and composed of Volunteers from the several Regiments of Native Cavalry on this Establishment . . . altho' the destination assigned to the Volunteers for this duty does not hold out immediate prospect of Active Service, yet the Right Hon the Governor-General-in-Council, has confident expectation that the same zeal and alacrity to promote the views of Government and object of the public Service, will be manifested by the Troops in the present instance, which have uniformly distinguished the Army of this Presidency on all former occasions of a similar nature. The Light Corps of Native Cavalry and Horse Artillery above mentioned is to consist of three Troops, to be composed of Volunteers to be furnished by the several Regiments of [Bengal] Native Cavalry, in the under mentioned proportions.<sup>95</sup>

Rank	Native Cavalry Regiments								Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Lieutenant	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3
Cornet	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	5
Jemadar for Subadar	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Havildar for Jemadar	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	6
Naick for Havildar	2	2	1	2	2	1	-	2	12
Trooper for Naick	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	12
Trumpeter	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3
Trooper	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	240
Farrier	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	3
Total:	37	36	37	37	36	35	34	35	287

The General Order also contained details of the conditions of service for those volunteering to serve in Java, instructed that all arms and accoutrements were to be 'left with their Corps', and gave specific instructions regarding the formation of the 'Corps of Native Cavalry':

The volunteers of Cavalry are to rendezvous at the under mentioned Stations, for the purpose of embarking on boats which will be provided by the Commissariat for their conveyance to Barrackpore.

<sup>94</sup> Lady Raffles, *Memoir of the Life and Public Service of Sir Stamford Raffles, FRS &c.* (London, 1830), p133. A revised edition was published (Singapore, 1991) showing the author as 'Lady Sophia Raffles'.

<sup>95</sup> National Army Museum (NAM) 1968-07-181, *Correspondence and Returns &c., of Lieut-Gen Sir George Nugent GCB (Commander-in-Chief in the East Indies 1811-1815, pp103-104.*

Those from 2<sup>d</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Regiments – at Fatty Ghur.  
 Those from the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Regiments – at Allahabad.<sup>96</sup>

Following the publication of the *General Order* dated 6 January 1812 General Sir George Nugent wrote to Lord Melville on 7 January stating that, in addition to providing reinforcements for the volunteer battalions serving in Java ‘about three hundred Native Cavalry, formed into three troops of cavalry and one troop of Horse Artillery, were also being sent to the island’.<sup>97</sup> The establishment of the unit was authorised as:

LIGHT CAVALRY

*European Officers*

Rank	Total
Lieutenants	3
Cornets	5

*Natives*

Rank	One Troop	Two Troops More	Total
Subadars	1	2	3
Jemadars	2	4	6
Havildars	4	8	12
Naicks	4	8	12
Trumpeters	1	2	3
Troopers	80	160	240
Farriers	1	2	3
Total of three Troops	93	186	279

*Effective Staff*

*Assistant Surgeon*

*Sergeant-Major*

4

*Quartermaster Sergeant*

*Native Doctor*

*European Officers*

8

*Totals*

93

186

291

*Horses*

96 \*

186

282

\*Including three for the Sergeant-Major, Quartermaster Sergeant and Native Doctor.

<sup>96</sup> NAM 1968-07-181, *Correspondence and Returns &c., of Lieut-Gen Sir George Nugent, GCB, (Commander-in-Chief in the East Indies, 1811-15)*, p106r.

<sup>97</sup> *Ibid*, pp165-166. The Rt. Hon Lord Viscount Melville was, at that time, President of the ‘Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India’.

*Non-effective Staff*

1 Adjutant	1 Quartermaster	1 Drill Havildar
1 Drill Naick	1 Trumpet Major	3 Pay Havildars

*Quartermaster's Establishment*

1 Tindal	1 Lascar to each troop	1 Carpenter
1 Puckallee to each troop		2 Barwallahs

HORSE ARTILLERY

*European Officers*

1 Captain	2 Lieutenants or Lieutenant Fireworkers
(one of whom to be the Adjutant and Quartermaster)	

*European Non-commissioned Officers*

3 Sergeants	3 Corporals
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*Natives*

1 Subadar	2 Jemadars	4 Havildars	4 Naicks
2 Trumpeters	84 Privates	2 Farriers	

*Staff*

3 Effective (Sergeant-Major, Quartermaster Sergeant and Drill Sergeant)

**Total (all ranks)      111**

*Non-effective Staff*

1 Adjutant and Quartermaster	1 Pay Sergeant	1 Rough Rider
1 Riding Master	1 Native Doctor	

*Quartermaster's Establishment*

1 Tindal	2 Lascars. <sup>98</sup>
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The following was published in the same order, under 'Allowances':

The stoppage of one Rupee per month authorised by General Order of the 10<sup>th</sup> April 1793 is to be made from the Pay of each Native Officer, Non-commissioned Officer and Trooper of the regular salary, to be also made from the same Ranks in the Java Light Cavalry and for which the Commanding officer will furnish each man annually with two jackets and two pairs of Pantaloons made of Nankin and a Watering Cossah Turban.<sup>99</sup>

The unit first appears in the *Bengal Military Statement for 1811-12* under the title of 'Corps of Light Cavalry for Java'. The return, as at 30 April 1812, differs from the proposed establishment with the strength being shown as:

Officer Commanding (Captain)	1	Lieutenants	3
Cornets	4	Subadars	4

<sup>98</sup> National Archives of India (NA of I), *General Orders of the Commander-in-Chief*, Feb-June 1812, pp121-127.

<sup>99</sup> *Ibid.*

Jemmadars [ <i>sic</i> ]	8	Havildars	16
Naicks	16	Trumpeters	4
Troopers	324	Farriers	3
<b>Total</b>			<b>383</b>
Effective Staff (Assistant Surgeon, Sergeant-Major, Quartermaster Sergeant, Native Doctor)			4
<b><u>Total (all ranks)</u></b>			<b><u>387</u></b> . <sup>100</sup>

The Corps of Light Cavalry for Java, or the Java Light Cavalry as it became known, was formed in India at Barasett<sup>101</sup> in 1812 and although it did not reach Java until 1813, and served for three years, there are very few references to the unit. Cardew's history of the Bengal Army, published in 1903, briefly mentions that 'a troop of native horse artillery was formed for service in Java, but this was reduced on its return'.<sup>102</sup>

The European officer posts were filled by the following volunteer officers prior to leaving India:

<u>Establishment</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Parent regiment</u>
Officer Commanding	Lucius Robert O'Brien Promoted Major on 27 February 1812 <sup>103</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry
Lieutenants (3)	Samuel Ishmael Bacon Hugh Inglis Ker - serving as Quartermaster Stephen Reid	1 <sup>st</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry 7 <sup>th</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry 8 <sup>th</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry
Cornets (4)	Hugh De Burgh Frederick Peret Also known as Henri Vincent Frederick Perret – a Swiss National serving with the EIC Bengal Army George Burges George Roxburgh	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry 3 <sup>rd</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry 5 <sup>th</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry 6 <sup>th</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry <sup>105</sup>

Cornet Charles Prager King, 4<sup>th</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry was nominated to serve with the unit but requested to remain with his own corps and was replaced by Cornet George Arthur Kempland who was also appointed Adjutant as the original incumbent, Reid, had remained in India.<sup>106</sup> The posts of Assistant Surgeon and Riding Master were filled by Assistant Surgeon George King of the Bengal Medical Department,<sup>107</sup> and Mr M. McAuliffe.<sup>108</sup>

<sup>100</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/8/21, 1811-1812, *Return as at 30 April 1812*, p211.

