

*Extract from a Letter from Captain Martin, commanding a Detachment of the 57th Regiment N. I. to Brigade-Major Bayldon, dated Camp, Deegong, 10th January 1825.*

ABOUT eleven o'clock P. M. the detachment under my command moved silently forward, and as we approached the stockade of Deegong, Captain Neutville led us by a considerable detour to the right to avoid two advanced posts, and to get into the rear of the stockade.

We were now in sanguine hopes of effecting a complete surprize, but the enemy must have had scouts on the plain, as we were challenged by both out-posts. At a short distance from the stockade signal-lights appeared from both chokies, and the alarm had evidently been taken; at this moment a small party of men that had broken from the rear, by mistake, suddenly appeared in front, and a few shots were fired, but immediately stopped.

The detachment now pushed on rapidly, and entered the stockade as the last of the fugitives were quitting it on the opposite side; they were pursued to the jungle; six men were killed and seven taken. The only casualty I have to regret on our part is the death of one sepoy by an accidental shot.

This stockade consisted of a double fence of bamboos, but without a ditch. The amount of the enemy's force within it could not, I imagine, have exceeded two hundred men.

*Extract from a Letter from Lieutenant Walden, commanding a Detachment of the 46th Regiment N. I. to Brigade Major Bayldon, dated Moora Mookh, January 13, 1825.*

HAVING ascertained that the enemy, to the number of one hundred or one hundred and twenty, were in a stockade, distant four or five coss, and judging from the time they had been absent that it might be more, I immediately ordered the men under arms, leaving a small party to guard the knapsacks, and proceeded over a very bad road, which greatly distressed the men. A little before day-break I crossed the Dhoneera again (about a mile below the stockade), and proceeded along its right bank, and reached the stockade about sunrise; a fog allowing me to come up unperceived the enemy were completely surprized, and about twenty were killed, amongst whom was a Phokun and five Usseel Mauas; thirteen prisoners were taken.

*Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Richards, commanding in Assam, to the Deputy Assistant-Adjutant-General, Eastern Division, dated Camp, Gowie Lagur, January 27, 1825:*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Brigadier Shuldhham, commanding Eastern Division, that at half an hour after ten o'clock this morning many hundreds of the enemy attacked my advanced position at Namdong Nulla, over which there is a fine puka bridge, and where Captain Macleod commanded with the Rungpore light

infantry; the bridge is distant from my present camp about three quarters of a mile, on the high road to Rungpore. On hearing the firing I ordered the troops under arms, and moved on to the support of Captain Macleod with two companies of the 57th regiment, and the Dinagepore local battalion, leaving the remainder of the former corps, under Captain Martin, to defend the camp, as the hurcarrabs acquainted me that the enemy meant to attack in three divisions.

On my reaching the place of action, I found that gallant Officer Captain Macleod and his little band defending the position in a steady soldier like manner; as I perceived the enemy were collecting and spreading to the right and left in a very heavy jungle, in which it was impossible our troops could act with effect, and that those in our immediate front were keeping up a very sharp fire of jingals and muskets, I ordered the party on the bridge to retire to the front division and lay down, and cease firing. The enemy thought this was the prelude to a retreat, and set up a shout and came forward, but our fire from the advanced division soon made them retire; after this the enemy were apparently gaining confidence, and began to show themselves boldly; I therefore gave them half an hour to collect, and to induce them to suppose we did not meditate an attack. At the expiration of that time I directed Captain Macleod to charge their position with the Rungpore light infantry, followed by the volunteer cavalry, in number twenty-eight, under Lieutenant Brooke, Sub-Assistant Commissary-General; this was performed with the utmost gallantry, and the enemy fled after giving their fire, but were overtaken, and Captain Macleod reports that full sixty were killed in the charge, amongst whom were three Phokuns, mounted on horseback, their horses were taken, as also forty-one muskets and thirty-six spears and four prisoners; the number killed in the charge is independent of those that were killed in the first attack, who were all immediately carried off as they fell, and it is supposed they must have lost near one hundred killed, as the attack lasted one hour and twenty minutes; on our side, I deeply regret to say, Lieutenant and Adjutant Kennedy, Rungpore light infantry, was wounded in the head (slightly), the other casualties are, one sepoy of the same corps, and one horse attached to the cavalry, wounded; the conduct of the Rungpore light infantry and the volunteer cavalry, which belong to the same corps, merit my warmest approbation; to Captain Macleod, commanding Rungpore light infantry, and Lieutenant Brooke, who commanded the volunteer cavalry, and whose conduct is reported by Captain Macleod to have been most conspicuous, my best thanks are especially due; as also to Lieutenant Fleming, Officiating Sub-Assistant Commissary-General, who joined the Rungpore light infantry in the charge, and to Lieutenant and Adjutant Kennedy, and Mr. Surgeon Thomson, of that corps, for the zealous assistance afforded by them during the action.

I trust the guns, spare ammunition and supplies will arrive in camp in the course of the night or tomorrow morning, which will enable me to move forward to the attack of Rungpore on the day following.

I omitted to mention in my letter of yesterday's