



SUPPLEMENT

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DISPATCHES have been received at the East India-House, addressed to the Secret Committee by the Governor in Council at Bombay, inclosing reports of the commencement and progress of hostilities between the British Government and the Peishwa, of which reports and dispatches the following are copies and extracts :

Extract from a Dispatch from the Honourable Mountstuart Elphinstone, the Resident at the Court of the Peishwa, to the Governor-General, dated, Camp at Kirky, November 6, 1817.

THE pressure of business for these several days, and the uncertainty of the result, have prevented my hitherto reporting to your Excellency; but as we are now in a state of war with the Peishwa, it is necessary to acquaint you with the manner in which the rupture was brought on, leaving all detail for a subsequent dispatch.

The great military preparation of His Highness the Peishwa, his distinct refusal to send any part of the force he had collected away from Poona, the threatening position he had occupied in the neighbourhood of our camp, and, above all, his unremitting endeavours to corrupt the fidelity of our native troops, rendered it absolutely necessary, in my judgment, to remove the brigade from the very bad position it occupied at the town to that selected for it by General Smith. This circumstance, and that of our cantonment being on the alert on the 29th, the night before the arrival of the European regiment, removed the appearance of confidence, which had, in some measure, been kept up between us and the Peishwa. This appearance had afforded no advantage, except that of protracting an open

rupture, for His Highness proceeded, in all respects, as if he were at open war, and all his subjects spoke of his declaring war against us, as an event in which nothing was uncertain but the time.

The effect of our withdrawing was to encourage the Peishwa's people, who plundered our cantonment without any obstruction from their own Government, and who talked openly of the impending destruction of our detachment. An Officer on his road to Bombay, was also attacked, wounded, and plundered, in open day, about two miles from Poona, and as far from the Residency; and the language of the Peishwa's Ministers was that of perfect estrangement and disregard. His Highness also continued to push his troops up towards ours, as if in defiance; it was announced, that he intended to form a camp between our old cantonment and our new position, and one thousand or one thousand five hundred horse moved for the purpose.

I renewed my assurances of our wish for peace, and said that if His Highness moved to his army I should withdraw to camp; that if he remained quiet or receded we should still consider him as a friend, and should be careful not to cross the river that separates our camp from the town, but that if his troops advanced towards ours we should be obliged to attack them. The Peishwa left the town and withdrew to Purbutta, and within less than an hour large bodies of troops began to move in the direction of our camp, and in such a manner as to cut off the Residency. I had withdrawn a company that had been left in the old cantonments, and as soon as it reached the Residency the detachment there marched off to camp, keeping a river between them and the Peishwa's troops, who were moving in the same direction. The Residency was immediately plundered and burned.

Copy of a Report from Lieutenant Colonel Burr, of the Bombay Establishment, to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the fourth Division of the Army of the Deccan.

SIR, *Camp, at Kirky, Nov. 6, 1817.*

MY letter of yesterday's date will have informed you of my having removed the whole of the stores, treasure, and provisions from our late cantonments to the village of Kirky; and of their being lodged in security therein; and of the brigade being in a state of preparation to move as circumstances may require.

I have now the honour to report, for the information of the General Officer commanding this force, that soon after I had dispatched it, I received an intimation from the Resident of the probability of an immediate rupture with the Peishwa, followed by a requisition to move out and attack the Mahratta force, which was then visible and advancing to the attack of our camp.

I in consequence formed the brigade, and leaving the head quarters of the 2d battalion 6th regiment, who were previously weakened by several strong detachments, in charge of the post of Kirky, together with the drill, sick, unfits, and two iron twelve pounders, under the command of Major Roome, advanced to meet the enemy, a party of whose horse hovered near the column and preceded our march.

