

22 guns, under His Highness Jung Bahadour, passed over into Oude, and immediately advanced on Lucknow; and the Naval Brigade, with 1000 Goorkhas, proceeded up the Gogra, to watch the enemy's movements opposite Fyzabad, where they are supposed to be in large force.

I very much regret I was deprived of the services, on the 20th, of Lieutenant H. D. Grant, whose zeal and enterprise at all times has been beyond all praise.

On the 26th I proceeded with the Naval Brigade to Bustec, about fifteen miles, and marched to Kaptangunge the following day, the same distance, and moved further on to Amorrha, on the 2nd instant. Soon after encamping, we heard that a party of the Yeomanry Cavalry, who had been sent on in advance, had been fired on, whilst reconnoitering the fort at Belwar, and required assistance. The men being much fatigued from a march over heavy and wet roads, rested a few hours, and at 2 P.M. the force, as per margin,* under Colonel Rowcroft, left the camp, and was afterwards joined by the Yeomanry Cavalry. It was nearly 5 o'clock when we got into position in front of the fort, and then only discovered the nature of the works and strength of the garrison, which had been represented as only 200. Our guns opened out at about 900 yards on the south face and south-east angle, and gradually reduced to 350, under Lieutenant Turnour and Mr. Maquay, whilst the skirmishers, formed by the marines and seamen, under Lieutenant Grant, Lieutenant Pym, and Mr. Ingles, acting mate, crept up within 200 yards under cover, and made good practice with their rifles. The enemy immediately returned the fire from four guns, muskets, and rifles from the old face of the parapet, and though the shells were thrown with good effect, setting the embrasures and other parts on fire, assisted by a 24-pounder rocket, under Mr. Richard Parkins, gunner, yet the enemy at dark gave no signs of yielding, but threw out parties to enfilade us with a gun and musketry. Finding it impracticable, from the darkness and want of knowledge of the place, to effect an assault, and being quite unprepared for such a resistance, Colonel Rowcroft, at 6 h. 30 m., withdrew the force about three miles, where we remained for the night, and information was received the following morning that reinforcements from Fyzabad, with guns, had been sent across during the night. We therefore returned to camp, not deeming a second attack prudent against such odds. The garrison is reported to have been about 1200, 500 of whom were sepoy; about 70 were killed and wounded. I am glad to report our casualties were but few, the enemy's fire, though at 200 yards, was much too high, and our men got good shelter in two villages, and under banks and sandhills.

The following officers were also on the field—Mr. John Fowler, second master; Mr. Foot, midshipman; and Mr. Cooley, boatswain. The Reverend Mr. Williams was ready to assist Dr. Shone. Mr. Stephenson, my aide-de-camp, and the Honourable V. A. Montagu, aide-de-camp to Colonel Rowcroft, were as usual very active; and everybody behaved with the most perfect coolness under very trying circumstances and heavy firing, especially the skirmishers under Lieutenant Grant, at all times a most energetic officer.

On the 5th, the garrison of Fyzabad having crossed over and been joined by the rebels from Nawabgunge, under Mahomet Hussein, the Rajahs of Gouda and Glurda, &c., advanced within one

mile from our encampment, the men though employed nearly all the night in throwing up entrenchments, and under arms from two in the morning expecting an attack, anticipated the enemy by an hour in marching out, as per margin,* to meet them in the field. They had taken up a strong position, with a large village in their front, and occupied the topes and rising ground on both sides, with a long line of skirmishers concealed in the high crops, endeavouring to outflank us. The action commenced at 8h. 30m. when the enemy's bugles sounded the advance, by our skirmishers (formed by the marines, seamen, and Seikhs under Lieutenants Pym and Burlton, with Mr. Ingles, mate), coming in collision with theirs, and we soon drove them in, from our rapid and telling fire. The guns under Lieutenant Tournour, Mr. Maquay, and Mr. Foot, at the same time taking ground to the right, opened out at about 900 yards with great precision. The naval column under Lieutenants Radcliffe and Grant, Lord Charles Scott, and Mr. Fowler, second master, then rushed forward with a volley and a cheer, drove the enemy out of the village, captured two guns, and immediately turned them. The whole line quickly advanced at the double, as the enemy's line, extending for upwards of two miles, halted, but the enemy soon afterwards gave way as we pressed forward. At about 9h. 30m. the cavalry, with Captain Chapman, sweeping round to the right, under the directions of Colonel Rowcroft, made a most brilliant charge, drove in the enemy's left flank, whilst our guns galloped up, opened out with shrapnel and shook the centre, the Goorkhas and Seikhs under the European officers, rendering most admirable service at the same time. Shortly afterwards 6 guns were captured; 2 more by the Naval Brigade, 2 by a small party of cavalry under Cornet Prinsep, in the rear of ours, whom I directed to advance, and 2 by the Goorkhas; the enemy, with 2 others, which they succeeded in carrying off the field, constantly attempted to stand, but were finally driven in on all sides except in the topes, from which they kept up a constant fire till cleared out; the chiefs, seated on elephants, were dispersed in the most utter confusion, some killed and others wounded by two shells bursting over their heads at 800 yards, and pursued within one mile of the fort at Belwar and their own entrenchments, which we had seen enough of a few days previous; the firing ceased at 12h. 30m.

The men being much fatigued by their previous arduous duties, and fighting under a bright sun during four hours, halted for a few minutes and then returned to camp, which had been in the meantime threatened by about 1,500 of the enemy, who were driven back by a squadron of cavalry with two companies of Goorkhas, under those two excellent and cool officers Major Richardson and Captain Brooks, Native Infantry.

The force is computed to have been at least 14,000, including 3,500 sepoy of the 1st, 10th, 53rd, and 56th Regiments, 700 Gwalior contingent, 2nd battalion of Oude police force (Weston's), and 300 sowars, with 10 guns, 8 of which were captured; about 1,000 men are reported killed and wounded, 700 of whom were sepoy, with a rajah and about 15 sirdars. The enemy's fire was very accurate, but owing to our rapid advance, they soon lost their range; it is quite a miracle, considering the force and numbers of topes of trees and villages the skirmishers held, that I have to report so few casualties; although I have to

* 163 Naval Brigade, 500 Goorkhas, 35 Sheikhs.

* 200 Naval Brigade, 800 Goorkhas, 200 Yeomanry Cavalry, 40 Seikhs.