

and went down with a revolver, conjecturing that the enemy would send in some one to see what had disturbed the miners. After waiting awhile, a sepoy descended with his musket, and advanced to my end of the gallery, where it was quite dark, whereas the light streamed down at his. I let him come in about his own length, and then shot him through the shoulder. I pursued him, and fired again, but the cap snapped, and he escaped, roaring with pain. The enemy let water into the gallery, and an hour after, it fell in.

Another day, while crawling through the galleries, I heard their miners at work, and for two hours I sat watching for them as they noiselessly approached. A small hole was first made, through which the miner thrust the handle of his tool, to try what it led to, for they knew nothing of our listening galleries; as he withdrew it, I shoved down the narrow partition with my hands, and put a pistol to his breast. It missed fire again and again as I went in after him, and he scrambled out screeching with fear. I waited in the gallery, thinking it probable that one of the sepoys would venture in; and, after much squabbling as to who should do it, a sepoy jumped down, cautiously keeping his body back from the mouth of the gallery. He put his musket in towards me, showing no more than his hand: I felt certain he would look before he fired, and reserved my shot. It was a hazardous moment, for whichever fired first was sure to hit. Fortune favored me! As he stooped, his left arm and shoulder was exposed—my bullet passed through it—and he lost no time in getting out to his comrades.

The miner in his haste had dropped his tools in the shaft, and the mutineers—who were only about three yards from me—threatened to shoot him if he did not fetch them. The poor creature remonstrated most sorrowfully, and my heart sickened as he prayed, before descending, that they would see to the support of his family. He leaped down, crying "Mercy! mercy!" I could not fire a second time, as he slowly climbed out wounded, exclaiming he was dead! I grieved that our own imminent danger made it compulsory to intimidate the enemy's miners, so as to render it difficult to obtain the services of such men.

On another occasion this 'ugly customer' sat waiting for sepoys in a damp mine for nine hours, and was only driven from his unpleasant watch by the cramp. It was very exciting, he tells us—and we can easily believe it—squatting in a dark hole of the earth, and listening to the enemy as they lessened the partition between them and him, until presently a stroke of the pickaxe placed him face to face with the astonished miner, who was, in Residency parlance, 'immediately potted'; or, in other words, who 'glared with fear as he spread out his arms, screaming, and fell back mortally wounded by the revolver into the shaft. These poor wretches used to come out to their deaths with pomp and circumstance enough of barbaric war.

When not defending the walls from an attack, our principal duty was to sit on the roof of our dwelling, protected by a thin earthen parapet, and observe the enemy in a street running parallel to the Kaisur Bagh, along which the guards passed to relieve the besiegers. As the native chiefs resided in the direction of the palace, all extraordinary movement of troops was thus known to us at once. We relieved each other every two hours, and recorded in a book whatever was remarkable. The assaults were usually made in the day, and were always preceded by constant reports from the look-out like

this: "A large body of infantry, with six standards, gone from left to right. A long line of matchlock-men, with numerous green and red colors, gone in the same direction—in all about six thousand. About five hundred cavalry, regular and irregular, preceded by drums, apparently escorting men of rank mounted on elephants; swordsmen mixed with bowmen following for about ten minutes. Two brass guns, seemingly twelve-pounders, drawn by bullocks, and escorted by infantry and cavalry, went by at a trot—two small horse-artillery guns, and wagons, pulled by bullocks. A small party of regular cavalry, some of gray uniforms, escorting a man of consequence, preceded by drums and two standards. Several doolies. More infantry and matchlock-men in irregular order, and a long line of running swordsmen and archers."

The look-out, although an excessively hot and unsafe place, was a point of intense attraction on these occasions: and some authority had to be exerted to keep all the curious off the roof, over the parapet of which it was dangerous to lift your head.

The enemy, after the assaults, invariably returned home in the same order, followed by the wounded on litters; but the infantry, matchlock-men and swordsmen, no longer walked with head erect, chest puffed out, arms stiffly swinging to and fro. Nor did the cavalry plunge and caracole, nor the dark, slim Passe caper and stretch his bow, as he glibly followed in the wake of his discomfited compatriots. To us in the distance, the whole procession, there and back again, resembled a pantomimic display. But they always left us to bemoan the death of some fine fellows, who had nobly borne their share in repelling the onslaught. We usually had a few days' relief after these great processions, when the look-out was rather monotonous.

