

Second Lieutenant James Hills, of the 2nd Troop 1st Brigade Horse Artillery, and his noble behaviour of his commanding officer, Major H. Tombs, in twice coming to his Subaltern's rescue, and, on each occasion, killing his man.

Yesterday, the 9th instant, Second Lieutenant J. Hills was on picket-duty, with two guns, at the mound to the right of the camp. About 11 o'clock A.M. there was a rumour that the enemy's Cavalry were coming down on this post. Lieutenant Hills proceeded to take up the position assigned in case of alarm; but, before he reached the spot, he saw the enemy close upon his guns before they had time to form up. To enable him to do this, Lieutenant Hills boldly charged, single-handed, the head of the enemy's column, cut down the first man, struck the second, and was then ridden down, horse and all. On getting up, and searching for his sword, three more men came at him (two mounted): the first man he wounded with his pistol; he caught the lance of the second in his left hand, and wounded him with his sword; the first man then came on again, and was cut down; the third man (on foot) then came up, and wrenched the sword from the hand of Lieutenant Hills (who fell in the struggle), and the enemy was about to cut him down, when Major Tombs (who had gone up to visit his two guns) saw what was going on, rushed in and shot the man, and saved Lieutenant Hills.

By this time the enemy's Cavalry had passed by, and Major Tombs and Lieutenant Hills went to look after the wounded men, when Lieutenant Hills observed one of the enemy passing with his (Lieutenant Hills') pistol. They walked towards him. The man began flourishing his sword, and dancing about. He first cut at Lieutenant Hills, who parried the blow, and he then turned on Major Tombs, who received the blow in the same manner. His second attack on Lieutenant Hills was, I regret to say, more successful, as he was cut down with a bad sword-cut on the head, and would have been, no doubt, killed, had not Major Tombs rushed in and put his sword through the man. I feel convinced that such gallant conduct on the part of these two officers has only to be brought properly forward to meet with an appropriate reward.

Major Tombs was saved from a severe sword-cut on the head by the wadded head-dress he wore.

I have to apologise for the writing of this letter, as it is written from a sick bed.

M. MACKENZIE, Lieutenant-Colonel.

No. 41.

Numerical Return of Casualties in the Field Force under command of Major-General Reed, C.B., during the operations of the 9th July, 1857.

Staff—1 subaltern wounded, 1 horse missing.
 Artillery Force, 1st brigade Horse Artillery—1 non-commissioned officer, 6 rank and file, 6 horses, wounded; 2 rank and file, 8 horses, missing.
 Ditto, 3rd company, 3rd battalion, and No. 14 Light Field Battery—2 non-commissioned officers, 9 rank and file, wounded.
 Ditto, detachment 4th battalion Artillery—1 rank and file wounded.
 Ditto, ditto, Artillery recruits—1 rank and file killed; 3 rank and file wounded.
 Ditto, Sikh Company of Artillery—1 non-commissioned officer killed; 1 rank and file wounded; 3 rank and file missing.

Engineer Brigade, Pioneers—2 rank and file wounded.
 Cavalry Brigade, 9th Irregular Cavalry—3 rank and file killed; 1 rank and file wounded; 5 rank and file, 9 horses, missing.
 1st Infantry Brigade, 1st European Bengal Fusiliers—3 rank and file wounded.
 2nd ditto ditto, 1st battalion Her Majesty's 60th Rifles—2 rank and file killed; 2 non-commissioned officers, 16 rank and file, wounded.
 2nd ditto ditto, 2nd European Bengal Fusiliers—1 non-commissioned officer, 1 rank and file, killed; 1 captain, 15 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file missing.
 2nd ditto ditto, Sirmoor battalion—7 rank and file killed; 1 subaltern, 1 subadar, 1 non-commissioned officer, 23 rank and file, wounded.
 3rd ditto ditto, Her Majesty's 8th Regiment—2 non-commissioned officers, 9 rank and file, killed; 1 captain, 1 subaltern, 4 non-commissioned officers, 14 rank and file, wounded.
 3rd ditto ditto, Her Majesty's 61st Regiment—1 captain, 2 subalterns, 1 non-commissioned officer, 8 rank and file, wounded.
 3rd ditto ditto, 4th Sikh Local Infantry—1 subadar, 6 rank and file, killed; 1 subaltern, 1 jemadar, 16 rank and file, wounded.
 Corps of Guides, Cavalry—2 horses wounded.
 Ditto, Infantry—6 rank and file killed; 1 subadar, 2 jemadars, 3 non-commissioned officers, 26 rank and file, wounded.

Total—1 subadar, 4 non-commissioned officers, 35 rank and file, killed; 3 captains, 6 subalterns, 2 subadars, 3 jemadars, 14 non-commissioned officers, 144 rank and file, 8 horses, wounded; 11 rank and file, 18 horses, missing.

H. W. NORMAN, Lieutenant,
 Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army.

No. 42.

List of Officers Killed and Wounded during the operations of the 9th July, 1857.

Artillery—2nd Lieutenant J. Hills, 2nd troop 1st brigade Horse Artillery, severely wounded.
 2nd Infantry Brigade—Captain D. Kemp, 5th Native Infantry, doing duty with 2nd European Bengal Fusiliers, severely wounded; Lieutenant A. H. Eckford, 69th Native Infantry, doing duty with Sirmoor Battalion, slightly wounded.
 3rd Infantry Brigade—Captain E. G. Daniell, Her Majesty's 8th Regiment, severely wounded; Ensign W. H. Mountstevens, ditto, dangerously wounded, since dead; Captain Burnside, Her Majesty's 61st Regiment, slightly wounded; Lieutenant C. J. Griffiths, ditto, severely wounded; Ensign E. B. Andros, ditto, slightly wounded; Lieutenant A. Pullan, 4th Sikh Infantry, severely wounded.

R. S. EWART, Major, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Field Force.

No. 43.

Major-General T. Reed, Commanding Field Force and Provincial Commander-in-chief, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.

Camp before Delhi, July 16, 1857.

(See Gazette, October 13, 1857.)