

fording the nuddee, and proceeded on to the island, which is five miles long, and one and a half miles broad, and a greater portion of the ground very heavy. I threw out 2 companies Bengal Fusiliers in skirmishing order, with the troops of the Kuppoothullah Contingent in the same manner, and advanced to sweep up the island, with Lieutenant Magniac's force on our left, and Hodson's Horse, under Lieutenant M'Gregor (whom I appointed to do duty and assume command of them), and the Rajah's regular cavalry on our right. After having gone a short distance, the enemy opened a brisk fire on us from the bank of a very deep nuddee, some 100 yards wide; to this fire we replied most effectively, driving the rebels from their cover, and being brought to a stand by the depth of water, the Seikhs being obliged to return after attempting to cross, Lieutenant M'Gregor, in the most gallant way, led the irregular cavalry rather lower down, and into the nuddee, and across, the water being well over their saddles. Whilst this was being accomplished, Lieutenant Hamilton Maxwell, my detachment Staff, who was also second in command, and commanding the 4 companies Bengal Fusiliers, galloped off to bring up the elephants from our rear, where they had been left under a guard, with our spare ammunition, &c., before we crossed in the first instance. Lieutenant Maxwell speedily returned with the elephants, and we passed over the men as rapidly as possible; and when all were over, advanced on steadily, driving the enemy before us, and the Enfield rifles doing good execution, turning the rebels out of their rifle-pits, and forcing them to take the open plain, when Lieutenant M'Gregor charged them with Hodson's Horse most steadily. The rebels had one gun, a brass 5-pounder, with which they kept a continual fire on our columns, but without doing us any injury. We still continued advancing, until we had cleared the whole of our front, when I halted the Europeans, placed them under cover in some huts, and allowed his Highness the Rajah of Kuppoothullah to proceed to our right with his infantry, and work down towards the cavalry, whence they advanced together on the gun which had fired on us, and which our guns on the opposite side, under Lieutenant Magniac, from the great execution done by Ensign Roddy, made it too hot to remain in its original position, so that the rebels tried to carry it off, when Hodson's Horse cut down the gunners, and the gun was ours. The rebels having now received a severe lesson, and all that could escape having done so, I determined upon withdrawing the troops for the day. The Europeans suffered exceedingly from having to follow up the rebels for 5 miles in a burning sun, from the effects of which they were struck down, added to the heavy ground and deep nuddees we had to ford before we could drive them into a corner; that I was anxious to get the Bengal Fusiliers under a tope, after the steady persevering manner in which they had gone through the severe work of the day; and I had them under shade by half-past 11 A.M., being then nearly 12 hours under arms. The details of the operations of the force under Lieutenant Magniac, on the west bank, I have called upon him to furnish a Report of, and have the pleasure to state that his arrangements during the five and a half hours he was detached from me, have merited my warmest approval.

2. It is impossible to estimate the loss on the side of the rebels, but the natives have reported to the civil authorities that they numbered from 2,000 to 3,000 men in the first instance, and 450 are killed, missing, and drowned, besides wounded. Ram Sing himself was severely wounded, Byrung

Sing, one of the rebel leaders, was slain, and Outar Sing's brother was killed also; two boat-loads of fugitives, containing 70 each, are reported to have been drowned whilst in their hurry to escape. This information has been supplied me by Mr Bradford, Assistant-Commissioner, Durriabad.

3. The casualties on our side are, I am very happy to say, comparatively small, being 3 men killed and 17 wounded, and 1 horse killed and 8 wounded; the nature and severity of the wounds received at once show that the troops were closely engaged.

4. I regret to say that Lieut. C. M. M'Gregor, late of the 57th Native Infantry, and whom I appointed to command Hodson's Horse, was severely wounded whilst charging the rebels; and his horse in three places, which has since had to be destroyed. The gallant manner in which this officer behaved on this, as on the previous occasions when he has been with Hodson's Horse, seemed to gain the entire confidence of the men, and his being wounded was a great loss, inasmuch as there was not another European officer to lead them, as, had there been one, a good many rebels that escaped would not have done so. No officer could have behaved in a more gallant manner, or set a better example to his men than Lieutenant M'Gregor did, and the men themselves speak of his bravery on the occasion. I trust that he will soon be able to resume his duties, and that Government will grant him compensation for the loss of his horse. Mirza Ahmed Beg, Ressaidar 14th troop 2d Regiment Hodson's Horse, having behaved most gallantly, and led his men well, after Lieutenant M'Gregor was wounded, I beg to recommend the Ressaidar for promotion. I have always found him most particular and strict in the performance of his duty.

5. The force under my command remained under the tope until 5 P.M., when they returned to Durriabad, arriving at 9 P.M.

6. It now becomes my pleasing duty to acknowledge the assistance so readily afforded me by every one on the 8th instant.

7. To all officers and men engaged throughout the day, who cheerfully bore the great fatigue and necessary exposure to the excessive heat on this trying occasion, my best thanks are specially due, and I congratulate them on the result of their labours.

8. To Major Carnegie, the Deputy-Commissioner, Durriabad, who accompanied the force, and remained out during the day, my best thanks are due for his able assistance in obtaining information as to the position and strength of the enemy.

9. To Mr Bradford, the Assistant-Commissioner, whose absence on this occasion I greatly regretted, in consequence of his having broken his collar-bone from his horse falling when out with the force on the 15th instant, I am under great obligations for the zealous manner in which he has conducted the Intelligence Department, and trust his services may soon be again available.

10. To Lieutenant Hamilton Maxwell, my detachment Staff and second in command, whose unwearied and cheerful exertions the whole day merited my highest approbation, and who has been always on the alert, and ready to aid me in every possible way, my best thanks are offered.

11. To Lieutenant Chamier, in political charge of the Kuppoothullah Contingent, I feel deeply indebted, and cannot speak too highly of the valuable services rendered me throughout the day by this excellent officer, in the performance of the arduous duties that devolved upon him.

12. To Assistant-Surgeon T. E. Charles, M.D., for his uniform kindness and attention to the men