

Hector Munro.

Extracted from An-

History of the Munros of Foulis.

Alexander Mackenzie.

p. 514

K.L.

Hector Munro. was the son of Hugh Munro of Nova-
 way, who married Isabella Gordon, dau: of ^{alex. d} Sir Robert
 Gordon ^{Guthrie} of ~~Somerville~~. Hugh Munro kept a small shop
 at Clayside - "a general merchant" as it was
 called. His estate must have been of small
 extent - (he had other children besides Hector -
 - a son Alexander - who became Consul-General
 of Madrid & died at Ramsgate 1809. & 3^d dau:
 the young 2nd Jane - married Baillie Alex^d
 Shaw Inverness.)

Hector, the eldest-son was born in 1727 - &
 entered the army at an early age - He is
 supposed to have rescued the famous Duchess of
 Gordon from an uncomfortable predicament
 while travelling in Scotland - He took the

place of an inloxicated pretension, & she is supposed to have procured him his commission as a reward for this service - — (in the 34th Regiment)

The Biographical dictionary. P 1202. Vol 13.

states he was promoted to a Lieutenant in the 31st Regiment of Foot. in Ireland Jan 5th 1754.

MacKenzie says he was given special instructions to apprehend Cluny in 1754. he however has been sent into Badenoch with four squadrons of Dragoons to apprehend all suspected persons - He captured John Duth Cameron - An notorious robber - known as "Sergeant Mor" who was afterwards executed.

Cluny however eluded him & escaped to France & it is related, that on one occasion having arrived to search the house of Cluny - the Chief finding his escape cut off - disguised himself as a groom & held Burns horse -

Extract from History of the Munros of Fowls.
by Alexander.

Hugh Munro - 2nd son of Hector Munro 18 of
Novar - for many years he had a

receiving a skulling in his hands.

In 1759 - the 89 Regiment was raised & by Staates Morris - husband of the widowed Duchess of Gordon. Morris was appointed 2nd Major - & embarked ^{for India} with the Regiment in Dec^r 1760 arriving ~~at~~ at Bombay in Nov. 1761.

The Regiment served in various parts of India, & the greater part of it was disbanded & sent home in 1765. Before this however in

May 1764 - Morris was sent to reinforce the contingent serving under Major Carnac at Patna.

He arrived at a critical juncture, Carnac's troops being in a state of mutiny - & a whole battalion had gone off to join the enemy.

Morris however sent a detachment of troops after them & they were overtaken & made prisoners while asleep - ~~at~~ during the night.

He reduced the mutinous usurers by blowing
some of the ringleaders away from their guns
24 in all.

~~He afterwards~~

On the 15th September he advanced with his
brother to wards Soane. & on the 22nd October he
encamped on the Sanges. & the following morning
he attacked & utterly routed the confederated forces
of the Princes of Hindostan - at Buxar.

Malikarjuna For this battle he is supposed to have
received eight lacs of rupees from the Raja
Dowla - & peace was soon after concluded.
He also obtained £10,000 from Balwan Singh &
£3000 from the Nabob. Soon after he left
the Dade.

After this he returned home & spent some
years on half-pay with the rank of Lieut Col.
(1765) in 1768 he was returned to Ind.
Cuthbert

Muro landed at Madras in Feb 1778 and
assumed command of the army. In the same
year he captured Pondicherry from the French.
He was made R.B. in 1779. But his
administration did not satisfy the directors.

In 1478 he was sent out to India with Sir Thomas Rumbold - & in same year he captured Pondicherry from the French.

In July 1780 an army consisting of 5,204 men of which 800 were Highlanders assembled at St Thomas's Mount near Madras. Sir Hector Marched to Conjevaram where he arrived on the 29th July - with only eight days supply of rice. Colonel William Baillie of Dunain was also on his way thither with a force of 3,000 men, but his force was attacked & totally destroyed by Tipposudal Hydai Ali's son. Rums through stations within reach of the cannonade failed to march to his assistance.

Lord Mordaunt it is said left India & resigned his command - "by the 73rd" having differed with him on the subject of his movements.

Hector Munro. Cont.

Extract Munro's of Novar. A. McKenzie. "History of the
Munros."

