

only ceased with the fall of the garrison, their daring reconnoissances in all quarters to obtain local knowledge of a place of extremely difficult approach, watched too with unceasing jealousy by the defenders, the scientific positions they selected, and the able manner in which they erected their batteries thereon, conspicuously marked the meritorious conduct of the officers whose names I have here considered it my duty to bring to the knowledge of the Most Noble the Commander in Chief.

As soon as day-light sufficiently broke, our batteries opened, and were instantaneously answered by a spirited fire from the whole of the enemy's works. Our guns were served with a vivacity, and laid with a precision worthy of the scientific character which the Bengal artillery has always maintained, and the progress was very encouraging. At two o'clock P. M. it was intimated to me by Lieutenant Pickersgill, Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, that he had personally examined the breach, and he gave such a favourable description thereof, from his own observations made on the spot, that in the hope a couple of hours more battering would render it practicable, I got the division under arms, and proceeded with it directly across the river, at the same time announcing the arrangements I wished to adopt for storming the enemy's works.

It is but justice to Lieutenant Pickersgill, to mention the above circumstance, which led to the resolution I adopted of crossing the river at once; while the breach could not be called practicable, that uncommonly zealous officer, conceiving the powerful effect which the enfilading battery had most likely produced, went with his hircanahs, and by their assistance, with the utmost intrepidity, mounting to the top of the breach, made his observations, and then came over to my camp with the intelligence he had thus obtained.

The troops arrived in the rear of the investing post, at a quarter past three, P. M. but were halted by my orders, about 1,200 yards in the rear of it. They consisted of a storming, and a supporting column, the former composed of four companies, 2d battalion 1st native infantry, under Major Midwinter, eight companies 2d battalion, 13th native infantry, under Major Thomas, and three companies 1st battalion, 14th native infantry, under Lieutenant Lewis; the whole under the command of Brigadier Dewar. The latter was formed of five companies of the 2d battalion, 8th native infantry, under Major Manley, and eight companies of the 2d battalion, 28th native infantry, under Captain Wrottesley, the whole under Brigadier Price.

Both columns were placed under the direction and orders of Brigadier-General Watson, C. B.

The rest of the infantry continued in their posts of investment, and two companies were sent to protect the park and stores remaining on the other side.

In this disposition I halted; until about half past five, when, to the satisfaction of the eager troops, Captain Tickell, Field Engineer, who with some of his officers had examined the breach personally, gave the preconcerted signal, that the troops might advance. Brigadier-General Watson, most judiciously concluding that no time was to be lost, moved forward at once to the assault, with

some Pioneers, and a party of 50 or 60 men of the 1st battalion, 14th native infantry, under Lieutenants Lewis and Aitchison, followed closely by Captain D'Aguilar of the 13th, with three companies of that corps, and what remained of the detachment of the 1st battalion, 14th native infantry; the main body coming up in double quick time, joined the assailants without loss of time. The breach, from being unoccupied by the enemy, was instantly mounted and carried, our troops rushing along the ramparts, and up the principal streets of the town; driving before them the enemy, who now endeavoured, when too late, to maintain themselves, and suffered very severely in their retreat towards the fort: the town was soon in our possession with scarcely any loss; such of the fugitives as attempted to escape to the fort, found the gate shut against them, and fell in heaps under the destructive fire which now poured upon them from Captain Black's battery. Annund Sing, Commandant, an old officer of the Rajah of Berar, and the most violent instigator of the resistance we experienced, was said to be among the slain at this spot. About two hundred and fifty of the fugitives had collected in the corner farthest from the breach; these on the approach of our troops along the ramparts, made some resistance, but at length adopted the fatal resolution, of rushing outside through a small gateway; they were observed by the investing parties, under Major Cumming and Captain Sterling, of the 7th cavalry—these officers instantly moved forward, and after chasing them from one quarter to another, drove them at length into the Nerbuddah, where they all perished, but about fifty taken prisoners, many of them badly wounded. The enemy must have lost five hundred men in the assault and occupation of the town.

As soon as the town became ours, the troops were pushed forward as near as possible to the fort, and established themselves.

At midnight Captain Black's advanced posts observed a small boat crossing the river with four persons, and by good management contrived to seize them as they landed. They were conducted to Captain Black, and one of them proved to be Saheb Roy Hoozaree, Killedar of Mundlah, who on being discovered, declared he had come over to treat for the unconditional surrender of the garrison. He was of course detained, and sent over next morning.

At day-break of the 27th, the garrison, who had so completely lost courage that they had not dared to fire a single shot during the night, came out unarmed, headed by Nuthoo Ram Hoozaree, and quietly surrendered themselves prisoners, to the amount of one thousand, or one thousand and two hundred persons, besides four or five hundred, who were not of a military character.

Thus closed a series of operations in which not a single mischance occurred to disappoint the expectations we had formed. The Enemy has been severely punished for his temerity in opposing the British Arms, while on our side not an Officer has been touched, and our loss is confined to three killed and fourteen wounded.

Having established a proper garrison for the place, one of my first proceedings was to bring Saheb Roy and Muthoo Ram to a speedy trial before a