

avoid it, or having, perhaps, readily assented, follows him briskly with the whip, to prevent his trotting leisurely, it is quite conclusive evidence that the horse is lame, and the buyer need give himself no further trouble in the matter.

News of the Week.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

From British Papers to the 4th December, by the last Steamer.

CHINA.

China first claims attention, on account of the quasi-final character of the achievements there. The East India Company's steam frigate Sesostria had arrived at Bombay, with intelligence from Hong Kong to the 10th September and from Nankin to the 31st August. The previous mail from the North left Sir Henry Pottinger with the expedition ascending the river Yang-tee-Kiang, after the reduction of Woosung and Shanghai. We take up the narrative in the words of a circular issued by Sir Henry Pottinger to the British subjects in China. 'Dated on board the steam frigate Queen, Yang-tse-Kiang river, at Ching-kiang-foo, this 24th day of July, 1842—'

The expedition was detained by bad weather and other circumstances at Woosung until the 6th of July, on which day it advanced up the river Yang-tse-kiang, and on the 14th reached a military position, built in a range of hills commanding the stream; where two small recently erected batteries, mounting thirteen guns, opened the first fire since leaving Woosung on the leading ships; but were instantly silenced, and the guns, batteries, and military buildings connected with them, destroyed as soon as men could be put ashore.

At this point the main body of the fleet was retarded by adverse winds for nearly a week; during which period, some of the ships of war, assisted by the steamers, got up to Kishan or Golden Island; where the whole armament, amounting to seventy sail of vessels, assembled on the 20th instant, and anchored abreast of the city of Ching-kiang-foo, (about a hundred and seventy miles up the river, and forty-eight miles distant from Nankin.) A reconnoissance having been obtained the same evening, the troops were disembarked early as possible the next morning. It was at this time believed that the majority of the Chinese troops, which had been variously reported at from 1,500 to 3000 men, were in a camp, which was visible from hills overhanging the river, at a distance of about three miles.

Against this camp the right brigade moved under Major General Lord Saltoun. The centre brigade led by Major General Bartley, was directed in the first instance to co-operate with the right one in cutting off the anticipated retreat of the fugitives from the camp in the direction of the city; and the left brigade, headed by Major General Schoedde, landed on the river face of the city, opposite the fleet; where it was instructed to escalate the northern wall, which the centre brigade was likewise appointed to do on the southern side, after it had performed the other duty assigned to it. The Chinese troops in the camp did not venture to stand the near approach of our men, but after firing three or four distant volleys from their jingalls and matchlocks, broke and dispersed all over the country, which was hilly and covered with the jungle. By this time the left brigade had got on shore,—when it became obvious that the Tartar garrison intended to defend the city,—from the walls of which they opened a heavy and incessant fire of cannon, jingalls, wall pieces, rockets and matchlocks. As the left brigade moved up from the landing place, the Auckland steam frigate, which had been placed in position for that purpose, threw some shells among the enemy on the works with admirable precision, but was obliged to cease firing, owing to the rapid advance of the brigade to the bottom of the wall,—which was most gallantly escalated under a heavy fire from the Tartar troops, who behaved with great spirit, and disputed every inch of the ramparts, availing themselves with great tact of the knowledge of the localities to gall our troops and screen their own.

The centre brigade got into the city, after some delay in finding a bridge to cross the Grand Canal, which runs

along the western side of Ching-kiang-foo, and separates the walled city from very extensive suburbs, by blowing open one of the gates; but even after the left brigade had received this large reinforcement, besides parties of marines and seamen who were landed the moment the opposition promised to be so stubborn, the Tartars manfully prolonged the contest for some hours, and it was late in the afternoon before they totally disappeared; which it is surmised the survivors did by throwing away their arms and uniform, and either hiding themselves till night enabled them to escape or else mingling with the other inhabitants.

The city of Ching-kiang-foo is rather more than four miles in circumference, the works are in excellent repair, and the parapet which is so thick and solid that nothing but cannon shot could have made any impression on it, is pierced with narrow embrasures and loopholes, and flanked at a variety of spots with transverse walls.