Having chosen a situation in advance of our position, at the distance of about one mile, we formed line, waiting the junction of the Dapore* battalion, under the command of Major Ford, with three field pieces: at this period I was joined by the Resident, who most gallantly exerted himself throughout the day, in setting a distinguished example of zeal and animation to the troops, encouraging the men wherever it became necessary, and by his suggestions and information, aiding my judgment in the execution of the measures it became necessary to adopt.

On the approach of Major Ford's division, and being reinforced by the Resident's escort and troops which had been stationed at the Sungum,† under the command of Major Cleiland, who had handsomely offered his services to me; I ordered the line to advance, which we continued doing for half a mile.

The Mahratta army, which was drawn up with its left resting on the height of the front of Gunness-Cundy, where a large body of the Vinchoor Rajah's‡ horse were posted, extended its right to the Mootah river, in which direction the principal masses of their cavalry were formed, the total amount of which is supposed to have been fifteen thousand; the intermediate undulating plain being occupied by a long line of infantry and guns, supported by successive lines of horse, as far as the eye could see, who, seeing us advance, moved forward from their position, and at the very moment we were unlimbering for action, commenced a brisk cannonade from their centre, while the masses of

* Part of a brigade raised by the Peishwa, but officered and disciplined by Europeans.

† The Residency.

‡ This person is one of the Peishwa's principal Officers, and on former occasions had been conspicuous for his attachment to the British interests.

cavalry on both their flanks endeavoured to turn ours, and succeeded in getting in our rear.

The action now became very interesting: a body of Goklah's regular infantry made an attack, in solid column, on the 1st battalion 7th regiment Native Infantry, which was on the left of the line; and who had scarcely succeeded in repelling it and a number of horse, when a select body of the enemy's cavalry seeing their infantry repulsed and pressed by the battalion, who could with difficulty be restrained from pursuing them, made a determined charge on the corps, some of the men wheeling round the flanks, repeating their attack in their rear; the bravery of the men, however, compensated for the disorder into which they had been thrown by the previous attacks, and enabled them, under circumstances of great difficulty, and with the powerful co-operation they derived from the left brigade of guns, and a part of the Bombay regiment, to beat off the assailants, who left many men and horses on the ground, withdrawing to a distance, and never after hazarding a repetition of their attack.

By this time Major Ford, with his battalion and his field-pieces from Dapore, joined us, and formed line on our right, when we again immediately advanced near half a mile, the left of the line being thrown back to check any attack of the enemy's horse, who were in great force between them and the river, while the light companies of the 1st battalion 7th regiment, which had at first preceded the line, were sent to the rear to keep in check a large body of horse, who had been watching Major Ford's movement, to our support, and who now came down in rear of our right flank.

Soon after the enemy withdrew the greater part of his force to a distance, retiring and drawing off his guns towards the city; and, as we advanced, the greater part of his infantry also, computed at eight thousand (part of whom had been posted in advance of his guns and centre in the bed of a nullah*, and in walled gardens, extending along the front of our position), now sent out their skirmishers, which, with others on the right of the line, and rockets from both front and rear, continued to occasion us a few casualties. The light infantry of the line, however, under the command of Captain Preston, easily drove them off and occupied their ground; and it being nearly dark I submitted to the Resident, as the enemy were evidently in full retreat, the expediency of withdrawing the troops to camp as soon as it was dark, having fortunately succeeded in our principal object, meeting and driving the enemy from the position they had originally taken up; this was accordingly done, and the whole returned to camp soon after eight o'clock.

I am happy to say the casualties during the action have been less than could have been expected; the greater part have fallen on the 1st battalion 7th regiment: only one European officer, however, Lieutenant Falconer, of the 2d battalion 1st regiment, is amongst the wounded. Accompanying I have the honour to forward a return of the number.

I have not yet heard a correct statement of the

* A rivulet.

loss the enemy suffered ; I should imagine that it could not be less than three or four hundred killed and wounded ; Native reports make it treble that number ; amongst the latter are said to be the Minister and some officers of distinction.