<sup>101</sup> Barrasset, Baraset. The unit was formed in the lines that had formally been used by the East India Company as a Cadet College which had closed during 1811.

<sup>102</sup> Lieutenant F.G. Cardew, *A Sketch of the Services of the Bengal Native Army to the Year 1895*, (Calcutta, 1903), p114.

<sup>103</sup> *The East-India Register & Directory*, 1814, pp29 and 35.

<sup>104</sup> *The Original Calcutta Annual Directory & Calendar for 1813*, p148.

<sup>105</sup> BL (IOR) L/MIL/8/21, 1811-1812, *Return as at 30 April 1812*, p211.

<sup>106</sup> National Archives of India, GOCC February-June 1812, GOCC dated 20 May 1812.

<sup>107</sup> Lieutenant-Colonel D.G. Crawford, *Roll of the Indian Medical Services 1615-1930*, (London, 1930), p55; B594. George King born 19 December 1782, Assistant Surgeon 28 January 1807. Served at the Capture of Java.

The dress of the unit has been depicted by the illustrator Captain (later Lieutenant Colonel) Charles Hamilton Smith<sup>109</sup> which varies a little to that published in the *Calcutta Annual Register & Directory for 1814*, p114. In a chart, dated January 1814, recording 'Facings of the Honourable East India Company' Hamilton Smith gives the uniform details of the Java Light Cavalry as 'Blue coat with white (silver) frogging, Yellow collar and Cuff. White or silver lace, Buff breeches.'<sup>110</sup> The aquatint by Hamilton Smith dated 1 March 1815, shows at 'figure 3' a dismounted trooper, noted as a 'Private of the Java Volunteers' which is generally accepted as being a soldier of the Java Light Cavalry. He wears a red turban with white braid ornaments, a short blue braided jacket with yellow collar and cuffs, braided across the chest with three rows of buttons. The side pockets and back seams are edged with white braid. There is a twisted loop on the left shoulder keeping the carbine and pouch held in place. The overalls are white with a strap under the instep. He is shown as carrying a light dragoon sword in a steel scabbard which is suspended by slings from the waist belt.<sup>111</sup>

Comparison of the uniform details of the Java Light Cavalry:

	Hamilton Smith's record of facings of East India Company uniform, Java Light Cavalry	Hamilton Smith's Costume illustrations Wrapper No.13, No.51 dated 1 March 1815	<i>Calcutta Annual Register and Directory for 1814</i>
Headdress	-	Red turban and white braid	-
Jacket/coat	Blue coat	Blue jacket	Dark blue jacket
Facings etc.	White/silver frogging, White or silver lace	White braid	Facings white with silver [lace]
Collar and cuffs	Yellow	Yellow	-
Breeches	Buff	White	-

Prior to the arrival of the Java Light Cavalry, Governor Raffles issued an order that preparations were to be made to accommodate the unit at the former Dutch barracks at Salatiga. The order read:

In order to provide accommodation for the Cavalry Details expected shortly, the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor in Council is pleased to direct, that such of the Barracks at Salatiga as may be required in addition to the Stables already existing, be immediately converted into Stabling.<sup>112</sup>

The arrival of the unit was recorded in the *Journals of Lieutenant Thomas Otho Travers*, who was serving as an aide-de-camp to Raffles,

<sup>108</sup> *The Original Calcutta Annual Directory & Calendar for 1813*, p148.

<sup>109</sup> Charles Hamilton Smith born 1776, son of a Flemish family named Smet. Educated in England and at the Austrian Academy for Artillery and Engineers. Joined Waldstei's Regiment, a foreign regiment in British pay. He later served with the 60<sup>th</sup> Foot and 18<sup>th</sup> Foot. He retired from the army in 1834 and died at Plymouth in 1859.

<sup>110</sup> *Index to British Military Costume Prints 1500-1914* Army Museums Ogilby Trust [AMOT] (London, 1972), pp 288 and 289. No 870 Hamilton Smith's Costume of the British Army, Wrapper No 14, No 53 dated January 1814.

<sup>111</sup> *Index to British Military Costume Prints 1500-1914* Army Museums Ogilby Trust [AMOT] (London, 1972), pp 288 and 289. No 870 Hamilton Smith's Costume of the British Army, Wrapper No 13, No 51 dated 1 March 1815. See also W.Y. Carman, *Indian Army Uniforms under the British from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century to 1947, Cavalry*, (London, 1985), p196.

<sup>112</sup> BL (IOR) L/MIL/17/2/411, *Java General Orders* issued by the Lieutenant-Governor of Java in Council, Jan 1813-May 1814. No foliation. Order dated 24 March 1813.

May 1813 Early this month the Java Light Cavalry arrived . . . The Cavalry under Major O'Brien did not land at Batavia but on receiving a supply of water, pushed on for Samarang.<sup>113</sup>

An article was published in *The Cavalry Journal* entitled *The Java Hussars*, written by 'Hyderabad'<sup>114</sup> in which the author appears to have become confused between the Java Light Cavalry and the Java Hussars. 'Hyderabad'<sup>115</sup> also incorrectly refers to the Officer Commanding as 'Captain L.H. O'Brien of the Madras Cavalry,<sup>116</sup> but in fact the senior officer of the Java Light Cavalry was Major Lucius Robert O'Brien of the 8<sup>th</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry<sup>117</sup> who, on arrival at Salatiga, was given the additional responsibility of superintending the 'Hussars and the Amboynese Dragoons':

Batavia. August 13, 1813. The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the contract tender by Major O'Brien, Commanding the Java Light Cavalry and Horse Artillery, for the supply of Forage and Grain to that Corps be accepted by Government. Major O'Brien will assume the Superintendence and Command over the [Java] Hussars and the Amboynese Dragoons.<sup>118</sup>

The 'Hussars' referred to were the Colonial European Hussars, under the command of Lieutenant Charles Dudley, 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons.<sup>119</sup> Dudley had by then relinquished his command of the 'dismounted Dragoons'. The 'dismounted Dragoons' have previously been mentioned, and some confusion arises as in contemporary documents this small detachment is referred to as both 'Hussars' and 'Dragoons'. For example, in respect of the 'dismounted Hussars', their presence in Java in 1811 is confirmed by the *General Order* issued by the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Samuel Auchmuty, for the disembarkation of troops. The detail of the First Division included:

The infantry and dismounted troops of the Native Cavalry, of the advance, reinforced by flank battalions of the Line<sup>120</sup>

Lady Raffles listed the troops that disembarked as including 'a detachment of Madras Horse artillery and hussars dismounted'.<sup>121</sup> Lieutenant Fielding mentions 'dismounted cavalry' in his journal entry for 10 August 1811, referring to them as 'Dismounted Drag[oon]s', and later

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<sup>113</sup> John Bastin (ed), *The Journals of Thomas Otho Travers 1813-1820, Memoirs of the Raffles Museum No 4, May 1957* (Singapore, 1960), pp21-22.

