

no parallel to this exploit of 1751, till we come to the siege of Lucknow in 1857."

Malleson affirms that "Arcot was the turning-point in the Eastern career of the English."

Where, from the high-souled leader, who thought it not beneath his dignity to fire cannon with his own hands, to the meanest of those hard-beset in the fort or trenches, the defenders' courage and determination were unfailing, it would savour of indecency to select any for special approbation; yet the spontaneous exhibition of devotion by the Sepoy contingent to their fellows of European birth, in foregoing the solid grain of the rice, and eking out a meagre subsistence from the water alone in which it was boiled, seems the very acme of selflessness.

Verse XLIV, lines 3 and 4.—The fort had been captured without the firing of a shot, the natives imagining that none other than Beelzebub himself could, in the terrific storm which was then in progress, have been their assailant.

Verse XLV.—Towards the end, the effective strength of the garrison was about 300, of whom less than one-half were British, while the assaulting ranks numbered 7,000.

Verse XLVI, line 1.—"*Seringham*." Before the seizure of this post, Major Stringer Lawrence had returned from England, and being the senior officer in Madras, took command. The success, though, here was Clive's individually, Lawrence having detailed him to accomplish the diversion sought. Samiaveram was the actual battle-ground.

Line 4.—"*Chunda*." Chunda Sahib, the Indian prince whom Dupleix had virtually seated on the musnud, or throne, as Nawab of the Carnatic, and who was the rival of the British figure-head, Mahomed Ali.

Verse XLIX.—The splendid tribute paid by Kipling in his "*Songs of the Cities*," to Clive for his rehabilitation of