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Veritas sumendum est optimum. - Cic.

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Seige and Capture of Delhi.

In the Bombay Gazette, of the 17th Oct. we have details of the glorious capture of Delhi, and the operations which led to it. The account is by an eye witness.

From the period of the arrival of our army before Delhi in June last, up till very lately, the position occupied by our troops has been in effect a purely defensive one. It extended from the picket at Metcalfe's house, close to the river on the left, along the ridge facing the north side of Delhi, as far as the Sufzee Munde suburb on our right, where this ridge terminates—the distance from the city wall averaging from 1,200 to 1,500 yards.

We had from the first no choice as to the front of attack, our position on the north side being the only one that could secure our communications with the Punjab, whence our supplies and reinforcements were drawn.

Whether the city might or might not have been carried by a coup de main, as was contemplated first in June, and afterwards in July, it is needless now to inquire; but, judging from the resistance we afterwards experienced in the actual assault, when it had been greatly reinforced in men and guns, it appears to me fortunate that the attempt was not made. The strength of the place was never supposed to consist in the strength of its actual defences, though these were much undervalued; but every city, even without fortifications is from its very nature, strongly defensible, unless can be effectually surrounded (as Delhi was), and within Delhi the enemy possessed a magazine containing upwards of two hundred guns and an almost inexhaustible supply of ammunition, while their numbers were certainly never less than double those of the besiegers. Few would doubt then, that the General in command exercised a sound discretion in refusing to allow a handful of troops, unaided by siege guns, to attack such a place, knowing as he did, what disastrous results must follow a failure.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ASSAULT.
By the beginning of this month, however, we received the seige train from Ferozapore, and further reinforcements of European and native troops from the Punjab, and it being known that there was no hope of any aid from down country for a considerable time, it was resolved that the seige should be prosecuted with the utmost vigor. Our available force amounted in round numbers to 6,500 infantry, 1,000 cavalry, and 600 artillery. Europeans and natives—the regiments in camp being her Majesty's 9th Lancers, her Majesty's 6th Dragoon Guards, Guide Cavalry, Hodgson's Horse, and detachments of the 1st, 2d, and 3d Punjab Cavalry; her Majesty's 8th foot (part of), 52d, 60th, 61st, 62d, 63d, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72d, 73d, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82d, 83d, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92d, 93d, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102d, 103d, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122d, 123d, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132d, 133d, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142d, 143d, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152d, 153d, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162d, 163d, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172d, 173d, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 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