A more pleasing duty now arrests my attention, the rendering that tribute of grateful acknowledgment due to the exertions of the gallant force I had the honour to command, and of those individuals, to whose official rank and situation I feel so much indebted for their cheerful support and devotion to promote the success of the action.

The Bombay and Dapore artillery, under the command of Captain Thew and Lieutenant Lawrie, rendered the most important services ; and the spirited manner in which the guns were served greatly contributed to the rapid success of the day.

The detachment of His Majesty's 65th regiment and Bombay European regiment, commanded by Major Wilson and Lieutenant Coleman, honourably maintained, by their cool and steady conduct, the long established reputation of those valuable corps, and the zealous officer who commanded, while Captains Mitford, Donolly*, and Whitehill, at the head of their respective battalions, were anxious to afford to their deserving corps an honourable example, which was nobly emulated by the Resident's escort, commanded by Major Gleiland.

To my Brigade Major, Captain Hallitax, to my Quarter-Master of Brigade, Lieutenant Inverarity, and Lieutenant Ellis (the Bazar Master), and the other Staff Officers attached to the brigade, I feel extremely obliged for their exertions during the whole of the action. Lieutenant Grant, of the grenadier battalion, attached to the Residency, most handsomely volunteered his services to communicate my orders, and particularly distinguished himself throughout the action. Captain Gordon and Lieutenant Dunsterville were also cheerful assistants on the occasion ; the latter does not belong to this division of the force.

To Major Ford, and the officers and men of his fine brigade, I feel the greatest obligations for the cheerfulness and anxiety they evinced to contribute to the general success of the day, while it afforded me much pleasure to witness the anxious and humane attention of Dr. Meck and the medical gentlemen to the important duties devolving on them at this interesting moment.

On my return to camp, finding Lieutenant-Colonel Osborne had arrived, I delivered over charge of the brigade under my command to him, having solicited his permission to express my acknowledgements, in orders to the gallant force which I had had the distinguished honour of commanding on an occasion of such particular interest.

I have the honour to be, &c.

C. B. BURR, Lieut. Col.

Return of the Killed and Wounded of the Poona Brigade, under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Burr, in the Action near Poona, on the 5th November 1817.

Artillery—2 lascars wounded.

* Captain Donnelly commanded three hundred men of the 2d battalion 6th regiment, who joined from the Sangum.

H. C. Bombay European Reg.—1 private killed, 1 private wounded.

2d Batt. 1st N. Reg.—1 private killed ; 1 lieutenant, 1 havildar, 1 naique, 1 bheastee, 5 privates, wounded.

2d Batt. 6th N. Reg.—4 privates killed ; 10 privates wounded.

1st Batt. 7th Reg.—1 havildar, 1 naique, 1 drummer, 9 privates, killed ; 1 havildar, 3 naiques, 34 privates, wounded.

Major Ford's Batt.—1 private killed ; 1 jemedar, 1 havildar, 5 privates, wounded.

Total—1 havildar, 1 naique, 1 drummer, 16 privates, killed ; 1 lieutenant, 1 jemedar, 3 havildars, 4 naiques, 2 lascars, 1 bheastee, 55 privates, wounded.

Name of the Officer wounded.

Lieutenant Falconar, severely, in the shoulder.

C. B. BURR, Lieut. Col.

P. S. I am sorry to say there is very little hopes of Lieutenant Falconar's surviving, and several of the wounded will either die, or require amputation.

Extract from a Dispatch from Mr. Elphinstone to the Governor-General, dated, Camp, Kirky, November 11, 1817.

SINCE the brigade has been in this position we have experienced the good effects of the forward movement made by Colonel Burr, on the 5th, and of the impression he then struck, in the timidity and inertness of the enemy, and the tranquillity which we have in consequence enjoyed.

