

of the river, and went myself with two companies into the jungle on the right of the road, advancing down in as good a line as the thick jungle would admit. The enemy only fired their jingals once and fled through the jungle, leaving their jingals behind. In the mean time Lieutenant Jones, by dashing across with the horsemen to the river, succeeded in cutting off the retreat of about two hundred; some escaped by swimming, about forty were killed by the Sowars, a number were drowned, and several sabred or shot in the water. The picket which had marched along the banks of the river, got up in time to kill several in the water; several of the enemy on horseback attempted to escape by swimming their horses, but were thrown from their saddles in the middle of the river; their horses or tattoos swimming back, fell into our hands; we captured about seven tattoos, about eighteen jingals, two very good brass drums, and a number of old muskets, &c.; and several of the jingals were loaded and contained seven balls.

I am happy to say we have suffered no loss among the sepoys either killed or wounded.

I am however sorry to say that a duffedar of Gilbert's horse was shot through the body and is since dead; three horses only were wounded.

Lieutenant Jones on this occasion acted with a great deal of credit to himself, and, but for his exertions, the enemy would have got back to their stockade with a trifling loss indeed. I fear however about three hundred of the enemy regained their stockade.

I have, &c.

A. HORSBURGH, Capt. Commg.  
Detacht. 23d N. I.

THE following copy of a dispatch addressed on the 14th July 1824, by Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. commanding the British forces, at Rangoon, to George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to the Bengal Government, not having been received in due course from that Government, is now taken from the Calcutta Gazette of July the 29th.

SIR,

SINCE I had the honour of addressing you on 16th ultimo,\* we have had several partial affairs with the enemy, except in one solitary instance, invariably sought for on our part, and all ending in the same brilliant manner that has hitherto marked the gallant and intrepid conduct of the troops under my command. About the end of last month, it was stated to me by some prisoners of war, and corroborated by a few Rangoon people, who had escaped from the jungle, that the Burmese Chief had received positive orders from Court to make a general attack upon our line, and drive us at once out of the country. Every movement of the enemy plainly indicated that something was intended: large bodies of troops were for two successive days seen crossing the river above Kemyandyne, from the Dallah to the Rangoon side, and I felt the more inclined to give credit to the report, from being well aware that had any such order

been received by the Burman General, certain disgrace, or even decapitation, would be the inevitable consequence of his disobeying it. On the morning of the 1st instant, every doubt on the subject was removed. Three columns of the enemy, estimated at one thousand men each, were seen crossing the front of our position moving towards our right; and the jungle in front of the Great Dagon Pagoda, and along the whole extent of our line to the left, was occupied by a large force; but on this side, from the nature of the ground, it was impossible to ascertain either the disposition or strength of the enemy. The columns moving on our right soon came in contact with the piquets of the 7th and 22d regiments of Madras Native infantry, which received the attack with the greatest steadiness, none of them yielding one inch of ground. The enemy then penetrated in considerable force between two of our piquets, and took post on a hill about four hundred yards from our position, occupying an old pagoda and some houses in front, from which they commenced a feeble and harmless fire from some jingals and swivels. I instantly repaired to the point of attack with a gun and a howitzer from the Bengal artillery, and three companies of Native infantry, viz. one company of the 7th and two of the 22d regiment, the whole under the command of Captain Jones, of the latter corps. After a short but well directed fire from the artillery, I ordered Captain Jones to advance with his three companies and drive the enemy from his post at the point of the bayonet, and I had the satisfaction of seeing my orders carried into effect in the most cool and gallant style; the enemy flying in every direction towards their favourite haunt, and only place of safety, the jungle. During the firing on our right parties of the enemy felt the piquets along our line to the left, but never appeared in any force, and retired on the first fire from our advanced posts. Thus ended the mighty attack that was to have driven us into the sea: defeated with the greatest ease by three weak companies of the Sepoys, and two pieces of artillery; although such an enemy might be well appalled at the appearance of the whole British line under arms.

From some prisoners who were taken, I am informed that twelve thousand men were marched to the attack: the left columns were ordered to engage with vigour, and as soon as they had succeeded in penetrating our line, the attack was then to have become general. Such were the orders issued, but nothing more contemptible than the conduct of the enemy on that day was ever witnessed. They paid for their folly, leaving at least one hundred men dead on the field. We had not one man either killed or wounded.

Before day-light on the following morning some hundred men of the Dallah force entered the town of Dallah, firing in the direction of our post. Captain Isaack, of the 8th Madras Native infantry, commanding, pushed forward with a few men, and was I regret to say, unfortunately shot; the Burmese mutilating his body with the most savage brutality during the few minutes it remained in their power.

While the enemy abstained from converting their town to the purpose of annoying us, I also res-

\* See London Gazette of 25th November 1824, p. 1564.