THE MEMOIRS

OF

E. 5652

THE 9TH REGIMENT

MADRAS NATIVE INFANTRY,

CHIEFLY COMPILED

FROM AN OLD MANUSCRIPT

AND EDITED

BY THE ADJUTANT OF THE REGIMENT.

"KHOOSHKEE WU TUREE."

By Land and Sea.

Madras:

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PREFACE.

Some apology may be needed for presenting these Memoirs in their present state to the public. It was at first intended to print only a very limited number of copies for distribution to the Officers of the Corps alone, but as many others have since expressed a wish to obtain the Memoirs, a small edition has been published with the view of accommodating any who may take an interest in the old Madras Native Infantry Regiments, of which the ninth is not the least distinguished

These Memoirs up to 1834 have long existed in the Regiment in an old Manuscript evidently compiled from time to time and from which they have been transcribed with scarcely any alteration or addition.

Trichinopoly,
1st *January*, 1868.

MEMOIRS OF THE

9TH REGIMENT OF MADRAS

NATIVE INFANTRY.

The Ninth Regiment was formed from the Ninth Battalion and the Right Wing of the Twenty-seventh Battalion. It was organized under the supervision and immediate authority of Captain Kelly and is hence designated, and known to the Native Army, as the Kelly Battalion. It was under his command during the year 1772, having been raised at Madura at this period. The Regiment after its formation was ordered to Madras, whence it proceeded to Tanjore to take part in the operations of the siege of that place conducted by Major General Smith, who reduced it in the year 1773.

The services of the Regiment were next required to embark for Bombay, it appears, for the purpose of protecting Raganauth Rao, who fled from his country a regicide, and received an asylum in the Island of Bombay. Against this, the Mahrattas remonstrated which led the Company for the first time to take up arms against these formidable states. On this service the Ninth Regiment was employed and took

part in the reduction of the Island of Salsette and Barache, which places were carried with considerable loss. After taking its share in the whole of this campaign, which secured undisputed possession of Bombay to the British power till circumstances brought on a temporary reconciliation and terms of Peace (entitled the Treaty of Poonah,) in March 1776 the Regiment continued to do duty under the Bombay Presidency for twenty Months and it returned to Madras by sea at the close of the year 1777.

After a short repose, and when the Ranks had been recruited, the Regiment was moved to Conjeveram to form part of a Force there assembled (whose subsequent operations reduced the strong hold of Calastry) and was employed in the capture of the Forts of Caroor, Erode and the Arcot District generally: during this service 1 Jemadar and 16 Sepoys were killed, 1 Havildar and 25 Sepoys wounded. This was an affair of 8 months.

After the reduction of these places the whole Force bent their march upon Pondicherry, Major General Sir Hector Munro Commanding—and that place capitulated to him in October 1778, which closed the operations for that year and having undergone an active service of six years. Captain Kelly was ordered to march his Regiment to Tanjore, the home of most of the Sepoys.

Here the Regiment lay in Garrison for a considerable time, but was again ready at call to march and join the Camp forming under Colonel Lord Macleod, 73rd Regiment

at Poonamallee. Hyder's invasion of the Carnatic about July 1780, rendered it necessary to assemble these forces in order to make head against him. The Garrison of Poonamallee was considered the most centrical place for that purpose; a camp was accordingly formed there under the Command of Lord Macleod, upon the 1st August 1780. Some Regiments of Sepoys, of which the Ninth was one, with four hundred Europeans of H. M. 73 Regiment, and four Brigades of 6 pounders marched to Saint Thomas' Mount and were there ordered to remain until they should be joined by a Detachment under Colonel Baillie, which had a 200 miles march before it to join the Force assembling at Poonamallee and the Mount. To lessen the difficulties this Detachment had to encounter, Sir Hector Munro, who by this time put himself at the Head of the Army, moved the Force to Conjeveram to co-operate with Colonel Baillie, and began his march in August 1780, with a force consisting of 1,000 Europeans, 300 Artillery men, 5,250 Sepoys, some Nabob's Cavalry and 30 Field pieces with which he had to encounter Hyder's overwhelming Army said to number 60,000 fighting men.

On the 29th August the English Force encamped at Conjeveram—Major Kelly Commanding the 9th, was ordered out with his Regiment to reconnoitre on the road and direction it was supposed the enemy would move, whose advanced guard of cavalry he soon fell in with, and before whom he successfully retired to the British Lines.

This vigilant Officer had an opportunity of rendering essential service by engaging to communicate by signal, from the top of a Pagoda at Conjeveram, the movements of Hyder's Troops which were collected in force, and their Camp pitched within a few miles of the British Army. The usefulness of this service was the more obvious, from the impossibility of obtaining the smallest intelligence on account of the circle of horse that surrounded the English Camp. Through the medium of Major Kelly, the General for the first time, was made acquainted with the strength of the Mysore Army, which was computed to cover a space of 7 miles in length and 3 in breadth, having an advanced post close to the English, which post alone appeared equal in magnitude to their whole camp.

This circumstance rendered it necessary to act on the defensive, until a junction was formed with Colonel Baillie, in order to give the enemy battle with some chance of success. The Camp therefore changed ground, and took up a position about 2 miles on the North side of Conjeveram, fronting Hyder's Army, and upon the road from whence the English troops expected Colonel Baillie's Detachment.

This junction was not however to be accomplished and Colonel Baillie's defeat rendered a retreat to Chingleput necessary from whence they retired to Madras with the utmost expedition, with the loss of all their baggage but little harassed by the Enemy's horse, who were satisfied with the booty they acquired in the retreat. Cantonments were mark-

ed out at Saint Thomas' Mount, into which the Force marched about the end of September. The aggregate loss in this retreat was 500 men killed and wounded, of whom 1 Jemadar and 17 men belonged to the 9th Regiment; this closed the Campaign of 1780.

The Detachment, in January 1781 was re-inforced by a body brought by Sir Eyre Coote from Bengal, and when united the whole formed a Force of 7,400 effective men and 62 pieces of Ordnance. Sir Eyre Coote began his march to the South upon the 17th January, with the object of forming a junction with a large body of Sepoys collecting in the Tanjore country under Colonel Burrows, which movement attracted the Enemy's attention from the environs of Madras, and left an opening for the Presidency to be supplied with provisions.