The Peishwa's army appears to have been in great confusion :—on the 6th, Moro Dickshut,* was certainly killed, as was Sirdar Khan, a Patan Chief, who had been discharged from the Nizam's reformed horse, and whom the Peishwa ordered to raise two thousand men for his service ;—Bulwunt Row Rastia Nana Kookera, a relation of Goklah's,† and Narraen Dickshut, the brother of Moro Dickshut, were wounded,—and Abba Poorundery had a horse killed under him,—the Vinchoor kur was suspected of treachery ;—the Peishwa himself set off for Poorunder, and was, with great difficulty, persuaded to remain in camp by Goklah, who declared that his flight would be followed by the dispersion of his army. In the course of the succeeding days the Mabratta army was concentrated on the side of Poona, most removed from our camp : and His Highness encouraged the Sirdars,‡ paid for the horses that had been killed in action, and bestowed presents and distinctions on such men as had been wounded. Yesterday evening, the whole army moved out from behind the town, and encamped to the east of our old cantonment, in open view of this camp, at the distance of about four miles.

The only signs of activity which the enemy has displayed have appeared in his attempts to cut off supplies, and to shut the roads ; in this he has in

* One of the Peishwa's Ministers, who generally transacted business with the British Resident.

† One of the Peishwa's Officers, who has obtained an ascendancy in his Counsels.

‡ Military Chiefs.

some measure succeeded, as some officers and some convoys were advancing on the faith of our alliance with little or no escort: Cornets Hunter and Morrison, escorted by a havildar* and twelve sepoy, had arrived at Woorlee, within twenty miles of Poona, when they were surrounded by some hundred horse and some Arabs, and, after a fruitless resistance, were compelled to lay down their arms; the sepoy were not detained, and one of them has arrived in camp, but the officers were made prisoners, and are stated, by one report, to have been murdered in cold blood, but, more authentic accounts represent them to have been carried into Poona. Captain Vaughan and his brother were seized at Tullygong, on their way from Bombay, and, although they offered no resistance, they are stated, by a negro servant who brought the account of their capture, to have been put to death in the most ignominious manner: the negro is so distinct in his relation of their execution that there is no reason to doubt the fact, except what arises from the atrocity of the action.

The Peishwa's conduct has in some instances borne more of the character of civilized war: A conductor and a naik's† party belonging to the Peishwa's battalion, that were in charge of some stores in a suburb near the Residency, were induced by assurances of safety to quit a defensible house which they occupied, and the promises made to them were faithfully observed. Mahommed Hurriff, the moonshee‡ of the Residency, had also defended his house with Arabs, was invited to quit it, and sent out of the city unmolested. He had an interview with Goklah before he came, which was interesting in many respects, especially from Goklah's producing a paper under the Peishwa's seal, investing him with all the powers of the Government, and from the avowal of Wittojee Naick that the Residency and cantonments were burned by the Peishwa's own orders. I had before supposed this wanton outrage to be the work of some of the rabble that compose His Highness's army. On the other hand Goklah had shewn the utmost activity in seizing and plundering all persons who are themselves or who have relations in our service.

Copy of a Report from Brigadier-General Lionel Smith, C. B. commanding the Poona Subsidiary Force, to Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Hislop, Bart. Commander in Chief of the Army of the Deccan.

SIR,

Camp before Poona, November 20, 1817.

MY letter to your Excellency, under date of the 1st instant, will have explained the circumstances under which I had determined to concentrate the fourth division of the army on the south bank of the Godavery, and which was effected on the morning of the 3d instant.

I shall now, as briefly as intervening circumstances permit, report to your Excellency my further proceedings.

On the morning of the 5th instant I received a dispatch from the Resident at Poona, recalling the

* A Native Serjeant. † A Corporal. ‡ Native Secretary.

troops in that direction with all possible haste, His Highness the Peishwa having assembled a large army which threatened to attack the British cantonment.

I arrived at Ahmednuggur on the 8th and immediately took possession of the pettah*, which had been ceded by the late treaty but not given up to the Honourable Company.