<sup>114</sup> *The Cavalry Journal*, Vol. 20, published 1930, pp534-535.

<sup>115</sup> The identity of 'Hyderabad' is not definitely known but may have been the late Hurmuz Kaus, a resident of Hyderabad, a historian specialising in the history of the East India Company and Indian Armies.

<sup>116</sup> National Army Museum (NAM) Hodson Index of Biographical Data on Officers of the East India Company and Indian Armies. The officer concerned was Henry O'Brien who was commissioned as a Cornet on 7 March 1805 and served in the 4<sup>th</sup> Madras Native Cavalry. *The East-India Register and Directory* for 1812, p175 records that he was promoted to Lieutenant on 21 November 1812. He did not serve in Java but visited the island whilst on furlough. His Cadet papers give his forenames as 'Henry Jeremiah'.

<sup>117</sup> Major V.C.P. Hodson, *List of the Officers of the Bengal Army 1758-1834*, Part III, (London, 1945), p411. Lucius Robert O'Brien was born in London on 2 May 1775 and commissioned as Cornet on 25 November 1795. He was promoted to Captain 11 March 1805 and Major 27 February 1812. He died of cholera on 10 July 1825, whilst serving as Lieutenant Colonel Commandant at Sultanpur, Benares. He was the elder brother of Henry O'Brien (see note 116).

<sup>118</sup> BL (IOR)/17/2/411, *Java General Orders*, Order dated 13 August 1813. Amboyna was occupied in 1810 and then garrisoned by East India Company troops. As the Amboynese were 'well disposed towards us' two local units, the Amboynese Corps and the Amboynese Dragoons, were formed. The Amboynese Dragoons were included in the military budget of the Bengal Army, but no officers were nominated for secondment.

<sup>119</sup> *Original Calcutta Annual Directory & Calendar for 1814*, p114. The unit is shown as having two officers

'Lt Charles Dudley, 22d Dragoons	Comdg.
Ensign T. Ward, 5 <sup>th</sup> Vol Bn	Doing Duty'.

<sup>120</sup> Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p19.

<sup>121</sup> Raffles, *Memoir of Sir Stamford Raffles*, p112.

when quoting from a *General Order* dated 29 August 1811 published at ‘Headquarters, Weltfreden’ [*sic*] refers to Lieut Dudley ‘Comg a party of dismounted Dragoons’.<sup>122</sup> A further reference to ‘hussars’ is found in Begbie’s work *History of the Madras Artillery*.<sup>123</sup> He describes the expedition, under the command of Gillespie, that departed from Batavia on 20 March 1812 for the island of Palembang, as including ‘a detachment of Madras horse artillery, and hussars dismounted’.<sup>124</sup> A ‘European’ cavalry unit was formed for service in Java, the composition of which was a small cadre of East India Company officers with the remainder of the establishment being filled by personnel from Hungary etc., who had previously served under the Dutch command. The title of the unit was ‘Colonial European Hussars’ but it was also known as the ‘Java Hussars’. The existence of this force is mentioned by Lady Raffles, quoting from a letter sent by Raffles in January 1813 to William Ramsey. Raffles mentions ‘two troops of hussars [being] raised on this island’<sup>125</sup>

The strength of the ‘Java Hussars’ or ‘Colonial European Hussars’ is given in the *Bengal Military Statement for 1811-1812*, as being:

Lieutenant	1	Cornets	2
Adjutant (Cornet)	1	Quartermaster	1
Sergeant Major	1	Quartermaster Sergeant	1
Sergeants	8	Corporals	8
Trumpeters	2	Privates	131
Farrier	1		
<b>Total Europeans</b>	<b>157</b>		
Syces	62	Artificers	2
Pakhalis	2	Sweepers	2
Horses	123		

The unit is also referred to in *Java General Order* of 26 January 1813, which gives details of the payment of ‘Bounty’ money to ‘foreigners’ serving in Java.

Bounty money to the Hussars in the service of the Honourable Company on the island, is authorised at the rate established by *General Order* of the Supreme Government for foreigners entering the Honourable Company’s service.<sup>126</sup>

The cavalry element of the Java occupation force, for 1813, consisted of the following units:

Detachment, 22<sup>nd</sup> Light Dragoons.  
 Java Light Cavalry  
 Colonial European Hussars, sometimes listed as the ‘Corps of Hussars’ and also known as the ‘Java Hussars’.  
 Amboynese Dragoons.

Following the arrival of the Java Light Cavalry a *General Order* was published ordering the transfer and casting of the horses from the units already based on the island:

Batavia, May, 4, 1813. The Horses of the Detachment 22d Dragoons at Buitenzorg, are to be delivered over to the Corps of Hussars [the Java Hussars] on

<sup>122</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/17/2/411, *Java General Orders* published at Weltevreden dated 29 August 1811.

<sup>123</sup> Major P.J. Begbie, *History of the Services of the Madras Artillery*, 2 Vols, (Madras, 1853).

<sup>124</sup> Begbie, *History of the Services of the Madras Artillery*, Vol. 2, pp11 and 16; and Thorn, *Memoir of the Conquest of Java*, p128.

<sup>125</sup> Raffles, *Memoir of Sir Stamford Raffles*, p133.

<sup>126</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/17/2/411, *Java General Orders*. Order dated 26 January 1813.

their march to the Eastward, and the ponies attached to the latter Corps will be delivered over to the Deputy Commissary General for sale on the public account. The Commander of the Forces will be pleased to make such arrangements as he may deem necessary for the transfer of the Horses now belonging to the Dragoons and [Madras] Horse Artillery to the Corps of Java Light Cavalry and Artillery recently arrived . . . and such Horses as may be condemned or cast are to be delivered over to the Commissariat.<sup>127</sup>

The authority for promotions, appointments and movements of officers and men serving in Java were promulgated in *Java General Orders* and followed the format that was used in the three Presidencies in India. Examples of some of the orders published in 1813 are as follows:

Batavia, 27 April 1813. Lt Mackenzie being the Senior Engineer Officer serving in Java is appointed Acting Chief Engineer [and to] proceed to Batavia and assume charge of the Engineers Department.

