



CHAPTER XXIV.

December 28th, 1804, to April 20th, 1805.
The Siege of Bhirtpore.

THE Army marched this morning from Dieg, and encamped near the field of battle on the 13th of the last month. In the evening a party of us rode to the ground on which those gallant officers who fell in that action were buried, and near to which we ordered a tomb to be erected to their memory. Nothing could exceed our disgust and anger, on going to the spot, at finding that the graves of those unfortunate fellows had been opened, and their corpses lay strewn on the plain. The infernal inhabitants, knowing that officers were buried on that spot, had, on our marching towards Muttrah, taken up the bodies and stripped them of the covering used on those occasions, and left them to be devoured by birds and jackals. We reported this to the officer left in command at Dieg, and entreated him to use his endeavours by offering a handsome reward to get hold of the merciless wretches who had thus disturbed the remains of our brave and lamented friends.

1804.
DEC. 28.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
on the
Ground
of the
Field of
Battle,
on the
13th Nov.*

This morning the Army arrived at Bhirtpore without anything materially occurring on the march from Dieg. All the cattle and public establishments employed in collecting materials to make fascines and gabions. The enemy appeared to be making every preparation to defend the place. The Rajah sent vakeels (ambassadors) into camp, and it was reported that he offered a crore of rupees if the British troops would leave him unmolested.

1805.
JAN. 2.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.*

The Engineer and Artillery officers employed reconnoitring the place, and a talk of breaking ground immediately. A report that Ameer Khan with a numerous body of Horse and some Infantry



1805.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.*

and guns is marching towards Bhirtpore. His intentions he had carefully avoided making known. Holcar continued in great force near us, but would never risk anything decisive, even with our Cavalry. The batteries were expected to be in readiness to open at furthest on the 4th.

JAN. 4.

Everything in readiness, and the guns being conveyed down to the batteries; they opened a tremendous fire this morning, and the fort commenced playing on our trenches and posts in advance. The wall was considerably shattered, and the shot seemed to have very good effect.

JAN. 9.

An almost incessant fire from our batteries from the 4th until this afternoon brought down the wall and defences, and the breach was apparently practicable; accordingly, about eight o'clock the storming party paraded for the assault, led by Colonel Maitland of the 75th Regiment. On the arrival of the party at the breach the ditch in front was found to contain a great depth of water; many of our gallant fellows, however, crossed, and every effort was made by both officers and men to mount the breach, but it was so excessively steep that it was not in the power of men to ascend it. Under those unexpected and insurmountable obstacles, we were obliged to retreat, with the loss of many a gallant officer and soldier. Brigadier Maitland, who led the assault, and poor Wallace, his Brigade-Major, both fell. Lieutenants Glubb and Waterhouse were also killed, and Lieutenant Percival was killed during the assault, by a cannon shot, in the Grand Battery.

KILLED.

Brigadier Maitland.

Captain Wallace, Major of Brigade.

Lieutenant Glubb.

Lieutenant Waterhouse.

Lieutenant Percival.



WOUNDED.

1805.

Major Campbell.
Captain Cresswell.
Captain Hessman.
Captain Brutton.
Captain Welner.
Major Gregory.
Captain O'Donnell.
Captain Fletcher.
Lieutenant Crossgrove.
Lieutenant Byne.
Lieutenant Tully.
Lieutenant MacLaukland.
Lieutenant Mathewson.
Lieutenant Wood.
Lieutenant Hamilton.
Lieutenant Browne.
Lieutenant Latter.
Lieutenant Kerr.
Lieutenant Turnbull.
Lieutenant Shairpe.
Lieutenant Barker.
Lieutenant Tetcher.
Ensign Hatfield.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.*

Many of the above wounded officers were struck by grape or cannon shot, and consequently several of them died of their wounds.

Our Battalion (1st of the 2nd Regiment) was destined to scour the flank of the breach, and to storm the enemy's batteries; which was completely effected. We gained possession of their works and spiked or brought off all their guns, bayonetting and putting to death all who opposed us.

In the assault we lost, besides officers, upwards of two hundred Europeans killed and wounded, and nearly three hundred native soldiers.



1805.

JAN. 13.

Major-General Smith, with the 2nd Battalion of our Regiment, 1st Battalion of the 9th Regiment, and 1st Battalion 14th, with about one hundred recovered Europeans, arrived to-day in camp, having performed a march of fifty miles in twenty-four hours.

JAN. 16.

This morning our new batteries opened. They consisted of two twenty-four-pounders, ten eighteens, six twelve and eight mortars, and continued an incessant fire.

JAN. 21.

A large and seemingly practicable breach was made. The enemy had found that they could not silence our fire from their guns and ramparts, and that by exposing them they risked having them dismounted, they used the precaution of drawing them behind the parapet, reserving them to fire on our storming party, and this precaution cost us dear. From the unfortunate affair of the 9th, the Commander-in-Chief was aware of the consequence of advancing a second time without ascertaining the breadth and depth of the ditch. Three broad ladders covered with hides had been prepared for pontoons, and the following gallant and dangerous stratagem was practised at noon this day by a havildar and three troopers of poor Middleton's Regiment (the 3rd Native Cavalry). About three o'clock these brave fellows sallied out, disguised in the common dress of the country, from the neighbourhood of our trenches. As they went off a party of Sepoys stationed for the purpose commenced a brisk fire of blank cartridges on these supposed deserters, in order to deceive the enemy, who were looking on from the walls. On reaching the brink of the ditch one of the troopers, as if by accident, fell from his horse, and whilst the others were employed in extricating him, the havildar (native sergeant) addressed the enemy on the works, begging to be shown the way into the place before they were shot by the English. The enemy, falling



completely into the snare, pointed out one of the town 1805.

gates to him, and the moment the havildar saw the trooper mounted they put spurs to their horses, and galloped along the brink of the ditch, looked at the breach very minutely, and then, turning their horses upon the glacis, they returned at speed to our trenches. The enemy, finding out the stratagem, positively howled with rage, and commenced a fire of musketry from the works, but this gallant party came off unhurt, and received the promised reward of five hundred rupees each, and were promoted. By their report there appeared no doubt but that the breach could be easily ascended. The depth of water in it, of course, they could know nothing about, but the breadth appeared to them not very considerable, and it was in consequence resolved to carry the whole of the troops intended for the storm into the trenches during the ensuing night, which was accordingly done.

*Grand
Army.
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.*

At noon this day our troops advanced from the trenches. The parties employed were one hundred and fifty chosen men of the 76th Regiment, one hundred and twenty men of the 75th Regiment, one hundred of the Company's European Regiment, with the fifty remaining men of the 22nd Flankers; the latter, with Captain Lindsay and Lieutenant Manserg of that Corps, were to lead the advance. The pontoons were carried by picked men of the different corps, and part of the 75th and 76th received their orders to continue a brisk fire, to drive the enemy from the parapet, whilst the pontoons were throwing over. On the arrival of the party at the breach it was found, however, that the pontoons would not reach across by nearly twenty feet. The water during the night had been dammed up below the breach, and a very tall Grenadier, jumping into it, showed it to be upwards of twelve feet deep. Notwithstanding these unlooked-for obstacles, several swam across the ditch, and some ascended the breach, but their ammunition



1805.

Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.

was perfectly destroyed by the water, and most of these gallant fellows were shot. Brigadier MacRie, who commanded, seeing the impossibility of taking any number over, so as to be able to act with effect, recalled the foremost, and retired to the trenches in good order, considering the destructive fire to which the party was exposed. The whole of the advance, delay at the breach, and retreat, was performed under a most galling fire of grape, canister and musketry, and many a gallant fellow was laid low. Of the 22nd Flankers only ten men escaped unhurt. The 75th Foot had one hundred and forty killed and wounded; the 76th about sixty, and the Company's European Regiment nearly eighty. *Thirty officers* were killed and wounded in this assault.

We were again compelled to leave many of our wounded behind, to be mutilated and murdered by the merciless and cruel swords of the enemy. During these transactions at the breach the whole of our Cavalry attacked the confederates, who were encamped on the south side of the city, but could not bring them to anything decisive.

The flower of the European Infantry of our army and the native troops engaged suffered severely on this day, and the unfortunate cause of the failure made it the more to be lamented. Sacrificing officers and men, who are at all times ready to lay their lives down for the service of their country, without even the *possibility* of success, is a most deplorable circumstance, and one not to be sufficiently regretted; every generous and feeling mind *must* think so. Ameer Khan joined the enemy on the 15th. Six lacs of rupees sent to him in Bundelcund brought him from that province, but he carefully avoided and abstained from any depredations on his march from Gwalior to this place, and expected to gain terms for himself, in case Bhirtpore should have fallen, and at the same time he demanded twenty-eight lacs of the Rajah before he would join, and in the skirmish with the



Cavalry on the 21st he kept aloof, but our failure **1805.**
caused him to close a bargain, and all his Infantry *Grand*
and Cavalry joined the Rajah and Holcar on the *Army,*
22nd. This added to their force at least eight *Camp*
thousand men, besides thirty-two pieces of ordnance. *before*
Bhirtpore.

The Rajah took immediate advantage of Ameer Khan's joining him to attack one of our detachments from Agra, with grain, shot and various stores. This detachment consisted of a Battalion of our Sepoys and a Regiment of Cavalry, commanded by Welsh; it escorted a convey of twelve thousand bullocks, laden, and on approaching camp on the morning of the 23rd they were attacked by Ameer Khan, who, to show the prowess of his troops, by a coup d'éclat, marched his whole force against Welsh's party, which, consisting altogether of only fourteen hundred men, could not possibly cover so many bullocks and waggons when attacked by upwards of ten thousand of the enemy. They, therefore, immediately took post in a village, covering part of their convoy; in this situation they were assailed on all sides, but the musketry and six-pounders attached to the two corps did such execution that the enemy were, notwithstanding their very great superiority of numbers, repeatedly repulsed. At length two of our guns were disabled, when the enemy's Horse and Foot made a charge, and possessed themselves of one part of the village. Such was the state of things at eight in the morning, and the enemy were waiting a reinforcement of Artillery which Ameer Khan in person was bringing up. Our men's ammunition and that of the Gallopers and field pieces was nearly all expended when the 27th Dragoons and 1st Cavalry, which had been hurried out of camp, directed by the loud peals of cannon, appeared. The Sepoys hailed the cloud of dust approaching on the plain by cheerful shouts, and exulting, as they thought, at the arrival of General Lake, sallied forth upon the enemy's guns without waiting the coming up of the reinforcement, and



1805.

*Grand
Army.
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.*

carried them all with the bayonet, whilst the Cavalry dashed at the cowardly fugitives and cut them up almost to a man. Ameer Khan's nephew, who commanded, threw off his armour, and, mixing with the crowd on foot, was ignominiously slain.

The plain was shortly covered with their killed and wounded; at least one thousand were left by them on the field, and those who remained completely dispersed.

The Cavalry joined the Sepoys near the village which had been the scene of action, showing the enemy's guns, the trophies of their valour, and fifty stands of colours were taken by them and the Cavalry.

Part of the grain was recovered, but the enemy's Horse had so dipped their spears in the unoffending blood of the Binjarah bullocks that many of them were lost. It was, of course, a matter of pressing necessity to send another detachment to Agra, where a large supply of grain and stores was waiting for a convoy. At Agra also there were eighteen thousand rounds of eighteen-pound shot and five lacs of rupees.

JAN. 24.

This morning the 29th Light Dragoons, two Corps of Native Cavalry and three Battalions of Sepoys, under Colonel Don, marched for Agra, and arrived in safety on the 26th, where they found fifty thousand bullocks and eight hundred waggons with shot, grain and military stores, all in readiness to start.

JAN. 29.

This morning Colonel Don's Detachment, returning from Agra, fell in with the enemy about fifteen miles from our camp, but General Lake, who had intimation of their motions, advanced to Don's support with the remaining Cavalry and two Corps of Infantry. The enemy's Cavalry were very numerous, with seven Battalions also of Ameer Khan's Infantry; the latter, however, immediately returned to Bhirtpore on hearing of General Lake's approach. Their Horse



faintly attempted to assault the convoy, but with very little effect; and the Commander-in-Chief's party from camp joined them without either having sustained any loss. The detachment encamped at Orma, about half-way between Dieg and Bhirtpore, in the form of a square, and the enemy, who were extremely numerous, pitched all round them, as if ready to swallow them up in the morning.

1805.
*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.*

This morning the detachment joined us in camp, without the loss of a man; the enemy endeavoured during the morning's march to harass them, by throwing rockets, etc., etc., but, finding all their attempts vain, retired to Bhirtpore, after suffering considerably by our grape from some guns which had been concealed in different spots in a wood, and by the swords and carbines of some Dragoons of the Flankers of Regiments.

JAN. 30.

The siege had been carried on with its usual forms, etc., and nothing very material happened since the beginning of this month until this morning, when the enemy made a desperate attack on our trenches. They sallied out, sword in hand, and came on so rapidly that the foremost of them were in the works before our men were well on their legs. Our troops at first fell back from the part of the trenches immediately assaulted by the enemy, but owing to the gallant exertions of my friend Lumsdaine, who put himself at the head of the Europeans and Sepoys, they instantly re-possessioned themselves of the works our troops had quitted, bayonetting every man of the enemy, whose temerity had carried them so forward on the occasion. Lumsdaine followed the fugitives up to their very gates, and few of the enemy who formed the party for the sortie ever reached the garrison again. The party of Europeans with Lumsdaine belonged to the 76th Regiment, and the officer of that corps immediately attached to them did not show any inclination to lead

FEB. 20.



1805.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtore.*

on his men to re-take the trench after our troops had been driven out; on the contrary, he kept aloof, and behaved in a very unbecoming manner, for which he was immediately obliged to quit the regiment.

At half-past three this afternoon we made a general attack on the town and batteries of the enemy. Colonel Don commanded the whole, and at the appointed hour ordered the men in the trenches, who were intended to assault the breach, to move out to the storm.

The Europeans (part of His Majesty's 75th and 76th Regiments) refused positively to quit the trenches. Don harangued them to no purpose, asking them if they wished to bring an everlasting stain upon their country and themselves, and telling them that such conduct was unprecedented and such as British soldiers were supposed incapable of; but all to no purpose, and they persisted in their own declaration that "they would not go to be slaughtered." Colonel Don then addressed the two Sepoy Battalions on the left of the Europeans, and ordered them to follow him. They left the trenches in the best order, and were presently at the breach, where they struggled like gallant fellows to surmount difficulties which were perfectly impracticable; the ditch was like a sea, and so deep that the instant a soldier jumped in he went completely down, yet, notwithstanding, the colours of the 12th Regiment of Native Infantry, to the immortal honour of that corps, were planted on the top of the breach, but, owing to the tremendous ditch, the party with them could not be supported, and were in consequence almost to a man cut to pieces, or shot in the breach; every attempt was fruitless, and we were necessitated again to retire to the trenches with dreadful slaughter. Poor Lumsdainè, who behaved so meritoriously in the morning, was killed by a cannon shot. Kerr of the 8th Native Infantry, and Lieutenant Stewart also fell, with a great many others. Twenty-three officers were killed and



wounded; of the latter, many mortally. On seeing 1805.
the Sepoys move out to the assault many of the *Grand*
veterans of the King's Infantry also accompanied *Army.*
their officers. Another officer of the 76th Foot was *Camp*
obliged to resign the service in consequence of his *before*
conduct this afternoon. At the same time that Colonel *Bhairpore.*
Don stormed the breach another attack commenced on
one of the gateways, by a division of the Bombay
Army, commanded by Colonel Taylor; they could not
carry their guns up to the gate, as the sortie was com-
pletely cut off. They then attempted to escalate the
walls, but failed, and were beaten off with great loss.
A third attack was also made on a village, possessed
by the enemy, close under the walls of the town. This
post was soon carried, the enemy were completely
routed, and thirteen pieces of cannon brought off to
our camp. Our loss of men, as well as officers, was
exceedingly severe; this evening it was, however,
rumoured that another assault would be made in the
course of the day to-morrow.

As many of the officers as could be collected from
the slaughter of yesterday were buried with military *FEB. 21.*
honours this morning, and their remains were
attended by several whose fate it was to survive them
but a *very few hours*, and whom, although then in
perfect health, were laid low and carried themselves
to their graves before the same hour of the following
morning; but such is the chance of war and the
soldier's fate and glory. As soon as we had paid the
last honours to our gallant countrymen, the line of
European Infantry was turned out, and the
Commander-in-Chief most strongly expressed his
disapprobation and disgust at their conduct yesterday,
in refusing to move out to the attack; he told them
they had lost all the fame which they had acquired on
former occasions; the result of this address was that,
to a man, they volunteered for another storm, and
accordingly paraded at three o'clock, supported by



1805.

term of
Bhirtpore.

our Battalion (the 1st of the Old 2nd). The whole moved off in the best possible spirits, and everything seemed to ensure us success; the point of attack was to be the bastion on the flank of the breach; we were fully prepared for a very bloody business, and the moment we arrived within reach of cannon shot they opened a very heavy cannonade, which was followed by showers of grape and musketry from the ramparts, which were lined by the enemy. Officers and men began to drop in great numbers. On the arrival of the head of the column at the breach it was again unhappily checked by the *very same* obstacles which prevented our getting in before. In this situation, exposed to a tremendous fire, did we remain a full hour, struggling to get in, but all in vain. The slaughter during this period was dreadful, and our own Battalion again had its share of it; we (the second line) lost upwards of one hundred and eighty men, and poor Colonel Hammond and Major Hawkes (of ours) were mortally wounded, and Arbuthnot shot through the back. Grant, Weston and myself were now all that remained. Several officers and a great many men of the King's two Regiments and the European Regiments of the Company's were also killed and wounded. Poor Menzies, the Commander-in-Chief's aide-de-camp, Captain Corfield, 76th, Lieutenant Gowing of the Artillery, Lieutenant Templeton of the 76th, and Hartley of the 15th were among the gallant fellows who fell, and we had about forty other officers killed and wounded in this attack. The Honourable Colonel Monson led the assault, which was our *fourth* storm of Bhirtpore! Our fatal loss amounted in the different attacks to at least one hundred officers and three thousand men killed and wounded.

We retired to our trenches, leaving too many of our wounded to be butchered by the enemy, who were thirsting after European blood, and not a soldier or



officer of ours who fell into their hands escaped their 1805.
merciless swords. FEB. 22.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhairpore.*

This morning we withdrew our guns from the different batteries, and the troops on duty in the trenches returned to the lines. All our eighteen-pound shot expended, and the guns with so much perpetual firing were, many of them, rendered perfectly useless; their vents were quite blown, and we found that it would be absolutely necessary to drill them afresh to make them at all serviceable. The British arms in this part of the world had never before experienced such a check and a loss so severe, and *without carrying our point*. We were summoned again this evening to attend the remains of more of our friends to their graves; some of the poor fellows were yesterday performing the same office to those who had fallen the day before, although they did not themselves live to see the setting of that sun. Hammond of our Battalion and Major Ratcliffe of the 12th died this evening of their wounds, as did also Captain Moreton of the Bombay Division, and several other officers, and we apprehended that Hawkes could not long survive. The ball went in at his right shoulder, passed through his body and out at the left shoulder.

This evening we buried poor Hammond. The other FEB. 23.
officers who died yesterday were also interred with military honours. General Lake and all his staff attended Hammond's funeral; the other officers were buried in front of the lines of their respective corps. Captain Moreton's case was a very melancholy one; he lost his leg, and was also shot by a grape through the body; the anguish of his wounds were so cruel that he prevailed on a servant to carry him his pistols, with one of which he shot himself, but not effectually, and in this horrid state, poor fellow, he lived nearly one whole day—and then expired, in agonies too shocking to be described. Moreton was a gallant,



1805.
MAR. 3.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.*

fine young man, and had been distinguished for his manly, intrepid conduct on many occasions.

We remained since the 23rd of last month waiting the arrival of shot and stores. The time was principally employed in collecting fresh materials for new batteries, and in reconnoitring the place, for the purpose of fixing on a spot for another attack. The 2nd Battalion of the 8th Native Infantry and the Bombay Grenadiers' Battalion marched this morning to Dieg, for some supplies which they had prepared there. Two more officers died to-day of their wounds.

MAR. 5.

Our Battalion, with one of the Bombay Regiments of Infantry and the 4th and 6th Regiments of Native Cavalry, marched this morning from camp, in order to reinforce the detachment sent to Dieg, and which it was supposed would be attacked on its route back. This party arrived at Dieg about ten p.m., and encamped near the fort, on the ground upon which we fought the battle of the 13th. Holcar's and Ameer Khan's Cavalry constantly hovered round the detachment during its march, and many men and horses of both parties were shot in skirmishing. Our Gallopers in the rear were open the greater part of the morning, and by their fire the enemy were kept at a pretty good distance.

MAR. 6.

This morning at five the convoy marched from Dieg, escorted by four Corps of Infantry and two Regiments of Cavalry. It consisted of seven thousand bullocks, laden, and about as many hundred waggons, containing eighteen and twenty-four pound shot, grain and stores of various kinds. Arrived at its ground about eleven o'clock, and encamped about half-way between Dieg and Bhirtpore, at no great distance from the town of Wier, where the Rajah had a strong party.



The enemy's Cavalry continued to harass the picquets all the night, but were cautious of risking anything serious.

1805.
MAR. 7.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtore.*

The Dieg Detachment with its convoy all reached camp in safety this morning, and with the loss only of a very few men. We had a report that Ameer Khan, who left this quarter soon after our last failure and crossed into the Dewaub, had again retraced his steps across the Ganges, with General Smith and the Cavalry at his heels. Ameer Khan was said to be marching towards Seerdhanah, the capital of the Begum (Queen) Samereau, very probably in expectation of her joining him against us; and her late conduct gave us some cause to be apprehensive that he would not be disappointed; it had always appeared suspicious, and her Battalions of Infantry and guns would prove a very valuable reinforcement to the rebels in Rohilcund, to which quarter it was imagined Ameer Khan would direct his course. Thornhill wrote me to-day from Bareilly that the rebels had drawn off from that quarter.

An overland despatch brought us the very pleasant information of General Lake being made a peer, but no news later than September. It was said at headquarters that, in consequence of the severe loss sustained by our Regiment (the 2nd) in officers and men that it would be ordered down the country immediately after the campaign.

MAR. 9.

Intelligence reached our camp to-day of General Smith having come up with Ameer Khan near a place called Affzul Ghur that an indecisive action took place; all the enemy's Cavalry escaped *very leisurely*, and about two hundred only of their Infantry were cut up.

MAR. 12.

