

night attack on his camp. The motives which induced Lieut.-Col. Harvey to make, and me to agree to, this proposal were these:—This position, though strong for a large body, is far too extensive for me to hope to make any successful stand against the superior force understood to be advancing against me in three separate points, viz.: by the lake, by the centre road, and by the mountain on my right. The attack, I knew, would not be delayed; I had neither time or inclination precipitately to retreat from my position. I therefore embraced the proposition of Lieut.-Col. Harvey as an alternative not only more worthy of the gallant troops under my command, but as offering the best chance of crippling the enemy and disconcerting all his plans, as well as gaining time for retreat should that measure still be found necessary.

The enemy's camp was distant about seven miles; about half-past 11 I moved forward with the five companies of the 8th King's and the 49th Regt., amounting together to only 704 fire-locks. Lt.-Col. Harvey, who conducted it with great regularity and judgment, gallantly led on the attack. The enemy was completely surprised and driven from his camp, after having repeatedly formed in different bodies, and been as often charged by our brave troops, whose conduct throughout this brilliant enterprize was above all praise. The action terminated before daylight, when three guns, with one brass howitzer, with their tumbrils, two Brig.-Gens. Chandler and Winder, first and second in command, and upwards of 100 officers, non-commissioned officers and privates remained in our hands.

Not conceiving it prudent to expose our small force to the view of the enemy, who, though routed and dispersed was still formidable as to numbers and position, he having fled to the surrounding heights, and having still four or five guns, the troops were put in motion at daybreak and marched back to the cantonments. After we had retired and it had become broad day, the enemy ventured to re-