

so blocked up by felled trees and bamboo brush-wood that it was impenetrable. Here I must say that the party for a few moments were thrown into confusion by the Arah contingent firing a volley in our rear. I went back and enquired the cause, and learnt that they had not fired into the 10th, but into a party of Goorkhas who were above them, on the left; I then turned up to the left, up a very steep side of the hill, where I found the party of Goorkhas in support of Captain Channer's detachment, and found Captain Channer and his party had taken one stockade, and opened fire on others a little below them: copy of Captain Channer's report is annexed. Here I must mention the gallant conduct of Captain Channer: he proceeded cautiously with a party of 25 Goorkhas, as if he were on a sporting expedition; he advanced himself to within a few yards of the stockade, the enemy had kept no look out, they were cooking at the time, Captain Channer seized the opportunity, and followed immediately by two men named in the margin,* was the first to jump into the stockade; he found it occupied by 25 or 30 men: the first man Captain Channer, shot dead with his revolver, and the two Goorkhas each shot his man, they were soon followed by the rest of Captain Channer's party; having expelled the Malays, Captain Channer opened a smart fire on the other two (2) stockades, and soon emptied them. In this affair 6 were killed in the stockade, and doubtless some were wounded from that and the other stockades, but the Malays always carry off their dead and wounded (if they have time), but they must have suffered, as proved by the track of blood left behind.

All this was not accomplished without some small loss on our side; and I have to report the death of Naigue Bukit Sing Raie, and Sepoy Duljeet Thappa dangerously wounded in the neck, and two sepoy wounded in the foot by native ranjons.

Of Captain Channer's gallantry, coolness, and intrepidity I cannot sufficiently express my approval; and a separate report will be submitted for the favourable consideration of Major-General Colborne, C.B. The conduct of his men was equally good; and I trust the Major-General may be urged to express his approval of their behaviour.

By the taking of these stockades most serious obstacles have been overcome, and great saving of life.

5. 21st December, 1875.—Marched to Bandole, distance $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, which was reported to be strongly stockaded. Coming out of the pass I burnt two stockades, evidently just erected, but spared houses that were not fortified, or where no offensive weapons were found.

6. 23rd December, 1875. Terrachee, distant 7 miles, crossing a stream several times through rice cultivation and swamp, effected a junction with Lieutenant-Colonel Hill's party all well.

7. In conclusion I must record my thanks to all officers and men for the cheerful and willing manner all have worked, being half rationed part of the time and wet through every day. To the 1st Goorkhas specially my thanks are due, for having borne the brunt of the hard work.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Hill and his party my earnest thanks are due, for although they met with no active opposition, still they were not to be deterred, and made a flank march via Pantay, under most unfavourable circumstances, meeting with the Moar River (which they crossed seventeen times), swamps, and the most dense jungle, there

* Sepoy Buleer Ghurtie and Sepoy Jestman Thappa, B Company 1st Goorkhas.

is but little doubt that their march has had a good moral effect.

8. I forgot to mention that Captain Channer took an iron gun, about a 4-pounder, in the stockade which he attacked.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. BERTIE CLAY,
Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding
Malacca Column.

To the Assistant Quartermaster-General,
Perak Field Force, Penang.

Terrachee,

22nd December, 1875.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that in accordance with orders received I started from the Datu Klana's house near Rassa, on 19th December, at 10.30 a.m., with instructions to make a flank march on Tertutchie, via Pantay, with a force as per margin.*

1. The force reached a small mountain stream called Sunjie Ramie (leaving Pantay on the left), the last water on this side of the range at 2.50 p.m., about seven miles, a fair jungle track with several streams to cross, made a clearing in the wood to encamp, rear guard arriving at 5 p.m.

On 20th started at 9 a.m.; crossed the dividing range about 140 feet above level of sea, arriving at Moar River flowing east at 3 p.m.—distance about 7 miles; very bad jungle track; rear guard arriving at 6 o'clock.

On 21st started at 7.30 a.m., made 5 miles, arriving valley Teratchie; crossing and re-crossing Moar River, an almost imperceptible jungle track. At 10 a.m. found a steep hill obstructed with felled trees, the bed of the Moar River being staken with ranjons; with great difficulty and labour circumvented these difficulties; at 12 noon came across a stockade or kubo, skirmished up to it, taking it in rear with the Goorkhas, and bringing the 7-pounder gun to bear upon it a few Malays occupied the place but evacuated without firing a shot; entered the Teratchie valley at 3 p.m., several of the enemy retreating eastward toward Sriminanti, where I am informed there are two stockades; cleared the valley and force took up position for night, before doing so I sent out a force under Captain Stirling, R.N., to reconnoitre towards Bukit Putas, and cut off the enemy who were said to be retreating, but he was unable to interrupt them as they took to the jungle on the hills bounding valley.

On 22nd formed junction with column under Colonel Clay, marching out at 7 a.m., returning to position at 10 a.m.

2. I have the honour to state that the conduct of the troops under my command was most excellent under circumstances the most trying any force could have encountered, progressing through an almost imperceptible jungle track over high hills, crossing and recrossing mountain streams and swampy dense forest under torrents of rain, and having every night to clear dense jungle to enable the troops to bivouac.

3. I am indebted to Mr. Daly, Survey Department, for information regarding distances noted by him at the time.

The march would have been impossible without the intelligence obtained from Malay scouts by

* 123 Goorkhas—120 rounds ammunition, 17-pounder steel gun, 10 Artillerymen, 100 rounds; 30 seamen and mines, H.M.S. "Thistle," 36 24-pounder rockets. Goorkhas.—Commander, Captain Mercer.—Party from H.M.S. "Thistle," Captain Stirling, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Beattie.—Artillery, Lieutenant Henriquez, R.A.