Still there was a general apprehension lest the French Fleet should appear on the coast in order to avail themselves of our recent misfortunes. Sir Eyre Coote, therefore to favor an enterprise upon Pondicherry moved towards it, but no sooner had Hyder heard of the French Fleet being upon the coast, than making a forced march from Arcot, he manifested his approach to the English by a rapid advance of his whole army about 5 in the evening of the 8th within 2 miles of the British Camp, with the intention of getting between it and Cuddalore. The English were in consequence constantly under arms and decamped for Cuddalore, taking a road that led between the Enemy and the Coast, the Enemy continuing his march a breast of us, and towards evening com-

mencing a cannonade which galled and retarded the march of the English while the Rear Guard was kept in one continued skirmish the whole of the night. In this manner both parties struggled hard who should first reach Cuddalore, which point of advantage was fortunately gained by the English at day break on the morning of the 9th and they at once pitched their Camp under the guns of that Garrison, upon finding which the Enemy turned off to the westward. Before the 10th, General Coote had made a reconnoisance of the enemy and he ordered the Line under arms for battle, it was drawn up with the Punar* river on its right, the Bandapollium Hills close upon the left, in which were strong redoubts at intervals, and an extensive plain in front facing the west. A general attack upon all our outposts was the only attempt made by the Enemy in the execution of which they were repulsed.

Upon the 10th of June, the Army marched from Cuddalore to the attack of the fortified Pagoda of Chelumbrum, 15 miles south, when a formidable assault was immediately made upon it by Sir Eyre Coote, but the Garrison offering a gallant defence obliged him after a continued fire for 10 hours, to abandon the attempt with the loss of a brass 12 pounder, 8 Officers and nearly 250 men killed and wounded. The next operation the 9th Regiment was engaged in, was the attack of Chittoor which made a gallant defence for some days, but capitulated upon a breach being effected in the

* *Note.*—The Pennair River is of course meant.

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rampart.—The 9th Regiment under the command of Captain Lamotte was left there as a Garrison, but so persuaded were the army that this place must soon fall again into the possession of the enemy, that many of the officers left letters with those of the 9th Battalion, to be delivered to their friends in prison at Seringapatam, and other places under Hyder, when that event should take place. Hyder, after raising the seige of Tappasore, returned to Arcot, and, as expected, immediately marched and finished his campaign with the recapture of Chittore, and the conquest of the 9th Battalion, which after having honorably capitulated, was, to the shame of Indian faith, denied the privileges of that sacred engagement.

The Regiment remained 2 days in the enemy's Camp, when they were removed, the officers to Seringapatam and Bangalore, and the Native Officers and Sepoys to Bednore, and other remote garrisons in the Mysore country. They were marched thither in an ignominious manner, escorted by a strong guard, who led them round every little village on the road as a public testimony of their exploits, and on reaching the places destined for them, men and officers were immured in dungeons and every cruel mode was adopted by Hyder's Kiladars to force them into their service, but the Sepoys were satisfied to suffer any hardship and indignity rather than forfeit their allegiance to the Company; the Native Commandant of the 9th Regiment was murdered, for his inflexibility, while the Sepoys were set to hard labour

upon most wretched and scanty food, but all these measures were found ineffectual to shake their fidelity and attachment.

It was only when Bednore was reduced by General Mathews in 1783, that the men of the 9th Regiment were restored to liberty and the service, after many of them had been shot for their adherence to the Company. The Regiment was again recruited and organised under then Captain late General Croker and it proceeded to join the force under Colonel Fullerton, who advanced with the Southern Army upon the border of Mysore and took the Forts of Caroor and Darapooram.

On account of the particular vigilance necessary to be kept over the motions of the French at Cuddalore, the army fell back to Vellore and Madras, and Colonel Fullerton being apprised of the general plan of operations was ordered to withdraw to the territories of Mysore, in order to co-operate with the forces employed there.

The attack of Cuddalore was now determined upon, and on the unhappy tidings of the brave Sir Eyre Coote's death on the 26th of April, General Stewart succeeded to the rank of Commander-in-Chief, and in the beginning of June, the General found himself enabled to proceed to the British Camp, and he at once moved on to the bank of the Punar River, [about 5 miles to the west of Cuddalore,] behind which the French were descried in an intrenched Camp, having their picquets stationed upon the plain without. The Force pass-

ed the Punar River next morning in view of the whole French Line, who neither opposed the passage nor gave the least annoyance, until the army had passed the Bandapollum Hills ; this it did upon the 6th of June, taking up it's ground not 2 miles South of Cuddalore. Colonel Kelly, with a reconnoitering party of the 9th Regiment passed secretly over the Bandapollum Hills, through almost impracticable jungle and fully made out the whole disposition of the enemy's right and the construction of a Battery which they had just erected, upon a commanding hill to cover that flank : as the party retreated care was taken to mark with straw all the bushes through which it had taken it's route. A general disposition was now made of the plan of attack which was to be carried into effect upon the following morning at day break.

Colonel Kelly, who had been ordered with his Division [to which the 9th Regiment was attached] to pursue the circuit which he had made the preceding evening over the Bandapollum Hills, gave the first alarm by the attack upon the commanding battery, covering the enemy's Right Wing, upon whith the British flag was instantly placed as a signal of success. Colonel Kelly's party, having now turned their own guns upon the enemy, from the heights of which they had taken possession enfiladed the French line, throwing them into confusion, and thus left an opening for the centre Division to fall upon their right flank, and carry their redoubts in front, while our Right Wing under General Bruce made a cor-

responding movement, and supported by the whole line, drove the enemy under the walls of Cuddalore, carrying every thing before them as they advanced, though with dreadful loss to themselves, as flanking Batteries had been placed by the enemy at every convenient spot, behind which they might retire. Finding themselves thus under the range of the guns at Cuddalore, orders were given to desist from further pursuit and to fall back to the French redoubts which had been carried. This contest continued without intermission until 5 o'clock in the evening and both lines overcome with fatigue, lay upon their arms without firing a shot that night; the loss sustained in this battle was upon both sides considerable; it is not upon record what number of men the 9th lost, though a statement is subjoined of the strength of both Armies at the beginning of the action, with the number of their killed, wounded and prisoners.

RETURN OF THE KILLED, WOUNDED AND PRISONERS.

