

Enclosure No 9 in Duplicate Despatch

No 162 of the 20th Decr

1854

Ballarat

3rd December 1854

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that in consequence of the Eureka camp having been taken possession of by the rioters last night, and Mr. Amos taken prisoner (he was released in a short time) and robbed of his horse, it was decided they should be dislodged from their entrenched camp this morning. A force of 240 men,

To the Chief Commissioner of the Gold Fields Melbourne men, consisting of cavalry, infantry, and police, accompanied by Captain Pasley, and three magistrates Mr. Hackett P.M., Mr. Commissioner Amos, and Mr. Webster, marched to the spot, but before they could call upon them to surrender they were fired at, and one man of 40th Regiment was killed; the firing then became general.

The stockade was well defended and sufficiently strong to prevent cavalry from getting in. The stockade was carried in about ten minutes and 125 prisoners made. I regret to state that two men of the 40th Regiment were killed; Captain Wise of the 40th Regiment dangerously, and Lieut. Paul of 12th seriously wounded, several of the 40th more or less wounded. Captain Thomas who commanded reports most highly of the conduct of the troops and police.

The insurgents had been for the last two days stopping the roads, taking all the horses they could lay their hands on, and making men work at their entrenchment; they robbed the stores of arms, ammunition, and provisions, and the last outrage committed on a Government Camp decided us at once to put a stop to this state of anarchy, and confusion.

There is a large number of killed, on the side of the rioters, but I am not in a position to say how many.

I have the honor to request that instructions may be sent up as soon as possible, as to the disposal of the prisoners.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your most obedient Servant (Signed)

Robt. Rede

Resident Commissioner Camp Ballaarat

3rd December 1854

Sir,

I have the honor to report to you for the information of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor that I was this morning called upon by the Resident Commissioner and Captain Thomas to accompany the

military and police who were ordered out to dislodge a large number of rioters who were strongly entrenched in a camp at Eureka on the " "main road to Melbourne.

The force started at day dawn, but I had no opportunity of calling upon the people to disperse as the first certainty we had of their exact position was by a volley of musketry being poured in upon us. The troops returned the fire, and after an obstinate resistance which lasted about ten minutes the entrenchment was carried, not, I regret to say, without a heavy loss of life both upon the part of Her Majesty's forces, and the rioters. Full particulars are being prepared for His Excellency by the Resident Commissioner.

When the stockade was carried a large number of prisoners was made, I shall anxiously await His Excellency's instructions as to their disposal. The reporter of the "" Ballaarat Times"" was amongst the prisoners made in the stockade.

I have &c.

(Signed) Charles P. Hackett

Stipendiary Magistrate