

The conduct of the Army, both European and Native, which your Lordship did me the honour to place under my orders, has been admirable throughout, and notwithstanding the severe marching and privations they have gone through, their appearance and discipline have suffered nothing, and the opportunity afforded them at Ghuznee, of meeting and conquering their enemy, has added greatly to their good spirits.

The joint dispatch addressed by Mr. Macnaghten and myself to your Lordship, on the 3d instant, from Shikarbad, will have informed you, that at the moment we had made every preparation to attack (on the following day) Dost Mahomed Khan in his position at Urghundee, where, after his son, Mahomed Akhbar, had joined him from Jelalabad, he had an army amounting to thirteen thousand men, well armed and appointed, and thirty pieces of artillery, we suddenly learnt that he abandoned them all, and fled with a party of horsemen on the road to Bameean, leaving his guns in position as he had placed them to receive our attack.

It appears that a great part of his army, which was hourly becoming disorganised, refused to stand by him in the position to receive our attack, and that it soon became in a state of dissolution. The great bulk immediately came over to Shah Shooja, tendering their allegiance, and I believe His Majesty will take most of them into his pay.

It seems that the news of the quick and determined manner in which we took their strong hold, Ghuznee, had such an effect upon the population of Cabool, and perhaps also upon the enemy's army, that Dost Mahomed, from that moment, began to lose hope of retaining his rule for even a short time longer, and sent off his family and valuable property towards Bameean, but marched out of Cabool with his army and artillery, keeping a bold front towards

us until the evening of the 2d, when all his hopes were at end by a division in his own camp, and one part of his army abandoning him. So precipitate was his flight, that he left in position his guns, with their ammunition and waggons, and the greater part of the cattle by which they were drawn. Major Cureton, of Her Majesty's 16th lancers, with his party of two hundred men, pushed forward on the 3d, and took possession of those guns, &c. There were twenty-three brass guns in position loaded, two more at a little distance, which they attempted to take away, and since then three more abandoned still further off on the Bameean-road, thus leaving in our possession twenty-eight pieces of cannon, with all the materiel belonging to them, which are now handed over to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk.

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*Extract from a Letter from Envoy and Minister to the Court of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, dated Cabool, August 9, 1839.*

By a letter signed jointly by his Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane and myself, dated the 3d instant, the Right Honourable the Governor-General was apprised of the flight of Dost Mahomed Khan.

The Ex-chief was not accompanied by any person of consequence, and his followers are said to have been reduced to below the number of one hundred on the day of his departure. In the progress of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk towards Cabool, His Majesty was joined by every person of rank and influence in the country, and he made his triumphal entry into the city on the evening of the 7th instant. His Majesty has taken up his residence in the Bala Hissar, where he has required the British Mission to remain for the present.

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