In camp we had everything in a state of great forwardness for another attack. Six eighteen-pounders



1805.
MAR. 13.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhithpore.*

arrived this morning from Muttrah ; gabions, fascines, etc., daily making for our new batteries.

To-day we received accounts that Ameer Khan had destroyed the cantonments of Chandowsy, and the town was ransomed at half a lac of rupees ; this happened on the 6th. General Smith was encamped on the 5th at Marahabad ; had he advanced immediately the town and cantonments would have been saved, or the enemy been forced to another action.

MAR. 15.

This morning our Battalion, with one of the 15th Regiment, a Bombay Corps and the Cavalry, marched with all the captured guns, sick and wounded officers and men for Agra.

Ameer Khan, by the last account of him, had altered his route, and instead of the Ganges he was reported to be moving again towards Rampoor, in Rohilcund.

A salute was fired this morning in camp, in honour of General Lake, now Lord Lake, Baron Delhi and Lassuary.

The Rajah, who had heard the salute and found out the occasion, sent in his congratulations to the General. The Commander-in-Chief returned a polite reply, and told him (the Rajah) that he had made a gallant defence, but that " his fort must be taken."

MAR. 20

This day we received accounts that the enemy had re-crossed the Jumnah, from Rohilcund ; that part of his force was marching in the direction of Dieg. One account stated that some columns of his Horse had gone down the banks of the Jumnah, for the purpose of plundering the country there.

Received a letter to-day from Young, whose corps formed part of General Smith's Detachment. They were encamped at Ali Ghur on the 9th.

MAR. 21.

This day the detachment, with guns, stores and grain, marched from Agra. It was rumoured in camp



to-day that the Nawab of Lucknow had taken the 1805.
field, with a strong force and ninety piece of cannon, *Grand*
with which he remains encamped a few miles from *Army,*
Lucknow. I received a letter from Thornhill telling *Camp*
me that in consequence of Ameer Khan having *before*
quitted Rohilcund, they had all left the gaol (their *Bhirtpore.*
post in times of danger) and taken again to their
houses. They had been shut up in this *garrison* for
nearly a month. Intelligence reached us to-day of the
arrival of a fleet from England at Madras, they sailed
in September.

Ameer Khan's whole force again in this neighbour-
hood, and General Smith with the Cavalry daily
expected to join us again, after his wondrous feats
in Rohilcund.

This morning the detachment arrived from Agra, *MAR. 22.*
with one eighteen-pounder and about fifteen thousand
rounds of 18lb. shot. Fascines and gabions making,
and it was expected that the siege would recommence
immediately; and another point of attack fixed on.
Wrote a private letter to Colonel Lake this morning
regarding prize affairs. Received letters from Thorn-
hill and Wemyss. General Smith and the Cavalry
came into camp to-day, not, we imagined, very proud
of his services, or remarkably well received on that
account.

Nothing material occurred since the 22nd till this *MAR. 30.*
day. The picquets received orders to admit the
Rajah's vakeel (messenger), and he was accordingly
received in camp this morning; he remained some
hours at Headquarters, but the intention of his visit,
or the result of his conference with the Commander-
in-Chief, was kept perfectly secret.

The Engineer Officers still employed making
fascines and gabions, and every warlike preparation
for another attack going on.



1805.
MAR. 31.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.*

The vakeel was again at our camp early this morning, and from terms which he proposed it was generally conjectured that a peace would be concluded with him. After so much bloodshed, and the loss of so many gallant officers and men, it was expected that nothing short of giving up possession of the place would be attended to. But, situated as we were, all our battering guns rendered useless nearly, by continual and almost incessant firing, our heavy shot completely expended, nearly one-third of our officers and men killed and wounded (the Infantry, for the Cavalry were never within range of the shot), and those who remained, worn out almost by constant severe duty; under all these calamities, a peace, an honourable one, was to us an object desirable to be obtained. Our troops had now, for five complete months, been exposed continually to all the hardships and fatigues attending sieges in this fatal climate; constantly distressed by the scorching beams of a vertical sun in the trenches by day, and watching with that vigilance necessary to be observed before an enemy by night. None murmured, and I do believe no soldiers under the heavens could have gone through five months of perilous and arduous service with more cheerfulness and alacrity than did the Indian Army on this occasion, and General Lake very often did them the honour to tell them so.

APRIL 5.

This morning Colonel Don and the Reserve marched out of camp to the southward, imagined towards Rampoorah, to bring up a part of the Bombay Division, left with treasure. The vakeel still passing to and from our camp; the result still very dubious. The points in dispute said to be fifty lacs of rupees demanded by Lord Lake on the part of Government (not on that of the Army, I am sorry to say!) and which the Rajah vows his inability to pay.

The carriages in the Park ordered to be loaded,



and a talk of changing ground to take up a fresh 1805.
position for another attack! We received intelligence
that Royall had come up with Hernaut Sing, a rebel,
near Dholepore, whom he completely defeated, took
all his guns, ammunition, colours and baggage, and
bayoneted all who fell into his hands.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtfore.*

The Army shifted ground this morning, and took
up a fresh position, and another attack seemed
certain. The treaty, however, still on foot. The
weather daily growing hotter, and the sun more and
more destructive, so that we may calculate upon the
certain loss of many of us from its effects, exposed to
it as we are in the trenches, as well as by the enemy's
shot. Guns and ammunition expected immediately
from Allahabad. All above that station we had
expended; the magazines at Cawnpore, Futtu Ghur,
and Agra entirely emptied of battering guns and
heavy shot. Scindiah, having heard of our failures
at Bhirtfore, and of the shattered state of our Army,
thought it a very favourable opportunity to break his
treaty, and join the confederacy against us. We were
surprised to hear of him advancing towards us with
an immense army, and one hundred and eighty pieces
of heavy artillery! He was drawing towards the
country of our staunch but weak ally, the Ranah of
Gohud, who without our assistance, can never oppose
Scindiah in the field. Scindiah had not declared war
against us, but the moment he infringes on the
Ranah's territory it will, of course, be considered an
open declaration, and we must expect a further
effusion of blood before we quit the field; even after
the fall of this place, before which so many gallant
fellows have fallen, but such is the sad concomitant
of war, and the soldier's *fate and glory*.

APRIL 7.

The accounts of Scindiah's movements will of
course be an additional inducement to General Lord
Lake to endeavour to come to an honourable recon-
ciliation with the Rajah here.



1805.

APRIL 10.

*Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirlpore.*

This day it was much believed in our camp that a peace would immediately be concluded with the Rajah. The report was that terms had actually been agreed on, and the Rajah's son was hourly expected in camp, to remain as a hostage till they shall be fulfilled. Several thousand cattle left our camp this evening for supplies from Dieg, and we expect to march instantly in pursuit of that artful scoundrel Scindiah, who had now entered the Ranah's country, and was in the neighbourhood of Narwar, or Gwalior.

Received a letter from Thornhill, telling me of his having marched with Colonel Hawkins in quest of some rebel Chiefs in Rohilcund (his district). The Collector, it appears, also accompanies him. The country in that quarter still in a very unsettled, turbulent state, the Rohillas continuing very refractory.

APRIL 14.

Our picquets were now reduced, and the outposts all withdrawn. I was Brigade Major of the day, with Brigadier Need, who left me to post the picquets, and returned to the lines.

At sunset I waited on the Brigadier, and received his instructions to carry out an inline picquet from any corps I thought proper, and post it midway between a high village in front and the left picquet of the Reserve. Galloped down to the lines of our Corps (the 2nd) and took out a Company with me I posted them, and gave the officer in command his orders. The Detachment which marched on the 11th to Agra daily expected again to join us, and we positively march immediately to give Scindiah battle.

All our heavy guns and stores sent into Agra, in order that our movement towards Scindiah may not be retarded.

The weather getting dreadfully hot, and many officers left the Army on sick certificates. I was told by the surgeons that no one's health was more likely



to suffer, or their lives be more endangered by the 1805.
approaching hot season than my own, and they
offered to furnish me with certificates, and recom-
mended me to go into cantonments; but I made
known my determination to them to take my chance,
and not to quit the Army on any *earthly*
consideration.

*Grand
Army.
Camp
before
Bhirtore.*

Dined at Headquarters this evening, and a battle
with Scindiah was all the *rage*.

Lord Lake introduced me himself to General Smith,
and General Doudeswell, and to General Jones, of the
Bombay Division (commanding). His Excellency
lamented that my prospects in the way of prize money
were altered so much for the worse, and told me that
I must content myself with the *honour* that had been
done me by the Army at large in appointing me their
Prize Agent.

This morning Mercer, Wood and Metcalfe passed
our tents on their way into the town to pay the Rajah
a visit. It was a deep scheme sending Wood with
the party, as, being an Engineer Officer, he would
have a fine opportunity of observing on the gates,
ditch, etc., and we were told that the howdah on which
Wood rode *unfortunately* got loose at the gate, and
the party was *detained* at it a considerable time, whilst
the servants were setting the howdah to rights!

APRIL 18.

Mercer and his party were received in great state
by the Rajah yesterday. Tents were pitched, and
great preparations made for their reception. The
Rajah made a present of a fine elephant to Mercer,
and some horses to Wood and Metcalfe.

APRIL 19.

The Rajah's son continued as a hostage in our
camp, and is to accompany us if the engagements are
not fulfilled before we march. Our detention here
supposed to be occasioned on account of the Rajah
not paying us the stipulated sum, in doing which he
seems very backward, and constantly making various



1805.

APRIL 20.

Grand
Army,
Camp
before
Bhirtpore.

excuses of inability, etc. Young dined at Anderdon's tent with me this evening.

This morning was excessively hot, and a Quarter-Master of Dragoons dropped dead from the effects of the sun. Everything settled with the Rajah.

Dined at Headquarters this evening. We had a very large party there, and all in full expectation of soon having a *brush* with Scindiah.



CHAPTER XXV.

From April 21st, 1805, to June 3rd, 1805.

With the Grand Army to the Chumbill River, in pursuit of Scindiah
and Return to Agra.

The Army marched this morning, agreeable to yesterday's orders. Owing to the space left for Corps composing the Agra Detachment, we had a very considerable break in the line in the left wing of the Army at marching off; it was, however, soon remedied after the corps in the rear got in motion. Precautions had not been taken to close the line to the marching flank.

1805.

APRIL 21.

*Grand
Army,
Camp near
Cuzzoovy.*

The country over which we marched this morning was completely destitute of every kind of forage; it had been completely destroyed during the long siege (nearly four months since we arrived before Bhirtpore). The numerous bodies of the enemy's horse had devoured almost every blade of grass; hardly a vestige of any kind of forage remained! The trees and bushes had been destroyed to furnish materials for carrying on the siege, and the boughs had all been lopped off for the elephants and camels of either army. Not a more melancholy sight than the country for many miles around Bhirtpore afforded, cannot well be conceived. We arrived at our ground about ten. An Order was issued requesting commanding Officers of Wings to give particular injunctions to the different Brigades to have the tents struck in time, loaded, and ready to move off at assembly beating.

The 2nd Battalion 15th (of our Brigade) to relieve the weekly guards and orderlies to-morrow.



1805.

APRIL 22.

*Grand
Army,
Camp at
Kenwa,
(Khanwa).*

We marched this morning precisely in the same order as yesterday, and came to our ground about nine o'clock. As Brigade Major of the day I accompanied the General Officer round the camp, and assisted in posting the different picquets and guards in front for its protection. It was a ride of nearly six miles round the encampment, at the different picquets, and we tried our Arabs handsomely in visiting the posts. The Orderly Dragoons which accompanied us could not come near us.

Brigadier Brown was the General Officer to-day, and he was mounted on an elegant good leaped Arab, and, as he himself told me afterwards, he saw that I was well mounted, and was therefore desirous to see what I could do with him. I rode Lassuary, and some banks which we had occasion to cross in going our round proved not too high for us, though they at length caused the Brigadier to pull up. Brown was a cavalry officer, and had been reckoned a crack rider, but he had never rode a fox chase in a deep, strong country, at least so I suspected. It was twelve o'clock when we went to Headquarters to report the picquets posted. The Commander-in-Chief was standing at his sleeping tent door, and expressed himself in high terms on the appearance of my horse, which had long been in his family; first the property of Campbell, the Quarter-Master-General, who was killed on his back by a cannon shot at the Battle of Lassuary, and latterly Wemyss.

Lord Lake said that he thought him one of the highest bred Arabs he had ever seen. In our gallop this morning my sword flew out of its scabbard, but an orderly in the rear by accident saw it, and brought it to me. We encamped to-day with the village of Kenwa on our right: this place we destroyed the last campaign, in consequence of some of our soldiers discovering many bodies of Europeans who had been recently murdered by the villagers, and on that occasion many of them fell victims to the rage of the



soldiers, and it appears to have been but little frequented since. 1805.

The Army marched this morning by the right; and the Bombay Column by the left. APRIL 23.

I came up with the Brigadier of the day (Brown) in command of the rearguard; the roads to-day were excessively sandy, and the baggage in consequence moved very slowly indeed. We were frequently obliged to call parties of the men to assist the wheeled carriages in the deepest sand. The wind to-day literally blew flames. In passing back to give some orders in the rear, I observed in the long grass a cart laden with hampers of wine and other necessities, belonging to an officer. The cart had stuck in the sand, and the servants, to save the bullocks, had taken them off, and left the rest at the mercy of plunderers. I had a party of a dozen troopers with me, one of whom I dispatched in search of one of the company's empty grain carts, and with the assistance of some villagers the things were soon shifted, and I sent them under charge of a trooper to be delivered to the officer who owned them, and from whom I received every polite acknowledgment, as the trooper had told him the manner in which we fell in with his good things. We were out with the rearguard nearly the whole of this day, and had, every soul of us, the skin completely peeled from our faces. Went with the Brigadier to report to the Commander-in-Chief. We observed some villages blazing as we passed on with the rearguard, and the following reprimand appeared in General Orders this evening :—

“ The Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief has beheld with equal mortification and displeasure the outrages committed to-day by some of the troops and followers of the Army. His Lordship, in order to prevent a recurrence of behaviour so disgraceful to the Army, and so pernicious in its effects, has directed the safeguards in the different villages instantly to put

*Grand
Army,
Camp at
Rubass.
(Rupbas).*



1805.

*Grand
Army,
Camp at
Rubass,
(Rupbas).*

to death any person, whether European or native, who shall be caught plundering or offering any violence to the persons or property of the inhabitants, and should any person be seized, and upon enquiry shall be found guilty of setting fire to houses, and plundering, he shall be immediately hanged."

Commanding Officers of wings and divisions were directed to order the troops under their respective commands to be paraded at sunset, and to have the above orders explained to them in the fullest manner, and at the same time to enforce strict obedience.

The General Officer of the day ordered always to give particular injunctions to the picquets not to allow any European soldier to pass without a written pass from the Commanding Officer of his corps.

The whole line was under arms this evening a quarter before sunset, and the General Orders were fully explained to the men.

APRIL 24.

*Grand
Army,
Camp at
Rhemidah.*

We marched this morning, the Bengal Column by the right, and the Bombay Column by the left. Passed over the ground to-day on which we frequently hog hunted and shot, the last campaign, on our march towards Holcar after the Battle of Lassuary.

Several hogs and deer were killed this morning on the line of march. About nine we cleared the pass of Rhemidah, and encamped with the hills in our rear. The Bombay line faced inwards to the hills, whilst the front was preserved by the Bengal Army. The sun and wind excessively hot to-day before we arrived at our ground, and I began to feel the return of the pain of my side. Inglis gave me medicine, and blamed me much for having marched with the Army from Bhirt pore. We heard to-day that Scindiah, with his troops and guns, is waiting our arrival on the banks of the Chumbill, towards which we are moving with as much expedition as the season will admit.

We hope to have one glorious day with him ere



many pass over our heads; most sincerely did I pray 1805.
for health to keep the field and to do my duty.

We had some confusion in marching off this morn- APRIL 25.
ing. The corps to the right of the European regiment
countermarched in order to gain the road. This
brought the column of cavalry, which was moving *Grand
Army,
Camp at
Rattary.*
parallel to us, close upon our reverse flank, and into
the thickest of our baggage. The Cavalry, being
near us, I rode to the 8th Dragoons and had a
Coze with Young for a mile on the march. The
season of the year obliged us to make short marches,
to save the European soldiers, who began, notwith-
standing, to drop off. We came to our ground to-day
soon after nine, the weather was parching hot.

A fine friendly tree in front of our Brigade afforded
shelter to a great number of officers, who flocked to it
till their tents were pitched, but there was no shelter
against the hot blasts of wind, which were dreadfully
severe to-day. A private of the 75th shot himself just
before the Corps left its ground this morning. Did
not quit my tent this day.

We marched this morning in the order directed APRIL 26.
yesterday, with the baggage between the columns. *Grand
Army,
Camp near
Parbati.*
This morning we came upon the road we took in our
route from the Grand Army to besiege Gwalior, the
last campaign, and soon after daybreak crossed the
sandy bed of a river which I perfectly recollect pass-
ing on that occasion. It was generally said to-day that
Scindiah was encamped in what he considers an
impregnable position on the banks of the Chumbill,
but of that he may be a better judge by waiting our
arrival. We shall instantly attack him, no doubt,
and though some must fall, still the result no one
doubts. The burning sands over which we marched
this morning seemed greatly to distress the European
soldiers, and I remarked an increased number of
elephants laden with them. We arrived at our



1805.

ground about nine o'clock. In consequence of Brigadier Ashe being appointed to command our Brigade, his tents were pitched with us to-day.

APRIL 27.

*Grand
Army,
Camp near
Dholepore.*

The Army marched this morning at the same hour as yesterday.

Brigadier Ashe was one of my Gwalior friends, and a great favourite of Brigadier White's; he dined last evening at Headquarters, and his Lordship requested that the Brigadier would desire me to accompany him in all his visits to Headquarters without a further invitation. About seven this morning we came in sight of some mountains on the banks of the Chumbill, which we remarked on our route to Gwalior. At nine we encamped about three miles from the Fort of Dholepore. The weather was excessively hot indeed, and it was with great difficulty that we got the men to pass the numerous wells on the march containing stagnant water, which would have proved the death of many had they been suffered to drink. We encamped with some fine mango groves on our right flank, into which the European Corps were sent by way of shelter from the extreme heat of the sun. We marched over a great deal of ploughed land to get from the road to our lines, and the soldiers, as well as the cattle, of every description were dreadfully fatigued. Brigadier Ashe's tent, going on elephants, was generally one of the first up in the lines, and we always got from the sun and had our breakfast among the first, after which we usually took a bathe and went to rest.

Brigadier Ashe and a large party dined with me this evening, and it was very late before we broke up.

APRIL 29.

The Cavalry and Reserve marched at four, towards the river Chumbill, and our wing (the left) got orders to hold itself in readiness to march at a moment's notice. I was Brigade Major of the day, and at sunrise Brigadier Simpson and myself mounted, and pro-



ceeded to post the picquets. Four pairs of boots came safe to me this morning, which set me completely up again; they were from Calcutta, and uncommonly fine.

1805.
*Grand
Army,
Camp near
Dholepore.*

This morning at five o'clock our wing (the left of the Army) marched by the right.

APRIL 30.

Owing to the stillness of the morning we were completely buried in the dust occasioned by the movement of the line. Soon after daybreak we passed the mountains leading down to the Chumbill, and at eight o'clock entered the ravines precisely at the same place we did on our march to Gwalior. Before ten we encamped on a part of the bed of the Chumbill River, and close upon the water's edge. The Commander-in-Chief, with the Cavalry and Reserve, left the ground we encamped on, and crossed the river this morning; a great deal of their baggage was not yet off the ground. The sands were so deep that the cattle could not, without extreme labour, drag the carriages through it, and which prevented the party in advance from crossing yesterday. Nearly the whole of the men of our wing off duty were stripped and bathing in the Chumbill within a few minutes after our arrival. The elephants, camels, and the poor cattle of every description seemed truly to enjoy the luxury of the water. Brigadier Ashe and myself dined with General Doudeswell, and I think the evening was as oppressive and dreadfully hot as anything I had ever experienced. Not one of us ate a mouthful of dinner, but the General's claret had better custom. During dinner a letter came in from Lord Lake to General Doudeswell, mentioning that Holcar's principal Sirdar and chief advisor, Bawany Sunker, might probably arrive in our camp to-night or join us in the morning, and it was requested that every politeness may be shewn him. His Lordship in his note also mentioned to General Doudeswell that he had receive positive information that Scindiah

*Left Wing
of the
Grand
Army,
on the
bed of the
Chumbill
River.*



1805.

*Left Wing
of the
Grand
Army,
on the
bed of the
Chumbill
River.*

had commenced his retreat, and with Ameer Khan was rapidly retiring towards Ougene.

This may make a serious difference in our future movements, and we began to talk again of returning to cantonments if Scindiah continues his retreat and declines fighting us. The determined manner in which we were advancing seems to have been too much for Scindiah's nerves.

MAY 1.

*Grand
Army,
Camp at
Jettore.*

This morning at five we marched by the left, the 76th leading the column. We were across the river by six o'clock, and the wing proceeded through the ravines with very little delay, leaving a battalion to come up in the rear of the Park and baggage. The steep part of the ravines, where poor Morris of the Artillery and myself laboured so hard to get up our brigade guns on our march to Gwalior, was now rendered quite easy of ascent by the Pioneers, who had been some days employed levelling it. The battalion guns of the wing kept their ground exceedingly well, and cleared the ravines in their stations without causing the least detention to the line. About eight we met some officers of the Bundelcund detachment, which had received orders to join us on the banks of the Chumbill. Colonel Martindale, an excellent officer, was in command of the detachment. Before nine o'clock we saw the encampment of the Cavalry and Reserve, with his Lordship, and soon after we encamped about a mile from them, with a high village in the centre of the wing.

Owing to the misconduct of the Brigade Quartermaster, our lines were not marked out when we arrived, and great confusion ensued. The encampment among broken ground and ravines, but no better offered so near the banks of the Chumbill. Brigadier Ashe's ground, and my own (for our tents) was amidst a grove of thistles, and General Doudeswell, close in our rear, was in the same predicament.



I was most agreeably surprised at sunset this evening by a visit from my friend and shipmate, Ramus, who came from Martindale's camp to see me. We had not met since our first separation at Dinapore in 1801. I had a great regard for Ramus, as well on his account as on that of his amiable relations, and was much concerned to find how considerably he had involved himself. I was assured that seven thousand pounds would not pay his debts; and this he told me himself lamenting at the same time, with the tear in his eye, that chance should have separated us. Ramus lived with me entirely the first year nearly of our arrival in India; he was then *quite a lad*, and I managed all his matters for him, and no doubt could have prevented his present unfortunate situation had we remained together. This money, it appeared, had been all spent in Arab horses and claret! Feeling as a brother for Ramus, I was exceedingly distressed at his embarrassment, from which it appears he never can clear himself. This is one of the many instances of the ill consequences of sending lads too young to India without an advisor.

