

*patch from the Honourable Mountstuart Elphinstone, Commissioner in the Deccan, dated 7th April 1819.*

I HAVE herewith the honour of transmitting a copy of Sir John Malcolm's report of yesterday, and of the list of wounded of his division, together with copy of the orders issued by me this day.

*Extract from a Report from Brigadier-General Sir J. Malcolm, K. C. B. to Brigadier-General Doveton, dated Camp, near Asseerghur, 30th March 1819.*

I HAVE great satisfaction in informing you that I this morning occupied with the division under my command Malaghur, on the lower fort of Asseer.

The enemy had been made very uncomfortable for the last three days by my approaches to the Southward, and particularly by the occupation of a high peak called the Moghul's Cap, that completely commands the lower fort, and to which I had with the aid of elephants carried up and placed in battery a brigade of six pounders and two small howitzers. The symptoms of alarm I had seen made me observe more than I otherwise should, when I this morning went to the batteries at day-light, the stillness in the lower fort. I hastened to my advanced post within one hundred yards of the foot of the breach, to the top of which I sent a man (lately belonging to the garrison and well acquainted with the fort) protected by three sepoys. When he reached the top and looked round he made a signal to advance; satisfied from this that I could at all events take possession of the breach and the heights on its right, I deemed it of importance not to lose a moment in doing so, and ordered Captain Edsell, who commanded the posts at the Northern batteries, to collect his party (four hundred men), and leading one hundred under cover near the top of the breach to occupy with the remainder the ramparts of Malaghur as far as the gateway, but not to advance further till supported by two hundred men from the troops on duty in the pettah, and a party of pioneers with crow-bars to force its gates open. These I directed to join him, while Lieutenant-Colonel Smith was ordered to move with three hundred men and a light howitzer to the gateway to blow it open in the event of the enemy trying to oppose Captain Edsell's progress. The party protecting the South battery were ordered also to advance and form a lodgement near the breach that had been effected in that part of the wall, but not to enter the fort unless there was opposition.

To guard against the possibility of accident, all the troops that had been warned for the assault were directed to move to their positions. The rapid execution of these orders placed me in possession of the fort in a few minutes, and the gateways were burst open in little more than a quarter of an hour. The enemy appeared so far taken by surprise that they did not open a heavy fire from the upper works till the troops were well under cover. This fire was soon rendered uncertain, and afterwards silenced by that which Major Blair opened upon them from his different batteries: owing to

these circumstances the casualties have been very few.

ORDERS: by Brigadier-General Doveton.

*Head-Quarters, Hyderabad Subsidiary-Force, Camp Asseerghur, 31st March 1819.*

THE Brigadier-General has received a report from Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm, K. C. B. and K. L. S. of his having early yesterday morning occupied Malaghur, or the lower fort of Asseer, which was intended to have been assaulted in the Afternoon by the Brigadier-General's division.

The promptitude and decision with which Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm availed himself of the information which he received of the enemy having evacuated it is highly creditable to him.

The Brigadier-General having also received a report from Lieutenant-Colonel Crosdill, the commanding Officer of artillery, of the uncommon and incessant labour of the whole of the troops, pioneers, &c. employed in working parties in getting the guns into the batteries of a very steep and most difficult ascent, fully appreciates their extraordinary and cheerful exertions, which reflect such distinguished credit on them all, and which he will have great satisfaction in bringing to the notice of superior authority.

J. DOVETON, Brigadier-General.

*List of Wounded among the Troops employed in the Occupation of the Lower Fort this Morning, the 30th March 1819.*

Madras European Reg.—1 private and 4 sepoys.

J. NAPIER, Assist. Adj. Gen.

Brig. Gen. Sir J. Malcolm's division.

*Extract from a Letter from Brigadier-General Doveton to Captain Stewart, Acting Resident at the Court of Scindiah, dated Camp, Asseerghur, 11th April 1819.*

MY dispatch, of the 7th instant, will have informed you of my breaching battery having opened, as well as that of Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm from the north face, on the morning of that day. They kept up an incessant and well directed fire on the walls of the upper fort, until the forenoon of the 8th. On the evening of the 7th, I received a communication from Sir John Malcolm, that Jeswunt Rao Lar had sent out a message, expressive of his wish to surrender the fortress unconditionally, and of paying his respects to me, as the next morning, with the request that the firing from our batteries might cease. This was complied with, and he accordingly waited on me, accompanied by Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm.

I have further the honour to report, for the information of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General, that the Lar at first made considerable objection to the garrison laying down their arms, and to his own return to the fort; but