Conjeveram

- " In July 1780. an army consisting of 5,200 men
of which 800 were Highlanders, assembled at
St Thomas's Mount, near Madras, under Sir Hector
Munro." "~~On the 29th~~ He marched for Conjeveram
when he arrived on the 29th having taken with him
only eight days rest. For two days previous
the rain fell in torrents and broke up the roads.
... The enemy's cavalry pressed on them in
great numbers and wounded and taken some of their
men." The agent of the Nalob informed him
he had no power to procure either supplies or
intelligence —

"It had been arranged that Captain William
Beillie of Dundee, then stationed at Soubour
Circular with a detachment of nearly 3000 men
should reach Conjeveram the day after
General Munro"

Hector Munro conjeerum - a. 12. P 521. (2)

owing to floods his progress was slow. (144)

" On the 6th of the month. (August - Colonel Baillie had got as far as the village of Perampakur, 15 miles from General Munro's position. He then he was attacked by Tipphoo Sahib. Hyderabad's son with a prodigious superiority of force " - - - " after a severe battle Tipphoo was repulsed; notwithstanding this success - - no movement was made to secure a junction (with Munro)

R: On the 8th Colonel Baillie wrote to Munro saying " I am without ammunition & provisions & adding " I must plainly tell you Sir, that you must come to me, for I see it is impossible to let my party to Conjeerum."

11) Sir Hector unfortunately only detached a party of the 73rd under Captain Baird - & that only after a delay of three days - & with them 2 comp. of Grenadiers & 11 comp. of Sepoys. Thus weakening his own strength.

" And Mr Macleod it is said left India & resigned the command of the 73rd Highlanders

"from having differed ^{with} from Nuoro on the subject of his movements"

9th August Each detachment remained stationary on the 9th.
^{13th} Hyder Churupun encouraged by the inaction of
 Gen Nuoro. closed in on Bailie's small
 detachment of 3,700 men. Bailie began to
 march towards Nuoro & fell in with Hyder's
 pickets. when only 9 miles from Nuoro
 he halted at mid night. on the morning of the 10th
 he continued his advance & entered a small
 jungle & swale. Here Hyder's army fell on
 the detachment with all its fury - beset
 from every side. Bailie's men put up a
 magnificent resistance & after three hours Hyder
 decided to retreat; at this point two barrels
 of ammunition blew up, which "laid open
 an entire side of the column" - Hyder
 Churupun did return to the attack with
 redoubled fury & the detachment reduced to
 400 men formed a square on a small hill

Anjelesam

They continued to resist - until at last only a few men were left. When Baillie despatched of which put up a flag of truce - Hyde's troops disarmed the ~~defenders~~ the flag. Baillie's men wounded & the few remaining survivors were thrown into prison & treated with the greatest cruelty.

Baillie died in prison on the 13th November 1782

On hearing the heavy firing - Sir Hector Munro when the late gave orders to march - but meeting with a wounded soldier he, hearing that the detachment has been completely destroyed return to Anjelesam.

Finding himself now reduced to only one day's rice he retreated to Chingput, leaving great quantities of stores & guns - & arrived finally at St Thomas Mount on the 24th August.

Munro was succeeded by Sir Eyre Coote who landed at Madras on the 5th November.

On the 17th Jan: 1781 Coote marched for Pondicherry & from Chénce to Porto Novo.

5-

when he found himself opposed to Hyder's Army - of 25-
battalions - supported by 40 or 50,000 horse & about 100,000
march-look men etc. - Coote's force only 8,000, and
which then was only one British Regiment. This
was a decisive victory for Coote's forces.

27th Aug The next engagement was at Peramburam, &
1781 here though the English were left in possession of
the field of battle - they had lost heavily. 600 of the
73rd.

~~The next engagement~~
Munro retired from Coote's army &

Bios: Dict:

Munro commanded the right wing of Coote's Army
which earned the day at the great victory of Porto
Novo. July 1781. At Pollilore on the 27th Aug.
a harsh reply caused an estrangement between
him & Coote. --- at the request of the new
Governor Lord Macartney he took command of the
expedition against the Dutch settlements
which captured Negapatam after a 4 weeks
siege. 12 Nov 1781.

Munro then returned home - he was appointed
Colonel of the 1st Buffs March June 1787

Heath Run

became Lieut General 1783 - & General Jan. 1st 1798.

He spent his latter years enlarging & improving

Novar -

In his prime he was a handsome & robust man
a brave enterprising & successful soldier.

He died at Novar Dec 27th 1805 -

The "new" house of Tarbat - built by Lord Melis
who died in 1789

Hector Muir.

From Gordon of Gordon & other Gordons. families of the name in
the county of Sutherland.

y. R. M. Bullock. p. 83.