1805.

MAY 3.

Grand
Army,
Camp at
Jettore,
Banks
of the
Chumbill.

Walked my Arab quietly this morning to Martindale's camp, and saw his line under arms. The corps, compared to ours, appeared uncommonly strong; they had seen no service, and one battalion, in point of strength, nearly equalled two of ours. The dress of the men also set them off much; their clothes had been worn only on parade duties, whilst our men's regimentals had been soiled with gunpowder and dirt in the trenches, to which they had been accustomed without intermission for the last five months. Nor were they a little proud of their rags and tatters, and assured their smarter friends that they wore their *fighting coats*.

MAY 4.

This morning Brigadier Ashe and myself breakfasted with Lord Lake, and we were asked why we

MAY 6.



1805.

*Grand
Army,
Camp at
Jettore,
Banks
of the
Chumbill.*

did not come more frequently; the severity of the weather was thought a very sufficient excuse. We sat till nearly ten o'clock. Called on my way home on Young, whose lines were near Headquarters.

The sun and wind was scorching to-day and the road from our camp to Lord Lake's led up the bed of a dry river, on the sands of which the sunbeams were so powerful and the glare so bad that it nearly took one's sight away for the time. Engaged to dine at Headquarters to-morrow. Received a letter from Colonel Lake soon after I got home offering me an appointment on MacGregor's promotion. Accounts reached us to-day of poor Christie's death, on the banks of the Jumnah, where he was employed with his corps. I had experienced much kindness from Christie, and had a sincere regard for him. As soon as accounts of his death reached me I went to Butler's tent in the Park, and proposed to him immediately to set a subscription on foot for Mrs. Christie. Butler was also a particular friend of Christie's, and we drew out a paper and immediately sent it in circulation.

The number of sick in our Brigade daily increasing, nearly fifty were returned to me unfit for duty, in addition to the number of the last week.

MAY 7.

Ramus and Grant passed the day with me at my tent. The weather dreadfully hot, and I was on my couch the greater part of the morning. In the evening Brigadier Ashe and myself went to dine at Headquarters. We met in the audience tent our old friend the Prince of Gohud, who had just arrived to pay Lord Lake a visit. His Highness remained till dinner was announced, and then retired to his own camp. During the dinner I unavoidably drank too many glasses of claret, and a certain great personage remarked to me across the table that it was "hard going." As usual at Headquarters, we passed a very jolly evening, and a great deal of wine was drunk. I returned with Dickens (General Doudes-



well's Major of Brigade, a very fine young man, 1805. Captain in the 34th Foot) on his little elephant. We rode on a pad, and in going up and down the steep ravines in the road to our camp we found we had too much wine to sit steady, but managed to hold each other on, and to get home without falling.

*Grand
Army.
Camp at
Jettore,
Banks
of the
Chumbill.*

This morning my friend, Brigadier White, arrived from Gwalior, on a visit to the Commander-in-Chief, and I was truly rejoiced to meet him. His four horses were picketted at my tent, and he passed the morning with me, and returned in the evening to dine with Lord Lake. At noon to-day we had a complete hurricane, and a slight shower of rain which accompanied it afforded us a momentary relief by somewhat cooling the atmosphere. Many officers' and privates' tents were scattered upon the plain by the violence of the wind. Anderdon came in this morning in charge of some cadets from the camp at Dholepore; many of them appeared fine lads, and may truly be said to have all their troubles before them.

MAY 8.

Visited several of my friends of the 18th, my old corps, some of whom I had not met for many years. The day was intensely hot, and I was by no means well. In the dusk of the evening I mounted, with my groom and a servant, all armed, to return to camp. We had to pass through many very deep ravines, and several murders had been committed in the neighbourhood of the camp, which rendered our ride not the most agreeable, as we were liable to be surprised and struck from our horses, owing to the deep narrow tracks we had to pass. I borrowed Ramus's pistols, and we rode with one cocked in each of our hands; besides the risk of meeting with banditti, the ravines on each side of the paths at many places were so steep that it was by no means pleasant travelling in the dark, and I was very well pleased to find myself snug

MAY 11.

in our camp about nine o'clock. We missed our road, and returned by a very circuitous route.

The weather intensely hot in our camp, and the officers who came to my tent to receive their orders in the heat of the day were frequently almost exhausted on their arrival, so distressingly hot was the wind and sun.

The thermometer considerably above one hundred and ten. Officers and men daily falling sick in great numbers; it was not without the greatest care and hardly ever quitting my tent unless on duty, that I continued to get on without being laid up.

MAY 15.

Wemyss galloped over from Bowey's detachment at Dholepore, took a hasty breakfast with me, and went immediately to Headquarters; left his Arab at my tent, and rode to the Headquarter lines on my pony. Wemyss was on his collections, and Bowey's detachment was aiding him; without a military force to assist, the collectors in this part of the country would make a sorry hand of it, as no man would pay his quota but at the point of the bayonet!

A captain of the 76th and two lieutenants of the 15th Regiment (of our brigade) reported sick to me this morning, and the number of men daily increasing. The weather so intensely hot as to make severe impressions on the constitutions even of the strongest natives, and to that of Europeans it was considered exceedingly destructive.

MAY 16.

Forrest, of our Battalion, who lost an arm in storming Dieg, appointed Fort Adjutant and Barrack Master at Agra. No fresh accounts from Scindiah's camp, and all talk of the return of the Army to cantonments at an end, though not the less likely to happen on that account.



Did not move out this morning. The sun, half an hour after it had risen, was so hot that it was scarcely to be borne, and none left their tents but on indispensable duty.

1805.
MAY 17.

*Grand
Army,
Camp at
Jettore,
Banks
of the
Chumbill.*

Rode through the ravines upon the left of our lines, and away about five miles in front, with Colonel Lake. The morning was particularly cloudy and cool compared to any we had lately experienced. Breakfasted at Lord Lake's; sent for my clothes and dressed in Colonel Lake's tent. Remained at Headquarters till nearly twelve. Tiffed with M., where there was a gambling party, and some very high play. Ridge, Peyron and a large party of cavalry officers dined with me this evening. The Brigadier was also of the party.

MAY 23.

This morning I took my usual ride to inspect the picquets and guards of the Brigade, and proposed to the Brigadier to reduce them by day, on account of the number falling sick. Brigadier Ashe desired me to make any alteration I may think requisite, and we withdrew most of the subaltern (European) officers, and reduced their guard to a subadar's.

MAY 24.

After breakfast I wrote to the Honourable Mr. Addington, but owing to the uncertainty of the posts did not despatch my letter. Remained all day in my tent. The weather was dreadfully hot, and the sun shone through our tents as hot as fire, and they had been perfect ovens ever since our march from Bhirt-pore. It became a common practice with us to remove the bedding from our couches, and to spread it on the carpet of our tents, as it was generally somewhat cooler on the ground than above it.

This morning Lord Lake, with the Cavalry and Reserve, marched to re-cross the Chumbill, and our wing ordered to be held in readiness to follow.

MAY 26.



1805.

The wind continued all this night to blow exceedingly hot, and it was impossible to rest, which distressed us all very much. The soldiers as well as the officers appeared in general very much worn and enfeebled by the heat.

MAY 27.

*Left Wing
of the
Grand
Army,
Camp
Eastern
Banks
of the
Chumbill.*

We marched this morning by the right, the 76th leading the column.

The wind, long before the sun rose, became very hot, burying us in a cloud of dust; we had a burning march of about eight miles, the soldiers constantly dropping from fatigue and overcome by the extreme heat, some of them never to rise again. We crossed the Chumbill about eight, and it was with difficulty that we got the men through the water, so dreadful was their thirst that they seemed determined never to be satisfied. About nine we encamped on the eastern banks, upon the spot Lord Lake had quitted in the morning.

The rearguard of our wing came up before eleven o'clock. It blew a hurricane all day, and it literally was a hurricane of flames. We had great difficulty in pitching our tents. Employed our camels to-day to bring water for our Kuss.

MAY 28.

*Grand
Army,
Camp at
Dholepore.*

This morning we marched by the left. We cleared the deep ravines with little delay, as every precaution had been taken to prevent any wheeled carriages entering in our front. We heard this morning that fifty bullocks, laden with flour, and some camels which went wide of the line, were carried off by banditti during the march yesterday. The Patan Horse made an ineffectual attempt to recover the property, but everything was carried clear off. It was said that they actually came up with the marauders, but retreated on their drawing up and showing them a front; and this had been the conduct of our *gallant* allies on almost every occasion when their services were needed. Received letters on the march from



Inglis and Ramus. We got sight of the encampment at Dholepore about ten, and soon after took up our station in the line.

1805.
*Grand
Army
Camp at
Dholepore.*

The weather was intensely hot to-day, and officers and men appeared completely worn out. I was so distressed with the heat that it was not without difficulty that I kept my horse.

Dined at Headquarters, and as usual the evening was very gay. We broke up about eleven. Lord Lake made no secret of his intentions to march in two days for Agra and Muttrah, and repeated his hope of getting the troops under cover before the commencement of the rainy season.

MAY 29.

Orders for march in the morning were issued to-day, and officers as well as men were in general much rejoiced at the prospect of passing a couple of quiet months in a cantonment, and to relax awhile from the arduous duty to which they had been so long continually exposed, and which had visibly made a very serious impression on the constitutions of nine out of ten; and unfortunately for me, on few more than my own.

MAY 30.

The road to-day was good, but the country, great part of it, very rough and uncultivated. About two miles before we arrived at our ground, the Agra troops, under General Doudeswell, stretched away to the right. Our Brigade continued its route with Lord Lake and the Muttrah Division, and we encamped about eight o'clock. From our encampment we could easily see that of the troops destined to Agra, which was a fortunate circumstance for many of the officers, as their baggage being with the head of the line, continued on with it, their servants nor ourselves being aware that the Army would divide during the march. My tent fortunately kept on the flank of the Brigade, and was up almost the first in

JUNE 1.

*Grand
Army,
Camp at
Mineah.*



1805.

Grand
Army,
Camp at
Scorah.

the line. An officer of the 15th and a female friend of his (a European) were sitting on the ground, both exposed to the inclemency of the wind and sun, their tent having gone to the Agra camp. A servant of mine mentioned it, and I went to them to request they would come to my tent and breakfast with us, to which Captain A. and the poor girl readily assented, and if I ever felt for a countrywoman I did sincerely for her on this occasion; she was a remarkably well-behaved woman, and could boast a finer person and had more genteel manners than the greater part of her fair friends in this quarter, who were more fortunate in their *circumstances*, though perhaps not much more *deserving*. It may be supposed that we were not wanting in showing her attention, and she was very profuse in her acknowledgments on leaving us. I was not off my couch the whole of this afternoon, and by the positive orders of the surgeons I agreed, if the Army should break up, to obtain leave, and, instead of proceeding to cantonments, to try the change of air in Rohilcund, and go to Bareilly to pass a month with my worthy friend Thornhill, from whom I had received numerous pressing invitations.

JUNE 2.

Both divisions of the Army halted to-day, all in anxious expectation of learning their certain destination. Brigadier Ashe and myself breakfasted with Lord Lake this morning. His Lordship remarked to me that the severity of the season had made an impression on me, and Colonel Lake, next to whom I sat at breakfast, advised me by all means to quit the camp as soon as possible, and to get into a bungalow, as every prospect of service was at an end; he most kindly offered to procure me leave immediately, and as the Army was now broke up, and there could be no possible objection, I got my leave for two months on a sick certificate. Lord Lake, as usual, enquired very particularly after "the chestnut" (Lassuary),



and mentioned to Colonel Malcolm, who knew the horse, and was with Campbell when he brought him from Arabia, that he was mine; Malcolm assured me that he was a "high bred, real desert horse," and of the first cast in Arabia.

1805.

Grand
Army,
Camp at
Soorah.

This morning the Muttrah and Agra divisions took their respective routes. The day was cursedly hot, and many European soldiers dropped dead on the line of march. It was a melancholy procession, and really the British soldiers appeared more as if they were marching a funeral party than anything else. Men who left the ground apparently in tolerable health were frequently buried at the next, and it is not possible to convey an idea of the sufferings of European troops marching at this destructive period; they were occurrences seldom known in India till our late and present campaigns. At sunset I went to Headquarters and took my leave of Colonel Lake, to whom for his marked attention and kindness, I shall ever consider myself extremely indebted, and not less so to his Lordship, for the many instances he has evinced of his notice of me. Brigadier Ashe and myself struck our tents and had them ready packed to move off at midnight toward Agra.

JUNE 3.

Grand
Army,
Camp at
Soomnah.

The Brigadier slept on the plain, with a small awning over his couch, and I moved mine, with Lassuary, into his tent. At twelve at night we left the camp, with a strong escort which Lord Lake had granted us, composed of a formidable party of Patan Horse. We were unacquainted with the road, and marched slowly on till daybreak, taking villagers from the places we passed through to conduct us from one village to another, towards Agra.



CHAPTER XXVI.

June 4th, 1805, to October 15th, 1805.

On Sick Leave, Agra to Bareilly, via Ferozeabad and Mynpoorie.

1805.
JUNE 4.*Etamout
Dowlah's
Tomb,
Banks
of the
Jumnah.*

AT sunrise we heard them firing a salute at Agra, in honour of the King's birthday, and soon after saw the fort, into which Brigadier Ashe marched, and I arrived at Secundra (about three miles from Agra) at Wemyss's, about eight o'clock, and from him experienced the most kind and friendly reception. Wemyss being appointed collector of the Agra district, in consequence of his gallant conduct during the last campaign, when he acted in a military capacity in Lord Lake's family, had the range of the whole country to fix his residence. I found him in a beautiful garden, upon the brink of the Jumnah, living in a tomb, which he had elegantly fitted up, and in which he allotted me most comfortable apartments. Major Morrison, A.D.C. to Lord Lake, arrived at Wemyss's soon after me, having also come in sick from camp. Morrison pitched his tent in the garden, close to the tomb, to sleep in. Colonel Black and Colonel Wood also breakfasted at Wemyss's this morning, and passed on to the city of Agra the former, and the latter to his camp at Secundra, not more than two miles from Wemyss's garden.

We all felt relief and the very great difference between a tent and good quarters. Received a note in the evening from Brigadier Ashe, who met his daughter in Agra, the first time since the death of her husband, poor Lumsdaine, who was killed by a cannon shot in the trenches before Bhirtpore. She is said to be a very fine young woman, and they had been married but a few months. Lumsdaine was a gallant officer, and has distinguished himself on many occasions, and particularly in re-taking our trenches the morning on which he fell.



We had a large party of officers from the Secundra 1805.
camp to dine at Wemyss's this evening. I did not
get off my couch all the day, not even to go to the
stables to see the Arabs. Wemyss assured me he
should hardly have known me, so much had the
dreadful hot weather of the last month altered me,
and I was quite as weak and enfeebled as I appeared
to be.

*Etamaut
Dowlah's
Tomb,
Banks
of the
Jumnah.*

Remained quiet in Wemyss's paradise ever since JUNE 10.
the 4th, till this morning, never quitting the gardens
except to take a short ride after sunset on the elephant
for fresh air. At daybreak I left Wemyss's quarters
to cross the Jumnah, and pass the day with my friend
Cunynghame, who was appointed Judge of Coel, and
had taken up his residence on the Dewaub side of the
Jumnah, during the hot weather, in a tomb and
garden very similar to Wemyss's on the opposite
bank.

Cunynghame, as usual, gave us a sumptuous
breakfast and dinner.

At daybreak this morning, Cunynghame went off JUNE 11.
post haste to Cawnpore to meet Mrs. Cunynghame on
her way up from the Lower Provinces. I got across
the Jumnah before sunrise, and found an elephant of
Wemyss's waiting for me, on which I mounted, and
got to the tomb to breakfast. Galloway, of the 14th,
being on his march to Futty Ghur, I sent off my
horses, camels, etc., with him, and determined, in
order to be exposed as little as possible to the violence
of the weather, to proceed dawke (post) myself to
Futty Ghur, and from there to Bareilly by the same
mode of conveyance. Sent a guard expressly to
protect my horses and camels from thieves during the
night time.

Colonel Black passed the day with us, and Bailey
and the Ridges, of the 4th, dined with us. A serious
accident had nearly happened in the evening. As



1805.

*Etamaut
Dowlah's
Tomb,
Banks
of the
Jumnah.*

Ridge, in passing under a gateway which led into the garden, on an elephant, was nearly crushed severely, as one part of the arch of the gate was not sufficiently high to admit him through, and he was squeezed between the iron in front of the howdah and the upper part of the howdah. The elephant felt it, and with the sagacity peculiar to themselves, instantly stopped, and Ridge came off a good deal bruised for his temerity in attempting to enter the garden *on his* elephant. We had letters from Headquarters this evening announcing the appointment of Lord Cornwallis to the Government of this country, and mentioning that his Lordship was positively to embark for India in April. This arrangement, we expected, would cause a wonderful change in the politics of this country, and peace, instead of war, be the order of the day.

We were much surprised that the Marquis Cornwallis, at his advanced period of a life already entirely devoted to the service of his country, should have been prevailed upon to quit his native country, almost with a certainty of never returning to it: we thought, acting nobly, and perfectly according with every other action of his honourable career.

JUNE 12.

At daybreak this morning I mounted Lassuary, and walked him into the garrison to pay my friends a visit before I proceeded to Rohilcund. Breakfasted with Colonel Blair and passed the morning there and at Cumberlege's. It was very hot, and I made excuses to several of the officers, whom otherwise I intended to have called on. Tiffed with Mrs. Blair, and immediately afterwards got into my palanquin to return to Wemyss's. Grant was on duty at the main guard and posted at the Delhi gate. I got from my palanquin and sat an hour with him and Murray. Before sun setting I reached Wemyss's, very much tired, and with a severe headache, occasioned by this little exertion. Wemyss and I dined alone this



evening, and talked over past events, some of which 1805.
had afforded us great pleasure.

The nights were so vilely hot that to sleep indoors
was impossible, and we always moved our couches
under a fine mango tree in the garden. Jones, of
the Engineers, a first cousin of the Honourable Mrs.
Carlton, leaving Agra also on account of his health,
fixed to join me to-morrow.

*Etamait
Dewlah's
Tomb,
Banks
of the
Jumnah.*

At sunrise this morning I took my leave of my
friend Wemyss, and found breakfast ready for me at
Cunynghame's, but the worthy host and his amiable
partner were wanting to make the day a pleasant one.
Dined early, took a bathe afterwards, and in our
shirts and muslin trousers, Jones and myself left the
tomb at four o'clock. The wind and sun both dread-
fully hot indeed. Several of our bearers dropped
under the palanquins, and we were able to go but little
faster than a foot pace. About twelve at night we
arrived at Colonel Frith's, at Ferozeabad, near my
old station, Shikoabad. Colonel Vandeleur and
some officers who had crossed from Muttrah had gone
on with the bearers, and we were consequently de-
tained. Set down our palanquins upon the plain
under a tree, and slept till the morning.

JUNE 13.

Colonel Blair had given me a letter of introduction
to Colonel Frith, which secured both Jones and my-
self a hearty welcome, and everything the house
afforded. We did not quit the bungalow all this day,
which, in spite of Colonel Frith's attention to us, and
desire to keep us cool, was one of the hottest ever
known. The Colonel asked some officers from the
garrison to meet us at dinner, and at nine o'clock
Jones and myself got again into our palanquins and
set forward towards Futtly Ghur. About midnight
we passed poor Shikoabad, and the remains of our
bungalows, now in ruins. We bribed the bearers to
push on with us, and at seven we arrived at my friend

JUNE 15.

Ferozeabad.



1805.
JUNE 16.

At
Mynpoorie,
on my
Route from
the Army.

White's at Mynpoorie. Passed close to Cunyng-hame's house, in which I had spent the most pleasant days (though too few) I ever passed in India. The Collector who succeeded Cunyng-hame had now taken up his residence in it. White entertained us with every luxury Mynpoorie afforded, and we remained with him during the heat of the day, when it was impossible to travel.

Futty Ghur.

At five in the evening, after an early dinner, and just as we were getting into our palanquins, a letter arrived from the Judge, *requiring* of us to give up the bearers, as a *friend* of his (Colonel Vandeleur) was proceeding on, and wanted them. I made immediate enquiries of the bearers, if they had received any previous order to attend at the Judge's, and they assured me they had not. I therefore in reply to the Judge's note, told his *Worship* that, as the bearers in question were laid on the road by Government for the benefit of the Service at large, and not on account of individuals, and that as they assured me they had received no previous engagement, I could not think of giving them up to anyone, but should carry them on for my own convenience. There was something rather peremptory in the worthy magistrate's *demand* of the bearers, which induced me to hint to him the impropriety of presuming to stop officers, and I recommended him to be cautious how he acted in future and not to interfere where he had not the smallest right so to do. To this I received no reply, and at sunset we took our leave of White and proceeded onwards. About twelve at night we crossed the Black River, upon the banks of which there was a party of Dragoon officers encamped for the night, and on their way sick from the Army. At six in the morning we once more got sight of the Ganges, and arrived at Futty Ghur at sunrise. Dressed and breakfasted with Abernethy of the 27th, and made his my headquarters for the short time I may remain here. Macan came to me at Abernethy's and asked us to



dine with the Colonel, his brother, commanding the 1805. station, but I was too much fatigued to have any *Futty Ghur*. inclination to leave the bungalow. A party of officers belonging to the 27th dined with us at home.

Breakfasted and dined to-day at Paton's; met there JUNE 17. an old acquaintance of mine, Mrs. B., a nice little widow with a lac of rupees. All my friends declared that the climate had changed me so materially while campaigning that they scarcely recognised me.

Called on Mrs. Christie this morning, who I had JUNE 18. not seen since the death of my poor friend Christie; my having been in continual habits of friendship with Christie, recalled past events to her remembrance, and she appeared much distressed at first. Dined with Colonel Macan this evening; drank more wine than usual, but retired early, leaving a very large party, who seemed all disposed to do justice to the Colonel's excellent claret.

Macan and I fixed this evening to leave *Futty Ghur* for Bareilly, in Rohilcund on the night of the 20th.

