

trifling loss on our part, and that a desperate and unexpected sally had been made by a part of the garrison on the troops in the pettah, on the evening of the 19th, when Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, of the Royal Scots, was unfortunately killed.

We regret to add, that private letters received from the camp yesterday, mention the melancholy circumstance of the explosion of one of our magazines, containing from three to four hundred barrels of gunpowder, by which accident about sixty of one hundred and twelve men, who were near the spot, were immediately killed, and twenty or thirty severely wounded.

Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General Doveton, C. B. to Captain Stewart, Acting Resident at the Court of Dowlut Rao Scindia, dated Camp, near Nimbolah, 19th March 1819.

SIR,

HAVING been desired by the Resident at Nagpore to make known all my future proceedings in the territory of His Highness Dowlut Rao Scindia to you, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Most Noble the Governor-General, that having on the 17th instant received a dispatch from Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm, K. C. B. and K. L. S. stating the failure of his attempts to bring Jeswant Rao Lar* to reason, as well as his outrageous conduct on the receipt of his Sovereign's commands, which left no other alternative but having recourse to our military means, I issued orders for a combined attack on the pettah of Asseer at dawn of day on the succeeding morning by detachments from the divisions under the personal commands of Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm and myself, and which I am happy to inform you was attended with complete success. The enemy in the pettah made a very trifling resistance; the promptitude and energy, however, with which the attack was made by the troops under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, of His Majesty's Royal Scots, reflect high credit on him and all the Officers and men employed. Our loss has been but trifling, not, I believe, exceeding twenty killed and wounded. Among the latter I am concerned to mention the Deputy Quarter-Master-General, Major Macleod, who having expressed a wish to accompany Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, to whom his previous knowledge of the pettah might be useful, I consented to it. Lieutenant Bland, of His Majesty's Royal Scots, is also wounded. We are now in complete possession of the pettah, the troops well under cover; and the superintending engineer is busily employed in erecting a mortar battery to bombard the fortress, and a breaching one to bear on the lower fort. When these are completed Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm's division will be placed in possession of the batteries and the pettah, and I shall move myself with the rest of the troops to take up such a position as may be best calculated for erecting batteries to breach the upper fort.

I have, &c.

J. DOVETON, Brig.-Gen.

* The Killedar.

Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General Doveton, to Captain Stewart, Dated Camp, near Nimbolah, 20th March 1819.

SIR,

IN continuation of my operations before the fortress of Asseerghur, I have the honour of making known to you, for the information of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General, that yesterday evening a desperate and unexpected sally from the fortress was made upon an advanced part of our troops in the pettah, and it is with extreme regret I have to add, that Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, of His Majesty's Royal Scots, who had been appointed by me to command in the pettah, was killed when in the act of gallantly rallying the party, and keeping the advance in their position. The enemy were however immediately driven back, and compelled to retire again into the fort. Our loss on this occasion amounts to one Field Officer killed, and one subaltern and five rank and file wounded. I have also to state that a breaching battery of six eighteen and two twelve pounders was opened with admirable effect on the lower fort this morning. I expect likewise that a mortar battery of four heavy mortars and two heavy howitzers will be completed and armed during the night, and which will also probably open at sun-rise to-morrow morning.

I have, &c.

J. DOVETON, Brig.-Gen.

Extract from a Dispatch from the Governor in Council at Bombay to the Secret Committee, dated 24th April 1819.

WE have the honour of transmitting to your Honourable Committee copy of a dispatch from the Honourable the Commissioner in the Deccan, inclosing a copy of a report from Brigadier-General Doveton, C. B. announcing the occupation of the lower fort of Asseerghur by the division under the command of Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm, on its being evacuated by the enemy.

We have much satisfaction in accompanying this dispatch with copy of a letter from Brigadier-General Doveton to the Acting Resident at the Court of Dowlut Rao Scindia, dated the 11th instant, reporting that the upper fort was also occupied by the British troops on the 9th, on the garrison marching out and laying down their arms on the public parade.

We beg leave to offer our warmest congratulations to your Honourable Committee on the reduction of this important fortress, but regret at the same time to observe, that the person of the Ex-Rajah of Nagpore, regarding whose reception into the fort no doubt can now exist, has not been secured. Letters which have been received at Bombay state, that it is supposed he had been allowed to escape from the fort prior to its surrender, and had proceeded in a northerly direction.

Extract from a Letter from Brigadier-General Doveton, C. B. to Captain Stewart, Acting Resident at the Court of Scindiah, dated Camp, before Asseerghur, 31st March 1819, inclosed in a Dis-