

ought not to be at war! He was informed in reply that if he had any communication to make he might come across the river; he declined this proposal very peremptorily, and shortly afterwards the whole party disappeared. I have since learned that he is named Moungray, an officer of some rank, and that he returned direct to this city. The river, about four feet deep at the ford, with a rapid current, was passed yesterday, commencing at day-light. The guns were all over, the troops crossing on the elephants, and the line of march formed on the right bank in order for the advance, by 7 A.M. We were met, not far from the river, by two of the chief officers of this city, attended by a great number of the inhabitants, with offerings of fruits, and expressing in many ways, besides the open avowal in words, their extreme joy at our arrival. Thus accompanied, the troops, at 10 A.M. entered this extraordinary city. It is a large square enclosure, surrounded by a high brick wall, with solid rampart, and outside by a broad wet ditch; each face is considerably upwards of a mile in length. The town occupies but a small portion of the enclosure, temples, kyooms or monasteries, groves of lofty trees, and extensive fruit gardens, are interspersed among large open spaces, in one of which the force is now encamped. There is also a large natural tank. In the arsenal the guns and ammunition were found, of which a Return is enclosed. The wall is of very ancient date, and the place is untenable as a fortification, independently of its vast size, from the extensive dilapidation of the wall in many places, and the weak points offered by the exposed position of all the wooden gates; the latter have been newly put up within the last three months, and attempts recently made to repair the fallen wall.

The information given on my arrival here was, that Mounbwa and other chiefs were probably still within reach of a forced march, as they had only commenced their retreat by the high road to Ava, on the report brought by "Moungray" at noon the previous day, of our being then within nine miles of them. I was therefore induced to permit the detachment of Ramghur Irregular Cavalry, under Lieutenant Lambert, to proceed on their track, accompanied as volunteers by Captain Fanshawe, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Captain Clogstoun, and Lieutenant Maxwell, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, and by my A.-D.-C. Captain Travers. A very energetic pursuit was undertaken, and continued for more than twenty miles; it was given up on finding that the flying chiefs were then nearly ten miles in advance, and the horses unfit for farther rapid movement; they returned to camp at 10 P.M. I may therefore venture to state that that part of the Proclamation promulgated on the 20th of December last, which asserted that "such Burman troops as may still remain within the province shall be driven out," had been executed to the very letter by the 22d instant, as on that day the last of the broken forces of the Burman Army was driven beyond the utmost limit contemplated. The establishment of Civil Government will immediately follow; the Commissioner appointed to these Provinces having been expected at Shoee-Gyne by the 20th instant.

The instructions which I received on being honoured with the command of the force to advance from Martaban, having been fully carried out, I trust I may be permitted to bring to the favourable notice of the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council, the exemplary conduct of the troops employed on that service; passing through a country never before traversed

by a disciplined army, by a difficult route, imperfectly known, and obliged, in all difficulties, to depend upon their own resources, I hope that the successful occupation of the country thus far, will be considered creditable to the Army of the East India Company. The enemy, by uniformly retreating before the force, has given it no opportunity of gaining those honours which are only won by brilliant deeds of arms, and every soldier so ardently covets; but the perfect state of discipline evinced by the whole of the troops; their kind treatment of the people, which inspired perfect confidence wherever they advanced; their forbearance from all excesses, and their high military bearing on all occasions, may well be taken as proof that the opportunity alone was wanting to add to the fame of their former fields. The victory which they have achieved is that difficult one of self-control, and to them is due the success of the campaign.

The Officers in Command, and on the Staff have, by their zealous co-operation, rendered my share of the service performed comparatively easy; the efficiency of the small park of Madras Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Anstruther, C.B., has been always conspicuous. Lieutenant A. Fraser, of the Bengal Engineers, Assistant Field Engineer, has been indefatigable in his exertions, both in the higher professional duties of an Engineer and at the head of the Company of Madras Sappers and Miners, who have maintained their well earned name, in overcoming the many difficulties of the route of march. To Lieutenant Colonel Poole, 5th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, commanding the line of Infantry; Major Gerrard, commanding the 1st Bengal Fusiliers; Captain Geils, commanding the detachment 1st Madras Fusiliers; Major Shubrick, commanding the 5th Madras Native Infantry; Major Welchman, commanding the 10th Bengal Native Infantry; Major Forster commanding the details from Martaban; and to Lieutenant Lambert, commanding the detachment of Ramghur Irregular Cavalry; to each and all of them I am indebted for their ready and untiring aid on all emergencies. Of the European troops it is impossible to speak too highly. The sepoy of all the regiments of infantry have cheerfully turned out whenever required, to assist in working-parties on all occasions of difficulty, each vying with the other to forward the service. In the departments of the Assistant Adjutant-General under Major Neill, and of the Assistant Quartermaster-General under Captain Dallas, the duties have always been zealously and efficiently performed; Major Bayly, Deputy Judge Advocate-General, from the general good conduct of the force, has happily had but little to do in his own department, and I am indebted to him for willing assistance on all occasions. From my personal Staff, Captain Travers, Aide-de-Camp, I have ever received the most active service; Captain Dallas, as Extra Aide-de-Camp, has given to me all the time not taken up by his own department; Captain Hamilton, Deputy Baggage-Master, has performed the laborious duties of that office with exemplary zeal and patience. Staff-Surgeon Davidson has given unremitting attention to the care and comfort of those requiring the assistance of the Medical Department. To the most efficient arrangements of the Commissariat Department, made under the orders of Major Budd, Deputy Commissary-General at Rangoon, and at Moulmein by Acting Head-Overseer Norris, the Force is entirely indebted for having been enabled to continue its progress, unchecked by want of supplies. I am

