

24-pounder howitzer. It was dragged through the bushes by the hand, chiefly by men of the 51st Regiment, and opened within 25 yards of the enemy, with marked effect; it was, however, in a much exposed position, and I regret to say Major Reid was almost immediately wounded; the fire from this gun was kept up in the most spirited manner by Lieutenant Ashe.

Finding the right wing much weakened from the loss they had sustained, and the number of men it was necessary to employ as skirmishers on the bank of the nullah, for the purpose of keeping down the enemy's fire, I ordered a reinforcement from the left wing; they were joined by the men of the right wing that had been collected by Major Holdich, and who were led by Ensign Wolsely, and the whole advanced in a manner that nothing could check. The fire was severe, and I am grieved to say, that gallant young officer, Lieutenant Taylor, 9th M.N.I., doing duty with H. M's. 51st K.O.L.I., fell mortally wounded. Ensign Wolsely, H. M's. 80th Regiment, was also struck down, as well as many other gallant soldiers; but the breastwork was at once carried, and the enemy fled in confusion, the few who stood being shot or bayoneted on the entrance of our men.

Lieutenant Trevor, of the Engineers, with Corporal Livingstone and Private Preston, of H. M's. 51st K.O.L.I., first entered the enemy's breastwork, the two former each shooting down one of the enemy opposing their entrance. The lead devolved on them, and on Serjeant Preston, of H.M's. 51st K.O.L.I., and Serjeant-Major Quin, of H.M's. 80th, when Lieutenant Taylor, Ensign Wolsely, and Colour-Serjeant Dunahoe, fell in the advance.

Our two guns which fell into the enemy's hands on the 4th of last month were here recaptured; they had been fired with the most deadly effect, and were well served to the last; in attempting to carry off one of them 12 men were left dead by a discharge from our 9-pounder gun.

The enemy sustained, I understand, a heavy loss in killed and wounded. His whole force and means were concentrated in this position, and I imagine he must have had about 4,000 men in these breastworks, which extended 1,200 yards in length.

The Chief, I am sorry to say, escaped, but I lost no time in sending on Major Cotton, of the 67th N.I., with 100 men of his own regiment and 100 of the 51st K.O.L.I., under Captain Irby, to Kyomtano, about two miles distant. Here they found Captain Fytche on the opposite bank of the nullah.

Myat-toon's force being broken up and dispersed, it remained for Captain Fytche and Captain Smith, the Deputy Commissioners, to take measures for his pursuit and apprehension. Parties of Captain Fytche's Kareens were immediately detached for the purpose; the report brought in stated that he was moving about with merely a few followers in different quarters; and a number of his principal followers surrendered themselves.

The inhabitants, of whom there was a very large number, probably 10,000 to 20,000, had concealed themselves in the jungle, but began to come in on the 20th, and, under directions from Captain Fytche, commenced to move off, with such property as they had, in boats, of which there were an immense number in the creek or nullah.

He had given them notice of his intention to burn the place down immediately on our leaving it.

On the morning of the 20th, Captain Tarleton, R.N., to whom I had forwarded intimation on the previous day of our having forced Myat-toon's position, arrived at Kyomcazeen, with several boats. He had been long lying at the mouth of the creek with steamers and gun-boats to cut off Myat-toon's retreat in that direction.

His co-operation was now most valuable, and the exertions of his officers and men must have been very great, in cutting through felled trees thrown across a narrow nullah, and in removing stakes and obstructions of every description impeding the passage along a distance of 15 miles.

Difficulties and impediments seemed to vanish before him and his boats' crews, and by one P. M. of the 21st, we had a sufficient number of the boats found in the nullah prepared for the conveyance of our sick and wounded men and of our Artillery. The whole started off, were shipped on board the steamer on the following morning, and carried up to Donabew the same day; every bad case of the sick and wounded being transhipped to the "Phlegethon," on passing Yandoon, which vessel was dispatched to Rangoon. Such dispatch, under no ordinary difficulties, seems to me well worthy of being recorded.

We reached Kyomtano on the night of the 22d, and Akyo on the following day, and on the evening of the 24th, the whole force, with baggage and stores, had arrived at Donabew.

I grieve to say the sickness was very great from cholera, in particular at Kyomtano. A return is appended of the loss we have sustained from sickness, as well as in engagements with the enemy.

A return of the captured ordnance is also forwarded. The guns and rocket tube belonging to the steamers have been made over to Captain Tarleton.

I propose to embark immediately with the whole of the troops, and return to Prome. Such of the men as cannot be conveyed in the steamers, will proceed in country boats.

I trust the manner in which the service has been performed, will be approved of by the Major-General;—Myat-toon's force has been dispersed and scattered; his guns taken, and his stronghold and villages, containing his supplies and resources, burnt down, and the population removed; he himself is a fugitive and an outlaw; and although he will probably be joined by some of the worst and most desperate characters amongst his former followers, he will never be able to regain his former importance and power, and will, no doubt, ere long, be captured by the exertions and vigilance of the civil authorities.

On the conclusion of this service it is my duty to bring to the notice of the Major-General the excellent conduct of the troops.

Major Reid, and the officers and men of the Artillery, have rendered the most efficient service during the whole of the operations, and the brave and gallant manner in which the guns were brought forward and worked on the 19th instant, will, I trust, receive the especial notice of the Major-General.

To Lieutenant McGrath, who was slightly wounded, and Lieutenants Ashe and Dobbin, my acknowledgments are due for their gallant conduct, and also to Mr Conductor Lisby, who was always in advance with the rockets, which he fired on every occasion with such precision and effect, as to be of essential service to us; he was, I am grieved to say, very severely wounded after firing almost his last rocket on the 19th instant; he may I trust, recover, and I would recommend him most