BRITISH.	K.	W.	P.
King's Officers.....	10	30	0
King's Rank & File	138	347	17
Company's European Officers....	4	10	0
Company's Native Officers....	6	14	0
Company's European Rank & File	13	40	1
Company's Sepoys.	52	277	1
Native Artillery.. ...	18	42	0
Total....	241	760	19

FRENCH.	K.	W.	P.
Officers....	14	25	6
Rank and File	116	389	35
Tippoo's Troops, ...	112	249	70
Total....	242	563	11
Enemy's Guns taken 42			

STRENGTH OF THE BRITISH AND FRENCH ARMIES.

BRITISH.		FRENCH.	
Europeans	4,660	Europeans	3,000
Sepoys	8,340	French Sepoys	3,000
Nabob's Cavalry	1,000	Tippoo's do.	2,000
Effective	11,000	Do. Horse	2,0001
		Effective	11,000
10 pieces of Ordnance.		90 Pieces of Ordnance.	

The General in his orders the following day was pleased to observe upon this occasion the steady and soldier like behaviour of the Sepoys, as reflecting the highest credit and honor upon them.

A Frigate arrived upon the 1st July in the Cuddalore, roads from England, with the tidings of peace with France in consequence of which hostilities immediately ceased betwixt the British and French. This afforded a providential respite to the Army at Cuddalore, who had suffered greatly from fatigue and were so miserably furnished with provisions, that they had scarcely any other food to eat than the gun bullocks that were killed by the Enemy's shot. The Army decamped from Cuddalore upon the 2nd of August and in 14 days reached Saint Thomas' Mount.

Negociations of peace were on foot with Tippoo Sultan, and a treaty was finally settled and concluded on the 11th of March 1784.

The Regiment from this period up to the time of assembling a force under Lord Cornwallis was not actually employed on Field service, still it had its share, in the operations of storming Bangalore on the 21st March 1791, where it remained in Garrison, till called upon again in 1793, and was present at the last capture of Pondicherry on the 23rd of August of that year. The Grenadiers of the 9th Regiment particularly suffered in the storming of a Battery, having one third of their number knocked down. After this service, the Regiment was permitted to retire to Madura, the place where it was raised and again recruited. In the year 1796 it was distinguished by being called upon to form part of an expedition for the reduction of Columbo and Amboyna at a time when embarkation was a novelty to the sepoys, and it is attested that though the system then adopted was Volunteering, there were very few exceptions to the whole Regiment going upon that service.

After taking Columbo and Amboyna in February 1796, and possession made of Point de Galle, the Regiment was appointed to do duty at the latter place, where it remained for 2 years and a half, with the most unshaken fidelity, though separated from their country, connections and prejudices, and it is with regret that men so devoted, should have fallen victims to the unhealthy climate, the effect of which fell in a heavy proportion on this Regiment, as it buried on the Island upwards of 200 of its number.

For this service the Government were pleased to distinguish it with a Medal, distributed to the Native Officers and Sepoys in commemoration of the event.*

The Regiment returned to Madras in the year 1799, at which place its Ranks were again recruited, and it did duty there till the year 1803, when it was ordered for Field service and marched under the command of Colonel Dighton to join the Force assembling in the Cuttack provinces. This Force, after a division from Bengal was united to it, was commanded by Brigadier General Harcout, and its first operation against the enemy was the assault and reduction of the Fort of Cuttack from whence it proceeded to the assault of Barreputty, a formidable strong hold, in the storming of which the Grenadiers of the 9th Regiment had the honor of being the first in the Breach, which was carried. Notwithstanding the loss of the Officer who conducted it (Lieutenant Shepperd) and 17 men killed and wounded, they continued to push on to the cavalier, where the Mahratta Flag was flying and, after a severe struggle, they threw the enemy from it and tore down the hostile color. The individual Grenadier who tore down the color from the staff and exhibited acts of the most daring courage and example in his way to it, by bayoneting every one that opposed him, was in the

* If this was the case the medals have long since disappeared with those who received and wore them. Such distinctions granted to a corps do not belong to the existing members of it but to its name and number and it is hoped that a respectful representation, if made, would secure the remembrance of such services by permission being granted to the Regiment to have the word Amboyna added to its colors.

Grenadier Company of the Regiment as late as 1820, his name Shoutian and his rank that of a Naigue. This exploit being under the immediate eye of the General Commanding, he was pleased to distinguish it by his declared approbation to the individual, and by obtaining for the Regiment from the Marquis of Wellesley, the honor of an additional Color Jemadar,* extra to the complement of Native Officers, as a Memorial of the gallantry of this achievement. The Regiment was here broken up into Detachments and stationed at different places to give security and confidence to the people, who now passed under the authority of the British Government. During this detached state of the Regiment, one Company of it, under Lieutenant (now Colonel) Wight was employed escorting Treasure of several lacs of pagodas to Hydrabad, for Sir Arthur Wellesley's camp, when it was attacked by a large body of Horse which Lieut. Wight succeeded in repulsing, and conveyed the treasure safely to its destination; as this affair came under the notice of a General Order c. c. 22nd of January 1804, it is here recorded in His Excellency's own words.

"The Commander-in-Chief has received an official report, "that a Company of the 1st Battalion 9th Regiment under "Lieutenant Wight, was unexpectedly attacked when "marching through the Dominions of His Highness the "Nizam, in charge of a large amount of Public Treasure, by

* I have made a very diligent search in all the Papers and Records available but cannot discover when this privilege was withdrawn or for what reason

" a formidable Banditti of near 1,200 men, who after an " obstinate contest, were repulsed with the loss of their " leader and a number of his followers."

" The Judgment and gallantry displayed by Lieutenant " Wight on this occasion and the prudence with which he " immediately adopted the best measures for the security of " his charge, have merited the applause of the Commander- " in-Chief, and His Excellency desires the Native " Commissioned Officers, Non Commissioned Officers and " sepoys of the Detachment may be informed that he " considers their steadiness and valor as highly honorable to " themselves, to their Officers and their Corps."

The loss sustained by Lieutenant Wight's party was one Subadar wounded 1 Havildar and 7 sepoys killed and wounded.