Batavia, 1 May 1813. The detachment of Madras Pioneers serving in Java are to be held in readiness to return to India in such vessel as shall be [available].

The office of DAQMG having ceased from this date Lt [James] Bayley [11 Madras Native Infantry] will return to Madras at the first opportunity.

Lt [William] Jover, Cantonment Adjutant and Quartermaster Sourabaya to be Major of Brigade in the Samarang Division, vice Dyson returning to India.

Batavia, 4 May 1813. Cornet D Ernst is appointed provisionally to the Corps of Hussars,<sup>128</sup> and attached with his present rank to the detachment of the corps on duty at Djocjocarta Batavia, August 13, 1813. Matross Lewis, of the Bengal Artillery, is appointed Bullock Serjeant at Sourabaya.<sup>129</sup>

At the beginning of May 1813 Lieutenant Colonel James Fraser, together with Mrs Fraser, Captains [Thomas?] Cameron and James McPherson (Macpherson) and Lieutenants Charles Robertson and [Alexander McK?] Cameron, of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders, went to visit the Kaptain China<sup>130</sup> of Probolinggo [Probolingo] which was about 150 kilometres east of Surabaya. On the evening of 18 June a report was delivered to Kaptain China that a considerable number of malcontents were in the area. At the suggestion of Lieutenant Colonel Fraser the Kaptain China armed his retainers and set off to disperse the malcontents, with the party from the 78<sup>th</sup> accompanying them in their carriages. As they approached the area the officers left their carriages and advanced with Kaptain China and his retainers. They had only travelled a short distance when they were attacked by 'bandits' and their retainers fled from the scene. On trying to return to his carriage Captain McPherson slipped and fell and as a result he, together with Lieutenant Colonel Fraser and Kaptain China were captured. The latter was killed almost immediately and the two military officers sometime later. The remainder of the party escaped with Captain Cameron obtaining a boat in the harbour and conveying Mrs Fraser back to Pasuruan whilst Lieutenants Robertson and Cameron escaped overland.<sup>131</sup> The incident was not a demonstration against the British but was brought about by lawless elements, referred to as 'banditti', who frequented that district. Major Forbes and a small force from Surabaya made contact with the enemy and captured the chief and killed a

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<sup>127</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/17/2/411, *Java General Orders*. Order dated 4 May 1813.

<sup>128</sup> The unit referred to is the Java Hussars, also known as the Colonial European Hussars.

<sup>129</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/17/2/411, *Java General Orders*, from 27 April to 13 August 1813.

<sup>130</sup> Kaptain China, Kapitan China. The leader of a Chinese community.

<sup>131</sup> James MacVeigh, *The Historical Records of The 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders or Ross-shire Buffs, 1703-1887*, (Dumfries, 1887), pp80-81. Neither MacVeigh, Davidson nor Travers identifies which Cameron was with the Fraser party. The 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders at the time had two Captains by the name of Cameron and two lieutenants.

hundred and fifty of his followers in the ensuing fight. The bodies of the two officers were recovered and buried in the Square at Probolinggo.

Relations between Raffles and Gillespie deteriorated, with each making allegations and creating factions within the Administration, to the extent that Gillespie submitted an application to Lord Minto to be relieved at Java. Gillespie did not believe that his request would be considered, and anticipated that Raffles would be relieved of his, with the result that he, Gillespie, would be appointed Lieutenant Governor. As a result of the discontent between Raffles and Gillespie Lord Minto sent his son the Honourable George Elliot with a letter notifying that General Nightingall would replace Gillespie. He had also been given the task of mediating between Raffles and Gillespie. Elliot wrote his impression of the two men in his memoirs, commenting

It was not possible for two such men to agree. Raffles, although a clever man, was neither born nor bred a gentleman – and we all know that the nicer habits and feelings of a gentleman are not to be acquired – he was full of tricks and not so full of the truth as was desirable, and he was the most nervous man I ever knew. Gillespie was an Irishman, a gentleman in all his feelings, but a very peppery one, a very gallant officer who utterly despised anyone who did not come up to his ideas ... and consequently thorough despised the Governor. <sup>132</sup>

Lord Minto's decision was a surprise to Gillespie, however, he had no option but to return to India. During the latter part of Gillespie's service in Java he and Raffles overcame their differences to the extent that they dined together on a number of occasions. Gillespie, by now promoted Major-General, departed

On the 12<sup>th</sup> [October] in the evening, embarked with all suitable honours, troops out and escorted by Hussars [*sic*] All the staff attended him to the beach where he parted from them. <sup>133</sup>.

On 15 October 1813 the Company ship HCC *Nearchus*, under the command of Captain D. Macdonald,<sup>134</sup> arrived carrying the newly appointed Commander-in-Chief Lieutenant-General Sir Miles Nightingall<sup>135</sup> and his wife.

Nightingall proved a vastly different personality to his predecessor and Travers, who was still serving as ADC to Raffles, wrote of his Commander:

The friendly, gentlemanlike, and easy salutations of the General was only equalled by the lively, affable and unaffected manner of Mrs Nightingall, who struck me as one of the most charming women I have seen in the country. The General seems a steady well informed man, a good officer and well acquainted with his duty, with no shining talents but a correct judgement, and a good

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<sup>132</sup> Wurtzburg, *Raffles of the Eastern Isles*, pp295-296.

<sup>133</sup> Bastin, *The Journal of Thomas Otho Travers, 1813-1820*, p33.

<sup>134</sup> Captain David Macdonald [M'Donald] was listed as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant in the Bombay Marine establishment but serving with the Bengal Presidency.

<sup>135</sup> Miles Nightingall born 25 December 1768; joined the 52<sup>nd</sup> (Oxfordshire) Regiment of Foot in 1787; promoted Lieutenant on 12 November 1788, he served in India at Dindigul and Pondicherry in 1790; became Brigade Major under Cornwallis at Bangalore and Seringapatam in 1792 and was at the capture of Pondicherry in 1793. Promoted Captain during 1794 he then served in the West Indies and America. He became a Lieutenant Colonel on 9 September 1795 and on 28 October of that year he served as the second Lieutenant Colonel in the 38<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Staffordshire) Regiment of Foot. Appointed Quartermaster General in Bengal in 1803 and then as a Colonel served as Military Secretary to the Governor-General. He then saw service in Portugal and the Peninsula returning to India as Major-General, briefly being appointed Commander Meerut Garrison before being appointed Commander-in-Chief Java from October 1813 to 1815. He was made a KCB in 1815.

understanding, with an anxious wish and determination to do everything that was right and proper.<sup>136</sup>

The strength of the Java Light Cavalry and Horse Artillery for 1813-1814 remained as given in the previous annual return.<sup>137</sup> Three of the officers serving with the Java Light Cavalry also filled appointments in the 'Java Horse Artillery' and the following officers are recorded as being on the establishment of the Java Horse Artillery:

Commanding	Major L.R. O'Brien
Adjutant & Quartermaster	Lieutenant S. Parlby
Captain/Lieutenant	J. P. Boileau
Lieutenant	G. E. Gowan
Assistant Surgeon	G. King
Riding Master	M. McAuliffe <sup>138</sup>

After settling into the former Dutch barrack at Salatiga the main role of the Java Light Cavalry appears to have been 'ceremonial' as they were required to carry out such duties as escorting the Lieutenant-Governor and his wife, Olivia Mariamne.

