

The main body of my force had now come up, and I directed its movement to the left, thus co-operating with the advanced guard, which was hardly pressed. A flanking fire soon relieved them, and the desperate resistance and continued struggle of the enemy to maintain his ground, led to many a hand-to-hand conflict, where the bayonet did great execution.

By the most persevering efforts, my artillery and cavalry flanked the enemy, causing heavy loss, and capturing three guns, and the gallantry of Her Majesty's 12th Lancers and the Rissalah, were most conspicuous on these occasions.

The Horse Artillery and Horse Battery did their work with an alacrity, spirit, and precision of fire not to be surpassed, and each man of the native troop vied with the European soldier in his vigorous pursuit of the enemy.

The 18-pounders served by the Royal Artillery, made some excellent practice; it was work of much labour to bring them into position, but it was cheerfully and well executed by officers and men.

Although the enemy now began to retire, it was four hours before the firing ceased; they fell back, occupying every available ground for opposition, and our guns were in constant employment to dislodge them.

The Nawab at length fled, leaving on the field (from information I have since received) more than 1,000 of his men, 800 of whom were amongst the killed; several men of note were slain, and, within a few hours, many notorious vagabonds have been hanged.

A fort commanding the ford was reported to be occupied by the enemy, and it was necessary to bring up some heavy guns previous to advancing: this retarded our movement, and enabled the enemy to cross the river, and get so far ahead as to escape further pursuit.

A flag of truce now approached; it was borne by some of the principal inhabitants of the city, who informed me that the Nawab had fled, the town been evacuated, and the mutineers had set fire to their lines. So great indeed was the panic, and so sudden, that on occupying the palace, we found food preparing for the Nawab.

My troops are now in possession of the palace and town, 13 large brass guns, besides several of small calibre—a large quantity of ammunition, much valuable property belonging to the Nawab, some 40,000 rupees in specie—four elephants, 50 camels, with other cattle,—and about 2,000 rupees, worth of grain of sorts.

The British flag was hoisted under a general salute in the presence of the troops, and the Commissioner is busily employed in establishing order.

The contest was a lengthened one, but Europeans and natives fought well and manfully against their disciplined enemy, and merit my warmest praise for their conduct.

It was the first time the 3rd Madras European Regiment were under fire. I noticed their steadiness and good discipline with pride, as well as the gallantry of the Hyderabad Company, who charged, and, with great slaughter, drove a large party from their stronghold.

Our own loss is extraordinarily small, considering the fire to which the troops were so long exposed. Amongst the killed I have to lament a promising young officer, Lieutenant Colbeck, of the 3rd Europeans.

I beg to attach copies of the reports from Brigadier Miller, commanding the Artillery, and

Major Oakes, commanding the Cavalry Brigade, and it is most gratifying to me to add my testimony to the distinguished gallantry of those officers whose names they have brought to notice, and the dashing style in which they led their guns and troops into action.

Brigadier Miller, a most able and energetic officer, disposed of his artillery with a skill and intelligence most praiseworthy, and I cordially thank him. I regret to add he was severely wounded, and that I am thereby deprived for a time of his valuable services. Major Lavie assumed command, and I have special satisfaction in recording the steadiness and intelligence with which he conducted his important duties.

Major Oakes displayed the zeal and activity of an excellent cavalry officer throughout the day.

Brigadier Carpenter brought his infantry into action, with a steady precision with which I was perfectly satisfied.

Colonel Apthorp's management of the troops placed at his disposal, was what I expected from an officer of his high character. I beg to annex his report.

It is a pleasing duty to bring to the special notice of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, a favour which I beg to solicit at your hands, the name of Captain Macintire, of the Madras Artillery, commanding a squadron of the 2nd Hyderabad Contingent Cavalry, always distinguished for his zeal, a soldier's spirit, and a judgment well fitting him for his command; his charge on the enemy's guns (I had no infantry at hand for that purpose), was the admiration of all who witnessed the affair, and his men followed their leader with an order with which his high bearing has inspired them, and I cannot express myself in too high terms of their spirit and their gallantry. Lieutenant Ryall, the Adjutant of the regiment, accompanied the troop on its attack, and with his commanding officer, cut down several of the enemy in hand-to-hand combat.

I received much assistance from my Assistant Adjutant-General, Major R. Hamilton, an able, intelligent, and worthy officer, as well as from my Assistant Quartermaster-General, Captain Lawder, both were by my side during the whole of the action; also Major Mayne, Deputy-Judge-Advocate-General to the Force.

Lieutenant Homan, 50th Regiment Native Infantry, my Aide-de-Camp, was very useful to me.

Major Brett, 3rd Madras European Regiment, an experienced and able officer, who was attached as orderly officer to me during the day, was very active in carrying my orders.

The officers of the Engineers' Department were with me on the field, and Major Ludlow, Field Engineer, received the flag of truce.

The Commissariat Department, under Lieutenant Barrow, has been admirably conducted for the many months the force has been marching, and, from the excellent system of this able officer, the troops were furnished without delay with all their customary supplies at the conclusion of the contest.

I am very much indebted to Major Barrow, Commissary of Ordnance, whose duties have been most arduous, but who has performed them with the utmost efficiency; he was with me throughout the day, and of much service to me.

To Major Abbot, of the Bengal Infantry, who, with the troops of the Chirkarree Rajah, protected my baggage and a lengthened siege train, and brought all safely into camp, my best thanks are due.