It has hitherto been impossible, to obtain anything like a precise return of the strength of the garrison,—but, from calculations made with reference to the extent of the works and the Tartar troops seen on them at the same moment, it is thought there could not have been less than three thousand men. Of these it is said that forty Mandarins (officers) and 1,000 men were killed and wounded. The Tartar General commanding in chief retired to his house when he saw that all was lost, made his servants set it on fire, and set on his chair till he was burned to death. His private secretary was found the day after the assault, hidden in a garden,—and on being carried to the spot, recognized the half consumed body of his master—who was worthy of such a death.

The expedition soon after proceeded up the river,—and having anchored off Nankin, on the 5th of August, made preparations for bombarding that part of the city near the water.

The Chinese General commanding the garrison there, Tecupce, was by no means prepared for their reception. A memorial which he had written to the Emperor on the 5th, and which was intercepted, relates the measures taken to provide the fugitives from Ching-kiang-foo with sneter and subsistence, and also declares the defenceless state of Nankin.

General Gough estimates the numbers of the military in that city at 9,000, besides militia; but Tecupce explains why little reliance could be placed upon them,—even if that number could have sufficed for the defence of a city extending over a space of many miles, and said to be filled with a million of inhabitants, who already began to shew signs of fear for their property and lives.

On the 11th, and subsequent days, a large division of the army under the command of Lord Saltoun, landed to the west of the city, and took up a position on a hill about half a mile distant from the walls. But while these and other formidable preparations were in progress, a flag of truce was sent out to the British Plenipotentiary, praying for a cessation of hostilities, and announcing the Commissioners having full powers from the Emperor were on their road in order to treat for peace. The assault on Nankin, which was designed for the 13th was therefore postponed. The high Imperial Commissioners arrived on the 15th.

INDIA.

In India, 'the progress of our arms' has displayed a double series of victories, in the lines of simultaneous march from Jellalabad and Candahar to Cabul. We left General Pollock with Sir Robert Sale and the Jellalabad army at Gundamack. He reached Jagdallook on the 8th of September; and there he found, posted on the heights, a body of Ghilzies, four or five thousand strong. The General describes the conflict which ensued, in a despatch dated Camp, Katta Sang, 9th Sept. 1842, addressed to Major General J. R. Lumley, Adjutant General of the Army in India—

The enemy were assembled in bodies, apparently under different chieftains, each having a distinguishing standard. The hills they occupied formed an amphitheatre, inclining towards the left of the road on which the troops were halted while the guns opened; and the enemy were thus enabled on this point to fire into the column, a deep ravine preventing any contact with them. The practice of the guns was excellent,—yet the enemy appeared so determined on making a stand, that the bursting of the shells among them on the right hill, which was of a conical shape and difficult ascent, had not the effect of making them relinquish it; or of slackening their fire,—which now became heavy from all parts of their position, causing several casualties.

As the guns appeared to have little effect in forcing the enemy to quit the heights, I re-

solved upon attacking them. For this purpose, Captain Bradfoot was detached to the extreme left of the enemy's position; and his sappers commenced ascending a steep hill, on the top of which the enemy were entrenched in a snagab. Her Majesty's Ninth Foot, under Lieutenant Colonel Taylor, were directed to cross a deep ravine and assault the hills on the opposite side, where the enemy held a ruined fort, and were with their chiefs and cavalry in considerable numbers. Her Majesty's Thirteenth Light Infantry, led by Captain Wilkinson, commanding the regiment, attacked the hill, which may be considered the key of the position. The Ninth, accompanied by two companies of the Thirty fifth Native Infantry under Lieutenants Boreana and Trench, the Twentieth by 130 men of the Twenty sixth, led by Captain Gaben, (Major Huish, who although present in the field, was prevented by his wound received at Mamoo Khail from assuming the command,) rushed up the heights simultaneously; and the animated and enthusiastic cheer they gave seemed to strike a panic into the enemy, for they dared not wait the collision but fled down the hills, and were enabled to escape chastisement by the nature of the ground, which was so well calculated to favour their retreat. At this moment, Major Lockwood, with her Majesty's Third Light Dragoons, galloped up, and very nearly succeeded in overtaking the enemy's cavalry; but, I am very sorry to say, they also effected their safety by flight.