At sunrise this morning our horses crossed the JUNE 21. river, and the grooms were directed to proceed half-way to Burrah Matahney, and there halt the night. Abernethy went with me this evening to dine with Colonel Macan. We had a small party, and at ten o'clock Macan (the Colonel's brother and A.D.C.) and myself got into our palanquins, and commenced our run for Bareilly. We arrived on the banks of the Ganges about half-past ten, got our pa'anquins and servants into the boats, and were across the river soon after eleven o'clock. We found our guard drawn up on the sands, waiting for us, and immediately pushed on. It was a dreadful hot, sultry night, and the bearers were not able to go faster than three miles an hour with us, and at that rate many of them dropped under our palanquins. This part of the country is



1805.

Futty Ghur.

much infested by thieves and murderers; we were well armed ourselves, and we had besides with us a strong guard from Futty Ghur. We passed on unmolested, drinking immense quantities of water, for the heat almost parched us, and prevented me closing my eyes all night. The palanquin bearers and servants were also drinking at every one of the numerous wells on the road's side. Their stopping so often made our progress very slow indeed. This was as uncomfortable a night as I ever passed. My fellow traveller, in good health, made a far better thing of it, and I believe did not once awaken during the whole night.

*Camp at
Burrah
Matahney,
on the
route to
Bareilly.*

We crossed the Rham Gungah river about two this morning, at Jellalabad, where boats were all ready for us. Soon after sunrise we arrived at our tents at Burrah Matahney, and found breakfast all laid in readiness for us. I slept till nearly nine, when we bathed, dressed, and got our breakfast. Our tents were well sheltered from the sun by a noble tamorin tree, and a fine puckah well afforded our servants and horses plenty of excellent water. The horses came up about eight o'clock. Here we passed the day, as travelling during the heat of the day was impossible without destruction to our servants. Our Kuss was famously watered to-day, and the tent was as cool as we could possibly make it. We had our dinner at four, and drank each our bottle of claret. At sunset our people were all ready, and we started for Bareilly. It blew exceedingly strong soon after we left Burrah Matahney, and very hot. Our palanquins went very slow indeed, and the violence of the wind continually extinguished the flambeaux, and we were detained much on that account. To travel without a light in this part of India is very dangerous indeed, owing to the numberless wells, which are frequently in the middle of the road, and during the march of an Army by night, when lights are not, of course, allowed, men, and often horses and elephants, are destroyed



by falling into them, very many melancholy instances 1805.
of which I had often witnessed.

We arrived at a village ten miles from Bareilly JUNE 22.
soon after daylight, where we found Thornhill's Bareilly.
tandem ready for us, into which we got and drove to
a small village half-way (five miles) to Bareilly,
through a very heavy sand, and although the carriage
was a very light one, both horses had enough of it
before we reached this second village; here we found
the curricule and greys, which I had driven many a
time, and knew well their excellent qualities; they
were both Arabs, and Thornhill prized them exceed-
ingly. They took us with great ease to the hall in
half an hour, where we were welcomed with apparent
heartfelt pleasure by our worthy host, and were truly
congratulated on our return from the campaign with
our *heads* upon our *shoulders*, and without the loss of
legs or arms. Thornhill had prepared a sumptuous
breakfast for us, of which I could scarcely eat a
morsel. I was very unwell. After breakfast I went
in the tonjon to the stables to see the stud.

After breakfast this morning Macan and myself got JUNE 23.
into our palanquins and went to pass the day at C.'s.
We found a very large party there, and among others
my friends Elliott and Mrs. Elliott, Becher and
several others. We had music and billiards all the
morning; with the former I was delighted, but neither
my strength nor my inclination permitted of my
playing at billiards. I sent for my clothes and
dressed at C.'s, where we all dined, and the evening
was a very cheerful one to those who were able to
enjoy it. As an invalid, I was allowed to retire to the
drawing-room soon after the ladies, where I met that
indulgence I really stood in need of, and was per-
mitted to take my lounge on a couch without reserve.
Mrs. C. no stock.



1805.

Bareilly.

The gentlemen joined the ladies about ten, after having apparently done especial justice to the claret. We had music, and broke up about twelve o'clock.

JUNE 25.

In the evening went into the cantonments to dine with our worthy friend and shipmate, Becher. After dinner, sporting, as usual, was the topic, and I matched Lassuary to run on the 2nd of September (unless I should be ordered to take the field) once round the Bareilly course, carrying 9st. 5lb., against Thornhill's Horatio, carrying 8st. 10lb., for one hundred guineas. Bets on this race immediately followed, to the amount of nearly five hundred guineas before we quitted the table, and were all taken down to avoid misapprehension and mistakes.

JUNE 30.

Several matches made, and very good sport expected at our Bareilly September meeting. To-day I had the pleasure to receive letters and a box of newspapers, with some music, from Yeovil. All the music was exceedingly admired by Mrs. C., and "Just Like Love," *most particularly*, as one of the prettiest things ever composed, and no one was more capable of doing it justice than the lady to whom I had the pleasure to present it. She sang it divinely, and it was instantly copied, as I valued the original too much to part with it, even to her.

JULY 25.

Handicapped Cockburn's Black Arab and Thornhill's brown horse Horatio to run on the 7th September for 100 guineas. I received the fee for having handicapped them.

JULY 27.

Went at daybreak to the course to see the horses take their exercise. It was nearly seven o'clock before they had all gone round, having eleven horses for three boys to ride. The weather very fine and cool.



Some very heavy rain interrupted the training for 1805.
many days past. The weak state of my health would ^{AUG. 1.}
not admit of my visiting the course, except in a ^{Bareilly.}
carriage or my palanquin. Received a very friendly
letter from Wemyss, offering me the loan or use of
15,000 rupees, as long as I should require it, but this
I declined. Letters to-day mention the arrival of
Lord Cornwallis at Madras from England in March.
Received two pairs of shawls from Futtu Ghur this
morning, price four hundred and fifty rupees.

This morning five ponies started for the pony ^{SEPT. 4.}
sweepstakes—Hazard, Harping Rou, Fidget,
Tooney, and a grey pony mare of Cockburn's; they
ran heats two miles, carrying weight for inches. The
first heat afforded tolerable sport, between Harping
Rou and Cockburn's mare; the latter won it, and the
second heat she won easily. The weather extremely
unfavourable, and we waited several hours, in the
rubbing house, before the rain abated, and the ponies
could start.

A large party dined with us this evening; after
dinner Lord Lake and the Army, with three times
three, was drank, this being the anniversary of that
ever memorable and glorious day which added lustre
to the British arms, by the capture of Ali Ghur. A
lottery for the pony race was proposed after dinner
and readily filled. A good deal of hard drinking
this evening; sickness saved me.

This morning at sunrise the match between Thorn-
hill's Capsicum Colt, four years old, and the Arab ^{SEPT. 7}
horse Filbert (Cockburn's) was run on the straight
course, one mile and a quarter, for one hundred
guineas. They went off at the top of their speed, and
for the first mile, or near it, the colt had the best of it,
but age told the latter part of the race, which was,
however, uncommonly well contested, and the
running remarkably sharp; it was won by the Arab



1805.

Bareilly.

by about two lengths. I won 100 guineas on this race. We returned home, a large party, and breakfasted later than usual. Went afterwards to Cockburn's, where we passed the morning, and another race between the Capsicum Colt and Filbert was talked of. Thornhill rode the former, and Ridge Cockburn's horse. After the race this morning Stevenson's Rockingham Colt, Shairpe's Sir Ralph, and Grey Arab, Cockburn's Collier, and Horatio took their usual exercise. Ridge purchased Filbert of Cockburn for 250 guineas. We thought him a cheap horse.

SEPT. 16.

To-day a race was run between Thornhill's Horatio and Shairpe's grey horse Sky Blue; won easily by Sky Blue, which horse also received 70 guineas forfeit of Captain Richards, whose horse was lamed in training and unable to run the match.

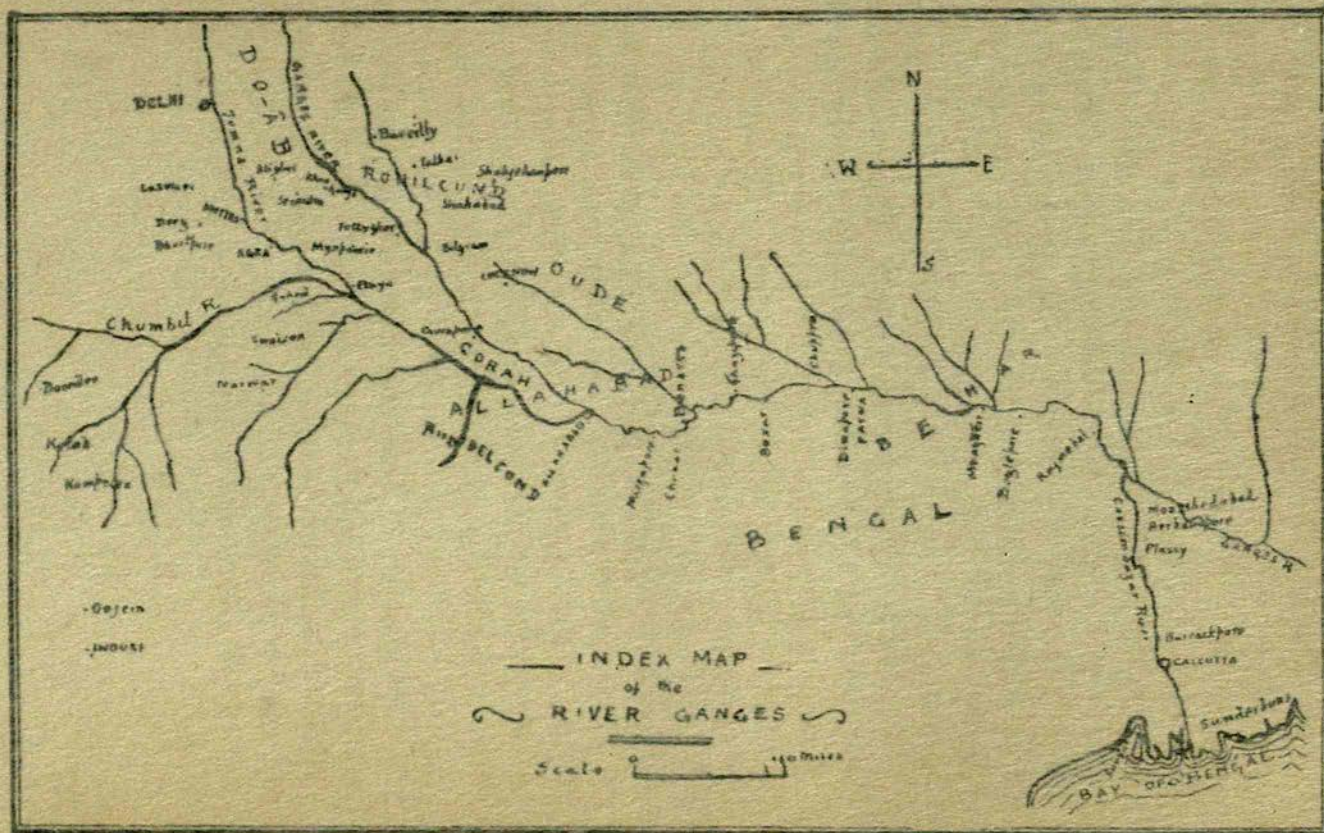
SEPT. 21.

Received a letter this morning from Paton, mentioning the arrival of my chestnut horse at Futtu Ghur. The Nabob, having declined purchasing him at the price of 4,000 rupees, determined on sending him to Ridge, to sell him for me at Agra.

OCT. 8.

Intelligence of Marquis Cornwallis' death reached us this morning; this unpleasant news we heard at Welland's, and it was an event sincerely lamented by all well-wishers of our country. Sir George Barlow expected to succeed to the Government.

A VOYAGE DOWN THE GANGES.





CHAPTER XXVII.

Journey from Bareilly to Calcutta by River, October 15th, 1805, to December 17th, 1805, via Futtly Ghur, Cawnpore, Allahabad, Mirzapore, Chunar, Benares, Gauzipore, Chupprah, Moorshadabad.

WE sent our baggage on board this morning, and ^{1805.} gave orders to our servants to proceed to Mindy ^{OCT. 15.} Ghaut, and there await our arrival, Becher and myself ^{Futtly Ghur.} having determined on going overland to Futtly Ghur to pass a day or two with our friends there previous to our quitting the Upper Provinces. Cockburn wrote us an account this morning from Pellibeat of their having killed five tigers. I should have been of this party had my health admitted of it. In the evening Becher and myself drove to poor Cornish's tomb; he was a distant relation of Becher's, who was desirous of seeing that every attention had been paid to the memory of his friend. We dined with Gillman, and had a dark drive to his bungalow.

This morning I drove Mrs. Paton in the curricule ^{OCT. 20.} to the cavalry parade and round the course. In the evening I dined with Mr. Bathurst, where we met a very pleasant little woman, Mrs. Macvitie, married to a great quiz, a lieutenant in the 11th. Met my Etawah friend, Colonel Palmer, this evening, and had a very pleasant chat with him, respecting our proceedings during the siege of Gwalior, in which he bore a conspicuous part. We were sumptuously entertained by Bathurst, a most excellent dinner, with champagne, claret, hock, Madeira, and a most superb dessert.

I was out this morning with Mrs. Paton on the ^{OCT. 21.} elephant. We returned about half-past seven o'clock; Major Knox, and Lieutenant Oliver breakfasted at Paton's this morning. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson and



1805.

Futty Ghur.

a Mrs. Richardson dined with us this evening; the ladies both very pleasant, and we passed a very agreeable day. Mrs. Richardson had very lately returned from England, married to a very old and stingy blade; she strongly expressed her dislike of India, and her anxious wishes to return to Europe, nor could she help exclaiming on the folly of marriage, where the disparity of years were so great as was common in this country (and which, indeed, was precisely her own misfortune). She seemed to have been well educated, and her manners were very genteel. About eleven I handed this fair lady to her palanquin. Wrote to Young, at Cawnpore, requesting him to share my boat with me to Calcutta, to which place, in consequence of his recent promotion and removal to the 34th Regiment, he was bound.

OCT. 23.

Dreadful accounts from all quarters of the effects of a fever now raging. Colonel Gunber, Captain Prior, Lieutenant Yates, died in a day or two after being seized, and many others are in a very hazardous state, and in imminent danger, among those of my acquaintance, Major Welsh, Captain Browne, Horse Artillery, and Swinton of the Cavalry, great numbers of Europeans dying daily.

OCT. 24.

*On the
Ganges.*

This morning Becher and myself went on board his pinnace, and sailed immediately for Cawnpore. We got on a sand about six miles from Futty Ghur, owing to the ignorance of the pilot, and were detained several hours in consequence; we were under the necessity of tacking and running several miles to clear the bank on which we struck. At sunset we brought to about twenty miles from Futty Ghur. We were dreadfully annoyed by mosquitoes, so much so that it was impossible to rest, either by day or night, for them. We brought to this evening about sunset, on a very romantic shore.



We were adrift this morning at sunrise, and at twelve o'clock we arrived at Mindy Ghaut (the mouth of the Rham Gungah), where my boat and Becher's baggage boats were waiting for us. We proceeded immediately on, but owing to the pinnace drawing so much water we were frequently aground, and consequently much detained. She struck so violently once that we thought she would have gone over. The tide was uncommonly strong, and she took a woeful heel. Our writing desks were thrown from the table (so came the sheet blotted) and almost all our things completely upset.

1805.
Oct. 25.*On the
Ganges.*

This morning we left Cawnpore, and with a favourable wind went rapidly down the river. We carried sail the whole day, and the oars were completely useless. About four in the evening we passed Nudjeif Ghur, where stands the remains of a fine building, erected by General Martini; it appeared to be a pukka house of great size and elegant structure. We passed many beautiful views on the banks of the river to-day, and brought to about thirty-six miles from Cawnpore at sunset. We caught many fish this afternoon, angling from the cabin windows.

Oct. 31.

We had good angling to-day, and supplied the servants with fish plenty, after having provided for ourselves. We were many times aground to-day. A short time before we brought to for the day we descried a budgerow, tacking against the stream; a light boat passed us, and told us it belonged to Mr. Mercer, on his way from Mirzapore. Becher immediately sent him an invitation to dine with us. We took a short walk on the river's side this evening, and I returned much tired to the boat. Mercer and a black relation of his dined with us, and we sat rather later than our usual hour.

Nov. 1.



1805.
Nov. 2.

*On the
Ganges.*

We cast off our boats this morning at break of day, and I went on board Becher's boat at the usual hour to breakfast. We shot two alligators from the boats this morning, and wounded several. Had good sport angling, and killed more fish than we had occasion for. The weather now daily getting cool, and I found my strength rather returning, though very sparingly indeed. We brought to early, and had a pleasant walk on the river's side; saw some quail, and a brace or two of partridge.

Nov. 3.

Allahabad.

This morning at nine o'clock we arrived at the Powder Works, five miles above Allahabad. The water between this place and Allahabad, owing to the uncommon rapidity of the stream, is dangerous, and boats, with every precaution, are frequently lost. We found at the Powder Mills a buggy ready to carry us to Mr. Cuthbert's, the Collector at Allahabad, and soon after breakfast we left our boats and proceeded in it. I had to drive a troublesome horse, whilst Becher carried the chattah (umbrella); the sun very hot, but the chattah saved us much.

Nov. 4.

We received to-day an invitation from Sir George Barlow, Governor-General, to dine with him. I was in hopes of going, but the pain of my head was too violent.

Nov. 5.

*On the
Ganges.*

This morning at ten o'clock we left Allahabad, and about eleven cleared the Jumnah. The fort, on the water face, did not appear to me so strong as I expected, and some high ground to the westward of it seemed in a great measure to command it. I am convinced that if the Fort of Allahabad belonged to any power but the English, and it was requisite, that we could take it in a week, and perhaps in much less time. We brought to this evening at sunset, near the remains of a very extensive city; the ruins afforded us great entertainment for half an hour



before dinner. We saw a great number of peafowls 1805.
and some grey partridge here.

*On the
Ganges.*

At noon to-day we saw Mirzapore, but the wind was unfavourable, and we made but little way. The river to-day at most parts very narrow. We fired several shots at, and wounded, many alligators. The boats struck the ground several times to-day, and we were much annoyed by the delay it occasioned. We saw the Chunar Hills this afternoon. I went, and a servant of Becher's with me, in the small boat, to get a shot at some geese. Had a long shot at them and brought down two. Shot also a curlew on the shore. The views on the banks of the river to-day uncommonly romantic and grand. A few miles above Mirzapore are some very neat buildings by the natives on a small but very elegant style and scale, and we had views of each from the cabin windows this morning. Observed the people in many places ploughing on the banks of the river, in parts which had been covered by the water, and which appeared a fine rich soil, and likely to be very productive. At three this afternoon we passed the Fort of Chunar; to me it appeared a place of much less strength and size than I expected, and, like all the other forts I had seen in this *quiet* quarter of the country, had a very tame and unwarlike appearance, after those I had *visited* in the Upper Provinces. As a hill fort, Chunar Ghur seemed very small; the lowest part of the Rock of Gwalior being at least four times the height of the top of the *battlements even* of this place. Some small guns were mounted on the north face, and the works regular and handsome. To the westward of the fort, and on the brink of the Ganges, is the burial ground, in which appeared numberless proofs of the pernicious effects of this horrid climate to our poor countrymen. We brought to near the Fort; Colonel Grant, commanding, sent us a large supply of oranges and garden stuff, with a very polite note.

Nov. 7.

Chunar.



1805.

About five o'clock Becher and myself got into our tonjons and went to look at the cantonments and invalid barracks. We saw a great number of poor fellows (Europeans) who had lost their limbs and been maimed in battle. The last three years had added very considerably to the list of invalids at Chunar, as in the different actions and sieges during that period, very many, of course, had suffered. The barracks appeared a very clean, comfortable asylum for these poor fellows, and every care seemed to be taken of them. We saw many others, worn out by long service, and the baneful and destructive effects of the climate, whose end appeared to be not very distant. We met Colonel Grant during our peregrination, and saw also a lieutenant of the invalids; he appeared of the very lowest description of European, and was a pretty specimen of what their service must have been like twenty-five years since, when he was invalided.

Nov. 9.

*On the
Ganges.*

To-day at break of day we left Chunar, and about seven passed the cantonments of Sultanpore, on the banks of the river, not more than three miles from Chunar; it appeared a good spot, and a neat, compact cantonment. The water this morning very slack, and our progress consequently very slow. At eleven o'clock we came in sight of Benares, and the city at the distance of about four miles has a really superb appearance, but as we neared it the high walls next the river obstructed the view, and the city was entirely hid by them. The houses on the bank of the river are uncommonly high, and, like all others in this part of the globe, very shabby and in shocking repair. About twelve o'clock we brought to at the Raje Ghaut, near which was anchored one of the finest, best finished pinnaces I ever saw, belonging to the Rajah of Benares.

Benares.



At daybreak this morning we left the famed city of 1805.
Benares, and about nine passed a considerable and
extensive work for making indigo, the property of a Nov. 11.
Mr. Smith; it is remarkable that at this place Mr. *On the River*
Smith, owing to the uncommonly sickly season, lost *Ganges.*
every servant he had except one kitmatgar (footman)
and was himself, with his family, at Benares,
extremely ill, and had been dangerously so.

At daybreak this morning we moved off; the Nov. 12.
adverse winds which continued the whole of the fore-
noon greatly impeded our progress. As we proceeded
down the river we observed the proportion of culti-
vated land daily to increase, and in the Benares
district particularly. About three this afternoon a
fleet of boats came in sight, and they proved to be
employed in carrying the remaining five companies
of H.M. 17th Regiment to Cawnpore; there did not
appear to be more than four budgerows, which
induced me to think them short of officers. In com-
plete *Griffin* style they were blazing away at birds of
all kinds on the river. About four we plainly saw
the indigo works at Zemineah, at which place I per-
fectly recollect having had a capital day's shooting
as we were marching up the country in 1801.
Another part of the fleet, with men of the 17th
Regiment, passed us near Zemineah. We caught a
great many fine fish to-day, and made some excellent
shots with ball at alligators and large birds on the
river. The weather cool and pleasant on the water,
and I discontinued undressing this afternoon for the
first day, and dressed only in the evening. The
lands appeared all in a highly cultivated state, and
the villagers ploughing quite to the water's edge as
we passed on. Amused ourselves this afternoon with
mixing different kinds of powder.—country with
Europe—and trying its strength. We found the best
country powder answered very well for ball shooting,
with a proportion of Europe thrown among it.



