

writers belonging to the East India Company's establishment; a formidable array to besiege, confound and oppress a defenceless woman.

As in the Iliad, Homer gives a descriptive catalogue of the generals and troops employed in the siege of Troy, and his practice has been followed not only by epic writers in general, but by historians and novellists, who usually give a preliminary account of the chief actors in their epopœa before introducing them upon the stage, I will make you acquainted with the besieging and storming party that accomplished this memorable coup de main.

First there was Major-General ——— who so ably afterwards conducted the predatory expedition to Rangoon, a fat man, who is blessed with a conveniently forgetful memory, as will amply appear in the *séquel*; a man of great profession and no performance. Next came a leader of note, who had distinguished himself in the wars with the Battas, and other Indians in the interior of Sumatra; a man of an ancient highland family, and who, being the only real gentleman, as well by birth and education, as by manners and behaviour, in the concern, it is the more to be wondered at that he should have lent himself as an active participator in this infamous transaction, and as an insulter of an unprotected woman. These were the commanding officers; and under them, as subalterns, came, the aforesaid Dutch renegado, whose actions, as I shall relate them, will sufficiently characterize him; one Head, who, from his happy genius in taking of all manner of oaths, has since received the nick-name of *the swearer*; and an honest Scotchman the only one of the band who behaved with civility and attention, and did not take an active part in the brutal outrages of all propriety that followed. As