

Officers and Men of the Bengal Yeomanry Cavalry, a regiment of which all who have belonged to it may be proud, his best thanks for the good service they have rendered to the State,—and in disbanding the corps which, from the 27th instant, will cease to belong to the Bengal Army, he wishes the members of it a hearty farewell.

No. 6.

No. 1053 of 1859.—His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct the publication of the following Report from Major J. L. Vaughan, Commanding 5th Punjaub Rifles, of an action against a body of rebels in the Sunputtree Pass on the 18th June 1859.

His Excellency in Council highly approves of the conduct of Major Vaughan, and of the troops under his command in these operations.

No. 7.

From Major J. L. Vaughan, 5th Punjaub Rifles, Commanding Field Detachment, to Major M. Dillon, Major of Brigade, Trans-Gogra, Gondah.

Camp, Bhojpoore, Trans-Raptee,
June 19, 1859,

Sir,

No. 189.

A PORTION of the rebels under Baboo Pergun Sing, attacked by me on the 14th instant, at Khangra-ka-naka, found themselves cut off from the road to Deokurh by the rapid advance of the British troops, and saved themselves by quitting the road and hiding in the dense forest to the west of it. These fugitives were joined by the Akonah Rajah's people, on the flight of the latter before Captain Cleveland's detachment, and by a fresh party from Deokurh, and the whole, under the leaders as per margin,* located themselves in the Sunputtree Pass, which is about 10 miles west of the Khangra Pass, and the same distance from Musha. I heard of this assembly whilst encamped at Musha with the troops as per margin,† and immediately arranged an attack for the following morning, 18th June.

1. The Sunputtree Pass leads, like the Khangra Pass, from the Trans-Raptee country into Deokurh (Nepaul), but it is accounted a very difficult one, and is only used by the cowherds of the district, who pasture their cattle according to the season, either on the Nepaul or British side of the mountains. It is approached through about six miles of the densest Terye forest, and is simply the bed of a mountain torrent paved with huge boulder stones. A few resolute men could hold it against an army. The rebel encampment was in a small open clearing on the edge of the torrent, about four miles from the commencement of the forest.

2. The troops marched from Musha at two A.M., in the strictest silence, and entered the forest unchallenged soon after daybreak. After proceeding about three miles into the forest, the advanced guard was seen by a picquet of the enemy, and concealment being no longer an object, the troops were urged forward in view to allow the rebels as little notice of our approach as possible.

4. The rebel encampment was found deserted, and here I left the cavalry, their services being no

* Rajah Ram Sing, Baboo Purgun Sing, Captain Soligram Sing.

† 2 troops 1st Punjaub Cavalry; 4 companies 5th Punjaub Rifles.

longer required, owing to the nature of the road. With the infantry I pushed on in pursuit as fast as possible. The tracks left by the rebels showed both cavalry and infantry, and numbers of the latter were soon overtaken and slain; but I felt that the real prize was the cavalry, and as the difficulties of the road increased at each step, made certain of eventually overtaking them. Finding that we gained upon them, they attempted to elude us by turning up the bed of a ravine to the right of the road, ignorant that there was no exit at the other end. Here they were overtaken, and every man slain; upwards of 25 horses, and 30 ponies laden with baggage, falling into the hands of the Punjaub Rifles.

5. The pursuit was continued in all directions for fully five miles beyond the rebel encampment, and great slaughter made. I am confident that upwards of one hundred rebels must have fallen. When the troops were utterly exhausted by the combined effects of distance, heat, and the suffocating atmosphere of the Terye forest, after heavy rain, the pursuit ceased, and the troops marched back to the camp at Musha, which they reached about three P.M.

6. The behaviour of the men of the 5th Punjaub Rifles was beyond all praise, and it was emulated by that of a small party of the Oude Police (Millett's Jezzailchees), which happened to be at Musha on a special service, and which I took with me to stop a road by which I thought it probable the rebels would try to escape. I beg to solicit the 3d Class of the Order of Merit for Havildar Moosa Khan, of the 5th Punjaub Rifles, who particularly distinguished himself in this affair, and also for Subadar Nehall Sing, of the same regiment, who, in my presence, slew three of the rebels in single combat.

7. I have no casualties to report.

8. In conclusion, I venture to hope that the affair now reported, in conjunction with that of the Khangra Pass on the 14th instant, will prove to the remaining rebels the utter hopelessness of prolonged resistance, inasmuch as they have seen that the British troops can and will attack them in their selected fastnesses of the frontier range of hills, undeterred alike by dread of the rainy season and of the deadly Terye forest.

I have, &c.,

J. L. VAUGHAN.

No. 8.

Adjutant-General's Office, Head-Quarters,
Simla, July 7, 1859.

No. 799.—Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, for the information of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, with Lord Clyde's approval.

By Order of the Commander-in-Chief,

H. W. NORMAN, Major,
Officiating Adjutant-General of the Army.

No. 9.

No. 1076 of 1859.—His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct the publication of the following report from Major J. L. Vaughan, Commanding 5th Punjaub Rifles, of an engagement with a body of rebels at Khangra-ka-Naka on the 14th June 1859, in co-oper-