1805.

Nov. 13.

Gauzipore.

At daybreak this morning we continued our voyage. The winds were contrary, and we did not come in sight of Gauzipore till eight o'clock. The bungalows and cantonments looked very smart from the river. We dispatched a note to Graham, giving him notice of our approach, and intention to pass the day with him. During breakfast we received Graham's answer, telling us that palanquins were waiting at the Ghaut (Quay) to convey us to his house. About twelve we reached Graham's bungalow, and met with a very hearty reception from them. Mr. Hall and Lieutenant Ralph of the Cavalry came in before tiffin.

In the evening we got into a buggy and drove round the cantonments; went also to see Lord Cornwallis's tomb. He was buried very near the banks of the river, from which, when finished, his monument will easily be seen. We learnt that his Lordship's coffin was lodged in an arched kind of room, in such a manner as to prevent the earth touching it. It was supposed that this precaution was taken to preserve the coffin, in case his Lordship's friends in Europe should require the body to be sent home. A temporary wall was building around the small tomb at present over his Lordship's grave, and a sentry always posted near it. We were told that an Engineer Officer had been ordered up from the Presidency to construct the monument, which it is expected will be one of a most magnificent structure. A subscription opened, which is to extend to Europe, to defray the expense, and which will be immense. Lieutenant and Mrs. Hall, and Lieutenants Halfield and MacLauchlan, of H.M. 17th Foot, dined with us at Graham's this evening, also a Mr. Ryder, the oldest of the Company's Civil servants, and one of the greatest oddities I ever met with. After we retired to the drawing-room, Mr. Hall sung us several songs. Off the stage, I thought I never heard so fine



a voice, and which he commanded in a most masterly 1805.
style.

Gauzipore.

At sunrise this morning I mounted a very nice Nov. 14.
horse of Inglis's, and went with Graham to see the
riding schools and inspect the lines at the station,
both of which excelled anything I had ever seen.
The stables were elegantly built, and the officers'
bungalows all regularly built, at a limited distance in
the rear of the lines, the captains and subalterns in
one line and field officers in a second, quite close to
the river. At Gauzipore they have a very extensive
and fine parade, and in its gayest days this must have
been a most pleasant station. The situation delight-
ful, and a large society, there being cantonments for
four regiments. We dined to-day with Mr. Ryder,
and had a great deal of fun. Our party consisted of
Graham and Mrs. Graham, a Mrs. Lane (whose
husband had been dead about *three weeks*), Miss
Gillas, a companion of Mrs. Lane's, Inglis, Becher,
and self. Mr. Ryder introduced us to Mrs. Lane as
"the widow," and in the course of a few minutes
took us into a room at hand and shewed us the bier
on which her husband had gone to his long home.
It was also that which bore our late revered Governor-
General, Lord Cornwallis, to his grave, on which
account old Ryder kept it as a rare show. We had
an excellent dinner, and some of the best claret I ever
tasted; the old man had seldom been known to give
a dinner, and we were resolved to *sew him* up as
completely as we could. After the ladies had with-
drawn, the bottle was pushed pretty rapidly, and our
host spoke so *plainly* and loudly that we were necessi-
tated to shut the drawing-room door, and about ten
the old fellow reeled away to pay his respects to the
ladies, very far gone, and unable to walk without
assistance. This was one of the most eccentric
characters I had ever met with, and he afforded us no
small degree of entertainment. We left him about

twelve, fast asleep in his chair; took leave of Graham and Mrs. Graham and Inglis, and walked to our boats; the night remarkably cool.

Nov. 15.

*On the
Ganges.*

At daybreak, with a fair wind, we left Gauzipore and made great progress by noon on our way to Buxar. Our boats outsailed those with the baggage considerably; the stream to-day very strong, and I never recollect to have gone with so much rapidity on the Ganges. We brought to early in order to give the boats astern an opportunity of coming up. At this place it was shocking to see the number of human skulls and skeletons thrown on the banks on the fall of the river. It was a sad proof of the dreadful mortality which had prevailed on this part, as well as most others of the country. We were under the necessity of moving our boats to a spot less horrid to behold. We walked inland for a mile before dinner. The weather quite cool and refreshing. By the accounts of the boatmen we sailed nearly fifty miles this day. We had an excellent beef dinner to-day, a great rarity to me, who had never before, since my arrival in the country been, during the beef season (the cold weather) in a *civilized* part of the country, but always in that of an enemy, and in camp, where such good fare is not generally known.

Nov. 16.

I was much shocked at hearing of the death of poor Eamer, as fine a young man as our Service or any other could boast of; he was a son of Sir Charles Eamer, and a cornet in the 8th Native Cavalry, to which he was removed from the 3rd. A fine, handsome healthy-looking fellow, but carried off at a very short notice by the destructive climate, in which it was his misfortune (with many others) to be doomed to serve his country. At sunset this evening I went in the cutter to get a shot at some pelican on a sand in the river, and killed one, the longest shot I ever recollect to have made with a ball. We brought to about



seven this evening at Chupprah, twenty-two miles 1805.
from Dinapore.

At daybreak this morning we left Chupprah, and at Nov. 17.
sunrise we passed a large pinnacle, in which we learnt *Chupprah,*
by the boats astern was Nuthall. This vexed us *on the*
much, as we were very desirous of seeing him; but *Ganges.*
our boats were going with such rapidity, both wind
and tide being favourable, that we were nearly three
miles from him before we could bring to. Soon after
breakfast it fell calm, and we were under the necessity
of taking to our oars. The appearance of the country,
and the number of palm and cocoanut trees, told us
plainly that we had entered Behar, the huts and
buildings of every kind being far different from those
of the Upper Provinces. From Becher I learnt that
at this place (Chupprah) Mr. Golding made his
fortune; he was Collector here, and made his money
very rapidly. Mr. Golding, at the age of two and
thirty, left India with a fortune of nearly one hundred
thousand pounds.

We went on shore this morning, and breakfasted Nov. 18.
with Mr. Douglas, Judge of Patna. We had Major *Patna, on*
Stuart, commanding the Patna Provincials, and *the Ganges.*
another Scotchman at breakfast. At Patna I expected
to have found a Mr. Andrews, famous for taking
profiles, which he executed and set very handsomely
indeed.

We tiffed on board our boats, and dined with Mr.
Douglas, the same party we had met at breakfast.
We did not break up till past eleven o'clock. At the
gate we found Major Stuart in great distress, his
servants having taken the horses from the carriage
and absented themselves. We left the Major in a
great rage, to make the best of his hard case, and
walked on to our boats.



1805.

Nov. 19.

*Patna, on
the Ganges.*

At seven this morning Becher and myself left our boats to breakfast and pass the day with Mr. Cole, very high in the Civil Service. We found the old gentleman in a most princely house, and soon after our arrival we sat down to one of the best breakfasts I ever saw. After breakfast Becher went to visit Mr. Colebrooke, and I to a European shop, one of the best in India, and which afforded everything of the best, but at prices the most extravagant. I gave for one dozen of common cotton stockings seventy rupees (English money £8 15s.) In the evening Becher and myself went to see Mr. Wilton's (the opium agent at Patna) house. It was by far the most stylish place I had seen since I left Calcutta; the finest paintings in India had been collected by Mr. Wilton, and the house was furnished in a most superb way; the dining room exceedingly elegant, and the drawing-room was furnished in a manner which surpassed almost anything I had seen in India. We had some billiard playing before we left the house; the billiard room was a very pleasant one, and the table one of the best I ever saw. Mr. Wilton had gone to Calcutta, but left us an invitation to do as we wished at his house. Mr. Colebrooke and Mr. Chester, of the Civil Service, met us at Mr. Coles' at dinner.

Nov. 20.

*On the
Ganges.*

At daybreak this morning we left Patna. The river continued to widen as we went down, and we quite gave up fishing, as they would only bite near the banks. Shot several ducks and geese from the cutter this morning, and with ball some flamingo, pelican and syrus.

Nov. 22.

Mongheir.

At twelve to-day we reached Mongheir, saw the hills two hours before. Here we were met at the water's edge by mechanics of all kinds. At Mongheir they made all kinds of furniture equal to any done in the country—couches, tables, chairs, exceedingly neat and very cheap. Becher purchased a great deal of



furniture. The fort appeared to have been once a **1805.** place of considerable strength, but gone entirely to ruin. It was a very extensive place, and the house of the Commanding Officer stood on an eminence, and was visible many miles before we arrived at the place. *Mongheir.*

We went on shore this morning, and walked a short distance. A considerable fleet came in sight about noon to-day, and in the course of an hour we met them, and found it to be H.M. 53rd Regiment on their way to Dinapore. We learnt that the regiment was very unhealthy, at that time having nearly three hundred men in the hospital. Many of the officers, being just from England, were walking on the shore in the heat of the day, by which we concluded that they must have been unacquainted with the nature of this climate, as more experienced men would have reserved their strength till necessity or their duty compelled them to expose themselves. *Nov. 23. Boglepore, on the Ganges.*

At seven this morning we got into our palanquins, and crossed the island to Mr. Glas's, where we found a very hearty welcome and an excellent breakfast ready for us. After breakfast we went to see Sir Frederick Hamilton and Colonel Toone; with the latter, being a very old friend of mine, I remained the greater part of the day, and on leaving the house Mrs. and Miss Toone loaded my palanquin with all kinds of fruits in season, and gave me three pots of fine honey, for which at Boglepore they are remarkable, the neighbouring hills producing great quantities, and of the very best kind. We dined with Mr. Glas at four o'clock, a very unusual hour in this part of the world, and the first time I had ever dined by the daylight (except in the field, when we dined whenever our duty gave us an opportunity) since my arrival in India. We went across the island to our boats about ten o'clock. This evening my old servant Asseral *Nov. 24.*

Khan, who had been left at Patna, came up, having travelled by land nearly one hundred and fifty miles, to overtake the boats.

Nov. 25.

*On the
Ganges.*

This morning we left Boglepore at daybreak, and at ten saw the hills at Calgong. At four we brought to at a place near the river, which contained a great deal of various kinds of game and jungle fowls among the rest. We walked for nearly two hours near the banks of the river. Becher shot a fine jungle fowl; they resemble the bantams at home in size and colour, but the flavour very superior; the young ones are delicious, but they are exceedingly shy and difficult to shoot.

Nov. 26.

*Sickly Gully,
on the
Ganges.*

We passed the range of hills to-day between Calgong and Sickly Gully, and a more delightful sight the imagination cannot form, and quite a rarity to us, who, up the country, never scarcely saw a hill or jungle of the kind of those about Calgong. We passed the Gogra Nullah, on the banks of which the Malings and myself had such famous shooting when we went up the country in February, 1801.

About four o'clock we brought to at the village of Sickly Gully, about which are some of the likeliest covers for game I ever saw. The hills here are charming—more romantic than can be conceived. We shot some jungle fowl and peacock in our walk from the boats this evening.

In our walk this evening we saw the print of the foot of a rhinoceros, which the villagers told us frequently came out of the hills and did great mischief; a short time before he had killed a man and woman, and the whole neighbourhood was living in dread of him.

Nov. 27.

Rajmehal.

We left Sickly Gully at daybreak this morning, and about twelve arrived at Rajmehal, where we went on shore and walked over the ruins of a fine building



after the style of the natives; it had been a handsome 1805.
palace, but, except one marble hall, was now quite in
ruins. We left Rajmehal about two o'clock, and in *Rajmehal.*
the evening came to, quite in the jungle, and within a
quarter of a mile of a large jeel, on the borders of
which, as the sun was setting, we killed four brace of
snipe and one and a half brace of painted snipe. We
returned later than usual to the boats, had our dinner,
and drank our pint of claret each as usual.

At nine this morning we entered the Cossim Bazar Nov. 28.
River, at the mouth of which we found a great
number of country boats sticking on the sands, and it *Cossim
Bazar
Island, on
the Ganges.*
was not without great difficulty that we, by joining
our crews, dragged the boats (our own) over. We
met a Captain Hicks just arrived from Europe, and a
pinnace with two ladies, and a Captain Pohlman,
bound up the country. We walked an hour on the
shore this afternoon, on the Cossim Bazar Island,
once so famous for game, but now entirely ruined by
cultivation, and that part which was formerly a jungle
was now in a state of fertility equal to any garden.
The Cossim Bazar River winds much, and we made
but little progress. We hoped to have reached
Junglepore in time to have dined with the Honourable
Mr. Ramsay, but brought to at sundown five miles
from his house.

About eleven this morning we passed the Honour-
able Mr. Ramsay's house at Junglepore; it appeared a *Nov. 29.*
very neat place. He sent us an invitation to stay the *Junglepore,
on the
Ganges.*
day and dine with him, but as Becher was anxious to
reach Moorshadabad, we declined going on shore.
Mr. Ramsay very kindly sent us bread, butter, fruit, *Cossim
Bazar
River.*
and garden stuff in great abundance. We went on
shore this evening, and coming up to the budgerow
in the small boat, I shot a curlew; it was exactly the
bird we have in England, and many of which I had
frequently seen at Otterton. We came to this after-



1805.

noon about four and twenty miles from Moorshadabad.

Nov. 30.

*Cossim
Bazar
River.*

During the night and the early part of the morning it rained much, and with it we had a great deal of thunder and lightning, which made the air quite cold. We cast off our boats at daybreak this morning, and, with a fair wind, proceeded on towards Moorshadabad. The Cossim Bazar River winds so exceedingly that we could not make the progress we wished; in one reach the wind was favourable, and in the next quite in our teeth. I went on shore and walked for an hour, and did not find the sun uncomfortably hot; with a chattah we shot from the boats some golden plovers and water fowl this morning, and killed some birds with ball as we passed on. At one o'clock we came in sight of Moorshadabad; the city is one of the most extensive in India, and is situated on each side of the river. About four we were hailed from the shore by some hircarabs of Mr. Pattle's, and at a ghaut near the Nabob's we found a curricule waiting to carry us to Mr. Pattle's house. We dressed immediately, and I drove Becher to the house (about five miles from our boats), where we arrived long before dinner. The house and grounds by moonlight seemed most delightful, and the former one of the most splendid I ever saw—upon an immense scale, and superbly furnished. The dining and drawing rooms were fifty feet long, and built in proportion. Nothing could exceed the splendour of this place, and at dinner we were regaled with champagne, hock, claret, and Madeira. Mr. and Mrs. Mitford (daughter of Mrs. Pattle) dined here this evening, and we kept much later hours than we had been accustomed to in the Upper Provinces. I was made particularly welcome here—not only on account of Becher being a nephew of Mr. Pattle, but a son of the latter having been a shipmate and a great friend of mine.



Instead of seven, we did not get up till nine o'clock this morning. I went round the grounds, which put me more in mind of a gentleman's estate in England than anything I could have expected in India. In the evening Mr. Pattle and Becher went in one phaeton, and I had the honour of driving a Miss Fowler (a visitor at Pattle's) in a second phaeton, with two of the most beautiful blood-like mares the country afforded. The roads in the neighbourhood of Moorshadabad are capital, and we did not come in from our drive till after seven o'clock (two hours after the moon got up). We did not dine till eight. Mr. Pattle had been, previous to his coming out the last time to India, in the Directory; at home he lived for many years in a most princely style, and spent an immense fortune. On quitting his Directorship, he returned again to the service to make a second. He has three sons in the Civil Service, and the fourth came out a cadet when I did.

1805.
DEC. 1.Moorshada-
bad.

At eight this morning I went with Mr. Pattle in the phaeton to breakfast with Mr. Oldfield, of the Civil Service, and Becher drove two beautiful mules after us in a curricule. At Mr. Oldfield's we met Mr. and Mrs. Law; the latter for a long time bore the belle in Calcutta, and was reckoned the prettiest woman in the country; and (my friends ci-devant Miss R., and Mrs. C. excepted) she was almost the only handsome woman I had seen for years. Becher returned with Mr. Pattle in the phaeton, and I drove the curricule home after breakfast. About eleven o'clock Becher and myself went in a chariot to call on Mr. Sturt, Judge at Moorshadabad, and brother to Humphry Sturt, who I had often hunted with in Dorsetshire, and after whom I had a number of enquiries made me by Mr. Sturt, who was, himself, a very gentlemanly, pleasant man. We returned about one, and I was persuaded by Mr. Pattle and Becher to write a second letter to Thornhill, advising him of my intention to wait and go

DEC. 2.



1805.

*Moorshada-
bad.*

down to Calcutta with Becher, which it was not at first my intention to do, but the civility and kindness I met with here induced me to alter my plans, and instead of the fifth we settled it to leave Moorshadabad on the 11th, in the morning.

DEC. 3.

At seven this morning we left Mr. Pattle's to breakfast in the cantonments with General Palmer, having been long and intimately acquainted with Colonel Palmer, the General's son. I was very graciously received; after breakfast Mr. Pattle and Becher went to see some friends of theirs, and I played at billiards with a son of the General's and a shipmate in the "Bengal." The cantonments at Berhampore exceed in beauty and situation any I had seen in India, not excepting even those at Gauzipore. The barracks are two storeys high, and resemble in front more a superb range of gentlemen's houses, lengthened together than accommodation for soldiers. The officers' quarters, also, of which there are four ranges, are uncommonly spacious and elegantly built; each set contained three excellent rooms, with verandah at either front. The hospital at Berhampore is a very magnificent building, and most wholesomely situated near the banks of the river, on which, indeed, the whole cantonment stands.

DEC. 4.

At daybreak this morning I mounted a very beautiful Persian horse of Mr. Pattle's, and rode till eight o'clock. We breakfasted at nine, and the day being cloudy and particularly cool, I drove for nearly three hours, after breakfast, in the curricule, and for almost the first time in my life did not find the sun uncomfortably hot. We tified at the usual hour, and at six o'clock Mr. Pattle, Becher and self left the house to dine with General Palmer at Berhampore. The two former in a phaeton and I alone in the chariot. We had a large party at dinner; the General entertained us splendidly, and about ten we were summoned to



the drawing room by the music, and this evening I 1805.
heard the best singing I ever heard in my life off the stage, for which we were indebted to Mrs. Scott, wife of Captain Scott, of the 3rd; she was particularly plain in her person, but her fine voice, method, and style of singing were really exquisite. Moorshadabad.

This forenoon I went through Mr. Pattle's stables, Dec. 5.
in which were no less than seven pairs of carriage horses, besides some of the best bred saddle horses in India. A European coachman, and a very smart fellow, had the direction of the whole, but the grooms under him were very numerous, and everything was kept in a very superior style. Mr. Pattle had, of various descriptions, upwards of one hundred and twenty servants, and everything corresponded in a style of elegance seldom equalled in India even.

At dinner to-day we had a party of nearly thirty, a very pleasant day. Lots of champagne, claret, hock, port, and Madeira. We went to the drawing room before ten, when the singing and playing commenced. Mrs. Sturt and Mrs. Scott sang several beautiful duets, and Mrs. Droze played some very fine pieces of music. Mrs. Scott's "No, my Love," was exceedingly admired, and she certainly sang it most exquisitely. About twelve we went below to supper, and one of the most pleasant parties I ever met broke up early in the morning. Dec. 10.

At five we left the house to dine at Mr. Pattle's house in the city of Moorshadabad. Dec. 11.
We did not arrive till after dark, the distance being full seven miles, and through the city we were obliged to drive slowly, the streets being much crowded with people. Mr. Pattle's house in the town was extremely neat and very handsomely furnished. In the drawing room stood a picture at full length of Lord Wellesley, and a very good likeness. We had a very excellent, snug



1805.

*Maorshada-
bad.*

dinner, but the servants contrived to forget to bring any champagne, at which our hospitable host was much displeased. After taking each our bottle of claret, we got into our palanquins to pay Rajah Davi Sing a visit, and an entertainment was prepared by the Rajah on our account. He received us at his outer gate, where we went through the ceremony of embracing, etc., etc., after which we were ushered up to an immense room, very handsomely lighted up, and well furnished after the Indian style, with couches, very rich, and some of the finest lustres I ever saw. As soon as we were seated they commenced offering their presents. We received about £25 each in cash, and a very handsome hookah with superb apparatus. The singing commenced about eleven, and after it a kind of pantomime. The singing-girls, which in general have some very pretty women in each set, were not so desirable as might have been expected on such an occasion, and in such a city as Moorshadabad. We supped at twelve on very excellent fruit, and some good claret was also provided for us, but of it we took but a small quantity. After supper a range of venetians were thrown open, and a grand display of fireworks were played off in an elegant garden beneath us; they exceeded any I had ever seen, and were the very best that could be procured. The evening finished with a sort of play, and about two we left Rajah Davi Sing's, and got home at half-past.

DEC. 13.

Agur Diep.

We breakfasted at eight this morning, and at ten we took our leave of our worthy and hospitable host.

The first seven miles I drove Becher in the phaeton, when we got into a buggy, which was laid for the second stage, and the two last stages we performed in our palanquins. About four we passed Plassey, and went over the ground on which the ever memorable battle was fought in 1757 by Lord Clive. We arrived at our boats soon after sunset at Agur Diep, where we



found our dinner all ready; dressed, and made a sumptuous meal, after which we drank our late host's health in a bumper of claret, and at eleven went to bed. 1805.
Agur Diep.

Arrived this morning at eight o'clock at Barrack-
pore. Landed, and called on my friend Mrs. Christie; was very happy also in meeting Broughton and Cunynghame, two of my oldest acquaintances. We remained here only for the turn of the tide, and dispatched a boat to Calcutta with a note to Thornhill to advise him of our approach. At four we arrived at the Old Fort Ghaut, and immediately hired a carriage at the moderate price of a gold mohur (equal to two guineas). I drove to Thornhill's, and Becher on to his brother's at the Cavalry Lines. Met with a most friendly reception at Thornhill's, and was congratulated by the whole of the family on my return to Calcutta after the many dangers to which we had been exposed. DEC. 17.
Calcutta.



CHAPTER XXVIII.

Calcutta to Prince of Wales Island (Penang) on board the "Althea."
December 18th, 1805, to February 5th, 1806.

1805.
Dec. 18.

Calcutta.

CALLED this morning on the Macan's, and was very much mortified at finding that I was too late to sail in a packet with them. The "Margaret" had been taken up by Government. Colonel Macan took the whole of the accommodation for himself, Major Kelly, Captain Macan, and myself, but in consequence of the packet receiving orders to be in readiness to sail at the shortest notice, and my not having arrived in Calcutta they took on board another officer. The sailing of the packet with the despatches was put off, but the gentleman they had received on board could not be prevailed upon to give up his cabin. This disappointment induced me to alter my plans, and as there was no prospect of other ships sailing for a considerable length of time, to go directly to China, and if the voyage should prove ineffectual, to proceed on with the China fleet, which I should find at anchor at Canton; but if, on my arrival at China, my health should be perfectly re-established, then to return again to India. This plan was highly approved by Thornhill and his father. I determined on taking my passage on board the "Althea," a beautiful ship of eight hundred tons burthen.

