

Downing Street 2^d Aug 1815

Abstract of Dispatches
from Ceylon.

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2^d Aug 1815

21762 - 3 Dispatches have been this day
received from Lieut. General Sir
Robt. Brownrigg dated Candy
in Ceylon the 25th Feb^r 1815.

These dispatches detail
at considerable length the opera-
tions which finally led to the
Capture of the King of Candy,
the overthrow of his Power, and
the Surrender of his Territory
to His Majesty's Arms.

The British Army having
been divided into seven divi-
sions commenced their March
from different Quarters of the
British Territory towards
Candy in January last -

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Genl. Brownrigg
2^d Aug. 1815

On the ^{10th} of Feb^r after
 overcoming very great difficulties
 principally in provisioning the
 Troops, the first and second
 divisions under the Command
 of Major Hook and Lieut^t
 Colonel O'Connell reached
 the foot of the Balani Moun-
 tains on the great road leading
 & were followed by the 3^d, 4th, 6th & 7th Divisions
 to the City of Hancy. The Post
 commanding the Pass thro' the
 Mountains was taken on the
 2^d after a trifling opposition
 and on the 3^d a Fort still fur-
 ther in advance was taken
 possession of by the 4th division
 without loss.

During the few days which
 the Army was then obliged to halt
 the Adukas and Departure of the

four

four Hoordes came into the British
 Camp and surrendered their
 Province to the British Govern-
 ment - On the 10th the Army
 again moved forward and
 reached the Great River of
 Mahavilliganga three miles
 distant from Handy when it
 was first learnt that the King
 and his adherents had abandoned
 his Capital and the defences
 which had been erected to prevent
 the Passage of the River -

On the 13th Sir Rob^t. Brown-
 riss joined the advance of the
 Army and on the following day
 entered the City of Handy and
 fixed Head Quarters in the Palace.

The great object of the War
 being to obtain possession of
 the

the King and to destroy the Power
which he exercised by means of
the Malabars by whom he was
surrounded the Troops were
immediately detached in
different directions for this
purpose in which they were
assisted by the inhabitants
of the different Provinces and
the Adikar who had submitted
to the British Authority - on
the 10th the King was surrounded
by the People of Dombera the
Province into which he had
fled and after some resistance
was taken together with two of his wives
taken Prisoner. The hostility
of the people towards him was
such that there being no
British Authority present
it

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it required great efforts on the part
 of the Adikar to preserve the
 King's life. In this he was suc-
 cessful and the King was sub-
 sequently removed to Colombo.
 A Convention was subsequently
 entered into between Sir R.
 Brownrigg on behalf of His
 Majesty, and the Chiefs of the
 Kandian Country on behalf
 of the Inhabitants for the
 settlement of the different
 Provinces under British
 Dominion.

Sir R. Brownrigg speaks
 most highly of the Conduct
 and discipline of all the Troops
 engaged in these operations -

