

A SUPERB 22ND FOOT SCINDE 1843 TO AN OFFICER PROMOTED FROM THE RANKS MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES FOR SERVICE ON GENERAL NAPIER'S STAFF AT THE BATTLE OF MEEANEE AND SEVERELY WOUNDED IN THE JAW BY A MATCHLOCK AT THE BATTLE OF HYDERABAD. HE FURTHER COMMANDED A COMPANY OF THE 22ND DURING THE CAMPAIGN IN THE SOUTHERN MARATHA COUNTRY, 1844-5 AND WAS MENTIONED IN LT COL HARVEY'S, 14TH LIGHT DRAGOON'S DISPATCHES



SCINDE MEEANEE HYDERABAD 1843 'LIEUT J BRENNAN 22 ND REGT.'

Mentioned in Major General Napier's despatch for the battle of Meeanee, 18 February 1843:

"During the action, Lieutenant Brennan was scarcely from my side a moment, except when conveying orders"

Captain Brennan's statement of service is particularly detailed, giving the following regarding his service:

"Served in the campaign of Scinde as Provost Marshall to the force under the command of Major General Sir Chas Napier K.C.B., was present at the battle of Meeanee on the 17th February 1843 and assisted in conveying the General's orders during that day. Was also present at the battle of Hyderabad on the 24th March 1843 and was acting Staff Officer to the Left Brigade commanded by Major Poole, H.M. 22 Regt at that engagement. Served in the Southern Maratha country in 1844-45 under Major General; Dalmott, was present during the investment and capture of Forts Panulla, Tourishurr on 1st Dec 1844, mentioned in Lt Col Harvey's, 14th Light Dragoon's Dispatches, who commanded the 3rd Brigade. For vigorously seconding him in cheering on the leading sub division of H.M. 22nd Regt. Was also present at the investment and reduction of the Forts of Munnahur and Munsuntosh in January 1845"

Regarding his wounds received at the battle of Hyderabad:

"Severely wounded by a matchlock ball at the battle of Hyderabad on the 24th March 1843 which passed through the centre of his chin and came out in a slanting direction under the right side of the lower jaw bone – Only received three months pay as Lieutenant as a remuneration."



As well as the above, included in the copied research are various Commander In Chief's Memoranda for appointments. These include a lengthy letter from Brenan relating to his service which as well as confirming much in his statement of service, adds that he served on the Staff of General Napier throughout the Scinde campaign and commanded a company of the 22nd during the campaign of 1844-5

Captain Brenan's Army Lists entry notes:

"Captain Brenan served throughout the operations in Scinde (medal), including the destruction of Imaumgur and battles of Meeanee and Hyderabad (severely wounded). Was afterwards present at Panulla, Pownghur, Munnahur and Munsuntosh"

CAPTAIN JOHN BRENAN'S SERVICE

John Brenan was born on 3 September 1805 in Castlecomer, County Kilkenny and enlisted into the 22nd Foot at Bremen on 2 September 1825. He served with his Regiment in Jamaica from December 1826 and was promoted to Corporal on 6 October 1827. Promoted to Sergeant on 11 April 1828 and to Colour Sergeant on 31 July that year, he was reduced to Private on 12 September 1830 (reason unknown). Promoted back to Corporal on 21 April 1832 and to Sergeant Major on 26 August that year, he continued to service in Jamaica until returning home in January 1837. Serving at various stations in Ireland, he was Commissioned Ensign in the 64th Foot on 17 September 1839. However just three weeks later, he transferred back to the 22nd Foot and embarked with his regiment to India on 8 January 1841. Promoted Lieutenant on 30 April 1841, he served throughout the Scinde campaign on the Staff on General Napier, being Mentioned in Despatches for his service at the battle of Meeanee and was severely wounded in the jaw by a matchlock ball at the battle of Hyderabad. He was clearly in the thick of the action at the latter to have received such a wound, as the effective distance of such a weapon was not great.

Brennan briefly served as Acting Quarter Master in late 1843 and in 1844, took part in the under Major General; Dalmott campaign in the Southern Maratha country, 1844-5. During this time he commanded a company of the 22nd and was involved in the investment and capture of various forts; mentioned in Lt Col Harvey's, 14th Light Dragoon's Dispatches. Serving as Acting Adjutant from December 1845, he was confirmed to that position on 13 March 1848 and subsequently obtained 2 years leave (on Private affairs), departing for England in December 1848. Promoted Captain on 28 December 1849 (whilst on leave), he returned to India in January 1851. Captain Brennan exchanged to the 53rd Foot on 7 May 1852, retiring on Half Pay on the same date. He later served with the Dublin City Militia. 689 Scinde medals were awarded to men of the 22nd, 467 with the Meeanee and Hyderabad reverse. 5 Officers and 133 Other Ranks were wounded at the latter battle.

Note: Brennan's name is variously spelt Brennan, Brennan and Brennan throughout his various documents and other sources. However he signs his name Brennan, so this will be the correct spelling.



Condition VF, correctly engraved, some contact wear, original ribbon and lovely dark patina to both medal and brooch bar. A quite superb 22nd Foot Officers Scinde medal.

Sold with a large and comprehensive file of copied research, including extracts from musters, Officers service records, recommendations, gazettes, an ORMS article on the 22nd during the Scinde campaign etc. A roll of Scinde medals to officers and Senior NCO's, noting previous sales and locations of known medals notes this medal, along with Lieutenant Stopford's, as Hamilton 1927