From hence I took up my battering train, and large supplies of grain and stores, both for my own troops and those at Poona. On my march between Ahmednuggur and Seroor, I became acquainted through the reports of the country with the actual state of hostilities at Poona. It appeared that His Highness the Peishwa had directed a very desperate and sudden attack by all his army present, amounting to about twenty-five thousand men, on our little force stationed at Poona, on the 5th instant, in it's position at Kirky, in the hope of annihilating it before it could receive any succours; he had also burnt the Residency and the old cantonments. The discipline and gallantry of the troops at Poona, under Lieutenant-Colonel Burr, of the 7th Bombay infantry, not exceeding two thousand eight hundred men engaged, enabled them to resist and drive the enemy back. I have the honour to inclose Lieutenant-Colonel Burr's report of the action, with a list of the killed and wounded, and would beg to draw your Excellency's notice to the very meritorious conduct of that Officer.

My march from Seroor to Poona became extremely difficult and harassing from the want of cavalry.

The enemy's horse constantly surrounding my line and camp, compelled me to shorten my marches and to preserve the closest order, and I could not reach Poona, in consequence, before the evening of the 13th. In this situation I must not omit to report the gallant exertions of Captain Spiller, with about four hundred of the auxiliary horse†, who succeeded in attacking and defeating a more numerous body of the enemy's horse, in which they lost a Sirdar of rank, and about fifty men killed and wounded, with a very trifling loss among the auxiliaries.

I made a disposition on the evening of the 14th to attack the enemy, who was encamped on the opposite side of the Moottah Moola, occupying the ground of the old British cantonments, having his right upon a mangoe grove, with a deep nullah crossing the extremity, and his left stretching along the inclosures of the northern front of the officers lines of houses, extending towards the suburbs of the town. He had eleven guns in battery on his left, and a few others more scattered along his front and right. I was, however, disappointed in the state of the Yellera Ford, which proved extremely difficult, and by which I had hoped to pass my whole line over the Moottah Moola; this obliged me to relinquish attempting its passage by night, and the troops were then too much exhausted from the harassing nature of their duties, to justify my attempting any more distant ford.

On the evening of the 16th all the disposable

* The town.

† A body of troops raised in the Peishwa's dominions, and officered by Europeans.

corps, after providing for the camp and the position of Kirky, were formed in divisions* of attack; the first, under my personal command, was destined for the enemy's left, and to cross the river at the Sungum; and the second, under Lieutenant-Colonel Milnes, His Majesty's 65th regiment, was directed to act upon the enemy's right, and to cross the river by the Yellera Ford before sun-set. A battalion, with a company of Europeans and two field-pieces, under Major Thatcher, of the 2d battalion 9th regiment, was ordered to precede the first division by a different route, to prevent the enemy opposing my passage.

The first and second divisions, lying in position after the passage of the river, were appointed to march at a given time from equal distances, so as to join in attack at the dawn of day, by which I hoped to throw their cavalry into confusion, or at least to prevent their forming to charge in any regularity. The junction of these divisions was perfectly effected as designed. But the enemy having taken alarm in the course of the night at the fruitless, though obstinate, opposition which he made to Lieutenant-Colonel Milne's division in the passage of the river at Yellera, and against which he appears to have thrown out all his infantry, as well as large bodies of horse, precipitately drew off, leaving a great part of his camp standing, and considerable quantities of ammunition on the field.

His Highness the Peishwa is said to have fled about two o'clock in the morning of the 17th. The enemy succeeded in carrying off all his guns but one; and I had no means of pursuing him beyond the fire of my artillery.

The enemy having thus disappeared, I lost no time in recrossing the river to occupy the most favourable ground for bombarding the city; but every interest and policy, as well as considerations of humanity, made me most anxious to unite my exertions with those of the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, the Resident, to avert the destruction which now threatened it, either by bombardment or storm; and the enemy having luckily fled in an opposite direction, and left the defence of the city to only a few hundred Arabs, these were, by Mr. Elphinstone's influence, prevailed upon to withdraw; and I have the pleasure to acquaint your Excellency our guards took peaceable possession of the city in the course of the evening of the 17th, when the British flag was hoisted on His Highness's palace, under a royal salute.