All detached parties being called in, the Regiment again re-assembled and marched to Hydrabad in 1804, where it was cantoned till 1806, the latter end of which year it marched for Bellary, where it remained on Garrison duty till 1809. In this year it joined Colonel Close's Force and marched with it to the banks of the Nerbudda, where it co-operated with a Division of the Bengal army. Though there was a great deal of active marching and fatigue; yet this campaign was not distinguished by any fighting; the Force returned and the Camp broke up in May 1810, leaving the 9th Regiment with the Jaulnah advanced Force, which moved again to Ellichapore in 1811, under the Command of Colonel Couran, and

after diverging round the Country, returned to quarters at Jaulnah the end of the same year. From Jaulnah, in 1812, the Regiment, with a Brigade of Guns attached to it, moved in Brigade with the 5th and 7th Regiments Light Cavalry under Colonel, the present Sir John Doveton, to rendezvous at Pundepore, there to co-operate with a large Force from the Bombay army, under the Command of General Montresor. This Force was called to the Field at the solicitation of the Peishwah to subdue into obedience some of his tributary Chieftains, who had withheld payment of their kists and set him at defiance. The mere show of the English Force was sufficient to effect this without bloodshed for when yet in the neighbourhood of their hill forts, and while the ground of encampment was being taken up near Targore, Vakeels were sent to Camp to make ample atonement and settle all arrears due to the Peishwah.

The Madras Division returned to Jaulnah from whence the Regiment marched almost immediately to Trichinopoly, where it was quartered for the period of two years. It then removed to Madras, where it remained about 6 months and in April 1817 embarked for the northward for Field service, landing at Calingapatam whence the Regiment proceeded to Berhampore, thus adding another Regiment to the Brigade stationed there. From this place different parties occupied positions in the Meriah and Goomsoor Hills and were almost daily engaged in skirmishes with the Rebels, with the most decided disadvantages on our side, attended with the most

complete failure; the nature of the service was most, arduous, difficult, and unpromising: the season, the climate, and the rains proved fatal to the enterprise: contagious fever, and Malaria, attacked us on all sides and soon paralyzed the efforts of the Regiment, as indeed it did of the whole Force engaged in this melancholy service, for it proved a greater scourge, and was more destructive than all the events of the War. Besides, the whole Camp was one general hospital, the third of the Regiment, in Officers and men, fell victims to these diseases, and such of the Officers as were spared (with one single exception only) were obliged to go to England on sick leave, to restore their shattered constitutions. In the skirmishes with the Enemy 2 Havildars and 17 Men were killed and wounded, 1 Officer (Lieutenant Field) dangerously wounded.

From this place, the Regiment marched to Hydrabad where it remained till 1822 and then marched to Palaveram.

The 9th Regiment was one of those chosen to be employed in the expedition against Burmah, the order of their embarkation was met with the liveliest cheerfulness, and it is no small praise to their devotedness, that not a man of the Regiment remained behind who was able to accompany its colors.

The Regiment embarked in April 1824, and the Fleet sailing, rendezvoused at Port Cornwallis, where it was joined by the Squadron from Bengal on the 3rd of May of the same

year. On the 4th of May Commodore Grant in His Majesty's Ship, the Liffey, assumed Command of the fleet. The Naval Force consisting of His Majesty's Ships, Liffey, Larne, Sophie and Hancy,* several Company's Cruisers and 40 sail of Transports, having on board in addition to the Bengal Troops, His Majesty's 41st Regiment, Madras European Regiment and 6 Regiments of Native Infantry, the whole Force amounting to 10,000 men, including Pioneers and Artillery. The whole Fleet in the evening of the 11th of May anchored abreast of Rangoon, and were fired upon by the Enemy's Battery ashore; a Cannonade from the Liffey silenced this assault, and the Troops landed without further molestation. The Troops marched into the Town, occupied positions, making the Shoay Dagon Pagoda a Military post, which was considered of the utmost importance from its commanding situation. Up to this date nothing occurred relative to the operations of the Army. Troops were now pushed on, and the reconnoitering parties were in all cases fired upon from breast works and stockades, which led to daily skirmishes and attacks with more or less advantage. Our sentries and picquets were nightly harassed by alarms, and fired at from the jungle, which grew close to our Lines, so that it was impossible to go ten yards into the country without risk of being taken prisoner. On the 3rd of June, it was determined to attack Kemendine, a post which formed a key to Rangoon, and from which the Enemy set off

* Note. This name is illegible in the original Manuscript [Ed.]

their fire rafts and gave considerable alarm to our shipping. The land columns for this service, of which the 9th formed a part, under Colonels Smith and Hodgson, were to attack the stockades but owing to some mistake, these two Columns failed in their attack on the works and retired with the loss of 100 men, and the Flotilla being unsupported, were obliged to withdraw, and drop down the stream. This affair and the favorable situation of Kemendine for annoying us, attaching a considerable share of importance to it, Sir A. Campbell not to leave an opportunity for the Enemy to escape, determined on attacking it on the 10th of June. The breaching guns and Mortars being got into position opened their fire by day-break, and when the Columns moved on to the attack, they entered the place without opposition, the Enemy having evacuated it during the night. The Regiment was left behind as a Garrison for Kemendine. From this time may be dated the commencement of the sickness which prevailed to such an alarming extent in our Army; the subsequent exposure and hard duty upon which the Soldiers were employed equally contributed to fill the Hospitals, and the frequent skirmishes that exposed the men to the baneful influence of the climate, carried off numbers of them. The Burmese on the 6th of September made a desperate attack to capture the Kitty gun Brig and were gallantly beaten off by the crew and a small Detachment of the 9th on board of her; they had absolutely boarded the Brig, and were so far in possession of her, that the Lieutenant with the Crew and

Sepoys concentrated themselves on the Forecastle, whence they cleared the deck, compelling the Burmese to jump over board. The boats of His Majesty's ships arrived in time to sink 3 of the Enemy's War boats and capture 5. The advance of the Burman Army under Bundoolah was hailed with the deepest interest, as giving an opportunity of meeting the Enemy on our own ground, notwithstanding the unfortunate circumstance of having an hospital crowded with sick and convalescents. On the 30th of November it was ascertained that the Enemy had left Donabew.

