

pected and afforded it every protection, although uninhabited by one individual; but when they thought proper to make it a mighty scene of savage warfare, I razed it to the ground.

Numerous reinforcements daily joined the enemy's army in our front, a thing much to be desired, as tending to increase the distress and discontent already prevailing in their lines; and having observed a disposition to re-cross part of their force to the Dallah side of the river, I determined, on the 8th instant, to make as general an attack as the very woody and inundated state of the country would possibly admit of. For that purpose I formed the force to be employed into two columns of attack; one proceeding by land under the command of that excellent and indefatigable Officer Brigadier-General MacBean, for the purpose of surrounding the enemy on the land side, while I with the other proceeded by water to attack their stockaded position, along the banks of the river in front. To this post the enemy appeared to attach the greatest importance, and the stockades were so constructed as to afford mutual support, presenting difficulties apparently not to be overcome without a great sacrifice of lives. I therefore resolved to try the effect of shelling, and consulted with Captain Marryat upon the employment of such armed vessels as he might select to breach, in the event of our mortar practice not succeeding. The shells were thrown at too great distance to produce the desired effect, and the swampy state of the country would not admit of any advance. The armed vessels, viz. the *Satellite*, transport, (lately in His Majesty's service) the Honourable Company's cruisers *Teigumouth* and *Thetis*, commanded by Captain Hardy and Lieutenant Greer, and the Penang Government yacht the *Jessie*, Captain Poynton, the whole under the command of Lieutenant Frazer, of His Majesty's ship *Larne*, now took their stations according to a disposition made by Captain Marryat, and opened a fire which soon silenced that of fourteen pieces of artillery, swivels and musketry, from the stockades, and in one hour the preconcerted signal of—breach practicable,—was displayed at the mainmast head. The troops, as previously arranged, entered their boats on the signal being made, consisting of a detail of the 3d, 10th, and 17th Native infantry, commanded by Major Wahab, of the latter corps, ordered to lead the attack, and supported by Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin, with two hundred and sixty men of His Majesty's 41st regiment, and one company from the Honourable Company's Madras European regiment. The assault was made in the best order and handsomest style: Major Wahab with the Native infantry, landed and immediately attacked the breach, while Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin almost at the same instant pushed ashore a little higher up, and entered the work by escalade; the enemy kept up a sharp, but ill-directed fire while the troops were landing, but, as usual, fled on our making a lodgment in the place. I now ordered Colonel Godwin to re-embark with the detachment of the 41st regiment and attack the second stockade, which was immediately carried in the same style. The third stockade was evacuated by the enemy.

The cool and gallant conduct of both European

and Native troops on this occasion was to me a most gratifying sight. To the Officers and men of the breaching vessels every praise is due; and I much regret that severe indisposition prevented Captain Marryat from being present to witness the result of his arrangements.

The inundated state of the country did not admit of any communication with Brigadier-General MacBean from the shipping, nor did I know the result of the operations of his column until I returned to Rangoon in the evening. Nothing could be more brilliant and successful:—he took by assault seven strong stockades in the most rapid succession, throwing the enemy into the utmost consternation: and he had also the good fortune to fall in with a large body flying from a stockade attacked by the shipping, of whom a great number were killed. The Brigadier-General assures me the ardour of his column was irresistible, and speaks highly of the able aid he received from Brigadier MacCreagh. He also reports most favourably upon the judicious and gallant style in which Majors Sale and Frith, of His Majesty's 13th and 38th Regiments, led the troops under their respective command.

Ten stockades were thus taken from the enemy in one day, and upwards of (500) eight hundred of his best troops were left dead on the ground:—thirty-eight pieces of artillery, forty swivels and three hundred muskets were also captured,—a loss of no small importance, where fire arms are so scarce. Three of the enemy's Chiefs, whose names are not yet known, were found among the dead. The chief destruction of the enemy was by the land column.

Our loss has been comparatively small—four rank and file killed; one Captain and thirty-five rank and file wounded.

To Brigadier-General MacBean my particular thanks are due upon this and on all occasions. To Lieutenant-Colonel Tidy and Major Jackson, Deputy Adjutant and Quarter-Master-Generals, and to my personal staff, I feel very much indebted for their indefatigable exertions in carrying on the duties of the service occasionally under every disadvantage; and I also beg leave to bring to the notice of the Supreme Government, the name of Lieutenant-Colonel Snow, Deputy Adjutant-General to the Madras division, whose ability, zeal and activity I have often had occasion to remark.

I cannot conclude without again adverting to the high feeling which animates every corps and every soldier under my command. Their patience in frequently undergoing the greatest fatigue, marching over a country almost wholly under water, merits every praise, and their intrepidity and valour whenever the enemy can be found, cannot be sufficiently extolled.

I have, &c.

A. CAMPBELL, Brigadier-General.

*General Return of Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Troops composing the Expedition under the Command of Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. C. B. serving against the Dominions of the King of Ava, from the 16th June to the 12th July 1824.*

*Head Quarters, Rangoon, July 12, 1824.*

*21st June.*

Madras European Regt.—2 rank and file wounded.