Although the troops, both Native and European, were exasperated to the utmost at the perfidious conduct of the enemy in burning the Residency and their cantonments, and in the most barbarous execution of Captain Vaughan, of the Madras 15th Native Infantry, and his brother, travelling under the belief of the peaceable relations of the two Governments, still no excesses have been committed against the city, the resources of which are invaluable in the calculation of our future operations against His Highness the Peishwa.

I shall be unavoidably detained here, aiding in the establishment of order and military security to the city, till the 22d instant, when I propose march-

* See the close of this letter.

ing again upon the enemy in his retreat to the southward.

I cannot close this dispatch without assuring your Excellency of the zeal and good discipline of all the troops, and of the cheerful aid I have received from all the Staff.

The enemy confidently calculated he had succeeded in seducing the Sepoys, by large rewards, to desert our ranks; and if any thing can add to the reputation of the Bombay army, it should be recorded, as a proof of their incorruptible fidelity, that not a Sepoy has left his colours since the Peishwa became our enemy.

I inclose a list of killed and wounded in various skirmishes with the enemy, but principally in the passage of the Moottab Moola, by Lieutenant-Colonel Milne's division on the evening of the 16th instant, which acquitted itself with great spirit and steadiness during a long and severe fire both of musquetry and cannon.

From forty to fifty guns, with a considerable quantity of military stores, are reported to be taken in the city, returns of which I shall have the honour of transmitting hereafter.

I have the honour to report, that the 2d regiment of cavalry, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Colebrooke, joined my camp on the morning of the 18th instant.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) LIONEL SMITH, Brig. Gen.

* *First Division, Brigadier-General Smith.*

Horse Artillery.
His Majesty's 65th Regiment,
Light Battalion.
1st Battalion 2d Regiment.
1st Battalion 3d Regiment.

Second Division, Lieutenant-Colonel Milnes.

Foot Artillery.
Bombay European Regiment.
3 Company Light Battalion.
2d Battalion 6th Regiment.
1st Battalion 7th Regiment.
Residency Guard.

Third Division, Major Thatcher.

1 Company of Europeans.
2 guns.
2d Battalion 9th Regiment.

Names of Officers wounded.

1st Batt. 3d Reg.—Lieutenant Spiller, attached to the auxiliary horse, slightly.
Bombay European Regiment—Captain Preston, severely.

Non-commissioned and Privates.

15 killed; 76 wounded.

Extract from a Dispatch from the Governor in Council of Bombay, to the Secret Committee, dated 9th December 1817.

WE have the satisfaction of acquainting your Honourable Committee, that the district of Colpar*

* A valuable tract of territory in the vicinity of Surat, belonging to the Vinchoor Jagheerdar.

has been taken possession of without opposition, and that the fort of Severndroog,* after a slight resistance, has surrendered without a single casualty on our part; about eighty or ninety men have been made prisoners, but the rest of the troops which composed the garrison effected their escape under cover of the night. We congratulate your Honourable Committee on this event, which will be of considerable consequence, should we be able, with the means at our command, to attempt an extension of our acquisitions in the Southern Concan, although you may rest assured that our measures will be confined at present to secure what we have acquired in that district.

The enemy had began to prepare their craft for the purpose of attacking our trade which might re-pass the coasts.

Extract from a Dispatch from Mr. Elphinstone to the Governor-General, dated, Camp, Rajawarree, November 23, 1817.

