fore resolved that he should advance at eight o'clock the same morning towards the Shalmee and Loharee Gates, which Meer Mokun-oo-deen and Meea Ashuk promised to have open for his admission. Acting on this plan Runjeet made a rapid march from the Shalimar Gardens to the place appointed; and before Sirdar Chete Sing was aware of his presence or design, he had entered by the Loharee gate with about a thousand of his best men, while another body of about three or four thousand under the command of Dhul Sing, Baug Sing, and others, had entered by the Shalmee and Laharee Gates and taken possession of them and the ramparts on either side.

When at length Chete Sing became aware of the proceedings of Runjeet, it was only by being purposely misinformed as to his whereabout. He was told that the besiegers were outside the Yakkee and Delhi Gates, which were shut against them; and that the men in charge of these gateways were ready to fight for the chiefs of the city. On hearing this Chete Sing took four or five hundred men and leaving the fort by the eastern gateway he went towards the Delhi Gate, intending to aid and encourage the guards in their resistance. However before he had proceeded far, he was met by a confidential retainer, who coming to him in haste begged of him instantly to return to the fort if he would save his life, for that by treachery the enemy, five thousand strong, had been admitted into the city, and that also by treachery he, Chete Sing, had been misled into the belief that he would find them outside the Delhi gate, the object of this manœuvre being to enable Runjeet Sing quietly to occupy the fort, while the chief was seeking him elsewhere. On receiving this intelligence, Chete Sing returned to the fort, barely in time to shut the Hazaree Baug gate against Runjeet's cavalry, led by himself in person. A moment later and Runjeet's horsemen would have entered the fort along with its defenders. As it was they gallopped up just in time to shoot two or three of the gate-keepers as they were closing