

the shore within musket range of the Imperial Canal, which passes through the suburbs of the city, and without meeting the slightest opposition, hundreds of the inhabitants crowding the shore to gaze on her as she passed. This, as well as all our accounts, led me to believe that little, if any resistance, would be made. Not a soldier appeared upon the city walls, nor could I perceive any encampments in the neighbourhood. We returned to the fleet that evening.

4. On the 17th some of the fast sailing ships of war were enabled to pass the bend, and proceeded up the river. On the 19th the Cornwallis effected the passage, and a more favorable change of wind enabled the whole fleet to reach Chinkeang-foo on the 20th.

5. This city, with its walls in excellent repair, stands within little more than half a mile from the river; the northern and the eastern face upon a range of steep hills; the west and southern faces on low ground, with the Imperial Canal serving in some measure as a wet ditch to these faces. To the westward, the suburb through which the canal passes extends to the river, and terminates under a precipitous hill, opposite to which and within 1000 yards is the island of Kin-shan, a mere rock, rising abruptly from the water; a small seven-storied pagoda crowns the summit, and a few temples and imperial pavilions, partly in ruins, and only occupied by Chinese priests, run round its base and up its sides, interspersed with trees.

The island is not more than a few hundred yards in circumference, and by no means calculated for a military position, being commanded completely by the hill on the right bank of the river.

6. About a mile and a half lower down the stream, there is a bluff height connected by a narrow ridge, with a smaller hill, both capped with joss houses, and both commanding the northern angle of the city wall. Here I determined to land one brigade. My first intention, when I reconnoitered this place on the 16th, was to land the other brigades near a range of low hills, about two or three miles further eastward, so as to act against the eastern face of the city; but the fleet having come to anchor on the 20th so far up the river, I was induced to alter my plan of attack, and the more readily, as I perceived from the top of the pagoda on Kin-shan, three encampments at some distance, on the slope of the hills south west of the city. It therefore appeared an object of importance to land a part of the force, so as to cut off these troops; and as I ascertained that there was a good landing place below the hill, nearly opposite to the Kin shan, I determined to disembark there the two remaining brigades, with the brigade of artillery.

7. The necessary arrangements were immediately made for landing at daylight on the 21st. Major General Schoedde's brigade (the 2d) consisting of the troops named in the margin,* was ordered to land at daylight, under the bluff height north of the city; and the Major General was instructed to take and occupy the two hills that command the north and eastern faces, with directions to turn this diversion into a real attack, if he found it practicable without incurring much loss.

8. The first brigade, under Major General Lord Saltoun, was directed to land at the same time below the hill, opposite Kin-shan, occupy this hill with two companies of the troops first landed,† and form on the first open space at its base, out of view of the city and encampments, so as to cover the landing of the brigade of guns under Lieutenant Colonel Montgomerie of the Madras Artillery, and of Major General Bartley's brigade (the 3d).‡ The first brigade, under Lord Saltoun, I destined to attack the encampments, while with the third brigade, and the brigade of artillery, I proposed to operate against the west gate, and the western face of the city, taking advantage of such ground and circumstances as might present themselves.

9. The brigades of Major Generals Lord Saltoun and Schoedde, commenced landing before day light, but considerable delay took place in effecting the disembarkation from the rapidity of the current, the scattered state of the ships, some of which were aground, and from some mistake on the part of one of the new steamers. The guns were next landed, and Major General Bartley's brigade followed. I accompanied Major General Lord Saltoun's brigade in landing, and from the steep hill already mentioned, had a full view of the city and encampments. On the walls of the former, but few men appeared, but the encampments were still occupied, though not more than from twelve to fifteen hundred men showed themselves; I therefore directed Lord Saltoun to move forward at once with the troops of his brigade first landed, the 98th regiment with some companies of the Bengal volunteers, and the flank companies of the 41st Madras native infantry to attack and destroy the encampments, and if possible cut off their communication with the city. I sent three guns under Major Anstruther with this brigade, and a detachment of sappers, in case difficulties should present themselves. Three companies of the Bengal volunteers under Major Kent, having landed sometime afterwards, I sent Major Gough, Deputy Quarter-Master-General, to accompany them, with directions to fall on the enemy's right flank, perceiving a path over some undulating ground which I thought might possibly lead them between the encampment and the city. These three companies first came in contact with the enemy, not having apparently been seen, until they came close to

the position, when the Chinese very gallantly rushed on them, and were not repulsed until they almost came into actual contact. Lord Saltoun executed his orders most satisfactorily, driving the enemy before him over the hills and destroying the encampments.

