

My best thanks are due to all who accompanied me, (the fatigues of the day being great, and the distance marched not less than 17 or 18 miles), but more especially to Captain Cox, Lieutenant Eyre, my Detachment Staff, and Ensign Hibbert, of Her Majesty's 53rd Regiment, and also to Subadar Mirza Hydur Ally, of the 1st Regiment Sikh Infantry, on whom the brunt of the pursuit fell.

My best thanks are also due to Captain Grant, who, before he joined me, had patrolled some 25 miles.

I have &c.,

G. GORDON, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Commanding Detachment Field Force.

No. 13.

Head Quarters, Simla, May 27, 1859.

No. 450.

FORWARDED, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General in Council.

H. W. NORMAN, Major,
Officiating Adjutant-General of the Army.

R. J. H. BIRCH, Major-General,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 14.

GENERAL ORDER.

Fort William, 10th June, 1859.

No. 834 of 1859.

HIS Excellency the Governor-General in Council is pleased to publish the following report from Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon, commanding Detachment Field Force, attached to Brigadier Horsford's Column, of the proceedings of the force from the 3rd to the 5th May, 1859, in pursuit of the rebels near the village of Balapoor :

No. 15.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. Gordon, Commanding Detachment Field Force, to Major Dillon, Major of Brigade, Brigadier Horsford's Column, Trans Gogra.

Camp Balapoor Tal,
May 5, 1859.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Brigadier A. Horsford, C.B., that, having heard on the 2nd instant from Mr. Assistant Commissioner King, that a body of rebels were in the jungle, east of Bhingra, I crossed the Raptree, at Kukra Ghat, on the following morning, and proceeded through the jungle, in the direction of Musha, encamping about four miles south-west of that place at 11 A.M.

Here, while pitching my camp, I was informed that some of the enemy's videttes had been seen on the edge of the jungle. I immediately sent off spies to bring correct information of their position; but the men did not return till between four and five o'clock, P.M., and their only information then was, that they had all gone westward through the jungle. On learning this, I directed Captain Grant, Commandant 1st Regiment Hodson's Horse,

to send out a small patrol, and to follow himself with the rest of the cavalry, and watch the movement of the enemy during the night.

Lieutenant Anderson (Brigade-Major to Hodson's Horse), the officer in command of the patrol, came upon the rebels, 300 in number, about five miles from the camp, and was received by a volley of musketry. As the patrol had no fire-arms, and were a small party, they returned to camp. On the morning of the 4th I started in pursuit, and followed them with the column as far as Balapoor Tal, where I was informed they had taken to the jungle, with the view of making the Corunnea Sota en route for Sonar.

I encamped at Balapoor about 10 A.M., and marched again between 12 and 1 o'clock P.M., with the force as per margin,* towards the Corunnea Sota, where, from information obtained from Captain Grant, I had every reason to suppose that I should overtake the enemy.

After a very hot and fatiguing march of fourteen miles, six of which lay through a dense jungle, the rest over hills and through deep and narrow ravines, we came upon their outlying picket and attacked it, killing three of them.

As the signal had been now given to the rest, I well knew not a moment was to be lost. I therefore pushed on with all possible speed, and after following the path for about four miles over hillocks, through ravines and thick jungle, and meeting detached parties numbering in all some 700 or 800 men, I came on debouching into the valley, upon the main body, then in full flight over the plain and through the jungle on our right, but now out of musket range.

As the evening was fast closing in, and their numbers were greater than I had anticipated, I thought it prudent to halt and bivouac here for the night; placing the men under a fair shelter of some cowsheds, and taking all necessary precautions to guard the camp against surprise.

In the course of pursuit we killed from 25 to 30 men, besides capturing a quantity of camp baggage, fire-arms, and tattoos.

The only casualty on our side was, that one man, 1st Sikh Infantry, received a slight bayonet wound.

I regret to say, that during a false alarm in the night, occasioned by a herd of buffaloes rushing towards our camp, one man, 1st Sikh Infantry, and two Kahars, were severely wounded by the discharge of fire-arms by some men of my party, who suddenly awakened, fired in the direction of the rush.

I have to thank Captain Walter, commanding left wing, Her Majesty's 53rd Regiment, who accompanied me on this occasion, leading the column in the latter part of the evening, also Lieutenant Bell and Dr. Ashton, of the same corps, and Lieutenant Unwin, 1st Sikh Infantry.

I beg especially to bring to the notice of the Brigadier commanding, the services of Captain Grant.

This officer, though already having been eighteen hours in the saddle, volunteered to serve in this expedition, and point out the position of the rebels whom he had traced on the previous night to the foot of the pass.

Also Lieutenant Eyre, Her Majesty's 53rd Regiment, my Detachment Staff, whose exertions on this occasion were most praiseworthy.

I have again to thank Mr. R. M. King, Assistant Commissioner, who was forward in the whole business, and acted as my extra orderly officer.

* Detachment 50 men. 53rd Regiment on Elephants. 216 men 1st Sikh Infantry.