DEC. 22.

This morning I went with MacGregor in his curricule to breakfast with the Cumberleges, who had taken a house near the racecourse. We returned by Chowringhie, and I paid a visit to my friend, Mrs. Money (Eliza Ramus, ci-devant). Went afterwards to the billiard room, and tiffed with Doveton.

DEC. 25.

Called this morning on my kind friends, the Elliotts, and afterwards paid a visit to Mr. Davis, the



gentleman who so gallantly defended his staircase at 1805.
Benares, when his house was beset by Vizier Ally *Calcutta.*
and his followers, immediately after their having committed the horrid murder at Mr. Cherry's. They went to Mr. Davis's to perpetrate a similar instance of their cowardice and barbarity there, but Mr. Davis's gallant exertions saved his wife and family, as well as himself, from the cruelty of those wretches. Mrs. Elliott is Mrs. Davis's sister.

Returned by way of Fort William, and went through the Arsenal with Young. I dined to-day with Mr. Goad, and passed a pleasant evening.

Captain Thornhill informed me this morning of his *DEC. 29.*
having secured a passage for me in the "Althea," but Captain Richardson insisted on taking nothing for my passage. I sent immediately to the wine merchants, and got half a chest of the best English claret, for which I paid 250 rupees (£26), and made the captain a present of it. Got all my clothes home from the different tailors to-day, and was quite prepared for my voyage.

We had a party at Thornhills at dinner to-day, and *1806.*
about ten we left the house to go to a ball and supper *JAN. 1.*
at Lady Anstruther's, the last to be given by her ladyship previous to her departure for England. The evening was very gay—a great deal of dancing, and at supper we had five long tables, well filled. The party consisted of nearly three hundred persons. I went with Mr. Littledale, a young man of the Civil Service, in his carriage. We broke up about three in the morning.

This morning I was summoned on board ship, and *JAN. 2.*
accordingly hired a stout boat to carry me down to Saugor Roads, where the "Althea" was lying at anchor. In the evening Thornhill drove me to take leave of the Elliotts, which I did with rather a heavy



1806.

Calcutta.

heart, and was afterwards set down at Becher's, where I dined. We passed a pleasant evening, and I got home by eleven. Took leave of my kind friend Becher with very sincere regret.

JAN. 3.

Ship
"Althea,"
Saugor
Roads.

At ten this morning I left Calcutta, with all my baggage, to go down to the ship. I reached Fulta about nine o'clock, and got a beefsteak and a bottle of claret for my dinner; for the latter they charged me six rupees and two for my dinner. The tide serving at one in the morning, I again went on board my boat and sailed for Saugor. Some soldiers from the Custom House at Fulta came on board, and it was with difficulty that I prevailed on them not to detain me, as I had not the necessary papers from the Custom House in Calcutta. I cleared Diamond Harbour before daylight, and about eight brought to for three hours, the tide running so strong that we could make no way against it. We remained on a point off Saugor Island till eleven, when we got up our anchor and came in sight of the ships at Kedgerree soon after twelve. At two we got into Saugor Roads, and I hailed the first ship I made, which was the "Lord Duncan," Indiaman, and about a mile astern of her lay the "Althea," on board of which I arrived about half-past two o'clock, and was very politely received by the officers on board, the chief of whom was Captain Richardson's brother.

JAN. 8.

At nine this morning the pilot offered to accompany me on shore, and we left the ship in a tow boat. At ten we made the shore, but could not venture to land, on account of the number of tigers on Saugor Island. The pilot pointed out the spot to me on which a son of Sir Hector Munro's was destroyed by one some years ago, when on a shooting excursion from his ship in the roads. We went a long way up one of the most romantic creeks in the world, and as we had our fowling pieces we shot some water fowl, but saw no



tigers, nor beasts of any description. The weather was very pleasant, and a fresh breeze carried us on board in an hour.

1806.
Ship
"Althea."
Saugor
Roads.

Soon after breakfast this morning a boat hove in sight to windward, which we concluded was Captain Richardson's. We got on board a tow boat, and drifted down with the tide, till we came within hail, when we found it was Captain Cummings, of the "Albion"; the tide was at this time running so strong that it was with great difficulty we reached the ship, and the men at the oars were nearly exhausted when we got alongside. Several large ships came in from sea this morning, and the "St. Fiorenzo" (formerly at Weymouth with the King) and "Psyche" frigates, anchored in Kedgerie Roads, having come in from a cruise. At one p.m. a large ship came in, close hauled, with her starboard tacks aboard; she passed us, and tacked close under our stern, and it was one of the prettiest sights I ever saw, as the ship was worked with uncommon dexterity.

At seven this morning Captain Richardson came on board, and we unmoored ship. By the Captain we learnt that the "Dedaigneuse" frigate was to accompany us to a certain latitude, at which we were much rejoiced, as the idea of being carried into the Isle of France was not a very pleasant one, and the number of French cruisers now in the Bay would have made our voyage very precarious without a convoy of some kind. The "Althea" mounted twelve guns, short twelve-pounders, but the crew being quite unacquainted with the mode of working them, we could have made but a poor defence against a regular ship of war.

At eight this morning the ships which came in last night passed within hail, and at twelve the "Old Triton" (formerly lost in so disgraceful a manner)



1806.

Ship
"Althea."
Saugor
Roads.

came round the south point of Saugor Island. The "Triton" was taken by a pilot schooner and seventeen Frenchmen, early in the last war, to the eternal shame of those on board her.

JAN. 12.

Ship
"Althea."
Near the Red
Buoy of the
Gasper.

At daybreak this morning we weighed our anchor and stood down for the Red Buoy. At four we found that the frigate was the "St. Fiorenzo," which I remembered to have seen many years since at Weymouth in attendance on His Majesty.

JAN. 14.

Ship
"Althea"
Off Saugor
Point.

Presented my chest of claret to Captain Richardson this morning. Nothing could exceed his polite attention, and everything on board the "Althea" was as comfortable, with as good dinners as could possibly be furnished at sea. With half the Round House, I found myself in somewhat more pleasant accommodation than on board the "Bengal," where we were heaped in, and pent together in a very comfortless way, as is always the case with the *unfortunate cadets* on a crowded ship.

JAN. 16.

Got under weigh at five this morning, with a light but fair breeze. At seven we passed the Gasper Sand, on which many vessels are generally lost in the course of a year. Made a signal (a Jack under the ship's colours) to speak a pilot schooner which stood immediately down for us. Saw the "Albion" astern, working down with royals, and all her studding sails set. At ten we discovered the Red Buoy of the Gasper, bearing south-west, and at noon we had but four and a half fathoms water; the ship drew nearly four fathoms. About two we anchored in five and a half fathoms distant from the Red Buoy of the Gasper about one mile, bearing south-west. La Forte, French frigate, taken by Sibyll, used to practice her crew in firing at this buoy.



Lowered the royals on deck this morning; at eight we saw two sail standing down to us, but neither of them had the appearance of the frigate which detained us. At ten two more sail were seen from the mast-head, standing down with the wind abeam, and at two o'clock a pilot schooner came alongside and told us the "Dedaigneuse" and "Mornington" were the ships in sight. Sent our royals aloft, and got the yards across, and all ready to weigh anchor. Gave the pilot charge of a letter to Young in Calcutta, enclosing one for Lord Sidmouth. At one the "Mornington" came alongside; we weighed, and Mr. Hammett, the pilot, left us in six fathoms water. At six o'clock the wind came nearly ahead, and we were under some apprehensions that we should not be able to fetch out. At eight the "Dedaigneuse" made a signal to tack; and we worked to windward, which carried us clear of the Saugor Sands. At midnight we were in thirteen fathoms water, under a press of sail, standing out to sea.

1806.

JAN. 17.

Ship
"Althea."
Near the Red
Buoy of the
Gasper.

We saw Prince of Wales' Island this morning at daybreak, and the breeze continuing fair, we crowded all sail, and at noon were nearly abreast of the southern point of the island. The land had a beautiful appearance as we entered the harbour. The island appeared about eight or nine miles in length, and five or six across. Much wooded, and very hilly. The high land of Queadah on our larboard beam, as we sailed in, had a most majestic appearance; the mainland about three miles distant from us. We saw plainly the pepper plantations on the island at sunset. About six o'clock it fell calm, and we came to an anchor in eight fathoms water, about one mile astern of the "Rattlesnake" sloop of war, on which Sir Thomas Trowbridge's flag was flying, as Commander-in-Chief of the Division of Ships on this destination. Saw many ships further up the harbour. A boat from the shore,

FEB. 4.

Ship
"Althea."



1806.

from the Governor, the Honourable Philip Dundas, came on board this evening, just as we anchored.

FEB. 5.

*Prince of
Wales'
Island.*

The tide serving at nine this morning, and the wind veering round, we weighed anchor, and stood farther in, with all sail set. Saw the fort very plainly at ten o'clock. The wind failing us, sent out our jolly boat and pinnace to tow the vessel. Prince of Wales' Island appeared very woody, intercepted with plantations of pepper, and had a most romantic appearance from on board. The mainland forms one part of the harbour, and the island from it is not more than three miles distant. Soon after ten we anchored abreast of Fort Cornwallis, in nine fathoms water. The tide running in extremely strong, at the time we let go our anchor, the cable was severely strained in bringing her up.



CHAPTER XXIX.

February 6th to March 29th, 1806.

At Prince of Wales' Island (Penang) waiting for a Ship.

AT seven o'clock this morning I went with Captain Richardson on shore in the jolly boat. We walked to Mr. Dickens' house, about half a mile from the beach; was very politely received by Mr. and Mrs. Dickens. Mr. Dickens being the senior Judge of the island, and a most respectable character, was much looked up to and admired by the inhabitants. After breakfast we had a long walk, and Captain Richardson introduced me to Colonel Eales, Captain Drummond, Captain Seton, Captain Ross, and many others of his friends. We were much pleased with Mrs. Drummond, who appeared a very genteel and a very pretty woman. Her husband a thoroughbred Scotchman. The houses or bungalows at Prince of Wales' Island are very small, but neatly constructed, and well furnished. The roads for a drive of nine or ten miles in circumference are good. Their carriages very small, light, and calculated to the cattle they drive. The tallest horse I saw on the island did not exceed twelve hands. They go at a great rate, and are extremely sure-footed. Most of those ponies are brought from Acheen, in the island of Sumatra, a Malay country, at which we touched for water and provisions on our way to India in 1800. Acheen is not more than six or eight days' sail from Prince of Wales' Island.

1806.
FEB. 6.*Prince of
Wales'
Island.*

After the European custom, we dined to-day at four o'clock, and at six Mr. and Mrs. Dickens in one carriage, and Captain Richardson and self in another, left the house, and had a long drive. The roads resembled those of a level country in England; narrow, but very good, with woods running close to the roadside, which made it extremely pleasant and

very unusual to an Indian eye. We returned to Mr. Dickens' house about seven o'clock. In our drive we met Admiral Sir Thomas Trowbridge, and most of the respectable people on the island. Their carriages are very mean, and after those of Bengal, had quite a shabby appearance, and even the members of the Council did not sport a curricule. About eleven o'clock I walked to the beach, and found the boat waiting. Went on board the "Althea."

FEB. 8.

As usual I went on shore this morning to breakfast and to pass the day; had many invitations to remain constantly, but preferred sleeping on board. Captain Richardson having brought his curricule on shore, and borrowed of a friend a pair of horses, we left Mr. Dickens' house at five this afternoon, and had a very long drive in the curricule into the country. The pepper and nutmeg plantations had a very novel and pleasing appearance, and a fine sea breeze made the weather cool and pleasant. There being scarcely such a carriage in the island as a curricule, and Captain Richardson's being a very handsome one, we were stared at with astonishment; the horses, though small, were very handsome and fleet, trotting ten miles within the hour with ease. They did not exceed twelve hands, and for Prince of Wales' Island were considered tall horses. We met Admiral Trowbridge in a Prussian carriage (kind of car) with Mr. and Mrs. Grey. Dined to-day with Captain Drummond.

FEB. 10.

In consequence of the uncertainty of procuring a passage back from Malacca, and being resolved to return to Europe with the China Fleet, I determined on remaining on the island till their arrival, and at six o'clock this evening, when the "Althea" had got under weigh, I left the ship, having taken my leave of my friend, Captain Richardson, and the officers of the "Althea," all of whom I left with regret, as they were very pleasant young men. It blew fresh when I



went on shore, and I was completely wet by the sea 1806.
breaking in. My baggage I had fortunately sent on *Prince of*
shore in the morning, or it would have been injured *Wales'*
by the salt water. I arrived at Captain Ross's house *Island.*
soon after seven o'clock, and found all my baggage
safe.

Went with Captain Ross after breakfast this FEB. 11.
morning to call on several gentlemen friends of his.
Notwithstanding Captain Ross's polite invitation to
remain with him, as his house was small, I deter-
mined on taking a bungalow for the short time of my
stay at Prince of Wales' Island. Sent my servant
accordingly to make enquiries. Owing to having
been a short time this morning in the sun, I felt its
baneful effects, and was quite unwell the whole of the
day. Went in the evening to look at a house, and
hired it at twenty dollars (equal to £5 10s.) per
month.

About an hour before sunset I went to look at the FEB. 13.
Artillery, paraded to fire blank cartridge. Captain
Ross and self took a long ride in the direction of the
hills in the rear of Georgetown. Dined with
Lieutenant Huthwaite, of the Marine Regiment, on
duty here; met three officers of the "Phaeton" at
dinner, Lieutenants Hawkins, Millwood and another.
The sailors took lots of claret, and were quite high
before they went on board the frigate.

I seriously began to wish the arrival of the China FEB. 17.
Fleet to get once clear of the horrid climate. Rode a
short distance into the country this evening with
Captain Ross. On our way we met with a Dutchman
taken prisoner by us at Amboyna, and now holding
the appointment of Acting Ensign in our service.

Breakfasted with Captain Drummond this morning FEB. 19.
and went after breakfast to be introduced to the



1806.

Prince of
Wales'
Island.

Admiral Sir Thomas Trowbridge, whom I found a most gentlemanly, pleasant man. As I was the first officer he had seen from General Lord Lake's army, he asked a great number of questions, and had all our "battles o'er again." At the Admiral's we met Captain Beauchamp Proctor, of the "Dedaigneuse" frigate, and Captain Fothergill, of the "Lancaster" man-of-war. We paid Sir Thomas a long visit.

FEB. 25.

A very large party this evening at Captain Drummond's, commanding officer of Prince of Wales' Island. Mr. Gray (second in Council), Mrs. Gray, and many of the Scotch invasion, were of the party; met among others a fine young man, Lieutenant La Mesurier, flag lieutenant to Admiral Trowbridge.

MAR. 1.

The first paper ever printed on Prince of Wales' Island came out this morning, and a more stupid collection than that which filled it I never saw.

MAR. 2.

There was an *immense* row this evening near Ross's bungalow, it being a Chinese holiday; these people were performing a play in the street, on a stage erected for the purpose. The road was so much crowded that I could not, without much difficulty, get past. Admiral Trowbridge and a number of people were looking on. It appeared to me a very stupid entertainment, and did not even appear sufficiently ridiculous to arrest one's attention.

MAR. 3.

A report that the Government of this place will be immediately changed, an event which it is supposed will grieve those *only* who are at the head of it, and whose chief care is said to be to make as much money as possible themselves, and to prevent others doing the same.



This morning I went with the Judge (Mr. Dickens) to breakfast with Mr. Gray, second in Council; found Mrs. Gray a very pleasant, genteel woman. She was a Miss Bassett, and sister to Lady Essex. We remained with them till about ten, and from thence went to call on the Admiral, Sir Thomas Trowbridge, a great friend of Mr. Dickens. The Admiral entertained us with a famous story, which occurred when he was first lieutenant of Sir Edward Hughes' ship in this country, in 1783! It was noon before we reached our bungalows, and I found myself extremely annoyed by the heat, and which was my principal reason for wishing to visit but little, and to keep to the house, it being very different from Bengal, where palanquins are used on such occasions. I saw no such a conveyance on Prince of Wales' Island.

1806.

MAR. 9.

Prince of
Wales'
Island.

The "Antelope" cruiser came in last night, and brought Europe extracts up to the 15th of September, by which we heard of Admiral Cornwallis' attempt to bring the French fleet, which had got under weigh, to action, and of the gallant manner in which he was seconded by Sir Richard Strachan in the "Caesar." We learnt also the preparations for a campaign in Europe, and I seriously wished for an opportunity of joining in it, which, if I reach England in good health, I am resolved to effect, if possible. This evening we dined with Captain Keasbury, of the Madras establishment, and there was a great deal of hard drinking, in which I did not join.

MAR. 11.

This morning I purchased a slave boy of Captain Keasbury to accompany me to England and attend me on board ship. I paid ninety dollars for him (equal to about £25 sterling).

MAR. 15.

At daybreak this morning I mounted the Judge's pony, and rode to a waterfall in the hills. The road to this place was more romantic than any I had ever

MAR. 16.



1806.

Prince of
Wales'
Island.

seen, and the villages through which we rode were really *enchanted*, but the ascents and descents exceedingly steep, and the paths would barely afford room for a horse to pass in safety, as in many places the precipices on either side were quite terrific, and, on an unsteady, timid horse, very dangerous. Lieutenant Phillips, of the Madras Infantry, accompanied me, and at the waterfall we dismounted, tied up our horses by the bridle (just as they do in England), and enjoyed a most delightful bathe. The distance of the waterfall from the town (five long miles) is the most unpleasant part of it, as, from the nature of the road, you must necessarily ride slow, and the sun consequently becomes very hot before you reach your quarters. We breakfasted with Lieutenant Huthwaite in the country. Dined there in the evening, a very gay party, and went home at three in Phillip's buggy. Huthwaite to-day related a circumstance most honourable and generous of my friend, Captain Ross. They were at sea, passing near Amboyna, and in a stiff breeze, the ship going at seven knots (miles), when a native child, belonging to a servant of Huthwaite's, fell overboard. Ross was standing on the gunwale, and seeing the infant floating past, most generously and humanely dashed overboard, got hold of the child, which he actually supported in the water for upwards of *three hours* upon a grating which they threw to him. It was that length of time before they could be picked up. The vessel was going before the wind, and they were obliged to make several tacks, and had frequently lost sight of both Ross and the child before they could get to them; the sea was running high, and they had not a single boat on board that could swim! Fortunately, both were saved, and it is no less singular that the child was soon afterwards drowned in the "Anstruther," which ship was lost.



The weather cooler to-day than I had felt it since I came to the island. The China Fleet now *daily* expected, and I seriously began to prepare for going on board. During breakfast a brace of snipe dropped in Keasbury's Compound within thirty yards of the house. This island swarms with snipe, and of a larger kind than I ever saw elsewhere.

1806.
MAR. 19.
*Prince of
Wales'
Island.*

This morning I was informed that the Governor had remarked my not calling on him, but as he lived nearly seven miles from the town, and did not bear the character of being a *most liberal* man, I determined not to put myself out of my way on his account, as I conceived myself to be as independent of the Governor as he was of me, nor had I inclination or health to spare, by exposing myself to the climate in paying formal visits, and this was my answer to the person who gave me the information.

MAR. 21.

Several of the Indiamen came in and anchored in the harbour to-day, and others were in sight working round the point. The "Cumberland" was among the latter, which made me rather uncomfortable, as I was desirous of finally settling for my passage, as the ships were liable to be ordered off at two hours' notice. I purchased the skins and feathers of five argus pheasants to-day, and prepared them for a voyage to Europe, hoping some day to see them grace some of my lovely friends at home.

MAR. 27.

This morning came in the "Cumberland," and Captain Keasbury and myself went to seek Captain Farrer; he was gone to call on the Governor and Sir Thomas Trowbridge. We waited two hours, in vain, for him, and Keasbury paid him a second visit, when they agreed for my passage at *drs.* 500. To have sailed from Bengal with the same accommodation (a cabin on the starboard side of the-cuddy, the same in which the Miss Wedderburne came out) would have cost 2,000 dollars! I was quite happy and perfectly

MAR. 28.

Prince of
Wales'
Island.

MAR. 29.

satisfied with this conclusion to my affairs in India (at least for the time).

Keasbury breakfasted with us at Ross's this morning, and afterwards we went, and I was introduced to Captain Farrer, of the "Cumberland," whose appearance and manners I liked much. The Captain gave me to understand that he expected we should not sail before Sunday or Monday. I returned, and sent him the amount of my passage money. Ross asked a large party of officers to meet me at dinner to-day, but at four o'clock the following note came from Captain Farrer:—"Dear Sir,—As the Commodore is *under weigh*, I propose to go on board about five p.m., and, should my cutter not come in time, intend taking a shore boat. I shall be happy with your company."

This note came at the moment I was engaged in correspondence with the Government of this place, who affected to give themselves airs because I had not *visited* them, and on that account hesitated to grant me an order for being received on board, according to the usual forms. In reply I expressed my astonishment that they were ignorant of the order directing all officers arriving at Presidencies or stations to report their arrival to the Commanding Officer of the Forces or Town Major, and which order, I told them, I had complied with on my arrival at their Presidency. I forwarded with this letter a copy of a General Order from the Establishment under which I served, and desired to know by what authority they detained me. In answer to this I received a *sulky* order to be received on board the "Cumberland." I was much hurried by Captain Farrer's unexpected summons on board, as it was past four when I received it. I immediately mounted my horse and rode to Mr. Dickens's to take my leave of him and Mrs. Dickens, and directly went on board the "Cumberland" with Captain Farrer and his surgeon, Mr. Livestone.



The Indiamen were all getting under weigh as we 1806.
passed them (the "Cumberland" being the outer-
most ship), and the Commodore (Captain Fothergill, *On board the "Cum-
berland."* of H.M. ship "Lancaster," 64 guns), continued
working out and firing signal guns to hurry them in
weighing their anchors. The tide was strong against
us, and the "Blenheim" fired her evening gun (eight
o'clock) before we got on board. Soon after eight it
was to my inexpressible joy that I again put my foot
on board ship for Old England, and *those only* who
have been long absent from their friends and native
country can *conceive* what a man's feelings are on
such occasions; they cannot be *described*. I found
my cabin a most elegant one, and everything on board
had a very delightful appearance. I had never
despaired of the coming of this happy moment, but
when I reflected on the many fine fellows I had left,
buried in India, and that I had been at all times as
liable to the untimely fate that awaited them as them-
selves, I considered myself a fortunate man in having
escaped. I dismissed one of my servants and sent
him on shore, keeping only the boy, Delhi, to accom-
pany me during the voyage. We *got under weigh*
about ten at night, and at twelve the "Henry
Addington" was so close alongside, and the wind
failing at the same time, that they were obliged to
carry out their boats and tow the ship's head round.
Commodore firing guns and making signals to ships
astern. I did not go to my couch till past twelve
o'clock.



