

which had been taken some Days before by Cassim Ali Cawn's People, was retaken by Mess. Grant, and Swinton's Battalions of Seapoys, and that the latter was ordered with his Battalion to join me immediately.

On the 20th, I again crossed the Cossimbuzar River at Nassapon, and was joined at Mahamudhore, by Major Carnac with 100 Europeans, one Battalion of Seapoys, one Troop of Black Cavalry, and 2 Pieces of Cannon from Bardawan.

August the 1st, I crossed Nuncas Nullas, which separated us from the Enemy, over which I immediately ordered Bridges to be thrown; and at Four in the Morning of the 2d, I marched the Army over, leaving the Baggage on an Island, formed by the Two Nullas, defended by a Party of Seapoys and one Piece of Cannon. Between Seven and Eight o'Clock I came within Sight of the Enemy's whole Army, drawn up in Order of Battle, much more numerous than I expected: 8000 Seapoys, 20000 Horse, and 20 Pieces of Cannon, besides Match-lock and Rocket Men, composed their Army, according to the best Accounts I could get: The Artillery were all mounted in the English Manner, and served by 200 Europeans, of those taken at Patna, of which one Company were Artillery Men: And their Seapoys were armed, clothed, and accoutered like our own. The whole was divided into Brigades, and posted in a very advantageous Manner. I immediately began to form, and moved up within a very small Distance of the Enemy, without receiving a Shot; neither did they begin to cannonade till I began the Attack; a Circumstance never before known in India. After a very obstinate Dispute of near four Hours, they retired, leaving me all their Cannon. Their Cavalry charged the 84th Regiment, when separated from the main Body, with uncommon Resolution, in Front and Rear, three several Times, within twenty Yards; which having obliged the Battalion to change its Face, the Enemy was repelled with considerable Execution. About 2000 of the Enemy lay dead on the Field of Battle, 80 Europeans, Foreigners, immediately came off to us, and 150 Boats, laden with military Stores, fell into our Hands. The English of the Patna Detachment would not enlist in Cassim Ali Cawn's Service. They were therefore kept Prisoners at Mongheer.

The Enemy retired to Auda Nulla, a Post which they had been fortifying for some Time, and remarkably strong by Nature; having in Front a very considerable Swamp, and protected on one Flank by the Mountains, and on the other by the River. Here they threw up a Work, and mounted upwards of 100 Pieces of Cannon, having a very deep Ditch in Front 54 Feet broad, and full of Water, except towards the Hills. We had no other Method of carrying on Approaches towards it, but on the Bank of the River, on Account of the Swamp. The Breadth of the dry Ground did not exceed 200 Yards. On the 21st of August I encamped within 3000 Yards of the Enemy's Works, and began to throw up an Entrenchment to protect the Camp from any Attempts of the Enemy's Cavalry, that my Attention might not be taken off from the Siege. On the 24th, at Night, I advanced an Approach under the Bank of the River, and erected a Redoubt for the Protection of the Trenches, within 1200 Yards of the Enemy's Works; into which I ordered 120 Europeans, 300 Seapoys, and 3 Pieces of Cannon. On the 25th, at Noon, the Enemy marched out a considerable Body of Seapoys to attack it, who were permitted to advance within 100 Yards, when they received such a warm Fire, as to oblige them to retreat, leaving about 100 killed and wounded on the Spot. On the 27th our Approaches were carried on 450 Yards farther, and a Redoubt similar to the former was finished. But I

could not get the grand Battery completed before the 3d of September, on Account of the Difficulty of getting Materials, and the Badness of the Weather. This Battery I opened in the Morning with four 18 Pounders, two 12 Pounders, 4 Howitzers, and 1 Royal, at about 500 Yards Distance; at which Time the Enemy marched out to attack our Encampment in Front and Rear, but were easily repulsed. On the 4th, finding that our Fire had no great Effect on the Enemy's mud Work, and that there was no Possibility of carrying it by the River, but by advancing our Approaches, and filling the Ditch; and that the Enemy's principal Attention was taken up with our present Attack, thinking that Part of their Works towards the Hills, quite secure by the large Lake and Swamp in Front, I determined to attack that Part in the Morning, and accordingly ordered the two Companies of European Grenadiers, a Company of French Volunteers, and 500 Grenadier Seapoys, to march at Three in the Morning, commanded by Captain Irwin, of His Majesty's 84th Regiment; to whose Prudence, and Perseverance, the Success of the Attempt is principally owing. They were supported by 1000 Seapoys, and Two Pieces of Cannon; and the whole Line to follow and support them. This was accordingly put into Execution in the Morning; and we got Possession of their whole Works, with a great deal of Fatigue, but little Loss in Proportion to the Importance of the Enterprize. The Numbers of the Enemy that were slain, is incredible; and the Number drowned, far exceeded the Slain. About 14 or 1500 Horse were made Prisoners, whom, after taking their Horses and Arms from them, I sent about their Business; the First Instance of the Kind, ever known in this Country. Their Confusion and Terror is inconceivable: The Roads, particularly at every Piece of Water, are strewed with dead Carcasses; and they have never attempted to make any Stand, till we arrived here Yesterday; though many Places are fortified by Nature, and require very little artificial Assistance to render them impregnable, particularly the Pass of Tiriagully, where they had mounted 13 Pieces of Cannon, all which they abandoned on the Approach of our advanced Guard.

Cassim Ali Cawn is retired with the principal Remains of his Army to Patna, leaving a Garrison of 2000 Seapoys in this Place, which I hope to be Master of in a few Days. Before he set out, he left 4000 Horse, and 1000 Matchlocks here, with Orders to harass us during the Siege, by attacking our Rear. On our Approach, they retired to Carrickpore, about 11 Coss Distance in the Hills; to which Place I, on the 2d Instant at Night, ordered two Battalions of Seapoys, and two Pieces of Cannon, to attack and drive them from thence, which they effected with great Ease, and returned this Day to Camp.

During our Attack at Auda Nulla, a considerable Detachment of Horse and Foot, under the Command of Camgor Cawn, proceeded down to Beerboon, through the Hills, in order to enter the Birdwan Province. They were retarded for some Time by Captain M'Lean, with a small Detachment of Seapoys, and two Pieces of Cannon; but, by my last Accounts from thence, I hear that Camgor Cawn has given him the Slip, and entered the Birdwan Country, to the Westward of him. I have ordered Major Carnac down thither, who, in a few Days, with the Reinforcement just arrived from Madras, will, I doubt not, be able to give a good Account of them.

The next Stand that the Enemy will make, it is said, will be at Patna. Cassim Ali Cawn has a great deal of Money, and pays his People well, who are all Soldiers of Fortune, and have no Connections in the Country, being chiefly Persians and Mogul Tartars, who, on Account of the Troubles in their own Country, are obliged to seek a Refuge here. He is