A reconnoitering party consisting of 50 Europeans and 50 men of the 9th *being* ordered to patrole on the road by which the Enemy was expected to approach, fell in with his advanced Guard at a short distance from our Lines, and thus enabled the British Force to make preparations for his reception. From this time till the 8th of December we were constantly engaged in repelling the assaults of the Enemy, who entrenched themselves within a few yards of the point of attack, while their trenches were so scooped out that they afforded cover from Musket and Artillery, and in a great measure from the explosion of shells; they were also calculated to repel an attack, being strengthened by rows of railing and abattis. A general assault from our Lines on the morning of the 8th, consisting of 4 Columns, amounting to 1,500 men attacked the Enemy's entrenchment at different points and obtained entire possession of it, and compelled the Burmese to retreat to Kokeen, to the attack of which place we were

led on the morning of the 15th. The post consisted of 2 well-built stockades on rising ground, the space between, about three miles in circumference, was occupied by 6 circular entrenchments well defended by an abattis and swarming with men.

These stockades were stormed on all sides by the different Columns of attack, and in the course of half and hour 25,000 men were defeated and dispersed, leaving a number of slain on the field.

The English loss was 16 Officers and 140 killed and wounded. This defeat obliged the Enemy to retire and he did not halt until he reached Donabew where he commenced re-organizing his Force.

The loss of the Burmese from the 1st to the 15th December was calculated at 6,000 men, ours during the same period to about 40 Officers and 500 men killed and wounded. The conduct of the Troops cannot, on this occasion, be better described than in General Orders of the day by the Commander of the Forces.

Head Quarters Rangoon, 18th of December 1824, G. O. No. 1. "The Brigadier General Commanding the Forces feels "that any thing he could say, would ill express his admira-"tion of the cool and enthusiastic valor conducted by the "utmost order and discipline with which the Troops employ-"ed on the 15th advanced and carried the Enemy's position, "yet he cannot refrain from offering his most grateful thanks "to every Officer and Soldier he had that day the honor to

" command, and to assure them, that it will be to him a " most gratifying duty, to bring their heroic conduct to the " notice of the Right Honorable the Governor-in-Council, and " the Commander-in-Chief; what need he say more, than " that 1,300 British Soldiers supported by a small Detach- " ment of Artillery, and 2 Troops of the Governor-General's " Body Guard, nobly stormed and carried by assault, a most " formidable entrenchment and stockaded Camp, defended " by from 20 to 35,000 men, who but a few minutes before " treated their appearance with derision and contempt, from " the security they felt in their own strength and position. " They ought from better experience to have known the " Troops they had to contend with."

The next operation the 9th were engaged in was the attack of Tantabine, a stockade in possession of the Burmese Troops, and commanding the passage of the Tantabine and Lyne* Rivers. Colonel Godwin H. M. 41st was appointed to the command of the Force destined to attack, which was composed of Detachments from the different Corps of the Army. This Force left Rangoon in brigs and gun boats on the 5th February 1825, and on arrival at Tantabine advanced to the assault with such celerity, although 30 pieces of cannon were firing upon them, that they captured the works without much loss, thus entirely clearing the lower part of the country from the remains of the Burman Army.

* This word is barely legible in the original manuscript. [Ed.]

The skeleton state of the Regiment from its sufferings since its arrival, and the number of convalescents removed to Madras, had by this time so reduced the efficient strength of the 9th Regiment, that it was one of the Corps—destined to remain behind at Rangoon, when preparations for advancing on Prome were completing.

The spirit of the Regiment was much affected in regard to the arrangement that applied to the 9th for there was no privation or hardship which they would not have cheerfully submitted to, had they been permitted to proceed with the Army in advance, but in consideration of 242 died on service and killed in action, the number still in Hospital and those removed as convalescents to the Coast, this arrangement could not be dispensed with and became as unavoidable as it was uncheering to the indulgence of their ardent hopes to remain inactive while their more fortunate companions in arms were moving on under their gallant commander to scenes which distinguished their every exploit.

The 9th Regiment was obliged to be contented with such portions of duty as the nature of the service in the lower provinces called for; among these may be enumerated detachments to Pegue, and Bassin, where they remained till the Treaty and ratification of peace with the Burmese, signed in February 1826, restored those that survived to their Native country, for which they sailed in May and relanding at Madras, after a foreign service of nearly three years.

The fatigues of the various campaigns, and their uncommon privations shared by all indiscriminately, the patient endurance by the Native Sepoys of the vicissitudes of so novel a service, waiving the prejudices of Caste, and the customs by which they have been influenced by ages are beyond praise, and evince how well they have deserved the truly parental care and indulgence of the Government they serve, and whose recorded approbation to their Troops is thus expressed in Government General Orders, dated 13th June 1826.

"The expedition to Ava has been distinguished from every "former expedition sent from India, by its duration, by its "great privations, by difficulties of every kind arising from "the climate, and the nature of the country, by its constant "harassing duties, and by its frequent conflicts with the "Enemy. The European Troops in meeting and overcom-"ing all these obstacles have nobly sustained the character "of the British Army. The Native Troops have proved them-"selves worthy of fighting in the same ranks with European "Soldiers. In many former instances the Native Troops of "this Presidency have cheerfully gone on Foreign service, "but in none has the spirit of enterprise been so high and "the devotion to the service so universal as in the late War. "No less than 20 Regiments actually proceeded to Ava. "The Orders for Foreign service were received by all of "them with enthusiasm, whole Regiments embarked without "the deficiency of a man and repeated instances occurred of "extraordinary forced marches of parties absent from the

" Head Quarters of a Regiment about to embark, in order " that they might not be left behind. Conduct so honorable " to the Native Army, so gratifying to the Government does " not cease to be of use with the occasion which called it " forth. Its influence will reach to future times, and it will " long be regarded both in India and Europe, as a memora- " ble example for imitation to the Sepoys and for emulation " in the successors of those European Officers who have made " them what they are."

After disembarkation the Regiment was cantoned at Wallajahbad, which station it left in August 1829, whence it marched to the Mount where it is now stationed.

The Regiment remained at Saint Thomas' Mount until the 14th January 1831, when it marched to Bangalore and arrived at the latter station on the 10th February 1831.

On the 4th of May 1831 the Left Wing of the Regiment marched from Bangalore under the command of Captain James Clemons to act against the insurgents in the Nugger and Bednoor districts.

The Right Wing and Head Quarters of the Regiment under the command of Major Elderton marched from Bangalore in the above service on the 9th May 1831. During the progress of the above mentioned service, the Regiment was broken up into several Detachments, the Head Quarters remaining at Anantepoor for a considerable time, the Left Wing under the command of Captain Clemons accompany-

ing the Resident in Mysore and a detachment composed of two Companies being despatched to Chickmogloor under the Command of Lieutenant Cameron. Part of the last detachment accompanied by some of the Mysore Troops were on the 28th May 1831, engaged with a body of the insurgents, calculated to amount to about 1,500 men, which had attacked the Fort of Wastara, and succeeded in repulsing them and in relieving the Fort, taking from the Enemy an iron gun.

