

chief—(I am persuaded Sir William Parker will excuse this expression of my admiration), who was ably supported by Captain Bouchier, commanding the naval brigade, Captain Richards, of Her Majesty's ship Cornwallis, and Captain Watson, of Her Majesty's ship Modeste, commanding the seamen battalion; the whole brigade soon reached the summit, carrying the enemies works; at the moment when the Admiral had nearly gained the height, I perceived a large body of Chinese ascending the back of the hill which he was attacking, apparently ignorant of the conjoint attack, and I directed Major Gough, Deputy Quarter Master General, to push forward with the grenadiers of the 49th, supported by a battalion company, to cut off their retreat, the carnage at the foot of this hill was extraordinarily great; the 49th in rear, and the naval brigade in front, almost annihilated this body, while the remainder of the 49th pressed the retreating enemy (I cannot say his columns), as the whole plain was covered with the dispersed and flying foe. The 18th and Rifles, finding that they were too late to participate in the attack on the encampment, rapidly dashed into the plain and cut off the Chinese from their only safe retreat, on the Chanke pass, killing numbers, and one company under Lieutenant Bernard, followed up the pursuit for several miles towards Yayaun. The 26th Cameronians having left one company to protect the guns, pressed forward into the plain, and joined in the pursuit. It was eight o'clock before the force re-assembled, when we occupied the enemies' encampment, where the men found ample bedding and comforts. Sir William Parker has brought to my notice, in addition to the Captain of the Navy I have already named, the spirited conduct of Lieutenant C. E. Tennant, Flag Lieutenant, Lieutenant George Elliot, slightly wounded, Mr. G. H. Hodgson, Mate, also slightly wounded in a personal encounter with a Chinese, Mr. William Bowden, (volunteer first class), and Mr. H. D. Cunningham, Secretary's Clerk, all of Her Majesty's ship Cornwallis, also of Lieutenant Heriot, Royal Marines, of Her Majesty's ship Blonde. The Admiral also noticed (and it came under my own observation), the judicious and well directed fire of rockets by a party under Lieutenant J. FitzJames and Mr. Charles Keats Jackson, Mate, both of Her Majesty's ship Cornwallis; these officers accompanied Sir William Parker with the advance. Lieutenant A. J. B. Hambly, of the Royal Marines, was severely wounded at the head of his company in the advance to the hill. I cannot too strongly express my entire approbation of the enthusiastic manner in which the whole force maintained their character. Our loss, under Divine protection, was wonderfully small, but the enemies troops stood well and disputed the hills until, in many instances, our officers and men came into personal contact with them.

The conduct of the 49th came more under my personal observation, and I witnessed with great satisfaction the zealous exertion of Capt. Reynolds, (wounded); Lieutenant and Adjutant Brown; Lieutenant Ramsay and Mitchell, of the Grenadier

company; Lieutenant Lane, (whose left arm was amputated on the field); and Lieutenant Montgomery, (severely wounded in the thigh). I must also mention, with much approbation, the conduct of Brevet Captain Balfour, of the Madras Artillery. I almost feel it invidious to name those officers, when I am conscious that every individual zealously did his duty, but as their conduct came under my own eye, I consider it a duty to express my approval.

The exact strength of the enemy I can hardly estimate, as various accounts give it from 7 to 10,000 men. I conceive it to have been about 8,000 men; they were the elite of the Chinese army, including 500 of the Imperial Body Guard, remarkably fine men. The Kansuh troops, from the frontiers of Turkistan, a strong and muscular race, accustomed to border warfare, and reported by the Chinese invincible, and the Shause troops, for whose arrival Yihkong gave out that he had delayed his attack. Their loss must have been very great; not less than a thousand were killed upon the field, or in the pursuit and drowned in the canals. A great proportion of Mandarins fell. These troops, not having before met the English, apprehended, I presume, that we should give no quarter; and although the officers and men shewed great forbearance, calling to the Chinese to surrender; very few prisoners were taken. We have, however, three Mandarins, two from Kansuh, and one a lieutenant of the Imperial Body Guard.

Fatigue parties from the several corps, together with the available native followers, were occupied in collecting guns, ginjals, and matchlocks left in camp, or thrown away during the flight, until twelve o'clock on the 16th, when I set fire to the encampments and to the several houses that the Chinese had occupied as arsenals. At day-light in the morning I had sent into the town to open the grain magazines to the populace, which eagerly flocked to them, and upon visiting them next morning I found they had been completely emptied.

From these and other causes I could not commence my march before half-past twelve o'clock, when the column moved for the Chanke Pass, which I determined to carry, in order to destroy this, as I understood, formidable position, and capture the treasure chest; after a rapid march of three hours we reached the base on the hills under this Pass.

The position appeared remarkably strong, indeed almost impracticable from the front, as the hills are lofty, and exceedingly steep, and the summits of the ridges were entrenched strongly. But here again, as at Segao, I perceived that the position could be turned, and I at once directed the Royal Irish to ascend the hills on the left of the position, while I moved with the 26th Cameronians, and 49th, supported by the naval brigade, and occupied a wooded spur which led up direct to the left of the encampment. On reaching the summit of this spur I found that the enemy had retreated, taking with him his guns, and, I regret to say, his treasures; but a considerable quantity of good bread was discovered, also some ammunition. We halted for a couple of