Captain Bradfoot had completely succeeded in the attack he made; and the enemy were dispersed in every direction, a large body of them retiring to the summit of a high mountain. On this apparently inaccessible height they posted their standards, and showed every demonstration of maintaining it. As the achievements of the day would have been incomplete were they suffered to remain, I decided upon dislodging them.

The troops ranged in the margin, advanced under cover of Capt. Abbot's guns and those of Captain Backhouse's mountain train. Scoldom have soldiers had a more arduous task to perform, and never was an undertaking of the kind surpassed in execution. These lofty heights were assaulted in two columns, led by Captains Wilkinson and Bradfoot. The discomfited Ghilzies, not relishing an encounter, betook themselves to flight, carrying away their standards, and leaving our troops in quiet possession of their last and least assailable stronghold.

It gratifies me to be enabled to state, that we have thus signally defeated, with one division of the troops, the most powerful tribes and the most inveterate of our enemies, the original instigators and principal actors in those disturbances which entailed such disasters on our troops last winter.

In this action, Capt. Nugent, the Sub Assistant Commissary General, was killed; General Sale was slightly wounded; and 62 men were killed and wounded.

That obstruction removed, the army proceeded; and on the 12th it reached the Tezeen valley, known to us as the recent place of captivity for the British prisoners, but now the scene of the critical conflict which may be said to have decided the result of the campaign. This conflict will be best described in General Pollock's own words, in a despatch to Major General Lumley, dated Camp, Boodkhad, Sept. 14th—

On the 12th I halted, in consequence of the cattle of the second division having suffered from the effects of fatigue, caused by their forced march. This halt the enemy imagined to be the result of hesitation, and in the afternoon attacked the pickets on the left flank,—and became so daring, that I considered it necessary to send Lieutenant Colonel Taylor, with 250 men of her Majesty's Ninth Foot, to drive them back. Some sharp fighting took place,—and the enemy were driven up the neighboring hill from the crests of which they kept up a heavy fire. Lieut. Colonel Taylor, however with a small party, crept up one end of the hill unperceived by the enemy, who were hotly engaged in their front, and lay concealed until joined by a few more of his men, when rushing upon the flank of the routed Afghans, he inflicted a severe lesson, pouring in a destructive fire upon them as they fled down the hill. A chieftain was found among the slain, who it was supposed was the brother of Khoosbox Khan. The enemy remained inoffensive on our left flank, in consequence of this very well planned and gallant affair of Lieutenant Colonel Taylor's, and withdrew to the right, where they commenced a furious attack upon a picket consisting of 80 men of the Sixteenth Regiment of Native Infantry, commanded by Lieut. Montgomery, who sustained the assault with great resolution until reinforcements reached him, when the enemy were beaten off. In this attack the picket had 4 killed, Lieutenant Montgomery and 17 men wounded. The enemy came so close that frequent recourse was had to the bayonet. Their attempts on the pickets continued throughout the night, but were invariably unsuccessful.

The valley of Tezeen, where we were encamped, is completely encircled by lofty hills,—and on the morning of the 13th, it was perceived that the Afghans had occupied in great force every height not already crowned by our troops. I commenced my march towards the mouth of the Tezeen Pass; where I left two guns, two squadrons of her Majesty's Third Dragoons, a party of the First Light Cavalry and Third Irregular Cavalry. The

enemy's horse appeared in the valley, with the intention of falling upon the baggage; but it gives me very great pleasure to state, that the Dragoons and Native Cavalry (regular and irregular) made a most brilliant charge, and with such effect, that the whole body of the enemy's force was completely routed and a number of them cut up.

