

suffering from sun-stroke, as well as to the wounded generally, I beg to express my great appreciation of his able services, particularly as he was suffering from illness himself.

13. The Kuppoothullah Contingent performed the several duties required of them during the day.

14. His Highness the Rajah, his brother, and his General, accompanied the force, and were at all times ready to lead their men, and induce them to press on, though somewhat tired from the long march, after the retreating enemy, and my thanks are due to them.

15. Colonel Williamson, of the Rajah's service, was left with two companies of Seikhs, and 25 Sikh Cavalry to protect the road; the enemy attempted once to get at the doolies and spare ammunition, but, by Colonel Williamson's good disposition, they were sent to the right about.

16. The brass 5-pounder gun captured from the enemy is now in the Fort of Durriabad, and as His Highness the Rajah was present at the taking of it, I await instructions as to its disposal.

17. I beg to forward a casualty list in detail, showing the number of killed and wounded in the force under my command on the 18th instant.

I have, &c.,

ALEX. HUME, Major,  
Commanding at Durriabad.

No. 81.

Lieutenant L. B. Magniac, 1st E. B. Fusiliers,  
Commanding Detachment, to Lieutenant Hamilton Maxwell, Staff Officer, Durriabad.

Camp, Durriabad, September 19, 1858.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Major Hume, commanding the force, that agreeably to his instructions I proceeded from Bhumarea Ghat, along the west bank of the nullah which protected the position of the enemy in that direction, with the force as per margin.\* After advancing for a short distance I observed the enemy in large numbers on the opposite bank, who, being emboldened by the difficulties their position presented to an attacking party (the nullah here might be perhaps 100 yards broad, and very deep), were making a stand, and keeping up a brisk fire on the main column. As they were within easy range of Ensign Roddy's guns, I ordered them to the front, when that officer opened a well-directed fire, completely enfilading their advanced line of skirmishers, who retired after receiving a few rounds.

I then continued my advance towards a large party of rebels to my left, but on the opposite bank, and who, upon our approach, opened a smart fire of musketry from rifle pits, and behind a line of breastworks.

2. Being anxious to drive them from this, and seeing that the column had not yet crossed the nullah, I ordered one Company of the 1st Bengal Fusiliers out to skirmish along the bank, sup-

\* 1st Bengal Fusiliers—2 Companies. Rajah of Kuppoothullah's Contingent—3 guns, 6-pounders; 2 Companies Infantry; 20 sabres Regular Cavalry.

ported by the other Company, the whole under the command of Lieutenant Butler; the Sikh Infantry remaining with the guns. In this order we advanced until opposite the breastwork; here Ensign Roddy again tried his guns, the infantry from behind good cover, at 250 yards, keeping down the fire on them, which was at first very heavy. Finding, after 10 or 12 rounds, that the guns made no impression on the earthworks, and observing that you had crossed the nullah and turned the enemy's flank, I ceased firing, and on your continuing to advance, the enemy suddenly vacated their position. This gave us a good opportunity to punish them, and the guns, directed by Ensign Roddy, made beautiful practice, thinning their ranks, and obliging them to retreat rapidly.

3. I followed them up towards a second line of works, where they had one gun (the one subsequently taken). Here they made but a short stand, endeavouring to take off their gun, which the well-directed fire from Ensign Roddy's 6-pounders prevented their doing far, although they persevered for nearly a mile. The gun was soon after taken in first rate style by the Rajah of Kuppoothullah's Infantry, assisted by a detachment of Hodson's Horse.

4. The enemy being thus driven, made a precipitate retreat in all directions; a few in their hurry attempting to swim the nullah, were shot; while others that succeeded in crossing a little higher up, were all cut down by the Rajah's regular cavalry, led by Ensigns Roddy and Woodgate.

5. The work being thus complete, the enemy being defeated and scattered, the pursuit naturally fell to the cavalry, and the men being much exhausted, the infantry were therefore halted, and as the sun was exceedingly powerful I ordered them to retire slowly to a neighbouring tope, where we rested for a short time, and then returned to join the main column.

6. The distance gone over by the men under my immediate command during the advance could not have been less than 5 miles, and I cannot speak too highly of the cheerful alacrity displayed by every one under me, while exposed to the intense heat of this morning.

7. I beg to particularize the active energy displayed by Lieutenant T. A. Butler, in leading on the skirmishers, and Ensign Roddy also, who, by his well-directed fire, contributed greatly to the success of the day. I particularly noticed Nubbee Buksh, the Native Artillery Commandant of the Rajah of Kuppoothullah's Contingent, who, by his coolness and activity, proved himself a good and valuable soldier.

8. I am happy to say the casualties were but trifling, being a private of the 1st Bengal Fusiliers slightly wounded, and one mule attached to the guns also wounded; the cause of this I attribute to the heavy and accurate fire kept up by the men from the Enfield rifles on the rifle pits held by the enemy, which effectually prevented them firing with any steadiness.

I have, &c.,

LANE B. MAGNIAC, Lieutenant,  
1st Bengal Fusiliers,  
Commanding Detachment.