

No. 24.

*Report upon the Fort and Entrenchments of  
Kussiah Rampore, Oude.*

November 7, 1858.

THE fort and entrenchments of Kussiah Rampore are situated on a bend or loop of the River Sac.

The fort being at the top or north-west of this loop, surrounded by the southern entrenchments, which close the loop to the south, and by the northern entrenchments, which enclose it on all sides.

They occupy an extent of ground equal to 200 acres, and are  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length.

The interior of these entrenchments is a dense, impenetrable bamboo and thorn jungle, through which a number of covered ways, similar to parallels, afford communication.

On the outside the jungle grows close up to the works, and in most places 500 or 600 yards or more to the front. Paths lead through it into the fort, but they are of no use, except to the defenders.

Besides this, a very close and impenetrable abattis of cut-thorn jungle, is to be found close upon the counterscarp of the ditch of the work, following it in all its sinuosities.

This ditch varies from 12 to 18 feet in depth (in one or two places nearly 23 feet), and 8 to 20 feet in width, and surrounds the whole of the works, except in a few places where a formidable abattis supplies its place.

The profile of all the entrenchments is good; the command varying from 10 to 20 feet, the thickness of parapet from 10 to 18 feet, and well able to resist the heaviest ordnance from the nature of the soil, which is principally clay.

In some parts the profile consists of two lines of parapet, separated from each other by a ditch; in others two ditches are to be found.

The interior fort or entrenchment, is of the nature generally found in this country, a rectangle with circular bastions at the angles, connected by straight curtains, which also have bastions.

This fort has a very great command over the works surrounding it, and the country around.

It also affords a good defence against an attempt to take it from the south, especially across the ford.

The trace of the entrenchments is very irregular, consisting of circular bastions, connected by irregular curtains, every bastion having four or more embrasures for guns.

In front of each bastion, a low line of parapet for musketry is to be found, and this generally flanks the entrances (mentioned before) into the fort.

The trace on the whole is good. It has a few weak points on the river, where the entrenchments close upon it.

But these could be strengthened at the very last moment.

In fact, if a European force had possession of such works, it could defy any attack, except that of a regular blockade to starvation.

The date of the construction of the different parts of the works, is of course difficult to ascertain. I should think that all the works, with the exception of the fort, and western entrenchments, have been built since the first outbreak of the mutiny.

The ditch surrounding them is, however, very old. It has been deepened in a great many places. The works have also been considerably strengthened and repaired since the rains; and in some

parts there are signs showing that more works were contemplated.

P. H. SCRATCHLEY,

Lieutenant Royal Engineers,

Commanding Engineers,

Brigadier Wetherall's Force.

No. 25.

*Allahabad, November 30, 1858.*

No. 554 of 1858.—In continuation of General Order by the Governor-General, No. 441, dated 1st October 1858, publishing the report of a successful affair with the rebels at Seerpoorah, the Right Honourable the Governor-General is pleased to publish for general information, the following letter from Captain Larkins, late commanding at Phillibheet, No. 73, dated October 28, 1858, forwarding one from Lieutenant Cunliffe, correcting an omission in his report of that engagement, by bringing to notice the name of Assistant-Surgeon Maxwell, whose exertions were most conspicuous in his attention to the wounded on that occasion. The Governor-General offers his acknowledgments to Assistant-Surgeon Maxwell.

No. 26.

*Captain R. Larkins, Commanding 17th Punjab Infantry, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Rohilcund Division, Bareilly.*

*Camp, Phillibheet, October 28, 1858.*

SIR,

No. 73.

IN continuation of my report of the engagement at Seerpoorah, on August 30, 1858, dated Phillibheet, September 1, 1858, I have the honour to request you will do me the favour of soliciting Brigadier-General Walpole, C. B., commanding Rohilcund Division, to forward, for the information of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the accompanying letter from Lieutenant Cunliffe, who, upon Major Brown's being wounded, assumed command of the force that day engaged, with a view to correcting an omission in his report upon that engagement, as also in order to do justice to a most deserving officer, Assistant-Surgeon T. Maxwell, whose exertions on the occasion above alluded to, were most conspicuous, and deserving of the highest approbation.

I have, &amp;c.,

ROBERTSON LARKINS, Captain,

Late Commanding at Phillibheet.

No. 27.

*Lieutenant Cunliffe to Captain Larkins, Commanding at Phillibheet.*

*Phillibheet, October 27, 1858.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to request that you will have the goodness to correct an omission in my report of the action of Seerpoorah, on August 29, of the name of an officer whose exertions on that day were most conspicuous, viz., Assistant-Surgeon T. Maxwell, 2nd Punjab Cavalry, who, with that zeal which he has shown on every occasion, tended the whole of the wounded of the force in such a manner as merits the greatest approbation.

I have, &amp;c.,

G. G. CUNLIFFE, Lieutenant,

2nd in Command Kumaon Levies,

Commanding Field Detachment.