The Pass of Tezeen affords great advantages to an enemy occupying the heights; and on the present occasion Mahomed Akbar neglected nothing to render its natural difficulties as formidable as numbers could make it. Our troops mounted the heights and the Afghans, contrary to their general custom, advanced to meet them; and a desperate struggle ensued; indeed their defence was so obstinate that the British bayonet in many instances alone decided the contest. The light company of her Majesty's Ninth Foot, led by Captain Lushington, (who, I regret to say, was wounded in the head, ascending the hills on the left of the Pass under a heavy cross fire,) charged and overthrew their opponents, leaving several horses and their riders, supposed to be chiefs, dead on the hill. The slaughter was considerable,—and the fight continued during the greater part of the day, the enemy appearing resolved that we should not ascend the Haft Koral. One spirit seemed to prevail all, and a determination to conquer overcame the obstinate resistance of the enemy, who were at length forced from their numerous and strong positions, and our troops mounted the Haft Koral, giving three cheers when they reached the summit. Here Lieut. Cunningham, with a party of Sappers, pressed the enemy so hard, that they left in their precipitation a 24 pounder howitzer and limber, carrying off the draught bullocks. Having heard that another gun had been seen, and concluding that it could not have gone very far, I detached a squadron of Dragoons under Captain Tritton, and two Horse Artillery guns under Major Dolafosse, in pursuit. The gun (a 12 pounder howitzer) with bullocks sufficient for the two guns was soon captured. The Dragoons again got among the enemy, and succeeded in cutting up many of them. Captain Bradfoot with the Sappers advanced, and with the Dragoons happened to fall in with another part of the enemy, of whom upwards of 20 were killed. I have ascertained there were about 16,000 men in the field opposed to me, a considerable portion of whom was cavalry. Mahomed Akbar Khan, Mahomed Senah Khan, Ameen Oollah, and many other chiefs, with their followers, were present; all of whom, I have reason to believe, have taken to flight.

We have gained a complete victory; and our enemies have suffered severely, having several hundreds killed, losing their guns and three standards, one of which was taken from the enemy's horse by the First Light Cavalry. Although many attempts were made at the baggage, none were successful; chiefly owing to the judicious and admirable arrangements of Lieutenant Colonel Richmond, commanding the rear guard, and for which he deserves the greatest credit.

The enemy being completely dispersed, we pursued our march, and encamped at Khoord Cabul without further opposition.

Akbar Khan fled towards Bameean. Our loss was 32 killed, and 130 wounded; and among the killed were Capt. Lushington, of the Ninth Regiment, Captain Gills, of the sixtieth Native Infantry, Lieutenant Norton, thirty fifth Native Infantry, and Lieutenant Montgomery, sixtieth Native Infantry.

On the 15th, the army encamped on the race course at Cabul; on the 16th it entered the citadel, and the British colours crowned the walls.

The city was nigh deserted. The prisoners who had been left there on the removal of their companions to Bameean were restored by the Kuzzilbashes; they were Mrs Trevor and eight children, Captain and Mrs Anderson and three children, Captain Troop and Dr Campbell, one European woman and four privates. The whole of the prisoners, however, except Captain Bygrave, have been recovered from the hands of Akbar; and Major Pottinger and Captain Johnson arrived in camp on the 21st. General Pollock says, in a letter to the Governor General, that no doubt the rest would arrive next day, he had sent General Sale with a lightly equipped force to meet them, and the whole of the party were with him. It will be remembered that Lady Sale was of the party whom General Pollock sent her husband to meet and escort back.

Murder of Seventeen British seamen by the South Sea Islanders. The ship Offley, Capt Lazenby, arrived in the river Thames from the South Sea Whale Fishery. Seventeen of her crew, who had gone ashore on the Island were massacred by the natives, and the remainder only saved their lives by plunging into the sea, and swimming through a heavy surf to the ship.

Our Victories.—On Wednesday at half past two, the Park guns fired a round of 36, in honor of the victories in Afghanistan and the peace with China. The Tower guns fired as an echo to those in the Park, and in the evening all the churches rung out their bells. Prayers, thanksgivings, &c are deferred.—A holiday and fireworks in the park, with a grand illumination is proposed.—The favourable effect of the glorious intelligence from China and India begins to be felt already in the general markets both of this city and elsewhere in the country. The account of the settlement