In late October 1813 Raffles and his wife departed on a journey to parts of eastern Java, visiting a number of smaller settlements and arriving at Samarang on 1 December. Raffles then spent three days of further social activity during which he reviewed the Java Light Cavalry in his role as Commander-in-Chief.<sup>139</sup> Following the review of the Cavalry and the Java Horse Artillery, Raffles issued the following congratulatory General Order:

Salatiga, December, 2, 1813. The Lieutenant-Governor having this morning had the opportunity for the first time of seeing the Java Light Cavalry and Artillery under arms and of witnessing the high state of efficiency to which the corps has been raised under the zealous and able exertions of Major O'Brien and the officers, he cannot refrain from expressing his admiration at the general appearance of the corps.<sup>140</sup>

The next mention of the Java Light Cavalry is on 5 December 1813 when Raffles visited the Susuhunan (the Emperor of Surakarta). The Lieutenant-Governor and the 'Lady Governess' were met by the Susuhunan and Ratu (Empress) Kencana, and after refreshments the combined British and Javanese party set forth for the country residence of the Susuhunan. The procession formed, with the Emperor conducting Raffles to the State coach and the Empress and the Lady Governess to another coach which, by Javanese custom, preceded the Emperor's. A salute of three volleys of musketry was fired and, the procession moved off in the following order:

The brigade of six-pounders belonging to the Lieutenant Governor with their wagons, sixty mounted men of the Java Light Cavalry formed in two divisions, with ranks open and drawn swords, preceded by two honorary aides-de-camp of the Lieutenant Governor, the carriage of the Lady Governess; the State coach the Kia Doodoo<sup>141</sup>, a native commissioned officer and ten men of Java Light

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<sup>136</sup> Bastin, *The Journal of Thomas Otho Travers 1813-1820*, p34. In more recent times the historian S.G.P. Ward assessed Nightingall as a having 'moral courage and instinctive sagacity'. *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research*, Vol ILIV. No 217, Spring 1976, Note 1664, pp122-123 'Some letters of Sir Miles Nightingall'.

<sup>137</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/8/23. *Bengal Military Statement for 1813-1814*, p205.

<sup>138</sup> *Original Calcutta Annual Directory & Calendar for 1813*, p148,

<sup>139</sup> Wurtzburg, *Raffles of the Eastern Isles*, p312.

<sup>140</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/17/2/411, *Java General Orders*, Order dated 2 December 1813.

<sup>141</sup> Kia Doodoo, Kiai Dudok - noble seat.

Cavalry, with rested carbines drawn up in a single file on each side of the state coaches as flankers; a mounted aide-de-camp of the Lieutenant-Governor attending each of the state coaches; the Hussars [Java Hussars] following the state carriages in two divisions, with ranks open and drawn swords; a carriage of the wife of the Resident [Colonel Alexander Adams].<sup>142</sup>

Following a successful visit Raffles and his party moved on to 'Jokyakarta' where they were met by the Sultan of Mataram and proceeded towards the capital

The usual procession formed up but with even greater magnificence than before. It went at a slow pace though double ranks of spearsmen amongst whom were interspersed the standard bearers of the different Pangerangs<sup>143</sup> and chieftains to who they belonged. The Gamelongs<sup>144</sup> or bands played Javanese music which were stationed along the road, announcing the arrival of His Excellency by lively and repeated flourishes.<sup>145</sup>

During the remaining three years of the occupation of Java the cavalry element of the occupying force remained unchanged, being:

Amboynese Dragoons	No European officer listed.
Colonial European Hussars (Java Hussars)	
Captain Charles Dudley	Commanding.
Lieutenant Thomas Ward	
Cornets D. Ernst, E. Alexander (Adjutant)	

#### Java Light Cavalry

The following officers were shown as being with the 'Java Lt Cav' in the *East-India Registers* for 1813, 1814, and 1815:

Major Lucius Robert O'Brien (Commanding)	1813	1814	1815
Lieutenant Samuel Ishmael Bacon	1813	1814	1815
Lieutenant Hugh Inglis Ker	1813	1814	1815
Cornet George Burges	1813	1814	1815
Cornet Hubert De Burgh	1813	1814	1815
Cornet George Arthur Kempland	1813	1814	1815
Cornet Frederick Peret	1813	1814	1815
Cornet George Roxburgh	1813	1814	1815 <sup>146</sup>

Although these directories show the officers serving with the 'Java Lt Cav' the entries are not completely accurate as they were based on information supplied to the compiler some months before publication and at times conflict with the detail contained in the returns given in the *Bengal Military Statement*. During 1815 Lieutenant H.I. Ker is shown in the post of Adjutant and in the 1816 edition of the *Original Calcutta Annual Directory & Bengal Register* he reverts to his previous appointment as Quartermaster. *Hodson* shows him as holding the appointment of Adjutant for '1813-15', which is contradicted by the entries in the *Bengal Military Statements* for 1813 to 1815 and the *Original Calcutta Annual Directories* for 1813-1815 which show G.A. Kempland as 'Adjutant'. The entry in the 1813 edition shows

<sup>142</sup> Wurtzburg, *Raffles of the Eastern Isles*, pp313-314.

<sup>143</sup> Pangeran(s) – a Prince, lord or nobleman.

<sup>144</sup> *Gamelan*, *Gamelong* - a Javanese percussion-type orchestra made up of bronze and wooden xylophones shaped like discs, cylinders and hollow bowls and beaten with hammers.

<sup>145</sup> Wurtzburg, *Raffles of the Eastern Isles*, pp314-315.

<sup>146</sup> *The East-India Register and Directory* for 1813, pp31-35; 1814, pp31-35; 1815, pp31-35.

Kempland as holding the rank of ‘Lieutenant’.<sup>147</sup> An examination of the entries in the *Bengal Military Statements* for 1813 -1814 show an additional cornet, Thomas Mathew Taylor of the 5<sup>th</sup> Bengal Native Cavalry, had joined the unit.<sup>148</sup>

The East India Company infantry battalions that served in the Java garrison between 1813 and 1816 were:

<u>Battalion</u>	<u>Commanding Officer</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion	Lieutenant Colonel James Dewar
4 <sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion	Captain William Colt
5 <sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion	Major Hugh Griffiths
6 <sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion	Capt Charles Poole
7 <sup>th</sup> or Bengal Light Infantry Battalion	Major Denis Harman Dalton.

