

General J. H. Wodehouse, C.B., C.M.G., was severely wounded in this action. The other casualties were one British soldier killed; one British Officer,\* three other British ranks, one native officer, 19 other native ranks, and six followers wounded. In addition, 115 horses and transport animals were killed or wounded. Since the action it has been ascertained that besides the 3,000 men who had actually attacked us, some 2,000 more were at a little distance awaiting events, and that their losses were at least 330 in killed alone.

36. On the 21st I met Major-General Elles at Lakarai and made the arrangements with him which I have already detailed. Next morning, the 22nd September, my 3rd Brigade, the command of which had devolved on Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Graves, 39th Garhwalis, after Brigadier-General Wodehouse was wounded, marched to Kuz Chinarai to join Major-General Elles, while I proceeded to Inayat Kili, in the Mamund Valley, and joined my 2nd Brigade under Brigadier-General Jeffreys.

37. Next day, the 23rd September, my 3rd Brigade took part in the seizure of the Bedmanai Pass, one British soldier being wounded in the operations. On the 24th the brigade attacked and destroyed the fortified villages in the Mittai Valley, two men of the 1st Battalion of the Queen's being wounded in the skirmishing which took place; and on the 25th a similar operation was carried out in the Suran Valley, without loss, by a column detached from the brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Collins, of the Queen's. On the 26th the Brigade marched to Lakarai, and thence via the Gandab Valley to Peshawar, where it was broken up and its troops merged into the Tirah Expeditionary Force.

38. On my arrival at Inayat Kili, on the 22nd, I found that about 170 sick and wounded were with the 2nd Brigade, and that arrangements were in progress to send all the serious cases down the line, starting on the 26th. On the 22nd, Brigadier-General Jeffreys destroyed the fortified village of Dag, as already related in paragraph 30, *ante*.

39. On the 23rd September, Brigadier-General Jeffreys proceeded to deal with the village of Tangai, near Dag. The opposition on this day was slight, and the casualties were one Officer, Major R. S. H. Moody, of the Buffs, and one sepoy wounded.

40. For some days different individuals and sections of the Mamunds had been asking for time to enable their jirgas to meet, with a view to submission; and on the 23rd, as there really seemed a prospect of a settlement being arrived at, I granted a cessation of hostilities for two days, which I afterwards increased to three. On the evening of the third day a jirga came in, and as after this some days were required for discussion of terms, and I wished to be at the end of the telegraph line for a day or two, I started for Panjkora Bridge on the 27th with a force which Brigadier-General Meiklejohn had brought to Jhar on the 24th as escort to a convoy.

41. Brigadier-General Meiklejohn, with the head-quarters of the 1st Brigade, had arrived at Panjkora Bridge on the 11th September, and in accordance with the arrangements mentioned at the conclusion of paragraph 7 above, under which I dropped my communications with the Malakand when my 2nd Brigade left Gosam on the 13th, he withdrew on the 15th to Sarai. Then, however,

as the task of dealing with the Mamunds seemed likely to last for some days, it became necessary for the communications via the Panjkora Bridge to be restored, and Brigadier-General Meiklejohn, having returned on the 17th September to that post, carried out the important work of pushing supplies forward to Brigadier-General Jeffreys' brigade at Inayat Kili, which is about 23 miles from the Panjkora Bridge.

42. At this time I was under orders with the 1st and 2nd Brigades of my force to join the Tirah Expeditionary Force, then being formed, but on my arrival at Panjkora Bridge on the 28th September I received instructions to remain in command of the Malakand Field Force, with a view to settling affairs in Bajaur and to maintaining order there and in the neighbouring districts during the progress of the Tirah operations.

43. As various matters of details had to be arranged in connection with these orders, I halted at Panjkora Bridge until the 2nd October, on which date I rejoined Brigadier-General Jeffreys at Inayat Kili. At the same time, I moved up Brigadier-General Meiklejohn and the head-quarters of his brigade, with four field guns under Major C. A. Anderson, Royal Artillery, and four mountain guns under Captain A. H. C. Birch, Royal Artillery. These additions raised the force at Inayat Kili by the 4th October, to a total of two brigades of three and two-and-a-half battalions, respectively, with fourteen guns, three squadrons, and two companies of sappers. The battalions were much below strength, averaging only about 550 men each.

44. Meanwhile the negotiations with the Mamunds, which I mentioned in paragraph 40, had come to nothing, chiefly, I think, because the tribesmen became aware of the orders for my force to join the Tirah Force and thought they had only to hold out a few days to get rid of us. In consequence of this action on their part, Brigadier-General Jeffreys recommenced operations against them on the 29th September, visiting several villages in the valley near Inayat Kili on that day, and bringing in large quantities of supplies without opposition.

45. On the 30th September, Brigadier-General Jeffreys attacked and took the villages of Agrah and Gat, about seven miles north of Inayat Kili. These villages are strongly placed for mutual support on the southern face of a spur which runs eastwards from the high range of mountains whose crest forms the Afghan boundary. There are minor spurs on the east and west of the two villages, that to the eastward being rather far off; a third spur, crowned by huge boulders, runs up between the others to a small peak below Gat, and adds greatly to the strength of the position. On the 30th September, the enemy held Agrah and Gat in considerable force, and, departing from their usual tactics, vigorously opposed the advance of our troops; but after some fighting at close quarters the villages were carried by the 1st Battalion, Royal West Kent Regiment, under Major C. W. H. Evans, the Guides Infantry, under Major F. Campbell, seizing and occupying the spurs on the left, and the 31st Punjab Infantry the rugged central spurs; while No. 7 Mountain Battery, Royal Artillery, under Major M. F. Fegan, covered the advance with their fire; and the Guides Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. Adams, held in check in the most bold and brilliant manner a considerable force of the enemy who advanced from the westward towards our left flank. Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. O'Bryen, 31st Punjab Infantry, was mortally wounded while gallantly leading his

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