

east face of the stockade of Shing-boung-Weh, where it had been reported that a large force had assembled. The stockade had, however, been deserted, and was burnt.

The force re-embarked late in the afternoon.

11. The leading steamers anchored that night above Toung-Gwen, about 34 miles above Thayetmyo, and at daybreak on the 17th were directed to advance to Maloon and Patanago, about six miles on the right and left banks of the river respectively, and about 40 miles from Thayetmyo.

12. As the garrison of Gwe-gyoun-Kamyo were busily employed in strengthening the works there, which are on the left bank about 44 miles from Thayetmyo, it was deemed advisable to attack at once. The troops present were therefore told off as follows:—

*1st Brigade.*

Liverpool Regiment, 1st Madras Pioneers, 21st Regiment Madras Infantry, 25th Regiment Madras Infantry; under Brigadier-General Foord, to march from Patanago, eight miles, in order to attack the fort of Gwe-gyoun-Kamyo from the east.

The head-quarters were with the 1st Brigade. Brigadier-General White, C.B., V.C., who arrived somewhat later, to bring up the Cinque Ports Battery, Royal Artillery, and Hampshire Regiment in support of General Foord's brigade. The landing of the troops at Patanago could not be seen from the fort of Gwe-gyoun-Kamyo on account of intervening hills, and the landing of the brigade at Maloon could not, for a similar reason, be seen from Minhla.

13. The following troops—12th Regiment Madras Infantry, 2nd Regiment Bengal Infantry, 11th Regiment Bengal Infantry, under command of Colonel T. N. Baker, of the 2nd Bengal Infantry, were ordered to march from Maloon to endeavour to capture the *woongye*, or governor-general, in his palace west of Minhla, and were ordered to re-embark at Minhla, about 45 miles above Thayetmyo. Majors Macneill and Hill were attached as staff officers, and Commander J. Durnford, R.N., with three seamen of H.M.S. "Mariner" and three privates of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, were attached to effect demolitions. Brigadier-General Norman, C.B., and the Royal Welsh Fusiliers had not arrived then, but he took command before evening of the brigade on the right bank.

14. The I.M.S. "Irrawaddy" and the launch "Kathleen" were directed to engage Gwe-gyoun-Kamyo at long ranges for two hours after the landing of General Foord's brigade, or till the British flag should be hoisted at the White Pagoda of Gwe-Gyoun, half a mile east of the Kamyo.

15. The first brigade advanced from the landing place at Patanago at 10 o'clock, and marched for about two hours and forty minutes by a narrow path over the hills, and through the thick jungle, to the White Pagoda.

Two pickets of the enemy were driven in, but no resistance was made, the pickets retiring northwards; not to the fort. The Liverpool Regiment occupied the high ground east of the fort which commands the works, and the enemy being completely surprised by the fire of the soldiers from the east, when they were prepared for attack from the south, west, and north-west, but had not a gun bearing eastward, promptly fled by the north-west gate as the British soldiers advanced with a rush.

16. Of the 1,700 men who, under command of Moug Sanhla-Sin-Bo, garrisoned the fort in the morning, only Moug Sin-Hle-Sin Sya,

the second-in-command, and a lieutenant, both dangerously wounded, and two wounded soldiers, remained in Gwe-gyoun-Kamyo; the other wounded men were carried off. Twenty-one guns and ordnance stores were found in the fort.

17. At 11 a.m. Colonel Baker's force left Maloon for the Woon's palace, and after an hour's march the skirmishers of the 12th Madras Infantry, which was the leading regiment, were suddenly checked by a heavy musketry fire from apparently thick and thorny jungle. While the 2nd Bengal Infantry turned the enemy's right flank, the 12th Regiment rallied, and, reinforced by the 11th Bengal Infantry, gallantly broke through the thorny screen, tore over the entrenchment and breastwork of carts and bamboos which concealed the enemy, and dislodged them from the village of Yinna.

18. Thence the brigade moved towards the position which contained the palace and Minhla Pagoda; the plinth of the latter was defended by field artillery and musketry; the country was difficult, and the enemy's fire was hot; but the brilliant leading of the officers, and the dashing onslaught of the men, prevailed against the undisciplined bravery of the Burmans, who broke and fled, leaving six guns as trophies to the victors. The 11th Bengal Infantry bore the brunt of the combat.

19. The brigade then advanced on Minhla redoubt as rapidly as possible by winding paths between gardens and enclosures—the 12th Madras Infantry on the right, the 11th Bengal Infantry in the centre, and the 2nd Bengal Infantry on the left, under the fire of a 7-pounder, two wall pieces, and the musketry of the defenders.

Before the redoubt had been completely surrounded by the regiments which were trying to keep down the fire of the defenders, Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. B. Simpson, of the 12th Madras Infantry, getting together a few brave men of the 12th Madras Infantry and 11th Bengal Infantry, charged up a steep and broken ramp that led from the ground west of the work to the terreplein of the work. Foremost among the stormers were Lieutenants H. T. D. Wilkinson, 12th Madras Infantry, and W. K. Downes, 11th Bengal Infantry, the former of whom was severely and dangerously wounded, receiving no less than five sword-cuts. A footing having been gained within the redoubt, supports immediately followed, and a hot fire was poured into the Burmans, some of whom found shelter in the casemates, whilst others escaped by the east gate, but only to meet the 2nd Bengal Infantry, to whose fire they were so exposed, that many were shot on land, and the remainder, having taken to the water, were either shot or drowned in the river. Within the redoubt were taken 276 prisoners, six guns of cast-iron, five brass rifled guns, and two wall pieces. The redoubt was prepared chiefly for attack on the river face. Our loss was 1 officer killed, 4 officers wounded, 3 men killed, and 23 men wounded. All the wounded, British and Burman, were on board the floating hospital that night. The enemy's loss was about 170 killed and 40 wounded.

20. The navy were employed first in engaging the Gwe-gyoun-Kamyo for two hours; afterwards the "Irrawaddy" and "Kathleen" proceeded to attack the Minhla redoubt and a masked battery of four guns on the right bank that opened on them half a mile below the redoubt.

The service thus performed of attracting the attention of the Burmans was of great value to the force attacking by land.

21. On the 18th the detachments shown in the