The Fort of Luckawally which had been occupied by the insurgents was secured by a Detachment under the command of Captain Clemons and a quantity of provisions together with two iron guns taken in it.

After the evacuation by the insurgents of the town of Bednoor, the Head Quarters and Right Wing of the Regiment returned to Bangalore, where they arrived on the 10th July 1831, the Left Wing remaining to garrison Nugger under the command of Captain Clemons.

The Left Wing returned to Bangalore on the 2nd of August 1831.

During the above service, the Regiment, in common with the other troops composing the Force employed, underwent severe hardships from the difficulty of procuring provisions and the unhealthy and almost impossible nature of the country.

The Regiment remained at Bangalore until the 10th November 1833, when in consequence of the re-appearance of

Servajee Naick [one of the leaders of the Nuggur insurgents of 1831,] in the Manjerabad districts with a considerable body of adherents, it marched to Banawanah and encamped there, leaving strong detachments at Belloor and Chickmogloor and latterly at Manjerabad until the 5th of March 1834, when in consequence of the prevalence of fever in the Camp at Banawanah, it moved to Arekerah, and remained there until the 15th of the same month, when it marched to Kensumah Hooscottah to form part of the Northern Column of the Coorg Field Force then assembling there under the command of Colonel Gilbert Waugh for the invasion of the Coorg Territory by the route of Codlepett, the Buk Pass, and Soamwarpett. The Northern Column of the Coorg Field Force was composed of 300—Rank and File of H. M. 55th Regiment under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Mill.

The 9th Regiment N. I. under the command of Lieutenant Colonel J. Perry.

The 31st Regiment L. I. under the command of Major Bird. Party of Sappers and Miners under Lieutenant Ditmas Engineers, Artillery men with 2 Six pounders under Lieutenant Timmins.

The Northern Column entered the Coorg Territory near Codlepett on the morning of the 1st April 1834 and met with no opposition at that town which had been entirely abandoned by the enemy and its inhabitants. After advancing about 7 miles beyond Codlepett the advanced guard

under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Mill, was fired on from a thick wood, on the left of the road, from which however the Enemy was speedily driven with little loss, on either side, and the Column halted for the night at Shenavasunta.

The Column moved again on the morning of the 2nd of April with the intention of reaching Soamwarpett in the Evening. The advanced guard under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Perry was repeatedly fired on, from the jungle on both sides of the road and at about 1 o'clock P. M. reached a very strong position occupied by the Enemy at Bessivinhulloor, which after a very heavy fire of about a quarter of an hour's duration was stormed and the Enemy driven out. The loss of the Column in wounded at this attack was considerable. The 9th Regiment had 1 Naik and 4 Privates severely wounded. Several hours elapsed before the road through the late post of the Enemy could be rendered passable and in consequence the Column did not reach the village of Kubulla about 3 miles from Soamwarpett, until night fall and in consequence halted there for the night.

On the morning of the 3rd April the Column advanced towards Soamwarpett, but in consequence of the extreme badness of the road did not arrive in the vicinity of Buk Pass until about 11 o'clock A. M. Here it was discovered that a strong bamboo thicket, containing a considerable village and completely commanding the road, was occupied by the enemy and it was considered necessary to make a considera-

ble detour to the left over some rice fields and a nullah with a high and precipitous bank. This movement occupied nearly two hours and the whole force was much fatigued and exhausted by the excessive heat of the day and the great labor required to get the guns and tumbrills over the above obstacles. The advanced guard commanded by Major Bird arrived in the vicinity of the enemy's position at about 1 o'clock P. M., and immediately afterwards a very heavy fire was opened on it from the front and left flank which were completely commanded by the enemy's position which extended along the face of a very steep and thickly wooded hill. At about fifty feet from its summit, the road after proceeding from a deep nullah at its bottom for several hundred yards in a lateral direction made a sudden and acute turn to the gate way which was defended by enormous wooden gates with strong bamboo and thorn barricades in front and flanked on the right by a strong wall of bricks and mud and on the left by a lofty timber stockade, the whole being completely masked by the thickness of the jungle and felled trees and bushes skilfully disposed for that purpose by the enemy. The assailants failing in several attempts to enter the work, and losing many men from the severe and incessant fire of the defenders, were obliged to lie down and take advantage of whatever cover they could find, renewing their fire and attacks at intervals as reinforcements arrived from the main body of the column which was compelled to halt at the foot of the hill by the evident impossi-

bility of getting the guns and tumbrills over the nullah there. The attack continued till about 5 o'clock P. M., when all attempts to force the position having failed, and the enemy having occupied the whole of the jungle on the left of the road between their post and the nullah and maintaining from thence a heavy and destructive fire on the main body of the column, the attacking party was withdrawn, leaving a very large number of killed and wounded on the ground ; the force then retreated in very good order to Kubutta, but little molested by the enemy (who showed no disposition to expose themselves) and arrived there at about 7 o'clock 7 P. M.*

The Regiment lost one Ensign killed and had a Quarter Master Serjeant, a Bugler and four Privates wounded. The Column moved on the following day to Huhnagoad, where it remained until the 7th April, when intelligence of the success of the principal Column under Colonel Lindesay, having arrived, Colonel Waugh marched with the principal part of his force to Muddekary,† leaving the 9th Regiment and Artillery at Huhnagoad.

The Regiment marched for Muddekary on the 9th April 1834, and arrived there late on the night of the 11th having met with almost insuperable difficulties from the excessive badness of the road and the complete exhaustion of the

* During the retreat, which was partly covered by the Grenadier Company of the 9th Regiment, Captain Borthwick, and the present Subadar Major of the Corps returned and exposed to a severe fire carried off to the rear a wounded Sepoy who subsequently expired from his wounds. [Ed.

† Mercara.

cattle, which rendered it necessary to have the guns and tumbrills dragged by the men of the Regiment and the Sappers and Miners for the whole distance.