In addition to the Company troops that served on Java there were a number of small locally raised units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Officer</u>
Javanese Corps	Sourabaya	Captain Simon Fraser (Commanding)
		Lieutenant Newton Wallace (Adjutant)
		Lieutenant Frederick Anstice
		Lieutenant William Feuilleteau Wilson (QM)
		Lieutenant Stephen Swayne
		Lieutenant William Jovet
		Ensign M. Van Ranzow. <sup>149</sup>
Amboynese Corps	Ryswick	Lieutenant James Dalgairns (Commanding)
		Lieutenant George Bryant
		Lieutenant Benjamin Ashe.
		<u>Colonial officers</u>
		Lieutenants J. Spanayke; H.P. De Sough;
		G. Nicolitz; - Julio;
P.L. Van Driel; - Frederick.		
		Ensigns M. Schoof; Daniel Zurhurst. <sup>150</sup>

A further change in the cavalry organisation was made in March 1814 when Major L.R. O’Brien relinquished his ‘Superintendence and Command of the Hussars and the Amboynese Dragoons.’<sup>151</sup> In the same order the following change was also published:

Batavia, March 8, 1814. It being intended to mount the corps of Hussars [Colonial European Hussars] on small horses, the Horses of the Hussar corps are to be transferred with the Accoutrements to the Java Light Cavalry and Horse Artillery.

In early 1814 the young Balinese Rajah of Boliling made an unprovoked attack on the Company’s post at Banjawangie and the Rajah of Boni attacked Macassar. An expedition was immediately mounted consisting of 2 companies of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders, a strong

<sup>147</sup> *Original Calcutta Annual Directory & Calendar for 1813*, p148.

<sup>148</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/8/23, *Bengal Military Statement 1813-14*, p205.

<sup>149</sup> *Original Calcutta Annual Directory & Bengal Register for 1816*, p145.

<sup>150</sup> *Original Calcutta Annual Directory & Bengal Register for 1816*, p146.

<sup>151</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/17/2/411, *Java General Orders*. Order dated ‘Batavia 8 March 1814’.

detachment of the 59<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, a detachment of the Bengal Volunteers, the Amboynese Corps and three guns of the Bengal Artillery. Having first successfully dealt with the Balinese Rajah the expedition sailed from Bali in late May 1814 and landed at Fort Rotterdam, near Macassar on 2 June and dealt with the Rajah of Boni and his followers on 7 June, after which the force returned to Java.

General Nightingall proceeded to visit and inspect all the stations under his command and encountered a problem when visiting the eastern part of the island. He wrote to Raffles on 16 July 1814 as follows:

Arrived here yesterday . . . I found everything here in the utmost confusion and the troops (at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vol Bttn and the Java Light Cavalry) nearly in a state Mutiny, with respect to the payment of one third of their pay in Copper. It appears that an order was sent from Govt striking off the 10 p[er] cent, and to this order I attribute all the trouble and difficulty I am now experiencing, as the subject could never have been agitated if that order had not been issued (by Mr Du Puy, Acting Secretary to Government – a situation for which he is total unfit). I have just seen Lieut Colonel Dewar (Commanding 3<sup>rd</sup> Volunteer Battalion) and Major O'Brien and I find that the principal grievance consists in the troops at Solo and Djocjocarta having been paid all along in silver, because there was no Copper at these Stations; this must be immediately rectified and I shall give orders for copper being sent there. . . There must be no difference, every Corps must be paid precisely in the same manner and I have told Lieut Colonel Dewar and Major O'Brien that I am determined to carry the orders of Govt into effect, and that I will inspect either of their Corps until they notify me, that the man will receive the third in copper. Major O'Brien has promised to send me an assurance to this effect tomorrow morning, and in that case I shall inspect the Cavalry on Thursday.<sup>152</sup>

He concluded the letter:

I forgot to mention that the order of Govt for the Payment of one third in Copper has never been received by the Residents of Solo or Djocjocarta nor I believe by anybody, except the officers in command of Divisions.<sup>153</sup>

From his reports it is obvious that Nightingall believed the size of the cavalry in the occupation force on Java could be substantially reduced in size and wrote to that effect to Raffles:

Notwithstanding the high opinion I entertain of Major O'Brien's Corps, I am clearly of [the] opinion that it can never be of any use on this island and I shall propose reducing it much below its present Establishment after my return to Batavia.<sup>154</sup>

Raffles, a civil servant with no military experience, was forever seeking ways to reduce the size of the force in Java to show the Court of Directors that he was making a saving on his military expenditure, a policy that he was later to pursue as Lieutenant-Governor of the settlements on the west coast of Sumatra. Unusually for a military commander Nightingall appears to have been a willing accomplice in the quest for a reduction of the troops in Java. Nightingall wrote to Raffles on 19 July 1814 recommending specific reductions:

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<sup>152</sup> NAM, 1976-07-82-1. Letter book of Lt-Gen Sir Miles Nightingall, Commander in Chief Java, 4 June-1 October 1814. Letter to Raffles dated 16 July 1814.

<sup>153</sup> *Ibid*, folio 32r.

<sup>154</sup> *Ibid*, Letter to Raffles dated 19 July 1814.

The next saving I shall propose (after the Gun Bullock establishment) will be the immediate reduction of the Hussars, and as Cavalry are of little use on this island I should strongly recommend reducing the number of the Java Light Cavalry to three hundred men and Horses, and perhaps even below that establishment. The Horse Artillery might likewise in my opinion be dispensed with, but I have not yet quite made up my mind on these points.<sup>155</sup>

Continuing his tour Nightingall then inspected the garrison at Solo (Soura Carta) and again wrote to Raffles reporting that he had ‘discharged the House-keeper belonging to the Hussars’<sup>156</sup> a reference to the detachment of Colonial European Hussars [Java Hussars] stationed at Solo.

