

miral engaged to replace with seamen. This was the whole strength in this undertaking, except a 20 gun ship stationed above Hugly, to preserve a communication between the fleet and army. On the 18th they took Catwa by storm; and without much resistance or any loss. This was a necessary precaution, in order to secure a retreat, in case of a miscarriage; this town and fort being situated advantageously on that branch of the river, which forms the island Cassimbuzzar. Here also intelligence was expected from the conspirators, for their future conduct. But it does not appear that Jaffier dared yet to trust to his interest in the Nabob's army; which was assembling with all diligence about the capital, at the first news of the motion of the English army towards Muxadavat.

A. D.
1757.

Catwa
taken by
storm.

Colonel Clive continued at Catwa three days, and on the 22d crossed the river, and advanced immediately to attack the Nabob's army^o, which consisted of 20,000 men, well provided with artillery; exclusive of two divisions under the command of the conspirators. Their 24 pounders, under the direction of French gunners, began to play about seven in the morning, long before our field pieces were able to do any execution. But what carried the most disagreeable aspect in this day's service, was the behaviour of the conspirators; who, during the engagement, remained inactive spectators, leaving the whole work to be done

Strength of
the Nabob's
army.

^o Encamped on the plains of Flaisley.

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