The Regiment marched from Muddekary on the 16th April by the Kuddumkull* Pass to Bellary Pett for the purpose of opening a communication with the western coast in that direction and of preventing disturbances in the Coorg territory below the ghaut. After a short stay it was moved to Puttoor and halted there until the 10th May 1834, when it commenced its march by the Bissby ghaut towards Vellore and after a short halt at Bangalore in order to collect the families of the Regiment which had remained there, since its departure in November 1833, it resumed its march and arrived on the 21st June 1834 at Vellore. In June 1834, the Regiment marched to Vellore where it arrived on the 21st of that month.

On the 29th January 1837, the Regiment marched from Vellore, and on the 25th March following arrived at Quilon.

In August 1839 the Regiment was granted the distinction of wearing on its colors and appointments in addition to the word Ava a galley with the motto "*Khooskee Wu Turee*" in the Persian character ["by land and sea."]

Fort St. George, 6th August, 1839.

"No. 121 of 1839. In consideration of the readiness al-
"ways evinced by the 9th Regiment Native Infantry to pro-

* This is a most difficult pass especially for Troops. In some parts there was (one or two years ago) but room for one man at most abreast.

" ceed on Foreign Service from the earliest period at which " Native Troops of this Presidency were required to embark " on ship board, the Right Honorable the Governor-in-Council " is pleased to permit that Regiment to bear on its colors and " appointments in addition to the word Ava" a galley with " the motto Khooskre Wu Turee in the Persian character."

On the 13th February 1840, the Regiment marched from Quilon, and arrived at Cannanore on the 16th March following.*

On the 3rd October 1843, the Regiment marched from Cannanore and arrived at Secunderabad on the 21st of December following. It was attacked by Cholera at Sheenum in Mysore and suffered very severely, the disease continuing to rage until the arrival of the Regiment near Bellary, a period of 30 days. The loss was as enumerated.

3.	Native Officers.	134.	Privates.
1.	Staff Sergeant,	13.	Boys.
10.	Havildars.	2.	Bazar Establishments.
9.	Naigues.	1.	Puckally.
1.	Drummer.	1.	Artificer.

Total...175.

And about 520 followers, relations of the men in all very nearly 700 souls.

* In the year 1841, a small party under Ensign (now Lieutenant Colonel) C. M. Shakespear went in aid of the Civil power from Calicut against a some Moplahs who had killed a Nair peon and taken possession of a Mosque. The Moplahs were summoned to surrender but refusing to do so were all killed while attempting to force their way through the Sepoys to get at the Nair peons who were in the rear.

On the 7th February 1846, the Regiment marched from Secunderabad and arrived at Kamptee on the 7th March following: with the exception of a few cases of fever, there was no sickness in the Regiment during this march.

On the 8th October 1850, the Regiment marched from Kamptee and arrived at Secunderabad on the 2nd December following; where it was detained in Camp, until the 11th of February 1851, for the purpose of enabling the relief of Corps of that season to be carried out. On the 11th February 1851, it march from Secunderabad and arrived at Madras on the 24th March following. Cholera in a mild form, attacked the Camp at Rajoorah on the 13th November 1851, and continued till the 2nd of February 1851. The loss was 11 Privates and 22 followers.

On the 31st March 1852, the Regiment embarked for Foreign service to Rangoon, to take part in the 2nd Burmese War. It arrived at the mouth of the river on the 7th of April 1852, and moved up and anchored in front of Dallah on the 11th of April 1852, between two stockades when a heavy fire was open from both, from the effects of which 5 Privates were wounded.

On the 12th of April 1852, the Regiment landed at Rangoon, and took part in the 3 day's operations against that place, Ensign Hawkes was wounded on this occasion and 1 Private killed.

A Detachment consisting of the Grenadier A. B., Light, 40 men of the C. Company in all 300 men with the Officers noted in the margin, embarked on board the H. C. Steamer Frigate Moozaffer on the 17th May 1852 for Bassein at the storm of which place, on the 19th of the same month it was present: a subdivision of No, 1 Company under the command of Lieutenant T. C. Ansley particularly distinguished itself at the storm of the mud Fort at Bassein (on the 19th of May 1852) which called forth the following G. O. C. dated 5th June 1852.

Captain Borthwick
" Haines.
Lt. Shakespear.
" Ansley.
" Grant.
" Williams.
Ensign Sanders,
" Peyton.
Asst. Surgeon J. F. Williams.

"To Captain Rice, Captain Durroch and Lieutenant Caster, H. M. 51st L. I., to Lieutenant Ansley, 9th M. N. I., &c., the Governor-General in-Council begs leave to convey his best thanks. The Governor-General in-Council has particular satisfaction in adding the expression of his entire approbation of the gallantry and good conduct of the Officers, Non-commissioned officers and men of H. M. 51st L. I. of the 9th Regiment M. N. I., of the Madras Sappers and Miners and of the Seamen and Marines employed in the capture of the city of Bassein. 1. Private was killed and Lieutenant (now Lieutenant Colonel) Ansley, 1 Havildar and 6 Privates were wounded at the Storm of the mud Fort. The Head Quarters of the Regiment was established at Bassein on 1st June 1852: and on the 17th December 1852 embarked on board H. M.

Steamer " Rattler" for Rangoon and arrived there on the 19th of the same month.

On the 19th March 1853, Lieutenant J. M. Taylor of the Corps (who was acting Interpreter to H. M. 51st Regiment L. I.) was killed near Donabew whilst gallantly leading on to the attack of the Enemy's entrenchments, a company of the above Corps.

On the 26th November 1852, Captain Campbell, 50th N. I., doing duty with the Regiment, accompanied by Ensign Peyton and Lieutenant Pulley with 100 men proceeded on detachment to Yandoon and returned to Rangoon on 29th July 1853.

On 3rd July 1853, Captain Irby accompanied by Lieutenants Ansley, Grant and Handyside with 140 men, proceeded on detachment to Donabew and returned to Rangoon on the 18th October 1853.

On 22nd July 1853, Captain Wood, accompanied by Ensign Carr and with 100 men proceeded on detachment to Yandoon and turned to Rangoon on 18th October 1853.

On 7th March 1854, Captain Wood accompanied by Ensign Peyton with 140 Men proceeded on detachment to Monyo beyond Henzadah. Captain Wood rejoined Regimental Head Quarters on the 31st of May leaving Ensign Peyton with 70 men at Monyo who returned with his detachment on the 30th of August 1854.