The figures given in the *Bengal Military Statement for 1813-14* for the Java Light Cavalry show that the total strength was:

Officers	7	Assistant Surgeon & Riding Master	2
Indian all ranks	312	Syces	90. <sup>157</sup>

The saving based on these figures would have been minimal. By this time the duties of the Java Light Cavalry were mainly ceremonial and it was used by Raffles, as the Lieutenant-Governor, as a Body Guard when visiting local Sultans. The same applied to the Java Hussars, also known as the ‘Colonial European Hussars’, which apart from the East India Company Officers seconded to it, consisted of European, Hungarian and Dutch cavalry.<sup>158</sup>

Nightingall wrote to Raffles regarding ‘Major O’Brien’s brother’ [Lieutenant Henry Jeremiah O’Brien, 4<sup>th</sup> Madras Native Cavalry], who was visiting Java on furlough, recommending this officer’s employment in the Java administration:

I have met a brother of Major O’Brien here, who is a Lieutenant in the Madras Cavalry . . . he is desirous of remaining here until he has served his twelve years, and would be most happy if he could obtain any civil situation under the Government – as he has obtained leave to that effect from the Madras Government. I have therefore promised to mention his name to you and to say that I shall be most happy if it is in your Power to employ him.<sup>159</sup>

Lieutenant O’Brien’s request was not granted and his entries in the *East-India Company Register and Directories* for 1814 to 1816 show him serving with his regiment.

On 24 July 1814 Nightingall again wrote to Raffles, from Salatiga, concerning a fire in the cavalry lines when the men of the Java Light Cavalry made every attempt to save official stores and equipment and in doing so lost much of their own belongings in the fire. In his letter he gave details of the compensation payment that he had made to the commissioned Native officers and men:

Five dollars to each of the Commissioned Native Officers, three to each Havildar, two to each Naick and one to each private, the whole sum will not exceed six hundred dollars and they have saved many thousands.<sup>160</sup>

<sup>155</sup> NAM, 1976-07-82-1. Letter book of Lt-Gen Sir Miles Nightingall, Commander in Chief Java, 4 June-1 October 1814. Letter to Raffles dated 19 July 1814.

<sup>156</sup> *Ibid.*, Letter to Raffles dated 3 August 1814.

<sup>157</sup> BL (IOR), L/MIL/8/23, *Bengal Military Statement for 1813-14*, p205.

<sup>158</sup> The Revd. Robert Robinson, *Among the Murghs; or Memorials of the Revd. J.C. Fink, Missionary in the Arracan (Calcutta, 1871)*. John Christian Fink served in the Colonial European Hussars in Java and was, at one time, Assistant Apothecary. He refers to the unit as the ‘Dutch Hussars’.

<sup>159</sup> NAM, 1967-07-82-1. Letter book of Lt-Gen Sir Miles Nightingall, Commander-in-Chief, Java, folio 40r.

<sup>160</sup> *Ibid.* Letter to Raffles dated 24 July 1814.

In September 1814 it was decided that part of the Java Light Cavalry would be detached further east to garrison the small coastal town of Passarouang. In India it was customary for troops to march overland from one garrison to another, but with the difficult terrain on Java it had been found that moves were generally carried out by ship from and to the nearest port. Nightingall wrote to Raffles on the subject, commenting:

On the subject of sending two or three Troops of the Java Light Cavalry to Passarouang, there appears to me no military objection, the only doubt I have on the subject is, whether it will not occasion a good deal of expense by sending their Baggage round by Sea [the nearest port of embarkation would have been Samarang]. This practise is decidedly contrary to the Bengal regulations but has hitherto been the uniform practise on this Island, and it is perhaps difficult to do it away at once, they might however take only their light Baggage, and leave all spare Saddles, accoutrements &c at the head Quarters of the Corps.

[The] Government should write first to [H.G.] Jourdan [Resident at Passarouang] to ascertain what the expense of temporary sheds will cost, and also to what the Hire of proper Quarters for the Officers might amount to, but the Post is so long travelling under the new system, that it would take a month to get an answer, a letter is now 8 days coming from Samarang here, and would be at least 14 days to Passarouang, the Season therefore would be too far advanced and if it is determined to send the Cavalry there, we must come to [a] resolution when we next meet.<sup>161</sup>

In the same letter Nightingall referred to the court martial of Cornet Frederick Peret of the Java Light Cavalry. The details of the charge and sentence will be the subject of a separate article in the Autumn edition of *Durbar*.

On 25 November 1814 Raffles suffered a personal loss when his wife Olivia Mariamne died at the residence at Buitenzorg resulting from an illness that had started during the official visit to Solo and Djocjocarta. She was buried in the British/Dutch Cemetery at Batavia.<sup>162</sup> In addition Raffles had a second memorial erected in her memory at Buitenzorg, in the area which is now incorporated in the Botanical Garden at Bogor. The memorial at Buitenzorg incorrectly gives her date of death as '26 November' as do a number of books dealing with the life of Sir Stamford Raffles.<sup>163</sup>

The reduction of the cavalry did not immediately take place and it was not until April 1815 that the Java Light Cavalry returned to India and was disbanded. The disbandment order showed that a total of 340 Indian all-ranks returned to their parent regiments.<sup>164</sup>

Nightingall wrote to the Adjutant-General of the King's Troops, Calcutta [Colonel Thomas McMahon] on 21 June 1815, informing him of the return of troops to Bengal:

The 59<sup>th</sup> [Regiment of Foot] will embark above 600 effective Rank and File perhaps 700 including Sergeants and Drummers – and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Volunteer Battalion, about 600 Sepoys. Beside these two Corps we have already sent the Java Light Cavalry and Horse Artillery making altogether about 1800 effective men, a

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<sup>161</sup> NAM, 1976-07-82-1. Letter book of Lt-Gen Sir Miles Nightingall, Commander-in-Chief Java. Letter to Raffles dated 16 September 1814.

<sup>162</sup> The former British/Dutch Cemetery is now known as the 'Tanah Abang Cemetery, Jakarta'.

<sup>163</sup> Justin Corfield, *Java, British and Empire Graves 1743-1975*, (London, 1999), pp16 and 111.

<sup>164</sup> The National Archives of India, *Military General Orders 1815 (GOVP)*, (General Orders of the Vice President) of 2 and 9 August 1815.

sensible diminution from the Force which my Predecessor (Gillespie) repeatedly stated to be already too low for the safety and security of the Colony.<sup>165</sup>

On the 24 June 1815 Nightingall wrote to N.B. Edmonstone, a Member of the Supreme Council at Calcutta informing him of the reduction of the troops based on the island. In this letter he appears to have changed his opinion of the Java Light Cavalry although not giving a reason for the change. He wrote:

I lost no time in commencing on the Reductions and Reforms I originally intended to have entered upon, and among other the Gun Carriage Manufactory, an enormous and expensive job of my Predecessor, was immediately done away. But you are already acquainted with the arrangements I made, by the result of which and the getting rid of that useless Corps the Java Light Cavalry and Horse Artillery, our Military Expenses have been reduced exactly one half [of] what they were on my arrival in the Colony [15 October 1813].<sup>166</sup>

The Java Light Cavalry departed from Java in April 1815 to return to India and disband and an annotation on page 233 of the *Bengal Military Statement for 1814-15* states that the unit had been ordered to return to 'Bengal'. At least one officer remained on the island, probably in charge of a rear party, namely Cornet George Roxburgh who was 'struck by lightning and killed on 6 December 1815 whilst on detachment at Sourabaya'. However his death was not reported until 1818.<sup>167</sup>

With the cessation of hostilities in Europe the way was clear for Britain to return the former Dutch possessions in the East Indies. The military garrison on Java had been reduced and on 20 October 1815 General Nightingall received notification that he had been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army, and that he was to hand over to the next senior officer, Colonel Nathaniel Burslem<sup>168</sup>

Travers recorded the departure of Nightingall in his *Journal*, commenting:

On the 20<sup>th</sup> [of November 1815] our Commander-of-the Forces, General Nightingall, and his worthy Lady, embarked on board the *Nearchus* cruiser [*sic*] for Bombay.<sup>169</sup>

Shortly after the departure of Nightingall the troops in the eastward end of the island became disaffected but the planned mutiny was soon brought under control. [to be published as a separate article in *Durbar*].

