

In the plan of defence, we abandoned the centre of the city, thinking it too cramped and narrow in its streets for the enemy to enter with his big guns.

When I took down the detachment of Rifles to Brigadier Carthew's assistance, I observed it was a sharp fight, and immediately went and ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Watson and two companies of the 82d to go to him, and saw him on the road there.

I was in hopes this force would have prevented the necessity of his retiring, which was the cause of my being surprised at it.

I have, &c.,
C. A. WINDHAM, Major-General.

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No. 81.

GENERAL ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

Allahabad, May 5, 1858.

No. 124 of 1858.

THE Right Honourable the Governor-General is pleased to direct the publication of the following Despatch from the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army, No. 285 A, dated 1st May 1858, forwarding copy of one from Brigadier-General J. Jones, C.B., Commanding Roorkee Field Force, detailing the operations of the force under his command against rebels, from the 13th to the 19th April 1858.

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No. 82.

The Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, with the Governor-General.

Head-Quarters, Camp, Shahjehanpore,
May 1, 1858.

SIR, No. 285 A.

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Commander-in-Chief, to forward, for submission to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, copy of a Despatch dated 20th ultimo, from Brigadier-General J. Jones, C.B., commanding Roorkee Field Force, detailing the successful operations of the Force under his command from the 13th to the 19th idem.

I have, &c.,
H. W. NORMAN, Major,
Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army.

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No. 83.

Brigadier-General J. Jones, C.B., Commanding Roorkee Field Force, to the Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army.

Camp, Nujeebabad,
April 20, 1858.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward a detailed statement of my operations, of which his Excellency has been informed by telegram.

On the 13th instant I arrived at Roorkee, and assumed command of the field force. On that evening I despatched a party, as per margin,* under Major Churchill, 60th Rifles, to Kunkhul, for the protection of the bridge which the engineers were there throwing over the Ganges. The

* Artillery, 2 guns, Cavalry, 1 squadron. Infantry—60th Rifles, 2 companies; 17th Punjaub Native Infantry, wing.

head-quarters 60th Rifles arrived on the 14th by forced marches, and on the 15th the column encamped by the bridge of boats. The heavy guns and stores had been sent to the ford opposite Nagul, and Major Smyth was ordered to divert the enemy's attention by making a show of crossing there.

On the 17th I crossed the river and moved into the forest in the following order:—

Advance Guard.

One company 60th Rifles, in skirmishing order.
One company 60th Rifles, in support two guns.
Sappers and Miners and a troop of Cavalry.

Main Body.

One troop Cavalry, Captain Austin's Battery.
60th Rifles, Punjaub Infantry Brigade.
Ammunition and treasure, the Mooltanee Regiment of Cavalry.

Rear Guard.

One company Punjaub Infantry; a troop of Cavalry.

On each flank of the main body was a patrol of a company Native Infantry, and a half troop of Cavalry.

The force had moved about four miles into the forest when the advanced guard discovered the enemy. The thick jungle rendered it difficult to make out his position, and impossible to tell his strength.

Major Muter (Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General), in command of the advance guard, judiciously seized on an adjacent height, on which he posted a company of the Rifles, and bringing up the cavalry and guns of the guard, commenced the action.

I ordered Captain Cureton's horse and Captain Austin's guns to the front at the gallop, and forming the infantry into line with their proper supports, and the flanks covered by skirmishers, advanced on the enemy, making out his position by the fire of his artillery.

The rebels, defeated in their intention of effecting a surprise, and disconcerted by the destructive fire of the artillery and rifles, and the charge of a troop of the Mooltanee Regiment of Cavalry, led by Lieutenant Gostling, 5th Cavalry, on his left flank, drew back his guns and retired before the imposing force advancing upon him.

I seized the opportunity, and at once pushed on the cavalry and artillery. No time was given the enemy to take up another position. He was charged by Captain Cureton wherever he attempted to stand, and the guns, unlimbering as they came up, opened with shrapnell. The enemy, thus pushed over positions of great natural strength, and unable to show front even on the bank of a stream where he had erected stockades, and behind which his camp was pitched, fell more and more into confusion. His retreat became a flight; gun after gun was abandoned, and in utter rout the rebels fled through the forest, leaving the ground covered with their arms, and throwing off even their clothes to facilitate their escape. Fully two hundred of their dead were left in the Terai, and four pieces of their artillery were taken on the road, with all their ammunition and camp equipage.

When clear of the Perai, I pitched my camp about five miles from Nagul, from which place information soon reached me that the enemy had retreated, leaving his camp standing. I gave immediate orders for the passage of the river by the heavy guns and stores.

On the 18th the force moved in the same order, as on the preceding day, to Nujeebabad.