ON our obtaining possession of Poona, correct accounts were obtained of some particulars which were before imperfectly known. It appeared that the attack on our troops on the 5th, was chiefly brought about by the persuasion of Goklah, that the Peishwa took the alarm after he had given the order, and even sent to Goklah, when on the eve of the action, to desire that he might not fire the first gun, but that the message was too late, or rather, that Gokla, hearing of its approach, anticipated it by beginning to cannonade; Moro Dickshut had been entrusted with the Zerree Putkah (the standard of the Mahratta Empire), and had five thousand horse attached to him besides his own two thousand; he is however represented as having been very averse to the war, and as being accused by Gokla of intrigues with us; Rastia was one of those attached to Moro Dickshut's party, being strongly suspected of disaffection, he was compelled to charge first, but acquitted himself with courage and fidelity; Goklah avowed to Appajee Luckman Appa Dessayes Yackbeel, immediately before the action, that his confidence of success and impatience to engage were founded in the certainty that our sepoys would come over by companies or battalions on the field.

After the affair of the 5th, the Peishwa's army was dismayed: His Highness sent for Hurriseer, the Banker, lamented the breaking out of hostilities, and with his usual insincerity professed his wish to have remained at peace, and threw the whole blame of the war, both plan and execution, on his Sirdars; on this occasion he disavowed the burning of the Residency, and said he would be very glad to build a new one, but his whole discourse appears to me to be merely a specimen of his accustomed double dealing, and of his wish, even in the worst of times, to keep open some separate channel of intrigue for his own use.

Some days after the action, the Peishwa's officers picked up some spirit, and set about circulating the most absurd reports of their successes and of the defection of our allies. They were joined by Dhermajee Partub Row (the freebooter), and it is said by the son of Row Rumbha; Chentamun Row

* On the Sea coast south of Bombay.

also joined before their flight from Poona: Goklah set up a white flag as an asylum for all who should desert us before a certain time, after that no pardon was to be given to any man who had served us; all the servants of English gentlemen who happened to live at Poona, were hunted out by Gokla, and many treated with great severity: the houses of most of them were given up to plunder, but none of them were put to death.

Some time before the breaking out of the war, the Peishwa had concerted with all the Bheels and Ramoossees, and other predatory tribes in his country, to shut up the roads and plunder effects belonging to us. They have readily obeyed an order so much suited to their inclination, and have not confined their depredations to British property. They have however shut up roads; that to Bombay is further obstructed by the garrison of Logar, and by a detachment which has taken possession of and stockaded the Bore Ghaut; no dawks have been received from Bombay since the 5th; General Smith, however, has sent a strong detachment to open that road, and one of less strength to keep open the communication with Ahmedauggur. No more convoys have been cut off since the first few days after the war; but I am greatly concerned to state that Lieutenant Ennis, of the Bombay Engineers, has been cut off near Sakoor Mandava, where he was employed on survey. He had been recalled, but, from an over confidence in the strength of his guard, he did not fall back on any station. He was attacked in the night by the inhabitants of Sakoor Mandava, and next morning was surrounded by the Bheels and other adherents of Trimbuckjee, who is still in that neighbourhood. Lieutenant Ennis was shot while engaged with the enemy, and his detachment of a jemedar and twenty-five, fought their way to a more friendly part of the country. Some coss on this side of Anna Bootch they were received, fed, and sent off in disguise by the Poltail* of a village, whom I shall not fail to discover and reward. Cornets Hunter and Morrison were in Goklah's custody; they were at first in charge of Major Pinto, who is said to have treated them well, and resisted Goklah's orders to use them with severity, but before the Peishwa's flight they were put in chains, and sent to Goklah's fort of Kangorree, in the Concan.

In consequence of the execution of Captain and Mr. Vaughan, I have addressed letters of remonstrance both to the Peishwa and to Goklah; to the former I only threatened retaliation, in general terms, for any repetition of such atrocities; but to Goklah I declared explicitly, that any individual, however exalted in his rank, who should order the death of a British prisoner, should answer for the crime in his own person.