As at 1 January 1816 *The Original Calcutta Annual Directory and Bengal Register* shows the following organisations and units as still serving on Java:

#### GENERAL STAFF OF THE TROOPS SERVING ON JAVA AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

##### General Staff

Major-General Sir W.G. Kerr - Commander of the Forces  
and 25 Staff Officers

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<sup>165</sup> NAM, 1976-07-82-2. Letterbook of Lt-Gen Sir Miles Nightingall, Commander-in-Chief Java, 21 June-4 November 1815. Letter to Colonel (later Gen Sir) Thomas McMahon.

<sup>166</sup> *Ibid*, Letter to Neil Benjamin Edmonstone dated 24 June 1815.

<sup>167</sup> *The East-India Register & Directory for 1818*, p445. The date of death is confirmed in Dodswell and Miles, *Alphabetical List of Officers of the Indian Army from 1760 to 1834*, (London, 1838), pp222-223, and Hodson, *Officers of the Bengal Army 1758-1834*, Vol III, p704.

<sup>168</sup> Nathaniel Burslem, serving as Major in the 14<sup>th</sup> (Buckinghamshire) Regiment of Foot. *Army List for 1811*, p143.

<sup>169</sup> Bastin, *Journal of Thomas Otho Travers, 1813-1820*, p60.

Staff of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant Governor

Lieut David Ruddell, Private Secretary, Bengal European Regt  
Lieut Thomas Otho Travers, ADC, 20 BNI  
Lieut Thomas Colclough Watson, ADC, Bengal European Regt

Staff of the Commander of the Forces

Lieut A.S. McMahon, ADC, 24<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons  
Lieut Gerard John Hendy, Malay Interpreter, Light Inf Vols

TROOPS AT JAVA

Colonial European Hussars [Java Hussars]

Capt Charles Dudley - Commanding

Bengal Artillery — Weltevreden [sic]

Capt Samuel Shaw - Commanding

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 78<sup>th</sup> (Highland Regiment of Foot) — Weltevreden

Lieut Colonel David Forbes - Commanding

Bengal European Regiment — Macassar

Capt William Henville Wood - Commanding

4<sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion — Salatiga

Capt William Colt - Commanding

5<sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion — Cornelis

Major Hugh Griffiths - Commanding

6<sup>th</sup> Bengal Volunteer Battalion — Weltevreden

Capt Charles Poole - Commanding

7<sup>th</sup> (or Bengal Light Infantry) Volunteer Battalion — Djocjocarta

Major Denis Harman Dalton - Senior officer, detached and serving in command of the Macassar Garrison

Javanese Corps — Sourabaya

Capt Simon Fraser - Commanding

Amboynese Corps — Ryswyck

Lieut James Dalgairns - Commanding

HEADQUARTERS AND OUTSTATIONS WESTERN DIVISION

— HQ at Weltevreden

Lieut James Hanson - Major of Brigade  
3 Staff Officers

Bantam

Lieut Colonel Udney Yule - Commanding

Cornelis

Major Hugh Griffiths - Commanding

Cheribon

Capt Lyson Hopkin Davy - Commanding

#### EASTERN DIVISION

— HQ at Sourabaya  
Lieut Colonel Nathaniel Burslem (14<sup>th</sup> Foot) - Commanding  
6 Staff Officers

##### Madura

Capt James Clark - Commanding

#### CENTRE DIVISION

— HQ at Samarang  
No Staff Officer listed

##### Serondee

Major David Forbes - Commanding

##### Djocjocarta

Capt Robert Cock - Commanding

#### DEPENDENCIES

##### Palambang and Banca

Capt H. Court - Commanding

##### Macassar

Major Denis Harman Dalton - Commanding

#### LOCALLY ENLISTED UNIT

The Prince Prangwedana's Legion was formed in early 1812 and served alongside the British/East India Company troops. The appointment of adjutant was filled by officers of the Bengal Volunteers. It ceased to function in this role from approx. 1814.

On 25 or 26 February 1816, a Dutch vessel arrived at Batavia carrying Major Huibert Gerard Nahuijs van Burgst of the Dutch army, who had been sent with an introductory letter from the newly appointed Dutch Governor, Van der Capellen, informing Raffles that 'a Dutch fleet [had] left Holland with a Governor and 3500 troops to take possession of the Colony'<sup>170</sup>

On conclusion of his work in Java, Raffles handed over the Lieutenant-Governorship to John Fendall and departed for England on Monday 25 March 1816, embarking

At Sunrise . . . the Troops all under arms and every mark of honour paid [to] him. He was accompanied to the bank [embarkation place] by all the respectable inhabitants of Batavia, who took leave of him.<sup>171</sup>

On 26 July 1816 an agreement was signed by the British Lieutenant Governor and the Dutch Commissioner General regarding the transfer of power in Java, and on 19 August the Dutch flag was raised over Batavia.

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<sup>170</sup> Bastin, *Journal of Thomas Otho Travers, 1813-1820*, p76.

<sup>171</sup> Wurtzburg, *Raffles of the Eastern Isles*, p393.

For his services as Lieutenant Governor of Java and the Dutch islands in the East Indies Raffles was knighted by the Prince Regent on 29 May 1817.<sup>172</sup>

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**The Summer edition of *Durbar* (Vol. 24, No. 2) will contain:**

Nominal Roll of East India Company officers who served on Java.

**The Autumn edition of *Durbar* (Vol. 24, No. 3) will contain:**

Details of the Court Martial of Cornet F. Peret of the Java Light Cavalry and the return of the unit to India.

The mutiny of the Sepoys in eastern Java.

I would like to express my appreciation to Dr P.B. Boyden, BA, PhD, FSA, of the National Army Museum, for his help in tracing a number of the reference documents and to Mr Brian D.N. Stevens who kindly made his extensive notes, obtained from the National Archives of India, available to me when writing the two articles on Java which had been published in the *Journal of the Society for Historical Research*.

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<sup>172</sup> *Ibid*, p418.