

The left column, as per margin,* proceeded along the lower road towards the iron bridge. These two columns were connected by a strong chain of skirmishers, which, as well as the left column, met with considerable opposition, as the enemy opened three guns on them from the opposite side of the river, and also held the ground in great strength in front of the rifle skirmishers, commanded by Brevet-Major Warren, Captains Wilmot and Thynne, and Lieutenant Grey, who all behaved most gallantly. Captain Thynne, a most promising officer, I regret to say, was mortally wounded. This column occupied the houses down to the river's bank, and the head of the iron bridge, to the right of which, the two 24-pounder guns were placed in battery. The spirit and dash of the men during this critical operation was most remarkable, and merits my highest commendation. Lieutenant Moorsom, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, who had been deputed by me to guide the column, was killed on the spot, while reconnoitering on the opposite side of the road. I deplore sincerely the loss of this most gallant and promising young officer, whose soldier-like zeal and acquirements rendered him an ornament to his profession.

Having left the Bengal Fusiliers posted in the Mosque on the Cantonment Road, I proceeded with the remainder of the right column in that direction, and shortly afterwards met Sir J. H. Grant's Cavalry and Horse Artillery, which, in the meantime had been operating on the extreme right. Turning now towards the Stone Bridge, we surprised the camp of the rebel 15th Irregular Horse, whose standards and two guns were captured by the Rifles; the enemy flying in all directions over the plain, many being cut up by our cavalry.

I then penetrated to the head of the Stone Bridge, through the strong and dense suburbs, without encountering any material opposition. The enemy, however, were able to command it with guns, as well as with musketry, from the tops of several high and strong stone houses, from the opposite side of the river, and the position was, moreover, too distant, and the approaches too intricate, to warrant my holding it permanently with the force at my disposal. I therefore withdrew to the Mosque at the cross road, already occupied by the Bengal Fusiliers, our route being through suburbs in which we destroyed a quantity of munitions of war, and finally we retired to camp, when the arrangements for the occupation of the iron bridge had been completed.

During the nights of the 12th and 13th, having been reinforced by four 18-pounder guns, two 10-inch howitzers, five 10-inch mortars, and four 5½-inch mortars, three batteries were erected, from which five 10-inch mortars, ten 8-inch mortars, four 24-pounder guns, were brought to bear upon the Kaiserbagh, on the fall of which, on the morning of the 14th, the guns and mortars were turned on the Residency, and the buildings to the right of the bridge. During this operation, Lieutenant Cuthbert, of the Royal Artillery, brought himself prominently to notice by extinguishing a fire in a small building in front of his battery, in a very dangerous and exposed position. The operations, connected with a breastwork across the Iron Bridge, were conducted by Lieutenant Wynne, R.E., and Serjeant Paul, who displayed great coolness and resolution in the face of a heavy and continual fire.

* Two 24-pounder guns, three field battery guns, Royal Artillery, 23d Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 2d Punjab Infantry, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Pratt.

Having been ordered to join His Excellency's camp, my operations on the north side of the Goomtee were here brought to a close.

Our casualties during these proceedings amounted to 5 officers killed, and 9 wounded, and the loss in men, including serjeants, was 21 killed, and 104 wounded; total 26 killed, and 113 wounded. With the exception of the officers, the above statement of casualties does not include the Cavalry Division; General Sir J. H. Grant having been ordered off into the district, neither his casualty list nor his notice of his officers has been received. From the peculiar nature of the fighting, the actual loss of the enemy is difficult to ascertain. But I cannot estimate it at less than 2,000 throughout the whole operations.

On the 16th instant, under instructions from His Excellency, I proceeded to the Kaiserbagh, where I found the 5th Brigade, under the command of Brigadier Douglas, C.B., comprising the 23d Fusiliers, the 79th Highlanders, and the 1st Bengal Fusiliers, to which His Excellency had added Her Majesty's 20th Regiment, and the Ferozepore Regiment of Sikhs.

Vast numbers of the enemy having been seen crossing the Stone Bridge from the city, apparently with the design of attacking Brigadier-General Walpole's camp, on the north of the Gomtee, His Excellency ordered me to press our movement. I immediately ordered the advance, and took possession of the Residency, with little opposition, the 23d Fusiliers charging through the gateway, and driving the enemy before them at the point of the bayonet, the remainder of the Brigade following them in reserve.

The enemy having been dislodged from the Residency, two companies of the 23d, under Lieutenant-Colonel Bell, accompanied by Captain Gould Weston, who pointed out the road, pressed rapidly forward, and captured the brass gun which was in position to sweep the Iron Bridge, after some opposition. In the meanwhile the Residency height was crowned by a field battery of Madras Artillery, under the command of Major Cotter, which kept up a heavy fire on the Muchhee Bhowun. This battery was subsequently withdrawn, and replaced by two 68-pounder guns of the Naval Brigade. On their arrival, the Bengal Fusiliers moved to the Iron Bridge, and shortly afterwards advanced, together with the Regiment of Ferozepore, and took the Muchhee Bhowun and the Imambarah, the enemy precipitately retiring and abandoning six guns. One company of the Fusiliers, under Captain Salisbury, was pushed on to the Roomi-durwaza Gate, where another gun was captured. The 79th were then brought up to occupy the Imambarah, and the remainder of the Bengal Fusiliers were placed in the Muchhee Bhowun.

On the morning of the 17th, Brigadier Douglas caused the Hoseinabad Mosque and the Dowlatkhana, in which two guns and a small mortar were found, to be occupied by a company of the 79th Highlanders. About 1 P.M., with the force named in the margin,* I moved towards the block of buildings known as Shurfooddowla's house, having previously occupied the entrance to the Chowk with three companies of the 79th Highlanders.

* Captain Middleton's field battery.—Two 8-inch howitzers; 1 company of Native Sappers; 1 wing of Her Majesty's 20th Foot; 1 ditto, 23d; 1 ditto, 79th; Brasyer's Sikhs.