CHAPTER XXX.

March 30th, 1806, to July 2nd, 1806.

On Board the "Cumberland" to St. Helena, with a Convoy under
H.M.S. "Lancaster."

1806.

MAR. 30.

*On board
the "Cum-
berland."*

AT daylight this morning we were about ten miles from the north point of Prince of Wales' Island, and distant from the Quedah shore about five miles. The "Lancaster" (the Commodore) was the only ship ahead of us; she fired a gun, and made signals for ships astern to make more sail about seven o'clock. The sternmost ships were not within four miles of us at this time.

This morning I met at breakfast, and was introduced to, Mr. Seager, chief officer, and Mr. Bethune, second. The following ships in company:—H.M. ship "Lancaster," 64 guns, Captain Fothergill, giving the convoy; "Wexford," Captain Clarke; "Henry Addington," Kirkpatrick; "Bombay Castle," Hamilton; "Royal George," Gribble; "Ocean," Williamson; "Earl Howe," Murray; "Windham," Stewart; "Cumberland," Farrer; "Warley," Wilson; "Coutts," Hay; "Exeter," Meriton; "Hope," Pendergrass; "Scaleby Castle."

APRIL 1.

I went down on the gun deck to-day, and visited the chief, second and third officers in their cabins. The "Cumberland" one of the finest ships I ever saw. She carried thirty-six eighteen-pounders, short guns on the lower deck, and carronades on the quarter deck.

APRIL 6.

*On board
the "Cum-
berland."*

Light airs, and very sultry. We were in hopes some boats from Sumatra would come off with fruit. (They brought it many miles out to us when we made the land on our way to India). The wind all the morning was on our larboard beam, and, as my cabin



was on the starboard side (the same which Miss 1806. Wedderburne, sister to the Honourable Mrs. Dundas, occupied on her passage to India when the "Cumberland" came out) it was so close that I could not without difficulty breathe in it. *On the Coast of Sumatra.*

At noon to-day, in consequence of a blow from another lad, one of the maintop boys fell out of the top, down on the fife rails. His head was cut in a most shocking manner, and he was carried down apparently lifeless, but recovering his breath, he continued screaming in agonies of pain, and perfectly senseless. Surgeon had no hopes of his recovery. Captain Farrer immediately ordered the boy who struck him to be put in irons. *On board the "Cumberland." At sea in Lat. 1.25 N.*

Worked the gun deck and exercised the great guns. The following are the motions on board ship :— *APRIL 19.*

WORDS OF COMMAND.

Take out your tompions; run out your guns; take off your aprons; handle your powder horns; prick your cartridges; prime; bruise your priming; secure powder horns; handle crows and handspikes; point your points; handle your matches; blow your matches; fire; secure the vent; handle your sponges; sponge your guns; load with cartridge; wad your cartridge; ram home; shot your guns; wad your shot; ram home; run out your guns. *On board the "Cumberland." At Sea, Lat. 1.58 S.*

Exercising the great guns on board a ship very frequently appeared to me to be of the greatest utility, and a few well-trained men thoroughly acquainted with their quarters, and expert in working the guns, would have infinite advantage over greater numbers less disciplined; and if the China ships were well manned I should conceive them a match for any frigate in the French Service.



1806.

MAY 2.

Lat. 9.33 S.
S.E.P.

The cool, pleasant wind this way was a perfect balsam to my body and mind, and I felt a glow of spirit to which I had long been a stranger. Some fish were seen about the ship's bows, and I took my station on the sprit sail yard arm with the harpoon for nearly an hour, but saw one fish only.

MAY 26.

*On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea,
off the
East Coast
of Africa.*

We had an unfavourable wind during the greater part of this day, and the log did not produce more than sixty miles. It was one of the finest moonlight nights I ever remembered, and it looked well for a pleasant, quiet night when I left the quarter deck at ten o'clock. About midnight the wind freshened, and soon after it came on to blow tremendously. A violent gust of wind came so suddenly that the officer of the watch had barely time to let go the halliards and let fly topgallant sheets to save the topmasts. The ship laid seemingly half-buried on her side in the sea. I was to leeward, and one of my ports being opened, my hat, which was on one of my trunks, was thrown out of the port and lost overboard. The hat I did not mind, but the bearskin on it was the finest I ever saw, although I had worn it upwards of five years, and on every occasion during the four campaigns I served in India. Captain Farrer insisted on my taking from him an excellent new hat.

MAY 29.

At break of day this morning I went up on the quarter deck, from which we could with the greatest difficulty discern the sternmost ships of the fleet. The Commodore himself was barely in sight from the masthead, and if a sudden gust of wind or trifling squall had sprung up in the night we must inevitably have been separated from the fleet, and the consequences might have terminated very seriously. The Commodore now thought it prudent to heave to for us, which any other officer in his situation would have done last evening. At twelve o'clock we could discern his signal for ships to make sail, and about



five in the evening, as we approached the fleet, he made the following signal with the "Cumberland's" pennant flying: "You detain the whole convoy by your inattention."

1806.
On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea,
Off the
Coast of
Africa.
Three
hundred
and sixty
miles from
Madagascar.

Captain Farrer, conscious that no inattention either on his part or on that of his officers, had been the cause of detaining the fleet, was exceedingly vexed at this reprimand, and he had certainly the greatest reason to be so, as from what I saw myself nothing could exceed his anxiety all yesterday, and this morning to get his ship in her station, and if the lives of anyone on board had been depending on it, so far from inattention, greater exertion could not have been made to join the convoy.

Wind shifted during the night, and came nearly aft. The whole fleet under a press of sails, with a light breeze. At ten a.m. we spoke the "Warley," Captain Wilson, and from him we learnt the news so anxiously looked for. Captain Wilson informed us that the Cape of Good Hope was in our possession, that Linois, the French Admiral, had been captured in his ship, the "Marengo"; that an action had been fought at sea between the English and combined fleets, in which the former were victorious, and that Lord Nelson gloriously fell in the battle. Were it allowable to lament the loss of a hero who died gloriously fighting the battles of his country, all must be dejected at the death of that great and noble character, who had so often merited and received the applause, and excited the admiration, of a grateful country, by which his memory will for ever be held sacred.

JUNE 2.
On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea,
off the
Coast of
Africa.
Lat. 33.18.

About one o'clock the "Bombay Castle" asked the Commodore's permission to communicate the intelligence gained from the stranger to the rest of the fleet, which was granted, by signal. The "Bombay Castle" then hoisted the telegraph preparatory

JUNE 4.
On board
the "Cum-
berland."



1806.

*At sea,
approaching
the Land of
the Cape of
Good Hope.
Lat. 33.13.*

flag, and proceeded to telegraph signals to inform us that "Lord Nelson, with twenty-seven sail of the line, attacked the combined fleets, consisting of thirty sail, off Cadiz in November. One and twenty sail of the enemy were captured in the action, and four ships the following day. The Victor (Lord Nelson) was killed. Sir Hume Popham arrived at the Cape on the 1st of January, and it surrendered on the 5th." This not only confirmed the intelligence given us a few days since, but stated to us more particulars. We drank his Majesty's health with cordial good wishes for many returns of the day to him. We had on board the "Cumberland" a French officer, whom the chance of war had thrown into our hands, and it was really affecting to see how much this man seemed to take the misfortunes of his country at heart. He was one of several captured in the Bay of Bengal, and they were distributed through our fleet, and the captains had orders to deliver them over prisoners of war on their arrival in Europe. We ran one hundred and ninety-six miles the last twenty-four hours.

JUNE 6.

*On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea,
off the
Coast of
Africa.*

The sea ran mountains high this evening, and constantly deluged the quarterdeck. I was standing in the ship's waist, looking over to windward, when a sea broke completely over me, and I got a complete swilling; all the seamen in the waist at the time were washed down against the booms to leeward. While I am now writing this, it blows as furious a gale as I ever recollect to have witnessed at sea, and the ship going at nine knots with her mainsail furled, the mizzen topsail handed, the foresail and fore and main-topsails close reefed; but it was blowing us towards dear England, and the roaring of the sea and wind, with the ship going at such a rate, was music to our souls.



At seven this morning the Commodore made the signal for the fleet to continue its course; he stood directly in for the land, either for the purpose of making it again, or of communicating, if possible, some private signal. At noon the haze cleared away, and we found ourselves just abreast of the tableland at the Cape of Good Hope, and Captain Farrer pointed out to me the land which formed False Bay, and the hill near which Cape Town stands.

1806.

JUNE 16.

*Off the
Table Land,
Cape of
Good Hope.*

The sea was mountains high this morning, and it was almost impossible to walk the deck. It blew so hard a gale that we were under the necessity of lying to, for a considerable time, under storm stay sails. The vessel heeled so much that our leeward cannons were frequently buried in the waves. Owing to the tempestuous night the fleet was a good deal scattered, nor were they all in sight from the mast-head.

JUNE 19.

Lat. 35° 50'.

We mounted some additional guns this forenoon, and now the "Cumberland's complement altogether was fifty-six pieces of cannon, and she was one of the finest merchant ships in the world, and if well manned would be a match for the stoutest frigate in the French Navy. Her quarters for the men at the guns were excellent; more lofty and roomy than on board any vessel of the kind I ever saw. She was the ship that laid alongside of the French Admiral's ship, the "Marengo" (eighty guns) on her outward bound passage, and in her turn poured her broadsides into the Frenchman; and it proved a more serious salute, no doubt, than Lenois expected. He sheered off. The "Cumberland" bore part of Commodore Dance's action with Admiral Lenois in the "Marengo," and a squadron of French frigates in the China seas, two years since, so that she had twice bid defiance to this terror of the Indian seas. About ten Captain Farrer came to my cabin windows and told

JULY 2.

*On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea,
Approaching
St. Helena.*



1806.

*On board
the "Cumber-
land."
At Sea,
Approaching
St. Helena.*

me that land was visible from the deck, and we saw the island very distinctly directly upon our weather bow. At noon we could distinctly make out the different and most remarkable points of the island. Two very small detached islands, called Egg Islands, were quite perceptible on the southern extremity, and the Sugar Loaf Hill at the northern point. The breaks in the land along shore, and the craggy beach, which on the eastern face appeared inaccessible, except at Sandy Bay, which is said to be the most vulnerable quarter, and which lies at the eastward-most part of St. Helena, afforded really a very romantic and grand spectacle, and the appearance was highly gratifying to me. At first the island literally appeared a mere speck in the ocean, so very small a place is it in reality. Captain Farrer prepared his despatches and wrote a note to a friend of his to secure lodgings for himself and for me at a comfortable house on the island. In passing close under the Rock and Batteries the scene was very grand indeed; the latter on eminences so completely commanded the ships in passing that a shot entering on the quarter-deck would probably pass out at the keel! On rounding the point on which stands Munden's Battery, the church and village in the valley afford an uncommonly neat and romantic appearance, and what is called the Castle has, from on board, far more the appearance of a barn! About four we anchored in the Roads, and found riding here his Majesty's ship "Adamant" of fifty guns, waiting purposely to give us convoy to dear England. The instant the anchor was gone Captain Farrer and myself dressed and went on shore in the Captain's gig. We went immediately to the Castle, and Captain Farrer introduced me to Governor Patten. We remained about half an hour with the Governor, and from thence to Mr. Leech's, who gave us very comfortable accommodation. At tea we had Mr. and Mrs. Leech and five daughters, Captain Wilson, of the "Warley" (the same who



was cast away in the "Antelope" on the Pelen 1806. Islands, and who carried with him Prince Lebar, the King's son, to England, where he unfortunately died of the smallpox), and several other gentlemen who came also for lodgings at Mr. Leeche's.

*At the
Island of
St. Helena.*

Walked a considerable distance up the valley of St. Helena, and by moonlight the stupendous rocks hanging over the houses seemed to threaten them with immediate destruction, and looked really terrific. Returned about nine, and met at supper a very large party. We eat very fine potatoes, and watercresses, which, to people just come off a long voyage, were a great luxury. Mr. Leeche's family seemed exceedingly polite to all their lodgers, and made themselves very pleasant.



CHAPTER XXXI.

July 3rd, 1806, to August 30th, 1806.
Island of St. Helena and Voyage Home, convoyed by
H.M.S. "Adamant."

1806.

JULY 3.

*At the
Island of
St. Helena.*

AFTER dinner Captain Heathcote, of the Navy, lately in command of the "Hughes," of sixty-four guns, Captain Taylor, and myself took a walk to look at the works fronting the harbour, and very near the valley. We were all invalids, Heathcote and Taylor being, like myself, under the necessity of returning to Europe with very shattered constitutions, and much reduced.

JULY 4.

After breakfast this morning Heathcote, with Taylor and myself, went to look at the works on Ladder Hill Battery; we were joined by Sir Robert Wilson and Captain Christian (son of Admiral Christian). The Ladder Hill Battery completely flanks the harbour, and consists of full thirty pieces of cannon; among them are several 13-inch Mortars. The guns are mostly long twenty-fours. The guns from this battery also have an entire command of the village below, and which might, in the course of an hour, be entirely laid in ashes if an enemy was in possession. A very strong battery, called High Knowle, overlooks Ladder Hill, from the guns of which you may easily dislodge troops from the latter place. At High Knowle they have storehouses, and reservoirs for water, in case of an attack, and supposing an enemy to be in possession of the lower works and the village, they could not remain, so commanding are the works at High Knowle. From these batteries you have a perfect view of every part of the decks of all ships that come sufficiently near to gain anchoring ground, and from the direction in which the guns point down a ship would be very



easily sunk, and without the possibility of the latter ^{1806.} doing any kind of mischief to the batteries, as the height is so great that guns from shipping below could not be brought to bear on them. The only landing place on the beach is guarded by very strong batteries of mortars and heavy cannon, exclusive of the support of the works in different parts of the rocks above; and so very lofty is the land at St. Helena that ships must be seen many hours before they could come near enough to effect a landing of troops, and therefore the little island can never have anything to apprehend from a surprise; and in my opinion if liberally supplied with good troops, would be a match for any moderate force. The water underneath the rocks looked quite transparent, although we were at such an immense height, and the depth of water was also very considerable, we could, notwithstanding, distinctly see the bottom of the sea, near the shore.

*At the
Island of
St. Helena.*

We did not visit High Knowle this morning; as invalids we were unable to proceed higher up the rock than Ladder Hill. Sir Robert Wilson informed me of poor Carlton's death; he was Lord Dorchester's son, and had he survived would have succeeded to the title. I was long stationed with Carlton, and had experienced much attention from him.

This morning was particularly cool and cloudy. ^{JULY 6.} Taylor and myself took the advantage of it, and went to pay a visit to Captain Fothergill on board his ship the "Lancaster," sixty-four guns. Nothing could exceed the politeness with which we were received on board, and Captain Fothergill accompanied us over every part of the ship. We went on all the decks, and through the different store rooms below. The "Lancaster" carried long twenty-four pounders on her gun deck, and upon the quarter-deck two and thirty pound carronades, and long bow and stern chasers. We left the "Lancaster" about one o'clock, and during our cruise went on board the "Royal



1806.

*At the
Island of
St. Helena.*

George" and "Windham" Indiamen; called also on board an American ship just come in from Bombay in eighty days, to learn the intelligence from India. The American had five sick officers on board, returning like ourselves to Europe for their health. Two of the party I recollected to have seen at Bhirt-pore with that detachment of the Bombay Army which joined us there. Dined at three o'clock, and after dinner walked to Munden's Battery, which stands in the middle of the Rock, on the opposite flank of the harbour from the High Knowle and Ladder Hill Batteries. The works were in high condition, the strength of Munden's Battery is fourteen guns, thirty-two, and twenty-four pounders, long guns. At all these posts they have telegraphs, and on the appearance of any ships an alarm is invariably given, both by telegraph signals and by firing a gun for every ship which may heave in sight, to denote the number approaching the island. It was sunset, and the sentinels on board the "Lancaster" and "Adamant" were discharging their pieces before we left Munden's Battery. We were back in time for tea.

JULY 8.

This evening we had a grand ball and supper at the Castle, given to us by the Governor previous to our departure from his little island. We went about ten o'clock. The room was much crowded, and we had a display of all the beauties of St. Helena. I was unable to dance, but was much pleased with the polite attention of some of the islanders. A custom prevails here for which Governor Patten would, I fancy, get terribly hoaxed in any party of England, that of leaving out indiscriminately all the *married* ladies. I remarked to some of the young ladies this very extraordinary custom, and wondered that they attended to such invitations. I was told in answer that if their mothers would give them dances at home they would certainly decline visiting the Governor on all occasions when the old ladies were excluded. At



eleven supper was announced, but those only who had 1806.
partners were able to succeed in getting a seat, as the
Worshipful the Governor had asked more people by
half to his ball and supper than could be accommo-
dated either with partners or anything to eat!

At eight this morning the "Adamant" fired a gun, and made the signal to unmoor. We paid off our score (one guinea a day for board and lodgings) and about eleven the Commodore got under weigh, when Captain Farrer and myself took his boat and went on board. The anchor was a-weigh before we reached the ship, and we were presently under easy sail, standing out with a fair breeze. The "Warley" and "Coutts" were not out till nearly an hour after the rest of the fleet. In about a couple of hours we were at least ten miles from the island. I was standing with Captain Farrer on the ship's poop when an alarm was given that a man was overboard, and in looking over the starboard quarter we saw him swimming astern. The ship was in an instant hove to, and the boat lowered down. The vessel was going five knots at the time, but by the noble exertions of the gallant fellows in the boat they got hold of him just as he was sinking, and brought him on board; although every endeavour to recover him was ineffectual, he never breathed again.

JULY 9.

On board
the "Cum-
berland."
Standing
out of
St. Helena.

On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea, in
sight of
St. Helena.

A pleasant trade wind all this day, and in the after-noon it freshened and we went seven and eight knots. Every day now told, and most anxiously did we look forward to the result of the next month's sailing. My mind was much relieved this evening, and I felt quite happy in seeing that one of the English papers mentioned my father in December last, nine months later than any accounts I had received by letter, my last before I left Bengal being dated March, 1805.

JULY 12.



1806.

JULY 17.

On board
the "Com-
berland."
At Sea.
Lat. 2.30 S.

We had no hopes of clearing the Southern Hemisphere to-day, as the wind continued very light all the day. The opinion of the officers on board our vessel that the Commodore was steering too much to the westward to make a good course of it. The "Coutts," carrying the senior captain of the Indians, made a signal to ask if he should alter his course a point to starboard, which was not answered in any manner by Captain Styles, from which it was concluded that he was in dudgeon at their asking the question, which, in fact, was nothing more nor less than telling him (Captain Styles) that he was steering a wrong course. Thousands of flying fish about the ship this evening.

JULY 24.

Lat. 5.31 N.

At six this morning the Commodore made signal to communicate by the telegraph, and then informed us that the sail spoken to yesterday gave him information of a French line of battleship, and two frigates being very near us, and cautioned all commanders to be prepared. About ten the Commodore gave the signal to clear ship for action, and we immediately commenced clearing the guns on the quarter and gun decks. All the water on the latter was hoisted up and stowed away in the waist, so that our men had excellent quarters at the guns. We were all day prepared for battle, as from the Commodore's motions and signals there appeared little doubt but that the enemy was near us. We had hands all day on the royal yards looking out.

JULY 28.

Lat. 12.17.

All clear for action, but no enemy yet had made his appearance. At seven this morning the wind, which had all the night been variable and light, freshened considerably, and it was judged from the quarter from whence it came that it was the commencement of the North-East Trades, and, as it proved so, we considered ourselves extremely fortunate in bringing the South-East Trades so near it.



Afternoon it came somewhat more favourable, and 1806.
no one doubted its being a confirmed trade.

Lat. 12.17.

It was a beautiful moonlight night, and I did not quit the deck till a late hour, and then so much engaged were my thoughts with the prospect of speedily meeting my worthy friends in Old England that I could not go to rest.

The breeze continued all night, with squalls and some rain at times. The ship heeled considerably, and I was under the necessity of lashing my chair to my couch to be able to sit at my table to read. About eleven, whilst I was standing with Farrer on the poop, the "Exeter" fired a gun and made the signal for a strange sail in the north-east. We conceived it to be one of the squadron of French, which we lately heard was cruising in these seas. Got all ready for battle, and the "Adamant" hauled out of the line, tacked, and made sail towards the stranger.

*On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea.
Lat. 14.40.*

We kept a good look out from the mast head, but no other ships heaving in sight, and the stranger standing directly down for our fleet, it was judged to be either an English ship or an American.

This evening we had a very severe squall, and it came on so suddenly that there was scarcely a ship in the fleet that escaped its ravages. Our foretopsail, mizzen topsail, and foretopmast staysail were torn in pieces by the gale, and the ship laid almost upon her beam ends. A young lad, nephew of Captain Farrer's, who had never been at sea till he came on board us at Saint Helena, was so terribly alarmed that I was really apprehensive that he would have fainted.

JULY 31.

*On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea.
Lat. 16.23 N.
Off the
Cape de
Verd
Islands.*

Farrer was employed on the quarter deck giving his orders, and attending to the duties of the ship, and I took the lad into my cabin and kept him there till the gale abated.

At seven it cleared up a little, and the rain, which had been very violent, abated. The "Wexford" and "Addington" got so close to the "Adamant" that



1806.

*On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea.
Lat. 16.23 N.
Off the
Cape de
Verd
Islands.*

she fired into or over them, as it is a very wise precaution taken by men-of-war to prevent any ships whatever approaching them after dark. I was walking the quarterdeck, and saw plainly the flashes of the "Adamant's" musketry, and at first supposed it to have been something more serious, but as no cannons were fired I hardly thought it could be an enemy. Farrer, who was on the poop deck, explained it.

*On board
the "Cum-
berland."
At Sea.
Lat. 18.43 N.*

I purchased to-day of one of the officers of the ship a piece of china crape for gowns, and for which I paid him £8. In Europe it costs nearly double that sum, and my getting it was a great favour.

