

by the Madras Artillery, they disappeared, and about four o'clock the city walls were escaladed by the seamen and marines, and a party of sappers, without resistance.

Advancing along the ramparts this division rejoined the main body with the General, through the east gate, and proceeded outside the walls to the north-east angle of the city, from which point we had an excellent view of the Chinese forces opposed to us, consisting of five or six thousand men, strongly posted, in fortified encampments, on the two high hills of "Segaon," in front and on our left. The assault of the latter was assigned to the naval brigade, and that more immediately in front to the 49th regiment.

As it was the General's wish that they should be attacked as nearly as possible at the same time, and the naval brigade being the most advanced in the line, it was necessary, while the 49th moved forward, to make a lodgment under some houses on our left, situated at a short distance from the foot of the hill which our men were to assail; and in passing to this point, across paddy fields, they were unavoidably exposed to a galling fire from both the positions of the Chinese. On reaching it, some musquetry was opened on them by part of the Royal Marines, and several three pounder rockets were discharged with excellent precision by Lieutenant Fitzjames, and Mr. Charles K. Jackson, Mate of the Cornwallis, while the men were reforming.

The 49th regiment were soon observed approaching the hill on our right, when orders for the assault were immediately given, and the leading company of marines, under Lieutenants Elliot and Hambly of that corps, promptly and gallantly pushed forward, with a small band of seamen, about five o'clock.

As they emerged from the buildings the fire of the Chinese was very severe. Captains Bouchier and Richards, with admirable spirit, sprung to the head of their men, and, having rapidly crossed a small intervening paddy field, led them up the hill, which was disputed from its base to the crest, and several instances of personal conflict occurred. The ascent was steep and difficult, but steadily and gallantly persevered in under an unceasing fire, until the summit was attained, and our opponents flying in every direction.

Commander Watson of the *Modeste*, who had been stationed in the rear of the storming party succeeded, by great efforts, in reaching a forwarded position with some of his men, before the hill was carried; and the main body of seamen and marines as they advanced in support, perceiving its fate, pressed round the sides, and inflicted a severe loss on the fugitive soldiers, the pursuit being continued until sunset, when our advanced party was halted on a bridge, about two miles beyond the city.

During these operations the hills on our right were simultaneously carried in admirable style by our gallant General and his brave troops; the rout of the Chinese at every point was thus complete; and I must not omit to notice the good service of the Phlegethon and the little party landed from

her in a branch of the river on the flank of the fugitives, as reported in Lieutenant M'Cleverty's enclosed letter, and she was closely followed to this judicious position by the *Nemesis*, after the troops were disembarked.

From the best accounts we have been able to collect, the Chinese cannot have lost less than from eight hundred to one thousand men slain, independently of great numbers carried off wounded; among the former were several mandarins supposed to have held important positions in the army; many prisoners also fell into our hands, and some interesting papers relative to the present position of their affairs, and from accounts previously received, and the amount of Sycee silver afterwards found on the bodies of the dead, there is no doubt that a considerable sum had been paid to them as an encouragement to resist Her Majesty's forces; and that the troops we encountered were composed of the elite of their army.

It is with pain I have to transmit a list of 3 killed, and 15 wounded in the naval brigade, and amongst the latter, many are severely hurt. I am not in possession of the casualties which have been sustained by the troops, but I hope none were killed, though several, I fear, were severely wounded.

It is impossible for me to extol too highly the animating example set by Captains Bouchier and Richards, Commander Watson, and every officer and man who was fortunate enough to be in advance in the assault of the encamped hill; their names are especially transmitted for their Lordships' information; and my best and cordial thanks are also justly due to the gallantry and exertions displayed by Capt. Uniacke, and all the officers and men of the Royal Marines, and to every individual of Her Majesty's squadron, and the Indian navy attached to the naval brigade, whose conduct was as exemplary for steadiness in their quarters as in the field; I have no less pleasure in noticing the gallantry of Captain Whittingham, Aide-de-Camp to Sir Hugh Gough, who, having brought a message from his Excellency at the moment of the assault, very handsomely ascended the hills and remained with our people until it was carried, as did Lieut. Barrow, of the Madras artillery, Commissary of Ordnance, who having mingled with them as a volunteer, was conspicuous for his intrepidity, and broke his sword in cutting down a Chinese soldier who opposed him. Mr. Hodgson, Mate of the *Cornwallis*, was also wounded in parrying the thrust of a spear when bravely advancing amongst the foremost on the hill.

Our people were quartered during the night in captured camps, and north part of the city, where a considerable quantity of arms and a large store of rice was, on the following morning discovered and destroyed; and as a very strong fortified encampment was known to be formed on some mountains about six or seven miles to the north west of Tze-Kee, comprising the pass of the main road "Yuyaa" and "Pickwan" every exertion was made by Sir Hugh Gough and myself to get