~~Robert~~ Alexander Gordon of Gairly. had a sister
Isobel Gordon. who married Hugh Muir of
Clayside. & was the mother of Hector Muir.

Isobel Muir had a nephew. Alexander Gordon -
who died on board H. M. S. Oxford. - Nov 1755.
she was his nephews executrix - & the cautioner
to the executrix. is Lieutenant Hector Muir.
of Major General Holmes Regiment -
dated June 16. 1756.

Hector Munro.

~~See~~ Dec. of Nat. Bios. 1909.

Born - (Clayton) 1726 son of Hugh Gordon of Novar &

Isabel Gordon - who died in 1799 aged 92.

The Novar family an ancient branch of the Munros
of Howies

According to family tradition, Hector, when quite a
lad saved the life of a lady whose horse had run away
& she subsequently obtained a commission in the army

(not-1)

His name first appears in the military records as

Ensign ~~of~~ in the Company commanded by

Home Office Sir Harry Munro of Foulis - Lord Lovat's Highlander
military book * 1747. 20th May. This was an unnumbered
Vol. 19 p. 461 Highland regiment, raised by John Campbell

fourth Earl of Lovat. The greater part of which

was taken by the clans on March 30th 1746.

& sent to Prince Charles headquarters at

Inverness. The Officers Commission were

dated June 1745. Among them was a George

Munro of Novar. There is a local tradition that

Hector was of the number taken by the clans - &

Char-les escaped from his escort by the way.
at the date of his commission ^{for a regiment} ~~his company~~
~~was~~ embarking for the Low Countries where
with some Regiments of Scots-Dutch it
distinguished itself at the defence of Bergen-
-op-Zoom. July - Sept^r 1747. It was
disbanded at Peelt 1748.

Munro was reappointed to the army as ensign
of the 48th Foot. 4th Feb. 1749. was
promoted to Lieut. in the 31st Foot. in Ireland
5th Jan 1754 & in August 1758 obtained an
company in the newly raised 2^d Battalion of
that company which was formed into the
70th Foot April 1758. The year after Major,
(afterwards General) Staal's Lord Morris raised
a reg: married to the widowed mother of the
Duke of Gordon - raised a regiment - on the
Gordon estates. - Hector Munro appointed
Junior Major of the new corps which assembled
at Gordon Castle Dec 1759. ~~so~~ was
numbered at the 89th Foot.

Under Muir's command the regiment embarked
for India & arrived at Bombay Nov 1761 -
~~after~~ During the next 4 years the corps
did good service in various parts - & was brought
home to be disbanded in 1765.

Aug 13th

In 1764 Muir was ordered to Patna - to suppress
a mutiny - he took with him men of the 89th &
96th Regiments - by stern measures he effected
this.

On the 27th Oct 1764 with a force of 7,000 men he
included some 1,500 European Detachments he utterly
routed the confederation of the princes of Hindostan
in a great battle of Buxar - in Behar.

The enemy who had 50,000 men, left 6,000
men & 133 guns on the field. The victory

secured Bengal & placed Hindostan at the feet
of the conquerors. The battle ranks amongst the
most-decisive decisions ever fought.

The prize money to the victors - amounting to an
enormous sum of 12 lacs of rupees.

Muir received command of the company's troops
soon afterwards & returned home

1745
1720
14

where he spent some years afterwards on half pay
as a Lieut. Colonel

In 1768 he was returned to Parliament for
the Borough of Inverness. Nairn. Forres. Fife.

He was sent out to India again in Feb 1778.
& the same year captured Pondicherry - from
the French. (This was the apex of his career -)
(he got into trouble with the council over his
administration - of native policy.)

In 1780 Hyder Ali swept over the Carnatic
in opposition to Lord Mordaunt - his 2nd in
command - he marched to Conjeeveram, to
meet a detachment under Colonel William
Baillie ordered down from Ganjoo. Baillie's
detachment was destroyed between Pollilur &
Conjeeveram - on the morning of Sept 10 1780

Hyder then fell back to Chingleput. & subsequently
moved his forces to St Thomas Mount

There he was encamped when Sir Eyre Coote
landed & assumed command.

Hyder commanded the right division of

Cook's Army, & carried the day at the great
victory of Porto Novo. 1st July 1781.

Subsequently he was estranged from Cook &
remained at Madras.

He took command of the expedition against the Dutch
settlement, which captured Negapatam after
a four weeks siege. 12th Nov. 1781. & afterward
returned home.

He represented Inverness burgh for 34 years.
He died at Novar 27th Dec 1805. aged 79.