Aug. 7.

The wind considerably fallen off during the night, it still continued to blow from the right quarter, and had the appearance of a Trade, though very light in comparison to what we had latterly experienced.

The people this morning employed in overhauling the cables, which had something the appearance of our approach to land, and we hoped that another fortnight would, if not set us on shore, carry us very near to Albion's white cliffs.

Aug. 8.

Lat. 31.15 N.

This morning it was nearly calm, and we had some difficulty in keeping the vessel's head in the right direction. The third officer of the "Coutts" (a Mr. Hamilton) came on board us, and we learnt that the French squadron, which was the cause of our clearing ship for battle, had been seen by the American, which gave us information of them, the evening only before we spoke of her; she sailed two days in company with them, and understood they were cruising purposely to intercept us, and had we been a few hours only sooner, they must have fallen in with us, and much bloodshed would, in all probability, have been the result. The French squadron consisted of a line of battleship and two very stout frigates. Our Commodore carried fifty guns only, so that much



assistance would have been expected and required 1806. from us, and we were prepared to do our best.

The breeze continued very favourable, and the "Adamant" made the signal to steer north-east, as we had by this time got well to the westward of the Azores or Western Island. By Captain Clarke, of the "Wexford," who with a Mr. Walters, his passenger, came on board us last evening, we learnt that one of the strange ships lately spoken with gave information that an English squadron was cruising off the Cape de Verd Islands, in quest, we imagined, of the French squadron we heard of near the Line, and which Captain Clarke informed us was supposed to be the fleet said to have sailed under the orders of Jerome Buonaparte.

Aug. 20.

On board
the "Cum-
berland."
Lat. 41.20.

The gale continued fair for us, and rather increased than otherwise. The sea literally ran mountains high this morning, and constantly broke over us. Our quarterdeck was most completely drenched, and we found it a very wet berth, and left it for the poop. By calculation to-day at noon we were not more than three hundred and sixty miles from Cape Clear in Ireland, and about five hundred from the Lizard. Yesterday and to-day we ran by the log good four hundred miles. At one o'clock the "Wexford" came very close alongside, and we sheered over to port to keep clear of her.

Aug. 26.

Lat. 49.2 N.

We had constant hard blowing weather ever since the 26th, the first part from the north-west, and thence it shifted to south-west. The sea ran mountains high, and was constantly beating over us. On the 27th at daybreak the "Hope" made a signal for seeing a strange sail, bearing north-east. At eight she passed close under our stern, and we saw plainly that she was an English frigate. She shewed the "Adamant" her number, sheered up under her lee,

Aug. 29.



1806.

spoke her, and continued her course to the southward. The frigate appeared to mount forty-four guns, had thirteen ports of a side, mounted twelve guns on her quarterdeck, and four on her forecastle. This evening we were by our reckoning nearly abreast of the Scilly Islands, our course east and by south.

Aug. 30.

*In sight of
the Lizard.
Hussa!
Huzza!*

All hands eagerly looking out for the land of Old England; the morning was extremely hazy and accompanied with very heavy squalls and hard rain.

At eleven the "Bombay Castle" had her signal flying for seeing the land, but with all our eyes we could not discover it. At one p.m. Captain Farrer sent to me and from the poop pointed out to me the Lizard bearing north-north-east, and it was with joy indescribable that I once more beheld my native country, a happiness not to be expressed or imagined by those who never left it.

Most fervently did I pray for the weather to clear up, to give them a sight of us from the shore, that boats may come off, as my desire was to land on the Western Coast, and to go home before I went to London.



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- BECHER, Mr. (H.E.I.C.S.). 1803—
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17, 19, 22, 23, 24, July 16, 22,
23, 26, Aug. 9, 23, 30, Sept. 1,
2, 4. 1805—June 23, 25, Oct.
24, 25, Nov. 30, Dec. 4, 11, 12,
17. 1806—Jan. 3.
- BERRY, Lieut. (wounded in storm-
ing of Aligarh). 1803—Sept. 4.
- BETHUNE, R.N. (2nd officer H.M.S.
"Cumberland.") 1806—Mar. 30.
- BLACK, Col. 1805—June 4, 11.
- BLACKNEY. 1803—Ap. 13.

- BLAIR, Colonel, 2nd N.I. (afterwards Sir Henry Blair). 1802—Aug. 28, 30, 31, Nov. 26, 28-30, Dec. 7, 16. 1803—Feb. 7, 12, 13, 15, July 2, 5, 23, 26, 28, 29. Aug. 2, 5, 8, 11, 13, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 31, Sept. 3, 7, 11, 20, 21, 24, 26, Oct. 1, 7, 10, 11, 12, 20-24, 26. 1804—Sept. 10-13. 1805—June 12.
- BLAIR, MRS. 1803—June 18, 25, 27, 28, July 23, Aug. 11, 13, 15, Sept. 10, 11, 19. 1805—June 12.
- BOILEAU, Lieut., 3rd Cavalry. 1803—Feb. 13, Ap. 11, 13, 16, May 5, 17, Nov. 21, 23. 1804—May 16, July 22, Aug. 9, 21, Sept. 1.
- BOUKETT, Capt. (French Service), 1803, Aug. 31.
- BOURGAİN, Louis. 1803—Sept. 16.
- BOWIE, Colonel. 1805—May 15, 19.
- BOWYER, Lieut., 2nd N.I. (killed in action). 1804—Dec. 23.
- BOYCE, Capt. 76th Ft. 1804—Sept. 26, Dec. 25.
- BOYD, Lieut. 15th N.I. (wounded at Deeg).
- BROOKE, Mr. (Benares). 1805—Nov. 10.
- BROOKE, Lieut. 1805—Oct. 22.
- BROUGHTON, Mr. (Calcutta). 1805—Dec. 17.
- BROWN, Lieut. (killed at storming of Aligarh). 1803—Sept. 4.
- BROWN, Miss (sister to Mrs. Casement, 4th N.I.)
- BROWNE, Q.M. (Artillery). 1803—Aug. 25. 1804—Feb. 12, May 16.
- BROWNE, Lieut. 11th N.I. 1803—May 4, 14, 16, 17, 19, 25, 29, June 20. 1804—Feb. 28, Mar. 5, April 30, June 5.
- BROWNE, Lieut.-Colonel G. 1804—Nov. 14.
- BROWNE, Colonel Sackville. 1804—Sept. 10, 26, Dec. 24.
- BROWNE, Lieut.-Colonel Thomas (Cavalry). 1804—Sept. 26, Nov. 14. 1805—Ap. 22, 26.
- BROWNE, Lt., wounded at Bhurt-pore. 1805—Jan. 9.
- BROWNE, Lt.-Colonel (wounded at storm of Aligarh. 1803—Sept. 4.
- BROWNE, Capt. R.H.A. 1805—Oct. 23.
- BROWNRIGG, Major (Irregulars), (killed in action). 1804—Mar. 3.
- BRUTTON, Capt. (wounded at Bhurt-pore). 1805—Jan. 9.
- BRYANT, Lieut. (wounded at Deeg), 1804—Nov. 12.
- BURGH, Mr., Surgeon of the 12th (killed in Mason's retreat). 1803—Nov. 17.
- BURNE, Colonel, 14th N.I. 1804—Oct. 25, 29.
- BURNETT, Lt.-Colonel. 1804—Dec. 27.
- BURRELL, Capt. 15th N.I. 1803—Sept. 18.
- BUTLER, Brig.-Major Artillery. 1803—Aug. 25.
- BYNE, Lieut. (wounded at Bhurt-pore). 1805—Jan. 9.
- CAMERON, Capt. (killed in storming of Aligarh). 1803—Sept. 4.
- CAMPBELL, Major, wounded 1805, Jan. 9.
- CAMPBELL, Q.M.G. (killed at Laswari). 1803—Oct. 8, Nov. 1. 1805—Ap. 22.
- CAMPBELL, Lt. 1803—Aug. 29, Sept. 10. 1804—June 13, Nov. 17, Dec. 24.
- CAMPBELL, Lt. (killed at storming of Aligarh). 1803—Sept. 4.
- CAMPBELL, Lieut., 2nd N.I. 1803—May 25.
- CAMPBELL, Colin, 78th Ft., A.D.C. to Governor-General. 1805—May 10.
- CAMPBELL, Lieut., 76th Ft. 1803—Feb. 20.
- CARLTON, The Hon., Colonel, 29th Dragoons (died in India). 1803—June 22, July 4, 5, 7-16, 18-20. 1806—July 4.
- CARLTON, Mrs. 1803—June 22, 23.
- CASEMENT, Lieut., 4th N.I.
- CASEMENT, MRS.
- CHATFIELD, Lieut. (wounded at Deeg). 1804—Nov. 13.
- CHESTER, Mr., H.E.I.C.S. (Patna). 1805—Nov. 19.
- CHISHOLM, Capt. (wounded at Deeg). 1804, Nov. 13.
- CHRISTIAN, Capt., R.N. (son of Admiral Christian). 1806—July 4, 8.
- CHRISTIE, Capt., 2nd N.I. (killed in action on the banks of the Jumna May, 1805). 1803—Feb. 20, 21, May 25, Aug. 25, Sept. 13, 20, Oct. 5, Dec. 8. 1804—July 12, 13, Sept. 6.
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- COCKBURN (*née* Miss Ramus). 1805—June 22-25, 30, July 14, 19, Aug. 20, 22, 31, Sept. 7.
- COCKRAM, Mr., Surgeon. 1804—Dec. 28.
- COLEBROOK, Mr. (Patna). 1805—Nov. 19.
- COLES, Mr. (H.E.I.C.S.), Patna. 1805—Nov. 19.
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- COLLINS, Major 2nd N.I. (died at Aliganj). 1802—Aug. 29.
- CONYNGHAM, Colonel, 11th N.I. (wounded at Shikohabad). 1803—Aug. 11, 14, Sept. 7.
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- CORNISH, Lieut., Cavalry (killed at Kachoura). 1803—Feb. 21.
- CORNWALLIS, Lord, Governor-General's tomb at Shazipur. 1805—Oct. 8, Nov. 14.
- COVILL, Capt., 27th Dragoons. 1804—Sept. 26.
- CRAVEN, Lord (killed hunting in England). 1803—Ap. 25.
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- CUTHBERT, Mr. (H.E.I.C.S.), Allahabad. 1805—Nov. 3.
- D'AGUILAR, Mr. (Allahabad). 1805—Nov. 3.
- DAVIS, Mr. (H.E.I.C.S.), Benares. 1805—Dec. 25.
- DAVIES, Mrs. (sister of Mrs. Elliot). 1805—Dec. 25.
- DAWSON, R. (Captain of the "City of London."). 1803—Sept. 22, Oct. 23. 1804—Jan. 24.
- DICKENS, Mr. (H.E.I.C.S.), Penang. 1806—Feb. 6, 8, 15, 16, 18, 26, 27; Mar. 3, 4, 9, 17, 18, 23, 26, 29.
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- DON, Colonel. 1804—Jan. 11, 12-31, Feb. 16, 20, 27, 29, Mar. 4, May 7, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 30, Dec. 13, 14. 1805—Jan. 24, Feb. 20, Ap. 5.
- D'OYLEY, Sir John and Lady and two Miss D'Oyleys. 1804—Sept. 7.
- DOUGLAS, Mr. (H.E.I.C.S.), Judge, Patna. 1805—Nov. 18.
- DOVETON, Capt. 3rd N.C. 1803—Mar. 23, 26, 28, 29, Ap. 3, 30, May 5, 13, 17, 18, Sept. 26. 1804—July 22, 27, Aug. 8, 16, 22, Sept. 1. 1805—Dec. 22.
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- DRUMMOND, Mrs. 1806—Feb. 6.
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- DUBOIS, Colonel. 1805—Oct. 5, 25.
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- DUNBAR, Mr., P. of W. Island.
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- DUNCAN, Lieut., 2nd N.I. 1804—
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- DUNDAS, The Hon. Philip (Governor of P. of W. Island). 1806—
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- DUVAL, A.D.C. to C.M.C. (killed at Laswari). 1803—Sept. 23,
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- DYER, Mr., Surgeon. 1803—June
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- EDWARDS, Lieut. 16th N.I. 1804—
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- ELLIOT, Mrs. (a sister of Mrs. Davies, of Benares). 1804—July
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- ERSKINE, Cornet. 1805—May 17.
- FAGAN, Lieut., 18th N.I. (wounded in Bundelcund). 1804—July 28.
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- FAITHFUL, Lieut., 4th N.I. 1804—
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- FLEMING (killed in storm of Ali-
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- FLETCHER, Capt. (wounded at
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- FLEURY, Monsieur. 1803—Sept. 5.
- FORBES, Lieut., 2nd N.I. (killed at
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- FORD (died of wounds received in
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- FORD. 1805, Oct. 25.
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—Sept. 10, 11, 14, 15, Dec. 3, 23.
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- FOTHERGILL, Capt. R.N. (H.M.S.
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- FRANKLEIN (Paymaster), Benares.
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- FRANKLEIN, Mrs. (sister to Sir F.
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- FRASER, Colonel, 7th N.C. 1805—
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- FRASER, General (died of wounds
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- FRASER, Lieut. (wounded at Ali-
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- FRIELE, Lieut. 11th N.I. (died at
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18.
- FRITH, Lieut., Artillery. 1805—
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- FRITH, Colonel, 8th N.C. 1805—
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- GRAHAM, Lieut. 1803—Aug. 25.
- GALLOWAY, Lieut., 14th N.I. 1805
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- GARNER, Lieut. (wounded at Deeg).
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- GIBBS, Capt. 1805—Oct. 18.
- GIBSON, R.N. (4th officer H.M.S.
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- GILBERT. 1803—Nov. 21, 23.
- GILLAS, Miss (Ghazipur). 1805—
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- GILLESPIE (killed in Bundelcund).
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- GILLMAN (H.E.I.C.S.), Bareilly.
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- GOLDING, Mr. (Chuppra). 1805—Nov. 17.
- GORDON, Lieut. 1804—Sept. 12.
- GORDON, Capt. (H.M.S. "Albatross.") 1806—Mar. 22.
- GORDON, Colonel, Artillery (killed by a mine at Bechaigarh). 1803—Feb. 4, 6, 15.
- GORE, Lieut. (Cavalry). 1803—Aug. 25, Sept. 26, 1804—May 12.
- GOWING, Lieut., Artillery (killed at Bhurtpore). 1805—Feb. 21.
- GRAHAM, Lieut., 3rd Cavalry.
- GRAHAM, Capt. 1805—May 17.
- GRAHAM, Mr. and Mrs. (Ghazipur). 1805—Nov. 13, 14.
- GRANT, Lieut., 2nd N.I. 1802—Nov. 26. 1803—Feb. 13, 25, June 14, 13, 30, July 3, 24, 30, Aug. 1, 3, 4, 6, 11, 16, 23, 30, Sept. 9, 14, 24, 26. 1804—Feb. 21, Sept. 11, 17, 26, 30. 1805—June 12, Dec. 23.
- GRANT, Miss. 1805—Oct. 23.
- GRANT, Lieut., 15th N.I. 1803—Sept. 23. 1805—May 2, 7.
- GRANT, Lieut., 9th N.I. (Killed in action). 1803—Oct. 12.
- GRANT, Colonel (Chunar). 1805—Nov. 8.
- GRANT, Capt. 1805—Dec. 5.
- GRANT, Lieut., 12th N.I. 1804—Sept. 13. 1805—May 9, 13, 27.
- GRAY, Mrs. (née Miss Bassett, sister to Lady Essex). 1806—Feb. 8, 25, Mar. 9.
- GREGORY, Major (wounded). 1805—Jan. 9.
- GREENE, Captain (Artillery). 1804—Jan. 31, Feb. 5, 11.
- GRIER, Miss (married Mr. Cunyng-hame, H.E.I.C.S.).
- GRIFFITH, Lieut., 11th N.I. 1804—May 12.
- GRIFFITH, Major (killed at Laswari). 1803—Nov. 1.
- GRIFFIN, Mrs. 1804—May 12.
- GROVER, Lieut. (Artillery). killed. 1805—Dec. 30.
- GUTHRIE, Col., (mortally wounded at Teteeah). 1803—Feb. 25, Oct. 8.
- GUTHRIE, Mr. (H.E.I.C.S.), Bareilly. 1803—Ap. 16, 22, 25, May 4, 5, 14, 22, 23.
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- HALES, Lieut. 15th N.I. (wounded at Deeg). 1804—Nov. 12, 13.
- HALL, Mr. (Ghazipur). 1805—Nov. 13.
- HALL, Lieut. and Mrs. 1805—Nov. 13.
- HAMILTON, Sir Frederick. 1805—Nov. 9, 24.
- HAMILTON, Major. 1803—Jan. 26.
- HAMILTON, Lieut. (wounded at Bhurtpore). 1805—Jan. 9.
- HAMMOND, Major, 2nd N.I. (killed at Bhurtpore). 1803—Jan. 15, Feb. 7, 13, June 6, 10, 11, 18, 25, Sept. 2, Oct. 23. 1804—Jan. 21. 1805—Feb. 21.
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- HAMMETT, Mr. (Pilot). 1806—Jan. 16.
- HAMPTON, Mr. (second officer "Althea.") 1806—Jan. 23.
- HANNAY, Lieut., 17th N.I. 1804—Feb. 26, Mar. 3.
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- HARRINGTON (Captain of a China ship). 1806—Feb. 20.
- HARRINGTON, Mr. (P. of W. Island). 1806—Feb. 20.
- HARRIOTT, Lieut., 2nd N.I. (lost a leg at Delhi, afterwards Persian Interpreter). 1803—July 21, 23, 27, Aug. 3, 6, 15, 20, 22, 23, Sept. 11. 1804—Feb. 10.
- HARRIS, Lieut., 14th N.I. (killed at Futtehpore). 1803—Nov. 17, Dec. 9, 18, 24, 26. 1804—Jan. 22.
- HARTLEY, Lieut., 15th N.I. (killed at Bhurtpore in the 3rd assault. "He behaved most gallantly and was shot in the entrance of the Bastion to the right of the Breach." 1804—Oct. 5. 1805—Feb. 21.
- HALFIELD, Ensign (wounded at Bhurtpore). 1804—Nov. 13. 1805—Jan. 9.
- HAWKEN, Colonel. 1805—July 21.
- HAWKES, Major, 2nd N.I. (killed at Bhurtpore). 1805—Feb. 21.
- HAWKINS, Lieut., R.N. (of the "Phaeton.") 1806—Feb. 13.



- HAY, Lieut. (Artillery). 1804—Jan. 28, Sept. 26, Dec. 25.
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30. 1803—Feb. 13, June 7, 10,
12, 25, July 27, Aug. 3, 22.
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MacVittie, of the 11th N.I.)
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Aug. 25, Sept. 11.
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"Phaeton.") 1804—Feb. 13.
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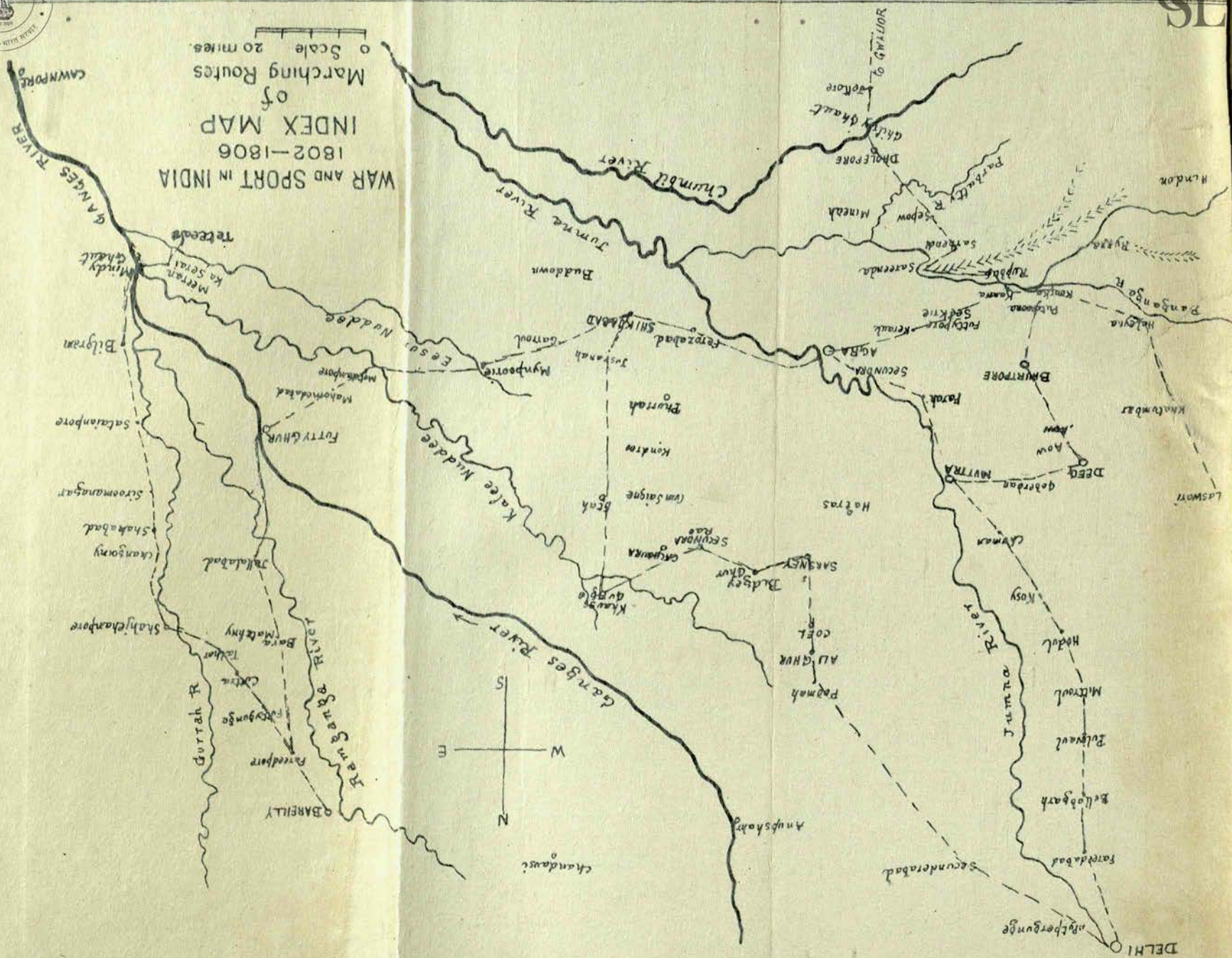
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