

after a short contest, he fled utterly routed to Calcutta. The Budge Budge fortress was besieged and breached by Admiral Watson, 29th December, 1756, and evacuated by the enemy during the night, on the firing and summons of a drunken sailor, who was thought by the Hindoos to be followed by the whole English army.

The furious onslaught of the British, had so alarmed the Governor of Calcutta, that he fled on the approach of Colonel Clive, leaving but 500 of the Nabob's troops for his protection, who only stood a few broadsides from our ships (after losing about 20 men) when Calcutta Factory became once more the property of the East India Company. The Town of Hooghly was next taken possession of by assault, after a slight resistance, but on the 2nd February, 1757, the Nabob Surajah Dowlah arrived before Calcutta, with a large army and artillery, rejecting every armistice or negotiation. He was immediately attacked by Clive, with a force consisting of 650 troops of the line, 100 artillery men, with 12 field pieces, 800 sepoy, and 600 seamen. After a severe contest, in which the devoted valour of British troops struck terror into the enemy, the former returned to Calcutta, and a peace was concluded with Surajah, and the East India Company were authorized to re-assume their possessions in tranquillity, to fortify strongly Calcutta and carry on trade as before.

Intelligence of war being declared between Great Britain and France having reached India, and it being seen that Surajah was only temporising, until he saw a more favourable opportunity for the expulsion of the English, Colonel Clive formed the project of deposing the Soubah or Nabob, (the sailor was named Surajah, and on being brought on board his ship and flogged for going on shore, his characteristic reply was, that he'd be damned if ever he'd take another flog for them). The remains of the fort choked up with ruins still exist, but the greater part of its materials were recently employed in the more useful structure of an English Inn. The British loss in *Milded*, was, Europeans of the line 27; seamen, 12; sepoy 16; *in wounded*, Europeans 70; seamen, 12; sepoy, 36. The Nabob lost 22 officers of distinction, 600 men, 500 horses, 4 elephants, several camels and a great many bullocks.