

plies, and by safely escorting the bridge of boats from Singramow.

17. It having been given out that the force would halt at Lumbooh, the Nazim, whose spies closely watched every movement, thought that he would still be in time to anticipate me at Budhayan.

But I pushed the baggage rapidly through the village of Lumbooh, and when this had been effected, my advance guard, under Lieutenant-Colonel Longden, withdrawing unperceived from Amereepoore, overtook and headed the baggage, followed gradually by the whole force, which, by a rapid movement, seized Budhayan, and occupied its fort.

18. The Nazim thus missed his opportunity. He had been deceived as to my intentions sufficiently long to allow of the safe progress of my encumbrances through the defile of Budhayan, and had finally been forestalled in the possession of that strong position.

19. Five companies of Goorkhas were thrown into the fort, and six British Companies and two guns posted on the nullah which runs under it, assured the main force, encamped two miles in advance, against attack on left flank or rear.

20. During the 22d I remained halted to allow the expected reinforcements of Lahore Light Horse and Pathans to overtake me. In the course of this day the Nazim, with the remnants of his force, reached Badshahgunje, two miles beyond Sultanpore, where he took up a position in the old cavalry and police lines, and was joined by the fugitives from Chanda, by the whole of the mutinied sepoy and Oude Irregulars of this district, and by the remains of the 7th Light and 12th and 15th Irregular Cavalry, the latter under Shaboodeen Khan, late a ressalidar in the last named regiment, and who had command in the mutiny at Sultanpore. The infantry was commanded by the Rajah Hussen Ali Khan, of Hussenpore, assisted by his son, and by Rhowani Sing, late subadar of infantry. The whole force was under Mirza Guffoor Beg, a General of Artillery under the old King of Oude, reinstated in his rank by the present rebel government, and sent from Lucknow specially to take this command.

21. The rebel force, numbering 25,000 men, of whom 5,000 were sepoy and 1,100 cavalry, with 25 guns, occupied a position, a sketch of which accompanies this report, and which was drawn by Lieutenant Innes, Assistant Field Engineer, from information furnished by Lieutenant Smith, 58th Native Infantry, attached to the Goorkhas, and by Lieutenant Tucker, 8th Bengal Cavalry, who were stationed at Sultanpore at the time of the mutiny. On this plan, drawn up before the action, my operations were based. The position may be described as follows:—

22. A deep and winding ravine runs into the Goomtee, behind which the enemy's line was posted in a plain, his left resting on the Sultanpore Bazaar, the centre placed behind the ruined lines of the Police Battalion, and the right covered by a range of low hillocks in advance of the village and strong masonry Serai of Badshahgunje. This position is about a mile and a half in length. The direct road from Sultanpore to Lucknow intersects it at right angles, and on this, at the point where it crosses the nullah, the enemy's principal battery was directed.

His other guns were distributed along the position, three being posted in the village near the bazaar and temple, on his extreme left, and six in the Serai and village of Badshahgunje, and to its right.

23. Marching at 6 A.M. from my ground in front of Budhayan, in the same order as in the

3d paragraph of this Report, on arriving within a mile of the village of Loramow, my cavalry caught sight of the enemy's outposts; on which I formed my force in order of battle, the front being covered by the 240 selected marksmen of the British Brigade, and eight horsed guns under Lieutenant-Colonel Longden, 10th foot, the guns being 100 paces in rear of the skirmishers. The two 18-pounders advanced in the centre, along the high road which runs through the enemy's position. The British Brigade was formed in contiguous quarter-distance columns, at 25 paces interval, supported in second line by the six Battalions of Goorkhas, in quarter-distance columns, at deploying distance.

24. Moving through the village in this order till fully in sight of the enemy's pickets, who thus concluded that our advance would be, as they wished, directly down the high road, I advanced with the Benares horse under Captain Matheson, and the detachment of 25 mounted men of Her Majesty's 10th Regiment under Lieutenant Tucker, and drove in the enemy's outposts beyond the nullah, and through a thick belt of trees which concealed their force from ours.

Having done this, leaving the Benares Horse to prevent their outposts from again reconnoitring us, I moved with the mounted detachment to the left, to examine the head of the nullah, which I felt convinced disappeared in the plain; and this proved to be the case, for my search found a point where the road from Allahabad crosses it, where the troops and heavy guns could pass the ravine out of reach of the enemy's fire. Some rising ground here gave me a good view of the rebel position, and ascertaining that it might be turned by its right, I ordered the whole force to take ground obliquely to its left.

25. My baggage and rear-guards, under Lieutenant-Colonel Turner, C.B., 97th Regiment, were halted in rear of the village of Loramow, where the road to the station of Sultanpore branches off from the road to Lucknow.

The movement of the force, unperceived for a long time by the enemy, brought it round his right, completely out of fire; the shot from his heaviest guns, when he at length caught sight of our flank march, falling far short of our columns.

26. The skirmishers, who had been moving in file to flank, covering this movement, now turned to the front, and, with the light guns, closed on the enemy's position, the whole force advancing in two lines in their rear, on the right flank of the enemy, who, disconcerted by being thus turned, was compelled to change the position of his heavy guns, most of which it rendered useless. The left of my force now came on the high road to Lucknow, dividing the enemy's line, a part of which at once retreated along that road, taking with them the 4 guns which had been on their extreme right.

My right now rested on the nullah, and the left beyond the village of Badshahgunje.

27. The left, circling gradually forward, drove the enemy from the different points of his position, placing him with his back to the deep nullah before described (which here made a bend round his rear), and entirely cutting him off from his line of retreat. Finally, his central battery of 5 heavy guns was captured after an obstinate resistance, the gunners standing by their pieces and serving them to the last.

The body of Hussen Ali's son was here found amidst the slain, and the State palanquin of the Nazim lay in its neighbourhood.

28. After these guns fell into our hands the enemy fled in all directions, escaping across the