

margin\* were detailed to garrison Gwe-gyoun-Kamyó and Minhla respectively, and orders were given for the demolition of the former, and for the construction of defensive works for the latter.

The I.M.S. "Irrawaddy" and the "Palow," "Ngawoon," and "Kathleen" were sent ahead to reconnoitre. The Italian officers, Cammotto and Captain Molinari, surrendered to Commander Carpenter, R.N., of the "Ngawoon."

22. On the 19th November the force advanced to Menbo, 58 miles from Thayetmyo. A barge containing two 6·3-inch howitzers was unavoidably lost.

23. On the 20th November the force advanced to Yay-naug-Gyoung, 78 miles from Thayetmyo.

24. On the 21st November the force advanced to Silaymyo, 115 miles from Thayetmyo.

25. On the 22nd November the force advanced to Pagan, 145 miles from Thayetmyo. The I.M.S. "Irrawaddy" and the "Ngawoon," "Palow," "Yunan," and "Kathleen" engaged the enemy's battery on a cliff at Nyoun-goo, were uninjured by its fire, drove the enemy from it, and having landed a party, destroyed eleven guns and secured two King's steamers that the enemy had sunk; a flat that had been towed by them was found aground some miles below Pagan. These vessels would have been sunk in the channel if the enemy had had time to place them there.

26. On 23rd November the troops shown in the margin† were landed at Pagan, and the force advanced six miles.

27. It may be well here to describe the usual formation of the force during the advance. The I.M.S. "Irrawaddy," with the "Kathleen," took up station some miles ahead to reconnoitre; the "Ngawoon," commanded by Commander Alfred Carpenter, R.N., followed to survey and buoy the deep water channels; then came the head-quarter steamer "Doooon," and, following her in succession, the "Palow," "Yunan," "Ananda," "Ataran," "Panthay," "Shoaymyo," "Burma," "Shintasawboo," "Ashley Eden," "Yankeentoun," "Irrawaddy" (Irrawaddy Flotilla Company's), "Aloung-Pyah," "Thooreah," "Talifoh," "Rangoon," "Mindoon," "Panlang," and "Vaikema," in single column line ahead at two cables distance. Owing to the difficulty of the navigation, the steamers frequently went aground, and it was not easy to keep station. Communication was maintained in a great measure by the military signallers under Lieutenant-Colonel Begbie, of the Madras Army, and their devotion to duty by day and by night was most praiseworthy. Without them it would have been impossible to carry on operations with the necessary rapidity, as there were but few launches with the force, and they were in constant motion.

28. During the night the fleet was anchored in the same order at a distance of one cable apart, and two armed steam-launches, manned by blue-jackets, were sent a mile ahead as guard-boats with fire-grapnels and blue-lights on board. Crews were also held in readiness to man all the boats of the Naval Brigade to proceed, if necessary, to their assistance with gun-cotton charges, &c., so that any floating obstacle might at once be destroyed or towed into the bank.

\* Gwe-gyoun-Kamyó.—1 company Liverpool Regiment; 4 companies 2nd Bengal Infantry; 1 company Bengal Sappers. Minhla.—1 company Liverpool Regiment; 2 companies 2nd Bengal Infantry; 2 guns Bombay Mountain Battery.

† 2 companies Liverpool Regiment; 2 guns Bombay Mountain Battery; No. 5 Company Bengal Sappers; 4 companies 11th Bengal Infantry.

29. On the 24th November the Hampshire Regiment and Sappers landed at Kounyuwa, 166 miles above Thayetmyo, to drive the enemy from his entrenchments, and to carry off the guns from a battery that had fired on the "Ngawoon," survey ship, the previous evening, and had been silenced by the accuracy of her fire. There were no casualties last night or this morning.

30. The force then proceeded to an anchorage near Mingyan, 180 miles from Thayetmyo, whence the enemy could be seen in considerable force at a stockade about three miles from the left bank of the Irrawaddy below Mingyan. Gold umbrellas were to be seen moving about in the stockade, and columns of soldiers, dressed some in scarlet, some in white, were evidently marching towards the river.

31. Captain Woodward, R.N., gives the following graphic description of what followed:—

"The Naval Brigade, assisted by the Royal Artillery in the 'White Swan,' with the 'Yunan' and a gun barge with the 'Ataran,' were ordered to engage. Fire was opened from the 'Palow's' barge, and taken up by the other ships. On nearing the bank small improvised batteries were found armed with small guns and riflemen. A hot fire was kept up for some time, the enemy retreating into the tall grass in rear of the batteries. The ships slowly advanced, silencing the batteries as they proceeded. On nearing the upper end of the town the enemy was found to be strongly entrenched, and supported by a battery commanding the river. The enemy here showed a more determined resistance, and it was not until 6 p.m. that the fire slackened. During the night occasional shots were fired, and the enemy was finally dislodged and routed at daylight next morning."

32. Late in the evening the "Kathleen" returned from her station in front to the headquarters ship, and orders were issued for the landing of the troops on the morrow.

33. On the 25th November part of the force disembarked to dislodge the enemy, who were commanded by the celebrated Hle-Thin, Atwin-Woon, from his entrenchments; but finding that his ingeniously constructed works that commanded the river were deserted, and hearing that the rear-guard had left the stockade inland, twenty guns were destroyed, and the troops re-embarked.

The detachment detailed in the margin\* was left in the entrenchments that had been laid out, and commenced during the day by the sappers and pioneers. The force then advanced to Yandabo, 194 miles from Thayetmyo, the headquarters ship anchoring opposite the tree under which the treaty of Yandabo was signed in 1826.

34. At daylight, on the 26th November, a large flat drifted down towards the fleet; she was caught and sent to Mingyan. At 7.30 a.m. the fleet, having been delayed by fog, started and passed through a line of boats filled with stones prepared for sinking. These boats were cast adrift before the steamers towing flats advanced.

35. At 4 p.m., on the 26th of November, near Nagoun, 223 miles from Thayetmyo, a Burman state barge, flying the King's flag at the stern, and a flag of truce at the bow, paddled down the stream, was taken in tow by one of the steam-launches, and brought alongside the "Doooon," headquarters ship. In the barge were—

\* 2 guns Bombay Mountain Battery; 2 companies Liverpool Regiment; 4 companies 11th Bengal Native Infantry; 1 company Bombay Sappers.