

fire all round; Assistant Commissary Dunne working hard at this, though much exposed, and rendering valuable assistance.

As darkness came on we were completely surrounded, and after several attempts had been gallantly repulsed, were eventually forced to retire to the middle, and then inner wall of the Kraal on our East. The position we then had we retained throughout.

A desultory fire was kept up all night, and several assaults were attempted and repulsed; the vigour of the attack continuing until after midnight, and men firing with the greatest coolness did not waste a single shot; the light afforded by the burning hospital being of great help to us.

About 4 a.m. 23rd instant, the firing ceased, and at daybreak the enemy were out of sight over the hill to the south-west.

We patrolled the grounds, collecting the arms of the dead Zulus, and strengthened our defences as much as possible.

We were removing the thatch from the roof of the stores, when about 7 a.m. a large body of the enemy appeared on the hills to the south-west.

I sent a friendly Kafir, who had come in shortly before, with a note to the Officer Commanding at Helpmakaar, asking for help.

About 8 a.m. the third column appeared in sight, the enemy who had been gradually advancing, falling back as they approached.

I consider the enemy who attacked us to have numbered about 3,000 (three thousand).

We killed about 350 (three hundred and fifty).

Of the steadiness and gallant behaviour of the whole garrison I cannot speak too highly.

I wish especially to bring to your notice the conduct of:—

Lieutenant Bromhead, 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment, and the splendid behaviour of his Company B 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment.

Surgeon Reynolds, A. M. D., in his constant attention to the wounded, under fire where they fell.

Acting Commissariat Officer Dalton, to whose energy much of our defences were due, and who was severely wounded while gallantly assisting in the defence.

Assistant Commissary Dunne.

Acting Store Keeper Byrne (killed).

Colour-Sergeant Bourne, 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment.

Sergeant Williams, 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment (wounded dangerously).

Sergeant Windridge, 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment.

Corporal Schiess, 2nd Battalion 3rd Natal Native Contingent (wounded).

1395 Private Williams, 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment.

593 Private Jones, 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment.

Private McMahon, Army Hospital Corps.

716 Private R. Jones, 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment.

Private H. Hook.

Private Roy, 1st Battalion 24th Regiment.

The following return shows the number present at Rorke's Drift, January 22nd, 1879:—

Staff, 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and Men, total 1.

Royal Artillery, 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and Men, 3 sick Non-Commissioned and Men, total 4.

Royal Engineers, 1 Officer, 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and Men, total 2.

3rd Buffs, 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and Men, total 1.

1st Battalion 24th Regiment, 6 Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, 5 sick Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, total 11.

2nd Battalion 24th Regiment, B Company, 17 casualties sick, 1 Officer, 81 Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, 17 sick Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, total 99.

90th Light Infantry, Non-Commissioned Officer and man sick.

Commissariat and Transport Department, 3 Officers, 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and men, total 4.

Army Medical Department, 1 Officer, 3 Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, total 4.

Chaplains, 1 Officer, total 1.

Natal Mounted Police, 3 sick Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, total 3.

Natal Native Contingent, 1 Officer, 6 sick Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, total 7.

Perryman, 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and Men, total 1.

Total.—8 officers, 96 Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, 35 Non-Commissioned Officers and Men sick, total 139.

The following is a list of the killed:—

Sergeant Maxfield, 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment.

Private Scalan.

Private Hayden.

Private Adams.

Private Cole.

Private Fagan.

Private Chick.

1398 Private Williams, 2nd Battalion, 24th Regiment.

Private Nicolls, 1st Battalion, 24th Regiment.

Private Horrigan, 1st Battalion, 24th Regiment.

Jenkins, 1st Battalion, 24th Regiment.

M. Byrne, Commissariat Department.

Trooper Hunter, Natal Mounted Police.

Trooper Anderson, N.N.C.

1 Private (Native) N.N.C.

Total 15.

12 wounded\* of whom two have since died, viz.:—

Sergeant Williams, 2nd Battalion, 24th Regiment.

Private Beckett, 1st Battalion, 24th Regiment.

making a total killed of 17.

Herewith is appended a plan of the buildings, showing our lines of defence. The points of the compass referred to in this report are, as shewn in sketch, approximately magnetic.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN R. M. CHARD,

Lieutenant R. F.

To Colonel Glyn, C.B.,

Commanding 3rd Column.

#### *Copy of Major Spalding D.A.A.G.'s Report.*

1. At 2 p.m. on the 22nd inst. I left Rorke's Drift for Helpmakaar, leaving a second horse at Varmaaks. My intention was to bring up Captain Rainforth's Company 1st Battalion 24th Regiment to protect the ponts. Lieutenant Chard, R.E., on returning from the camp Isandana, had observed Zulus on the neighbouring heights. I thought they might make a dash for the ponts during the night.

2. Between Varmaaks and Helpmakaar, where I arrived 3.45 p.m., I met two Companies 1st Battalion 24th Regiment under Major Upcher; on returning from Helpmakaar, I met Major Upcher, who informed me of the disaster at Isandana.

3. We advanced as far as Varmaaks with the troops. I then pushed on to the foot of the

\* List already forwarded by Medical Officers.