

*Wounded.*

One man, abdomen ; dangerously.  
 One man, arm ; severe,  
 One man, back ; severe.

(Signed) H. FEGAN, M.D.,  
 Staff Surgeon, R.N.

All the wounded are now under my care, and are comfortably provided for.

(Signed) H. FEGAN, M.D.

To Brigadier-Colonel  
 M'Leod, C.B., the Front.

SIR, *Amoaful, February 1, 1874.*

I HAVE the honour to report to you for the information of His Excellency the Major-General Commanding, that in compliance with instructions received from him, I this day proceeded in charge of the troops, as per margin,\* to destroy the village of Becqua.

The force was divided into an advanced guard and main body. The advanced guard was under the command of Colonel M'Leod, C.B., 42nd Royal Highlanders, and consisted of the Naval Brigade, a gun and rocket troop, Rait's Artillery, Russell's Regiment, Lord Gifford's Guides, and a detachment of Major Home's Engineers. The main body, which I retained under my own direction, consisted of the 23rd Fusiliers and 5 companies 42nd Highlanders.

I entrusted the entire arrangements for the attack on the village to Colonel M'Leod with the advanced guard, merely following myself with the main body in reserve.

Colonel M'Leod's arrangements met with my entire approbation, and the attack on and capture of the village was effected with his usual ability and vigour.

He executed it entirely with his own force, and I did not require to support him with any part of the reserve.

I enclose his despatch in which the full particulars are given.

When the village was fully in flames, I occupied the entrance and eastern portion of it with the Detachment 23rd and 3 Companies 42nd Highlanders. Through these I withdrew the whole of the advanced guard, except Rait's Artillery, which I retained.

When they were well clear of the village I filed off 23rd, Detachment Rait's Artillery, and 3 Companies 42nd.

The Ashantis in small numbers beginning to drop in to the village, and threatening to harass the rear guard, I kept a Company of the 42nd concealed behind some houses at an angle of the main street. When a considerable number of the enemy had entered and were crossing the street, I wheeled up the Company and dispersed them with a few volleys. I then withdrew quietly from the village, and my return to camp was entirely unmolested by the enemy.

My best thanks are due to Colonel M'Leod for the very able manner in which the capture and destruction of the village was executed.

In addition to the Officers mentioned in his despatch, I must mention the perfect satisfaction afforded to me by the way in which the dispositions for the evacuation of the village were carried out by Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable S. Mostyn, Commanding 23rd Detachment, and Major Scott,

\* Naval Brigade—Detachment of Rait's Artillery ;—Detachment of Home's Engineers ;—Detachment 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers ;—5 Companies 42nd Highlanders ;—Russell's Regiment ;—Lord Gifford's Guides.

42nd Highlanders, who had the particular direction of the withdrawal of the rear guard.

My best thanks are still further due to Captain Robinson, my Brigade Major, Captain Russell, my Aide-de-Camp, and Lieutenant Fitzgerald, my extra Aide-de-Camp, for the indefatigable way in which they carried out the staff duties.

Colonel M'Leod encloses a list of the casualties in the expedition.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) A. ALISON, Brigadier-General,  
 Commanding Forces.

*The Chief of the Staff,  
 Head Quarters.*

*Fommanah,*

*February 2, 1874.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that this morning, at about 8.30 A.M., this post was attacked in considerable force by the enemy.

The attack continued until 1.30 P.M., when he was finally driven back. The force\* at my disposal here consisted of half a company of the 1st West India Regiment, 1 company (Mumford's) Russell's Regiment, a few convalescents, and Captain North, 47th Regiment, Transport Officer.

I have to report that great exertions were made by the Officers, especially by Captain Grant, 6th Regiment ; and I have also to report the good behaviour of the 1st West India Regiment, and also of the men of Russell's Regiment under the circumstances.

Captain North, 47th Regiment, was, I regret to say, severely wounded when leading a reconnaissance to discover the enemy's position before the commencement of the action.

The convalescents afforded most valuable assistance. Annexed is a list of the wounded.

The greater part of this village was destroyed for the purposes of defence.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) A. W. DUNCAN, Captain,  
 Royal Artillery.

*The Chief of the Staff,  
 Head Quarters.*

P.S.—Lieutenant-Colonel Colley arrived towards the close of the attack and took command, but has requested me to report what took place.

*LIST of Wounded.**Severely.*

Captain Dudley North, 47th Regiment.  
 Private Macarthur, 42nd Regiment, convalescent.  
 3 Privates (Mumford's Company) Russell's Regiment.

*Slightly.*

Captain A. W. Duncan, Royal Artillery.  
 Corporal Barnes, Army Service Corps.  
 Private MacHenry, 42nd Regiment, convalescent.  
 Private Chapman, Rifle Brigade, convalescent.  
 Private Masco, 1st West India Regiment.  
 Private Crutchley, 1st West India Regiment.  
 Private Coggin, 1st West India Regiment.  
 Private Barnet, 1st West India Regiment.  
 Private Campbell, 2nd West India Regiment.

\* FORCE AT FOMMANAH :—Captain C. B. Steward, Sub-Lieutenant Hughes, and 38 Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the 1st West India Regiment.—Captain Grant, 6th Regiment, and 102 (Mumford's Company) of Russell's Regiment.—Captain North, 47th Regiment, Officer of Transport.—Surgeons Moore, Supple, and Catherwood.—6 of Naval Brigade, 1 Marine, 11 of 42nd Regiment, and 6 of Rifle Brigade, convalescents.—Assistant Paymaster Ward and Sub-Assistant Commissary Hamilton, Control.