On the 25th March 1854, Captain Irby, accompanied by Lieutenant Handyside and Ensign Carr proceeded with 100 men on service by land into the Pegue District.

Half this detachment was left under command of Lieutenant Handyside at Sangoway, the other half proceeding with Captain Irby and Ensign Carr to Sarawah. The party under command of Captain Irby rejoined Regimental Head Quarters on the 20th May 1854, that with Lieutenant Handyside on the 7th June 1854.

The Head Quarters with the Gr. A. B. and C. companies embarked at Rangoon on the 13th December 1854, to return to the coast and disembarking at Coconada on the 18th halted the 19th and marched into Samulcottah on the 20th of the same month.

On the 6th January 1855, a detachment proceeded under command of Ensign Peyton to relieve a similar detachment of the 8th M. N. I. at Rajahmundry.

On the 19th January, Captains Irby, Wood and Ensign Johnson, arrived from Rangoon, at which place they embarked with the D. E. G. Companies on the 13th January 1855. On the 2nd February 1855, in G. O. G. No. 33 of that date, the honorary distinction of wearing in their colors and appointments the word "Pegu" was granted to the 9th Regiment in common with the other corps engaged in the 2nd Burmese War. A medal was also issued.

On the 10th December 1857, the Regiment marched from Samulcottah, and arrived at Secunderabad on the 21st January 1858. No cholera on this march.

On the 7th November 1857, a guard over the treasury at Juggiapettah of 1 Havildar, 2 Naigues and 18 Privates, were attacked by a numerous body of Rohillas. In defending the treasury the Havildar, Naigues and 1 Private were killed and the remainder were afterwards overpowered, one Private being wounded. The Rohillas there plundered the treasury, breaking up part of the Arms of the guard, but not offering further violence to the men.

The Regiment marched from Secunderabad on the 13th November 1858 on field service in the Berar districts with the force as per margin under the command of Colonel Roberts for the purpose of co-operating with other forces then in the field in pursuit of Tantia Topee and other rebels and Marauders who were disturbing the peace of the Hyderabad territories. It continued so employed in the Berar country until the 13th March 1859 when it marched into cantonments at Jaulnah to be there stationed.

B. Troop H. A.
½ E. Do Native.
2 Mortars R. A.
1 Sq. 7th L. C.
1 Troop 12th Lancers.
2 Co. 1st Royal Regt.
9th Regt. N. I.

On the 30th January 1863, the Regiment left Jaulnah for Bombay there to embark for Moulmein. It was conveyed by rail from Munnar to Bombay at which latter place it arrived on the 10th February and was detained there in camp till

the 27th of the same month when it embarked on board the Steamer "Sydney" and Transport "Tubal Cain" in tow and arrived at Moulmein on the 15th March 1863.

On the 19th May 1863, No. 2 company under the command of Lieutenant W. G. Carr proceeded on detachment to Port Blair and rejoined Regimental Head Quarters on the 11th of January 1864.

On the 26th of December 1863, Lieutenant R. Wilson proceeded with No. 3 company to relieve the detachment at Port Blair.

On the 8th of December 1864, Lieutenant E. G. V. Holloway proceeded with No. 4 company to Port Blair to relieve No. 3 company which rejoined Regimental Head Quarters on the 19th of December 1864.

On the 20th of April 1865, the detachment under Lieutenant Holloway rejoined Regimental Head Quarters from Port Blair, having been relieved by a detachment of Police.

On the 24th of May 1866, the Regiment left Moulmein for Trichinopoly. It was conveyed, the Right Wing and Head Quarters on board the Steamer "Arracan" and Left Wing on board the Transport "Tubal Cain." The former reached Negapatam on the 6th June 1866, and proceeded by train the same day to Trichinopoly; the Left Wing arrived at Negapatam on the 13th June 1866 and reached Trichinopoly by train the same day.

WAR SERVICES OF THE 9TH REGIMENT M. N. I.

YEAR.	NATURE OF SERVICE.
1773.	Operations against Tanjore. Siege and reduction of the town of Tanjore.
1774-6	Reduction of Salsette and Barrache (Bombay) and other operations.
1778.	Reduction of the Forts of Calastry, Caroor and Erode. Capture of Pondicherry.
1780.	Action with an advanced Guard of Hyder Ally's Cavalry.
1781.	War with Hyder Ally. Capture of the Fort of Chittoor.
1783.	Capture of Forts Caroor and Davapuram. Battle of Cuddalore.
1791.	Capture of Bangalore.
1793.	Siege and taking of Pondicherry.
1796.	Taking of the Island of Amboyna. Captuer of Colombo in Ceylon.
1803.	Capture of Cuttack. Storm of Fort Bareebutty. A Mahratta Color captured. A Treasure Escort repulsed a large body of Horse.

WAR SERVICES OF THE 9TH REGIMENT M. N. I.

YEAR.	NATURE OF SERVICE.
1809.-15	Operations in the Nizam's and Peishwah's dominions.
1817.	Operations in the hill-country of Goomsoor and Meriah.
1824.	1st Burmese War. Action of Kemmendine, repulsed an attempted Seizure of the gun brig "Kitty" Storm of the Stockades of Kemmendine and Tantabine.
1831.	Employed against Insurgents in Nugger, Mysore. A detachment repulsed the attack of much superior force upon the Fort of Wastara. Capture of Fort Luckawally.
1834.	Formed part of the Northern Column against Coorg. Action of Bessivinhullore. Attempted storm of, and repulse at the Buk Pass.
1852.	2nd Burmese War. Capture of Rangoon. Storm of Bassein.
1858.	On Field service in the Berar districts in Colonel Robert's Column.

VOYAGES UNDERTAKEN BY THE 9TH REGIMENT. N. I.

YEAR.	FROM AND TO WHAT PLACES.
1. 1774—5	To Bombay.
2. 1777	From Bombay to Madras.
3. 1796	From Madras to Amboyna.
4. 1797	From Amboyna to Ceylon.
5. 1799	From Ceylon to Madras.
6. 1817	From Madras to Munsoorcottah.
7. 1824	From Madras to Rangoon.
8. 1826	From Rangoon to Madras.
9. 1852	From Madras to Rangoon.
10. 1854—55	From Rangoon to Coconada.
11. 1863	From Bombay to Moulmein.
12. 1866	From Moulmein to Negapatam touching at the Andaman Islands.