10. The 26th having landed proceeded to cover the guns, which Lieutenant Colonel Montgomerie had placed in a strong position on a low hill to the west of, and commanding the walls, of which we could take a considerable portion in reverse; I could perceive that no strong body was in reserve at this point, although the embrasures and loop-holes were all manned evidently by Tartar troops prepared to defend their post. Here I determined to make the assault so soon as Major General Bartley's brigade should join me, as I felt assured that my guns would soon clear the ramparts of the Tartars, and I was given to understand that the canal was fordable, a ridge of earth evidently thrown up on the original excavation giving me perfect cover to within fifty paces of the walls.

11. As soon as the 18th and greater part of the 49th joined me, the 26th being for the time attached to this brigade, everything was prepared for the assault; I directed, however, the Deputy Quarter Master General, Major Gough, to ascertain the correctness of my information as to the canal. Three officers rushed down the bank with him, and I think it but right here to mention their names; Captain Lock, Royal Navy, who being an amateur in this expedition, has acted most zealously as my extra Aid-de-Camp; Lieutenant Hodgson, of the Cornwallis; and Lieutenant Heatly, Deputy Assistant Adjutant General, who has ever been forward where he could be useful. These four officers swam the canal, thus ascertaining its impracticability and the incorrectness of my information.

12. I was now equally distant from the west and south gates, but, perceiving that the suburbs would give me cover, I decided on forcing the former; we soon reached this point, and covering parties were pushed on close to the banks of the canal. Major Malcolm, of the 3d dragoons, who acted throughout the day as my Extra Aide-de-Camp, and Brevet Captain Balfour, Brigade Major of artillery, were very active in discovering the approaches to the gate. Two guns, under Lieutenant Molesworth, of the Madras artillery, were also judiciously placed, so as to take the works in flank.

13. Under this cover, Captain Pears, the commanding Engineer, with great spirit and judgment, placed the powder bags, and effectually blew in the gate, giving the troops a clear entrance through a long archway, not, as it proved, into the body of the place, but into an out-work of considerable extent. In this out-work, we met Captain Richards, of the Cornwallis, who had most promptly landed the marines of that ship, on hearing that two gun boats, with artillery, in proceeding up the canal, had unexpectedly approached the walls, and were severely pressed; finding, however, the attention of the enemy diverted, he escalated this work in the re-entering angle near a sallyport. All further difficulties at this point were cleared, as we found Major General Schoedde in possession of the inner gateway.

14. This officer, with his wonted decision, taking advantage of his discretionary power, converted his diversion into a real attack, escalated the city walls at the north angle, cleared the whole line of rampart to the westward, and carried the inner gateway, which was obstinately defended. I cannot too strongly express my approval of the spirited and judicious way in which Major General Schoedde fulfilled my orders; nor can I better convey to your Lordship the operations of his brigade, than by forwarding his report.

15. By these combined movements, a body of Tartars was driven into one division of the western outwork without a possibility of retreat; and as they would not surrender, most of them were either shot or destroyed in the burning houses, several of which had been set on fire by the Tartar troops themselves or by our guns. As soon as I could collect a sufficient body of the 3d brigade, I directed Major General Bartley to proceed with it along the west face, and occupy the several gates to the south and east of the city. The sun at this time being nearly overpowering, I was anxious to keep as many of the men as possible under cover, until towards evening, when I proposed moving into the Tartar city, and occupying the principal positions; but the troops under Major General Bartley, consisting of the 18th, and part of the 49th regiment, were soon hotly engaged with a body of from 800 to 1,000 Tartars, who, under cover of some enclosures, opened a destructive fire upon our men, as they were filing round the walls. The leading division of the 49th dashing down the rampart on their left, while the 18th pushed forward to turn their right; they were soon dispersed, although some of them fought with great desperation. It afforded me much satisfaction to witness the spirited manner in which Major General Bartley performed this duty with a small force of exhausted men. The Admiral, who was moving with the Marines of the Cornwallis along the line of wall which had been cleared by the 55th, hearing the heavy firing, with his usual anxiety to afford assistance, attempted to move across the city, and was strongly opposed in several points in the streets where the Tartars had collected.

16. The sun now became so overpowering, that it was impossible to move with men already fatigued by their exertions, and I regret to say, that several died from the intense heat. We remained therefore in occupation of the gates until 6 o'clock, when several parties were pushed into the Tartar city and to the public offices. The Tartar General's house was burnt; that of the

* Royal Artillery, Captain Greenwood; 55th regiment, Major Warren; 6th Madras native infantry, Lieutenant Colonel Drever; Rifles, 36th Madras native infantry, Captain Simpson; 2d Madras native infantry, Lieutenant Colonel Laund; detachment Sappers, Lieutenant Johnstone.

† 26th Cameronians, Lieutenant Colonel Pratt; Bengal Volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel Lloyd; Flank Companies, 41st Madras native infantry, Major Campbell; 98th regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Campbell.

‡ 18th Royal Irish, Major Cowper; 14th Madras native infantry, Major Young; 49th regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Stephens.