

Copy of a Report from Major Richard Clarke to the Assistant Adjutant-General, dated Camp, Gungrain, 14th January 1818.

SIR,

IN addition to my report of yesterday of a successful attack on the Durrahs of Kurream Khan and Wasil Mahomed, I am now enabled to give you a more correct statement of that affair.

I marched at eleven o'clock P. M. on the night of the 12th instant for the village of Amlee, distant seven coss, where this body was at two P. M.; the same day about four miles from Camp I observed two villages on fire about two coss to my left; which led me to conjecture that the enemy had left Amlee (ignorant of their approach to our Camp) and were then committing their depredations. Keeping the road to Amlee, two miles further, I was met by an Hircarrab, who informed me that the Durrahs of the aforementioned chiefs were on my left about three quarters of a coss, and that they would remain till near day break. At first I determined to storm their camp, from the apprehension they might hear we were near at hand, and thereby make off; but on further inquiring I found that Colonel Adams had eight Hircarrabs watching them, and so disposed as to afford me intelligence in a quarter of an hour, should they prepare to move. I therefore made the necessary arrangements (from the information I received) for attacking their camp at day break: at five o'clock A. M. we moved down in two columns of half squadrons, with skirmishers of each at a short distance on the flank of each column. The success of the left column is fully detailed in Captain Kennedy's letter, who charged the whole body of the enemy in the most gallant style. I want words to express the obligations I am under to this officer for the assistance he afforded me on this occasion.

A gale of about eight hundred men not observing the approach of the right column, fled in its direction, and were immediately charged by the skirmishers under Cornet Nind, followed by the right column. The right division under Lieutenant Buckley were detached in pursuit, having the left division as a reserve, and which followed the pursuing parties five coss; in this distance not less than two hundred and fifty were slain, and on the return of the officers engaged in the pursuit (on which duty my Staff Lieutenants Hawkes and Manly volunteered their services,) I had the satisfaction to learn that at least an equal number had been destroyed, making the total of killed, at the most moderate computation, one thousand.

The body attacked, from the observation of myself and officers, could not be less than fifteen hundred; the spirited exertions of every officer and soldier has merited my most unqualified approbation. After a pursuit of upwards of twenty miles, the detachment returned to Head-Quarters, without a halt—a distance little short of sixty miles in thirteen hours. Two standards were taken, and the chiefs, Namohar Khan and Shaik Wasil (or Wasil Mahomed himself) are reported to be among the slain. I have, &c.

R. CLARKE,
Br. Commanding Reserve.

Copy of a Report from Captain J. Kennedy to Major Clarke, dated Camp Gungrain, 14th January 1818.

SIR,

I HAVE much satisfaction in reporting the successful operations of the left wing of the 5th cavalry under my command against a large body of Pindarries, on the morning of the 13th instant. Agreeably to your directions I advanced on the left of the enemy, and was fortunate enough to come upon them just as they were mounting their horses. The result of this first onset was about two hundred and fifty of the enemy killed on the spot. The pursuit was continued with equal success for sixteen or eighteen miles, and I am convinced from my own observation when returning from the pursuit that more than that number were slain during the enemy's attempt to escape. The conduct of both officers and men of the left wing merit my warmest thanks and approbation.

I have, &c.

J. KENNEDY, Captain,
Commanding Fifth Regiment of Cavalry.

General Order by the Governor-General and Commander in Chief, dated Head-Quarters, Camp, Oochar, 20th January 1818.

THE Commander in Chief feels it incumbent to publish to the army the details of an attack made by Major R. Clarke, with the 5th regiment of Bengal Native Cavalry, on the remains of the united Pindarry Hordes of Kurream Khan and Wasil Mahomed, early on the morning of the 13th January.

The ability with which the affair was conducted is no less conspicuous from the details before His Excellency, than from the brilliant results which crowned it.

It appears that Major Clarke, after several hours march, came within a short distance of the position in which he ascertained that the enemy were resting. But as this was still during the night, the Major, with excellent judgment, resolved to defer the attack until there should be light enough to allow the discipline of his troops its full advantage, and he accordingly remained for three hours in the vicinity of the enemy without being discovered.

At five o'clock the 5th cavalry moved forward in two columns of half squadrons, taking the Pindarries completely by surprise, and routed them with the loss of nearly one thousand killed. The pursuit was kept up for many miles with great effect, and the regiment then returned to Lieutenant Colonel Adams's camp, after going a distance of sixty miles in thirteen hours.

Such decided success could only have resulted from a happy combination of steady discipline and persevering gallantry; qualities for which the 5th native cavalry has always stood eminently conspicuous.

The Commander in Chief desires that Major Clarke, Captain Kennedy, and every officer and soldier engaged, will accept his acknowledgements, and thanks for their zealous and successful exertions on this fortunate occasion.

J. NICOL,
Adjutant-General of the Army.