I omitted to state, that on the 18th General Smith sent out a detachment to take some guns, which, with a body of infantry, had got off to the neighbourhood of the fort of Singhar; fifteen guns were taken without any loss; besides these forty-six were taken in Poona, and one in the Peishwa's camp; large quantities of ammunition have likewise been taken.

The army is now in full march after the Peish-

* Head inhabitant.

wa, who, it is rumoured, intends to return to Poona, or holds that language to encourage his troops.—Trimbuckjee has not yet joined him, whether from distrust on his own part, or policy on the Peishwa's, is not known.

Extract from a Report from Brigadier-General Smith to Lieutenant-General Sir Miles Nightingall, K. C. B. Commander in Chief at Bombay, dated Camp, at Julgaum, 29th November 1817.

MR. ELPHINSTONE informs me he is endeavouring to send a cossid* to Bancoote, and I avail myself of this opportunity to acquaint your Excellency with what has passed since the force left Poona on the 22d instant.

We had a most difficult task in ascending the little Bhore Ghaut with the heavy train, on the 23d, which was not accomplished till late at night; luckily the enemy did not attempt to defend the Ghaut, or it would have cost me many lives, and two or three days. I was obliged to halt on the 24th.

We saw nothing of the enemy till we came to Jeejoory on the 25th, here he shewed from four to five thousand horse on both flanks of our column; we pursued and dispersed one body of about two thousand, with the second cavalry and the artillery gallopers, but with little effect, the cavalry being completely broken down and almost useless, from the incessant forced marches they have made for many months past.

The second body of the enemy being upon the rear, and the march being very long (twenty-four miles), they took off from fifteen to twenty bullocks. The road was part of the way winding through hills, and it was impossible effectually to cover the whole of the baggage. In the course of the day's skirmishing the enemy, by reports from their own camp, lost about twenty men and several horses; we had no one hurt. I passed the Neerah, by the bridge, the same evening. On the 26th, I marched to the bottom of the Salpee Pass.

On the 27th, we halted to refresh before entering the Pass, as the enemy threatened great opposition.

The following morning (yesterday) we ascended that Ghaut, and perfectly unmolested till we reached

* A messenger.

the top, where the enemy shewed about six hundred horse and threw a few rockets. The advance soon drove them back with loss. They gathered strength as they retired in our front, and towards the close of our march shewed from three to four thousand men in front, and about as many more being upon our rear.

We opened the gallopers upon them two or three times in the course of the march, and with great effect. The 2d battalion of the 9th regiment, under Major Thatcher, had the rear guard, and took an opportunity of masking a galloper, under a division of auxiliaries, which the enemy were preparing to charge; it opened with grape, and did great execution; and the enemy through the day could not have lost fewer than one hundred and twenty men; we had one havildar and one sepoy slightly speared.

In the march this morning he was consequently very shy; but at the close of it he shewed about five thousand horse out of range; as the picquet advanced they retired slowly; the nature of the ground enabled me, however, to push upon them rapidly, unperceived, till we reached a rising ground, when we found them formed, and within range; all the gallopers, and a light five and half inch howitzer, immediately opened upon them with great effect; and, as usual, they fled in confusion; they lost many men and horses, but I have no reports yet of the amount from their own camp.

On the whole I think I can assure your Excellency that every thing is going on prosperously. It is to be lamented, certainly, that the enemy will not fight, or that I have not cavalry to drive him to a distance; but I think every day's experiment of his present system is alarming and dispersing his men, and that he will soon give it up. We have no difficulties whatever, but want of grain for the followers; but the distress has not yet been of a nature to oblige them to leave us; and, I hope, by protecting the country, and paying liberally for all I take, that we shall continue to find supplies enough to prevent extreme want.

The troops have to endure great fatigue; we seldom reach our ground before two or three o'clock in the evening, from the necessity of keeping the whole line in the most compact order, but I am happy to assure your Excellency of general good health, and the highest spirits in all ranks.

