

I find it difficult to adequately express my appreciation of the merits of Lieutenant-Colonel Wilde, C.B., Brigadier Commanding the 2nd Brigade. Gallant and ever ready in action, he is also an officer in whose sound judgment the fullest reliance may be placed; and as his experience on this frontier has been of no ordinary kind, I consider myself most fortunate in every way in having been associated with him.

No officer in command has ever had more reason than myself to feel the value of an efficient Staff. Lieutenant-Colonel Allgood, Assistant Quartermaster-General, is an officer so thoroughly conversant with the important and varied duties of his department, and so careful and vigilant in the discharge of them, that he would be most valuable as Quartermaster-General of an army, however large. He was slightly wounded at the commencement of the campaign. Major Wright also, my Assistant Adjutant-General, fully merits all that I can say in his praise. Active, intelligent, and most energetic in the performance of his duties, he has so discharged them as to thoroughly maintain discipline and efficiency; and his active services in the field have been of the most valuable kind.

Colonel A. Taylor, C.B., Commanding Royal Engineers, is an officer of well-known ability in his department, and during these operations he has fully maintained his reputation.

The arrangements of Surgeon Munro, of the 93rd Highlanders, principal Medical Officer of the forces, have been very perfect. He brings prominently to my notice the services rendered by Assistant-Surgeon Sylvester, 11th Bengal Cavalry, in charge of the sick and wounded at the dépôt at Nowa Killee.

My special thanks are due to Captain Jenkins, principal Commissariat Officer, for his unwearied exertions and the very efficient manner in which he has discharged his arduous duties.

Major Johnstone, of the Revenue Survey Department, has been of the greatest utility.

Captain Norman, lately appointed to the force as Assistant Quartermaster-General, is highly spoken of by Brigadier Turner, to whose column he was attached.

I have to thank Captain Tulloh, the senior officer in command of the Royal Artillery, and Captains Griffin, Huges, DeBude, and Salt, Commanding Batteries, for the good service they have performed.

Lieutenant Clarke, Royal Artillery, has rendered much assistance as Commissary of Ordnance.

Lieutenant Tucker has already been noticed as having been most useful in command of the Sappers.

I have to record my appreciation of the services of Lieutenant-Colonel Probyn, C.B. and V.C., Commanding the Cavalry, with whose character his Excellency is already well acquainted; and of Lieutenant Hawes, Commanding Guide Cavalry.

Colonel Shipley, Commanding 7th Royal Fusiliers, is an officer of well known reputation; and with reference to his superior rank, would have taken command of the 2nd Brigade, but Lieutenant Colonel Wilde had been previously appointed to command a Brigade by his Excellency, who was not aware that I had brought the 7th Fusiliers to the front. I had an opportunity of personally observing the gallant manner in which the Regiment behaved under Colonel Shipley, more particularly in the attack on the Conical Hill.

Lieutenant Colonel Salusbury, who lately succeeded to the command of the 101st Royal Bengal Fusiliers, is an officer distinguished for gallantry and judgment; and the manner in which his regiment did its part in carrying the strong position of the Conical Hill, commanded my admiration. The 101st Regiment, under his conduct, has, on this occasion, well maintained its ancient renown first acquired on the field of Plassy.

Major Keyes, Commanding the 1st Punjab Infantry, is an officer of whom too much cannot be said in praise. He led his regiment and repulsed the enemy with great slaughter in the attack on the camp, although suffering from the loss of two fingers in a previous action.

Lieutenant Colonel Renny, Commanding 3rd Sikhs, was very seriously engaged with the enemy during the attack on our left flank. His regiment suffered considerably, was well led, and did excellent service.

Captain Close, Commanding 5th Goorkhas, did good service on the same occasion, and merits my best thanks.

Major Morgan, Commanding 32nd Pioneers, is an excellent officer, and the manner in which his regiment behaved in the serious affair at the entrance of the Bonair Pass, is prominently noticed by Brigadier Turner.

I would also draw his Excellency's attention to the mention made by the Brigadier of the good service rendered by the 23rd Pioneers, under command of Captain Chamberlain, who was wounded at its head, displaying the accustomed courage of those who bear his name. The command of the regiment then devolved on Lieutenant Chalmers.

Lieutenant-Colonel Vaughan, 5th Punjab Infantry, whose report is enclosed, commanded the troops left in camp to my entire satisfaction.

My thanks are due to Major Parker, Commanding 71st Highland Light Infantry, Major Brownlow, Commanding 20th Native Infantry, Major Ross, Commanding 14th Native Infantry, Captain Tytler, V.C., Commanding 4th Goorkhas, Major Burroughs, Commanding 93rd Highlanders, Captain Ruxton, Commanding 3rd Punjab Infantry, and to Lieutenant Jenkins, Commanding the Guide Infantry.

I am anxious to express my full concurrence in the praise given by Brigadiers Turner and Wilde to the several officers mentioned by them.

Captain Chester of the 4th Goorkhas, and Lieutenant and Adjutant Campbell, of the 71st Highland Light Infantry, were specially selected by me as Majors of Brigade, and are highly spoken of by their Brigadiers.

Lieutenant Scott, 32nd Pioneers, has rendered useful service as Baggage Master.

I beg to return my best thanks to Colonel Adye, C.B., Deputy Adjutant-General, Royal Artillery, and to Major Roberts, Assistant Quartermaster-General, attached to the force on particular service, for their aid on many occasions.

I have every reason to appreciate the services of Lieutenant Mackenzie, Staff Officer of the Punjab Irregular Force, and of Lieutenant Jarrett, 1st Punjab Cavalry, my Orderly Officer; and I beg to recommend for favourable consideration my Aide-de-Camp, Captain E. M. Jones, Her Majesty's 20th Regiment, who joined me on the 19th instant from Calcutta.

23. The copy of a Field Force Order which I have issued is enclosed, together with a return of killed and wounded.*

* No. 8.—Field Force Order. No. 9.—Casualty Return.