What a restless, anxious time of it the poor garrison had at this time, may be gathered from the fact, that for two nights after Havelock had retired to Cawnpore, their hopes of instant relief were sustained by a pony in a dark stable, whose tremulous efforts to shake off insects from his sides were echoed in a well close by. It was of course after the first relief, and when the relieving-party were themselves beleaguered, that Kavanagh gained his prefix of 'Lucknow.'

Sir James Outram had, it is true, furnished the commander-in-chief with accurate plans for advance, but these were only for a certain route; and if circumstances should happen to render that unavailable, it was of the last importance that he should have a reliable European guide, who could conduct him by other ways. Swayed by these facts and reflections, Mr. Kavanagh imparted to Kunoujee Lal, a spy, who was returning on a certain night to the commander-in-chief, then at the Alum Bagh, with a despatch, his desire to venture with him in disguise. The native at first positively refused to incur the additional risk to which the company of a second person, and he a European, must needs expose him: but after hearing a specimen of the volunteer's Hindostanee, and upon the promise of a fit reward for himself, consented.

'I now sought a lonely spot where I could commune with myself, for until I secured a proper companion I would not prepare myself for the worst. I sat amazed at my boldness, unable to concentrate my thoughts, which came and went with a vehemence I had never felt before. Gradually, as the awfulness of death crept into my bewildered mind, the perturbation extended to the heart, and it beat violently against my side. The feelings of both overpowered me, and

came pouring out in large drops through my eyes, as I sat with a flushed face buried in my hands. This precious effort of nature relieved me, but the attempts made, over and over again, to think calmly of the enterprise, only brought back the agitation; and I was obliged at last to seek the company of my comrades to compose myself. Whilst conversing with those fine fellows, I deliberated in my mind, and by two o'clock in the afternoon, resolved to volunteer my services through Colonel Robert Napier. I was impelled to the step I now took only by a sense of duty.

Colonel Napier expressed surprise at the offer, and at once pronounced the attempt impracticable, his features relaxing into a smile as he said so, for he evidently regarded the proposal as most absurd. He was, however, so much pleased with this further evidence of the zeal of his protege, that he went into the chief-commissioner to mention it, followed by me. Sir James Outram listened as I disclosed the reasons for wishing to go out, and figuratively placed them in one hand, and my life in the other, and asked whether the advantages were not weighty enough to over-balance his scruple to adventure a single life. He was not less astonished than Colonel Napier; but, in the true spirit of chivalry, he at once conceived and appreciated the motives of my proposition, and reasoned with me upon the probability of success. He frankly confessed that he thought it of the utmost importance that a European officer, acquainted with the localities and buildings intervening between the Dilkooah and the Residency, should be provided to guide the relieving force, should its commander determine on advancing by that route; but that the impossibility of any European being able to escape through the city undetected, deterred him from ordering any officer to go, or even seeking volunteers for such a duty. He observed that my services as a guide would be very valuable, and that he, therefore, with difficulty resisted the temptation to accept my disinterested offer, of which he thought he ought not to avail himself. I was, however, so earnest in my entreaties to be allowed to go, that he yielded, provided he was satisfied with the disguise, and that I was of the same mind when the hour for departure arrived.

The most difficult part of the leave-taking, however, still remained for him, for Mr. Kavanagh was a husband and a father. 'I lay down on the bed with my back towards my wife, who was giving her children the poor dinner to which they were now reduced, and endeavoring to silence their repeated requests for more. I dared not face her, for her keen eye and fond heart would have immediately detected that I was in deep thought and agitated. She called me to partake of a coarse cake, but, as I could no more have eaten it than have eaten herself, I pleaded fatigue and sleepiness, and begged to be let alone. Of all the trials I ever endured, this was the worst! The most kind and affectionate of women had been my companion for nearly thirteen years, through which she had patiently and courageously endured much trouble and discomfort for my sake. We were happy and contented to go on together the whole tenure of our lives surrounded by our family. The efforts I made to suppress all outward manifestations of distress swelled my heart, and so pressed on my brain, that I had suddenly to leave the room, pretending that I was wanted at the mines.' At six o'clock in the evening, upon the same pretence, he affectionately took leave of his family, and set about the work of his disguise.

'I endeavored, without exciting suspicion,