

Hampshire Telegraph and Sussex Chronicle etc
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THE MASSACRE AT CANDY.

The following are the additional particulars of this melancholy affair :

“ While our troops were on their way to Trincomale, the Adigar on the 26th sent them a message, saying, the King positively insisted that they should march back to Candy and lay down their arms, and that Mootoo Swammy, the new King, should be given up to them. After some time Major Davie marched back towards Candy, and was met by the Adigar and the Dillavacs or Chiefs, and shewn where they should pile their arms, close to the town.— When that was done, the Europeans were marched to some distance from their arms, which were immediately secured by the Candians. The Malay soldiers in our service were separated from the Europeans and marched another way. The Candians then took the new King, Mootoo Swammy, and put him to death on the spot. Major Davie and Capt. Rumley, of the Malay regiments, and Capt Humphreys, of the Bengal Artillery, were separated from the rest of the Officers. The other Officers, eight in number, with all the men of the 19th, were then led away, tied two and two. The greater part were then brought into the jungle in this state, and, horrid to relate, beat against each other with clubs till they expired. The remainder by two and two, had their throats cut; one corporal of the 19th, as already stated, only escaping; he had his head and neck desperately cut, and was thrown among the heap of slain; but at night was able to creep into the wood and make for the river, over which he swam, though very broad and rapid, and escaped to Fort Macdowal. In all there were 198 Europeans of the 19th put to death, and nearly the whole of the Malays, who would not voluntarily enter into the King's service.

“ Many of those who did so to save their lives, contrived to effect their escape. Major Davie, Captains Rumley and Humphreys, were kept prisoners for some days after the first massacre, and when the grand feast was made upon establishing the King again on the throne at Candy, these unfortunate men were dragged out in the presence of the King and all his Dillavacs, by command of the Adigar, and put to death in the most cruel and inhuman manner.

“ Several valuable Malay Officers perished in their attempts to protect the Europeans. A very fine young man, not above 17, Ensign Barry, of the Malay Corps, who was reserved from the first slaughter, being sent for a few days after by the Adigar; to come before the King, finding his execution at hand, snatched a sword from one of the guards, and thrust it through his body.

“ We are told that, in consequence of the inhabitants of a village, in the route of the British troops in Ceylon, supplying the latter very critically, with a quantity of paddy, a party of Candian troops stationed in the vicinity, made a descent on the poor defenceless and unsuspecting offenders, and put them all to death.”