

Madras Artillery. In the pursuit I regret that the casualties were heavier. Mr Venables was wounded in the left arm by a musket shot; Lieutenant Hamilton, Adjutant 3d Seikh Cavalry, was badly wounded, and died during the night. Twenty-five casualties are reported, killed and wounded, details of which will be sent hereafter.

8. The loss of the enemy at the bridge could not be exactly ascertained; bodies of sepoy in the uniform of the 7th, 8th, and 40th Regiments Native Infantry, were found on the ground. The rapid rush of the 10th Foot, after crossing the bridge, prevented their being removed; but those killed by the artillery and rifle fire before the bridge was taken, were seen to be carried away. In the pursuit, it is supposed that about 70 of the enemy were killed.

9. As this is but one of many skirmishes it is more than probable the Azimghur Field Force may be engaged in during the very arduous operations upon which it is at present employed, I shall refrain, until its conclusion, from bringing to his Excellency's notice such officers as I deem worthy of special mention. In the meantime, I beg to express my grateful obligations to all officers and men for their cheerful endurance of fatigue and exposure, and to those who have engaged the enemy for their undeviating gallantry.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD LUGARD, Brigadier-General, Commanding Azimghur Field Force.

No. 49.

No. 105 of 1858.

THE Right Honourable the Governor-General of India is pleased to direct the publication of the following report, by Colonel Lord Mark Kerr, detailing the result of an engagement with the rebels by the detachment under his command on the 6th instant, while in progress to join the force at Azimghur.

R. J. H. BIRCH, Colonel, Secretary, Government of India, Military Department, with the Governor-General.

No. 50.

Colonel W. L. Dames, Commanding at Azimghur, to Brigadier P. Gordon, Commanding at Benares.

Dated Azimghur, April 16, 1858.

SIR,

No. 108.

I HAVE the honour herewith to enclose, for submission to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, an additional report furnished by Colonel Lord Mark Kerr, commanding Her Majesty's 13th Light Infantry, regarding his engagement with the rebels on the morning of the 6th April.

In forwarding this report, I beg to state that Colonel Lord Mark Kerr has informed me that the previous report which he sent to me was drawn up in a most hurried manner, and, owing to the very little time he had at his disposal, he was unable to fill in many details, and mention the names of various officers who distinguished themselves, as he would have desired.

Lieutenant Collum, of Her Majesty's 37th Regiment, at that time doing duty with Her Majesty's 13th Light Infantry, very much distin-

guished himself in the engagement of the 6th instant by his coolness and bravery. Colonel Lord Mark Kerr states, that not knowing his name, he was unable to mention it in his report; but desires that it may be forwarded in transmitting this letter.

I have, &c.,

W. L. DAMES, Colonel, Commanding at Azimghur.

No. 51.

Colonel Lord Mark Kerr, Commanding Field Force, to the Chief of the Staff.

Dated Azimghur, April 6, 1858.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to announce, for the information of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that I have succeeded this day in joining the besieged Azimghur garrison.

I left Benares at 10 P.M. on the 2d instant, to proceed to Azimghur by forced marches, with the troops as per margin.* At Sursana, 10 miles from Azimghur, where I arrived on the 5th instant, I received pressing letters, at different hours till midnight, from the Staff Officer at Azimghur, to come on without delay; but thinking it imprudent to risk anything by a night march I did not start till 4 A.M. on the 6th. There was a bright moon at that hour, and I moved on with a reconnoitring party of the Bays. At 6 A.M. I observed a mangoe tope and buildings to the left of the road, and also the banked ditches of the fields to the right of it, to be crowded with sepoy. After returning to the column, and waiting till half-past seven o'clock to allow our train of elephants, camels, and carts to close up, Captain Boyd's company advanced in skirmishing order to the right of the road, and opened fire on the enemy, hoping to turn their left flank, and so clear the ground for the advance of the convoy, and succeeded at once in driving the enemy to a further line of ditches. But by this time a heavy fire came from the mangoe tope and buildings, and well back on our left flank, and also on the right, where our skirmishers had driven in the enemy; large bodies of them were firing from enclosures to our rear. Captain H. Jones, 13th, with his own, Lieutenant Everett's, and Lieutenant Gilbert's companies, threw out skirmishers, with their left thrown back to the left of the road, taking advantage of any cover at hand, and Lieutenant Robertson, Royal Artillery, and two guns, threw shrapnel into the enclosures to the right, at a distance of 500 yards, Lieutenant Hall, 13th, who was soon dangerously wounded, being sent with a sub-division in support also of Captain Boyd. This continued for some time without producing any effect on the strong defensive point of the enemy, the buildings and tope, from the branches of which latter a severe fire was kept up for some time.

We were now in a serious position; but such precautions had been taken for our large convoy that I had no fears for it. When I discovered that it had gone back some distance, I sent Lieutenant Stewart, 13th, an excellent officer and horseman, with 25 of the Bays, to the rear. I heard from him, that immediately on the fire opening, every driver and mahout had fled, the former having first turned their cattle to the rear, and then, after

* 2d Dragoon Guards (Bays), 2 officers, 55 men; Royal Artillery (two 6-pounder guns, two 5½ inch mortars), 1 officer, 17 men; 13th Light Infantry, 19 officers, 372 men.