

Boileau, of the 67th N. I. was, I regret to say, killed, while gallantly attacking the enemy on our left flank.

The enemy's loss I was unable to ascertain, but his force here consisted of 1,000 men, with one gun, which was carried off, and Myat-toon was present in person. This I learned from a prisoner who was taken.

We lost no time in following up the enemy, but, after proceeding along an open road for about a mile, I thought it advisable, it being nearly 5 P.M., to halt at a piece of water, Ngyoung-Kymug, said to be distant about three miles from Kyomtano, but with a heavy jungle intervening, in which the enemy were reported to be in force.

At 8 P.M. I fired, at the request of Captain Smith, Deputy Commissioner, three signal rockets, for the information of Captain Fytche, who had promised to cooperate to the westward and northward of Kyomcazen; they were replied to by guns; and during the night, on the report that the enemy were felling trees close in our front, a few shot and shells were fired at them, with good effect I believe.

On the morning of the 19th instant, at 7 A.M., we moved on, the right wing leading, and the left wing in rear of the Artillery. H. M. 80th Regiment formed the advance guard, and was followed by the Sappers clearing the road; the enemy's position was described as being at Ngyoung-Goun-lya, the head of the piece of water on our right, and along the edge of which or very near it the road lay. I expected to find the enemy posted on the opposite bank, and that we should have to come under a flanking fire before being able to reach his right and turn the position where the nullah is dry. It did not seem reasonable to expect that his left flank would be found unprotected, and I, therefore, did not think it worth while to pass a party across the water to try that flank; it would have been useless, as I afterwards found that an extensive and impassable marsh, though invisible from our side, covered his left flank; the forest was so dense on our left that to cut a new road direct from the nullah, entirely round the enemy's right, would have been very laborious, and would have occupied a very long time, and the sickness amongst our troops had become so alarming that great danger would have accrued from the delay. I was withal unwilling to diverge from the path our guides led us; there had been already so much uncertainty and difficulty about finding the road, that it seemed the safest plan to get at the enemy as speedily as we could, and I trusted to a rapid advance, supported by our guns and rockets, and relied on carrying the enemy's breastwork on the right the moment we should reach it.

On coming opposite his left flank, the firing commenced, and here our rockets were advanced and opened fire; the 4th Seikh Local Regiment were sent on to support the 80th Regiment, and the 18th Royal Irish in support of them; the Sappers worked away at the path, which was much entangled with wood, and the guns were shortly got into position and opened; the firing had, however, become very heavy, and it was reported to me that Major Wigstone was wounded. On reaching the front I found that Major Armstrong was also wounded, as well as many other officers and men, and that the fire of the enemy on the path leading up to the breastwork was so heavy, that our advanced party had not succeeded in carrying it; the most strenuous exertions were made, and Lieutenant Johnson, the only remaining officer of the 4th Seikh Local Regiment, persevered most bravely, but it only increased the

loss. The 80th and Seikhs then went on in the hopes of getting round the extreme right of the enemy; the jungle, however, was so thick, and the abattis so strong, that our men got dispersed, and could not get through it.

It was at this point that the 18th Royal Irish came up, and the fire of musketry and grape was so heavy, that they also got scattered and sustained great loss. Lieutenant Cockburn was wounded. I was here joined by Major Holdich, now in command of the Right Wing.

Although it was difficult from the dense smoke, and under so heavy a fire, to discern exactly what was between us and the breastwork to be assailed, I succeeded, at last, in ascertaining that there was no water, and no obstacle that could not be easily surmounted, if the troops could pass through the enemy's fire, a distance of only 20 or 30 yards. The "assembly" was accordingly sounded, with a view of getting together as many men of the right wing as could be collected.

In the mean time Major Reid, of the Artillery, brought up in the most gallant manner his 24-pounder howitzer. It was dragged through the bushes by the hand, chiefly by men of the 51st Regiment, and opened within 25 yards of the enemy with marked effect; it was, however, in a much exposed position, and I regret to say Major Reid was almost immediately wounded: the fire from this gun was kept up in the most spirited manner by Lieutenant Ashe.

Finding the right wing much weakened from the loss they had sustained, and the number of men it was necessary to employ as skirmishers on the bank of the nullah, for the purpose of keeping down the enemy's fire, I ordered a reinforcement from the left wing, they were joined by the men of the right wing that had been collected by Major Holdich, and who were led by Ensign Wolsely, and the whole advanced in a manner that nothing could check. The fire was severe, and I am grieved to say, that gallant young officer, Lieutenant Taylor, 9th M. N. I., doing duty with H. M.'s 51st K. O. L. I., fell mortally wounded. Ensign Wolsely, H. M.'s 80th Regiment, was also struck down, as well as many other gallant soldiers; but the breastwork was at once carried, and the enemy fled in confusion, the few who stood being shot or bayoneted on the entrance of our men.

Lieutenant Trevor, of the Engineers, with Corporal Livingstone and Private Preston, of H. M.'s 51st K. O. L. I., first entered the enemy's breastwork, the two former each shooting down one of the enemy opposing their entrance. The lead devolved on them, and on Sergeant Preston, of H. M.'s 51st K. O. L. I., and Serjeant-Major Quin, of H. M.'s 80th, when Lieutenant Taylor, Ensign Wolsely, and Colour-Serjeant Dunahoe, fell in the advance.

Our two guns, which fell into the enemy's hands on the 4th of last month, were here recaptured; they had been fired with the most deadly effect, and were well served to the last; in attempting to carry off one of them 12 men were left dead by a discharge from our 9-pounder gun.

The enemy sustained, I understand, a heavy loss in killed and wounded. His whole force and means were concentrated in this position, and I imagine he must have had about 4,000 men in these breastworks, which extended 1,200 yards in length.

The Chief, I am sorry to say, escaped, but I lost no time in sending on Major Cotton, of the 67th N. I., with 100 men of his own regiment and 100 of the 51st K. O. L. I., under Captain Irby, to Kyomtano, about two miles distant. Here they