

to your Honourable Committee, inclosing a transcript of a dispatch from his Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Hislop, to the Most Noble the Governor-General, containing information of a signal victory obtained over the army of Mulhar Row Holkar, on the 21st of December, by the first and third divisions of the army of the Deccan, under the personal command of the Lieutenant-General. This intelligence was communicated by Major Agnew to Major-General Sir William G. Keir, and by him transmitted to the Resident at Baroda. On this important event we take the liberty of offering to your Honourable Committee our most sincere congratulations.

Camp, on the Sipoora, opposite Maheidpoor,*
MY LORD, Dec. 21, 1817, Five P. M.

I WRITE this from the field of battle, on which I have the satisfaction to report, for your Lordship's information, that the army of Mulhar Row Holkar has this day been completely defeated and dispersed, by the first and third divisions of the army I have the honour to command.

This result has grown out of the failure of our negotiations with the Government of Holkar, and of the repeated acts of aggression and insult which we have experienced since our advance from Ougein on the 14th instant. Under these circumstances I felt impelled by every sense of duty to my country and to your Lordship, to vindicate without further loss of time the honour of the British name.

Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm is now in full pursuit of the fugitives, with the greater part of the cavalry. The camp of Holkar, and a number of his guns, remain in our possession.

Our loss, I fear, has been considerable; though, I trust, not greater than might have been expected on such an occasion. No Officer of rank has been killed.

I shall to-morrow have the honour of transmitting to your Lordship the details of the action, with returns of killed and wounded, so far as it may be practicable to collect them.

In congratulating your Lordship on the important issue of this day, I can only add at this moment, that the conduct of the gallant troops who have gained the victory has been such as to realize my most sanguine expectations.

I have the honour to be, &c.

T. HISLOP, Lieut. Gen.

To His Excellency the Most Noble the
Marquess of Hastings.

Copy of a Report from Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, commanding a British Detachment at Nagpore, to the Adjutant-General of the Army, dated Camp, at Nagpore, 30th November 1817, with an Inclosure, also transmitted with the Dispatch from the Governor in Council at Bombay of 1st January 1818.

SIR,

I HAD the honour to report, for the information of His Excellency the Commander in Chief,

* Maheidpoor is situated on the River Sifra, or Sipoora, and is about twenty-five miles north of Ougein, Sindia's capital.

on the 26th instant, that the troops under my command had left their cantonments the day before at the requisition of the Resident. They took post on the hill of Seetabally, which overlooks the Residency and the city of Nagpore, at the same time taking possession, with the first battalion twenty-fourth regiment native infantry, of a hill about three hundred yards on the left of this position, and to retain which was of the utmost consequence to our retaining possession of Seetabaldee. Having made all the arrangements that I thought necessary during the 26th, at six P. M. of that day, I was posting sentries, accompanied by Captain Bayley, on the face of the hill, and in front of the Arab village at the foot of the hill, into which we had during the day observed large bodies of Arabs with five guns to be sent to reinforce a party of the Rajah's infantry, who had been previously posted there, when the Arabs in the village opened a fire on our small party, although previously informed that it was merely a matter of military precaution, customary with us, (to which they had assented), and that it was not my intention to molest them. Seeing their determination to commence hostilities, and the small party with me having shewn the utmost forbearance and until this time not having fired a shot, I directed them to fire a volley, and retreated to the top of the hill under the fire of all the troops posted in the village.

The action immediately commenced on both sides, and continued incessantly until twelve o'clock the following day, when it ceased. In consequence of their great loss and fatigues, I found it necessary to withdraw the 1st battalion 24th regiment, together with a party of the 1st battalion 20th regiment, by whom they had been re-inforced during the night, at five A. M. of the 27th instant, and to confine the defence of the hill on our left (which had been strengthened during the night by a breast-work of bags of grain), to the immediate possession of the top. For this purpose I had detached Captain Lloyd with one hundred men of the Resident's escort, and fifty men of the 1st battalion 20th regiment Native Infantry, under an European Officer. A body of Arabs gained possession of this post, at eight A. M. by the charge of an overwhelming force up the face of the hill; after Captain Lloyd had displayed the utmost gallantry in endeavouring to keep his men to their duty and to maintain the post. At this moment, Captain Fitzgerald, re-inforced by a Native Officer, and twenty-five troopers of the Madras Body Guard, charged an immense body of the enemy's best horse, and having captured their guns, which were immediately turned upon them, he remained in possession of the plain, covered in every direction with the flying enemy. Whilst we were waiting for spikes to send to Captain Fitzgerald to spike the enemy's guns, it being my intention to recall him to support an attack of the Infantry on the hill in the possession of the Arabs, an explosion was observed to take place in the midst of them, and the troops with one accord rushed forward to the attack. It was with the utmost difficulty that they had been prevailed on to wait for the cavalry, and I found my utmost exertions necessary to prevent the hill we were on from being deserted. On the near approach of our