

I therefore again resumed the expectation of being able to effect another surprize, which was confirmed by repeated intelligence in progress.

On the night of the 1st instant, I arrived at the situation, which was conceived the best distance from the enemy's post, from whence, to push on the detachment destined for the surprize, and having embarked one hundred men on the gun and light boats, I reached the landing place about two miles below the point of attack, which I reached, by this arrangement, at early day-break.

Having rapidly reconnoitred the situation, I divided my men in two parties, directing Lieutenants Neuville and Jones, of the 46th regiment, to conduct the one by the right into the village, and proceeding myself, with Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Stewart, with the other by the left through an unfinished stockade, which the enemy were throwing up.

The party under Lieutenant Neuville immediately pushed on and fortunately came first on the enemy's chief guard, all of whom were either bayoneted or shot; and the alarm being given, the body rushed out of their houses for the purpose of escaping on the opposite side, under a heavy fire; this threw them on my party, which had made a detour by the left, where they were received with great loss. The remainder were pursued nearly two miles, and left many killed and wounded in the jungles; their loss cannot be estimated at less than one-third of their number. I am happy to say no casualty occurred on our side, with the exception of one sepoy wounded by a musket ball.

I had previously been informed that a party of sixty Burmahs, from the main body at this post, had been detached the preceding morning in the direction of Hautgong (for the purpose of ascertaining from what quarter the attack of the 28th ultimo had been made, and also to arrange themselves in the villages), and on my return from the pursuit I directed my attention towards them, as Lieutenant Neuville had received information of their expected return to their headquarters.

At mid-day their approach was announced, apparently in total ignorance of the defeat of their main body; and in consequence I proceeded with the Officers and a party of forty men, with a view of lying in ambush. The plan was, I am happy to add, attended with complete success; and the enemy's loss in killed and wounded amounts to nearly half their number, the remainder flying in the greatest confusion towards Namgong, after a feeble attempt at returning our fire.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I have sent down those of the prisoners brought in from the jungles by the villagers, who are Usseel Burmese, to await your orders. The Doannees will be useful here in clearing our ground.

It is with just satisfaction that I again bring to your notice the active and zealous assistance I derived from the Officers under my command (Lieutenants Neuville and Jones, and Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Stewart); in the second affair Lieutenant Jones contributed personally to the loss of the enemy.

The very steady and spirited conduct of the men, was also very praise-worthy.

I have, &c.

E. F. WATERS, Major, commanding
Dinagapore Local Battalion.

P. S. I had omitted to notice, that many of the enemy's arms were found in the guard-room and other places, consisting chiefly of old muskets and a great number of swords, of which some belonged to Chiefs.

Copy of a Letter from Major Waters to Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, dated Namgong, 6th November 1824.

SIR,

IN continuation of my dispatch, of the 3d instant, I have the honour to report, that early on the following morning information was given me, that the main body of the enemy, under the Boora, or Moogaum Rajah (the Burmese Governor of Assam), had quitted the stockade, in which they had taken post at Namgong, and had moved to another situation, with the intention of retreating across the hills into Munnipore. I accordingly ordered out a strong reconnoissance, in the hopes of surprising them, or at least of compelling them to retire within their stockade; and having a sufficient party for the protection of the guns and fleet, I proceeded with Lieutenants Neuville and Jones, and Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Stewart, towards Namgong.

After marching a few miles, I received intelligence that the enemy had commenced their flight towards the hills, leaving a Fookan and eighty Burmese to cover their retreat; in consequence I pushed on, but was not able to cover the distance in one march, and after continuing it for twenty-five miles, bivouacked for the night. The next morning I advanced, and occupied the stockade, which I found quite evacuated by the enemy, who had gained too much upon us to render a pursuit practicable, unless by the cavalry. From the villages I learnt that immediately on the alarm being given by the fugitives from Rahachokey, of our attack on them, and the loss sustained, together with the appearance of the wounded, the main body of this post were seized with the utmost panic and consternation; and the Boorah Rajah and Fookans determined on instant and precipitate flight; this they effected, leaving behind them all their baggage, plunder, military store, and heavy property; the greater part of the plunder was immediately seized and secreted by the villagers, and we found the stockade already much destroyed.

We have captured twenty iron guns, a number of boxes of powder, a manufactory of which had been established, and for which the materials captured are of a superior quality, three war boats (one very large), the state boat of the Boora Chief, and a number of small ones.

From the appearance of the stockade, and the intelligence gained from the villagers, I am of opinion that our account of their numbers must have been correct, and that there were at least