

since he led his small but victorious band from Meerut up to this day.

It only remains for the Major-General to congratulate the forces before Delhi on being placed under so able a commander as Brigadier-General Wilson.

Major-General Reed takes this opportunity of requesting the head-quarters and divisional staff to accept his thanks for the great assistance received by him and by his lamented predecessor, Major-General Sir H. Barnard, K.C.B., not only in the exercise of their departmental duties, but also in the operations in the field.

To Brigadier-General Chamberlain, Acting Adjutant-General of the Army; Colonel Congreve, C.B., Acting Adjutant-General, Her Majesty's Forces; Colonel Becher, Quartermaster-General of the Army; Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable R. W. P. Curzon, Acting Quartermaster-General, Her Majesty's Forces; Lieutenant-Colonel Young, Judge Advocate-General; Captain Norman, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army; Captains Garstin and Hodson, Officiating Deputy Assistant Quartermasters-General of the Army; Major Ewart, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, and Captain Stewart, Officiating Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General; Captain Maisey, Deputy Judge Advocate-General; and Captain Shute, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General of Division;—his acknowledgments are eminently due.

The Major-General's warmest thanks are due to the whole Artillery of the Force, who have on all occasions behaved with conspicuous gallantry, and have ever maintained the reputation of their distinguished corps.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Baird Smith, and the Engineer Department, Major-General Reed offers his most sincere acknowledgments for the valuable services they have rendered.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Thomson, Deputy Commissary-General, and his assistants; to Superintending Surgeon Tritton, and all the officers of the Medical Department; the Major-General's best thanks are due for their indefatigable and successful exertions.

To Brigadiers Grant, Longfield, Jones, and Showers, and to the gallant officers and troops, European and Native, under their orders, the Major-General begs to award his tribute of admiration for their brilliant and distinguished conduct in a succession of attacks, in which the enemy have, on every occasion, been repulsed. The behaviour of the troops has been beyond all praise.

Major-General Reed cannot forbear from recording the name of Major Reid, as having commanded the post which has been subject to the most frequent and constant attacks of the enemy, from which they have always been driven with great loss by the able dispositions of that officer, so admirably seconded by the troops under his command, comprising parties of Her Majesty's 60th Royal Rifles, and other corps, with the gallant Sirmoor battalion, and Corps of Guides.

In conclusion, the Major-General desires to express his thanks to the officers of his personal Staff for the uniform assistance he has received from them upon every occasion, and he only regrets he has not had more frequent opportunities of witnessing their distinguished conduct in the field; to Captains Lowe, Reed, and Turnbull, Aides-de-camp; to Assistant-Surgeon W. F. Mactier; and to Lieutenant R. C. Low, Orderly Officer; as well as to Lieutenant W. H. Greathed, of Engineers, who acted as Aide-de-camp to the General commanding from the 7th ultimo, besides performing the duty of Field-Engineer, when his services were needed in that capacity.

No. 10.

*Lieutenant-Colonel Macpherson, Military Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Punjaub, to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

(Extract.)

Lahore, July 18, 1857.

BY direction of the Chief Commissioner, I have the honour to forward, for submission to the Governor-General in Council, a copy of a letter of the 4th instant, from General Van Cortlandt, commanding Bhutteana field force, detailing particulars of an engagement with a body of Bhutte rebels, on the 19th June.

The Chief Commissioner has already, in a letter dated \_\_\_\_\_, referred to this affair, which is very honorable to General Van Cortlandt and the officers and men under him.

No. 11.

*General Van Cortlandt, commanding the Bhutteana Irregular Force, to Colonel Macpherson, Military Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Punjaub.*

SIR,

Sirsah, July 4, 1857.

WITH reference to my demi-official letter of the 19th June, I have now the honour to report, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, that on the morning of that day I marched from Sohoowalla, *en route* for Sirsah.

2. When within a short distance of the village of Khyracka, through which the road runs, each portion forming a separate entrenched village, my suspicions of an attack were aroused by a large number of cattle being driven down on my line of march, so great that it was with difficulty the road could be kept clear. I immediately threw out Cavalry skirmishers to the front and both flanks, and obtained intelligence that the village of Khyracka above named, and the village of Saharun on the left, both of which are situated on the bank of the dry bed of the Guggur river, were both strongly occupied by the Bhutte rebels.

3. I accordingly detached the sowars of the mounted police, under Lieutenant Pearse, to the left, to prevent that portion of the enemy which occupied the village of Saharun from entering and reinforcing the village of Khyracka, and formed my small force in order of battle as follows: Jowahir Sing's troops, under Lieutenant Sadlier, on the left; my two guns, under Lieutenant Walcott, in the centre; and the new levies, under Captain Bloomfield, with Lieutenant Hunt as second in command, on the right; with about twenty Irregular Horse, entertained by me, on the extreme right, and the baggage in the rear. Jowahir Sing's force was thus facing that portion of the village of Khyracka on the left of the road; my two guns were so placed as to keep the road clear, and prevent the enemy going from one portion to the other; the new levies were opposite the right portion of the village; while the few Irregular Horse were ready to cut off any of the enemy attempting to escape across the low bed of Guggur river to the village of Mirpoor on the further bank.

4. Khyracka, like all villages in this part of the country, is very strong, each portion being surrounded by a deep ditch with a strong embankment, and having but one gateway.

5. Having made the disposition of my force as above described, I advanced on the village; when about 350 yards from it the enemy opened fire upon me with their matchlocks, from under cover of their embankments. I then directed Lieutenant Sadlier to take half Jowahir Sing's force, and enter the