

Am, the remainder of the regiment following in immediately in rear of my personal escort.

At the Diván-i-Am I addressed the assembled sirdars, and made known to them the intentions of the British Government, in a proclamation, a copy of which is attached. The 67th Regiment I ordered to encamp in the garden which lies immediately in front of the Diván-i-Am, whilst six companies 5th Goorkhas were moved into the upper Bala Hissar Fort.

39. My best thanks are due to Brigadier-General H. Macpherson, C.B., V.C., commanding 1st Infantry Brigade, Brigadier-General Dunham Massy, commanding Cavalry Brigade, Brigadier-General T. Baker, C.B., commanding 2nd Infantry Brigade, and Brigadier-General Hugh Gough, C.B., V.C., Commandant of Communications.

Brigadier-General Baker I desire to bring especially to notice for the very successful and able manner in which he conducted the operations on the 6th and 8th October.

40. I fully endorse the commendations bestowed by Brigadier-Generals Massy and Baker on the officers they have named in their Despatches.

41. My thanks are also due to—

Lieutenant-Colonel B. L. Gordon, commanding Royal Artillery.

Lieutenant-Colonel Æ. Perkins, C.B., commanding Royal Engineers.

Major J. Smyth-Windham, commanding F-A. Royal Horse Artillery.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. Knowles, commanding Her Majesty's 67th Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. Parker, commanding Her Majesty's 92nd Highlanders.

Colonel J. Hudson, commanding 28th Punjab Native Infantry.

42. The occupation of the Shuturguridan had a considerable effect on the country, and saved my force from being harassed during the advance from Kushi. I selected Colonel G. N. Money for the command of this important position, a selection his conduct has fully justified, and I have great pleasure in recommending him to favourable consideration.

43. Two native officers, Jemadar Bir Sing, 23rd Pioneers, and Subadar Mir Alum, 28th Punjab Native Infantry, have been brought forward by Brigadier-Generals Baker and Macpherson, respectively, for gallant conduct, the former on the occasion of capturing the enemy's guns on the "Sang-i-Nawishta," and the latter when in command of a picquet at Charasaib. I commend them both to His Excellency's favourable consideration. Subadar Mir Alum, who is an Afridi, has already been decorated with the Order of Merit.

44. I further desire to bring to notice the services of the following officers:—

Colonel C. M. Macgregor, C.B., C.S.I., C.I.E., Chief of the Staff. This officer's soldierly qualities are so well known, that I need only say I have throughout derived the greatest assistance from his energy, ability, and experience,

Major W. Galbraith, Assistant-Adjutant-General, has afforded me every help, and proved himself well qualified for his position.

Captain R. Kennedy, as senior officer of the Quartermaster-General's Department, has done excellent work; he is active, intelligent, and full of resource.

Captain G. Morton is a zealous and efficient officer, and has performed his duties to the entire satisfaction of Brigadier-General Macpherson.

Surgeon-Major J. H. Porter, who succeeded Deputy Surgeon-General S. Townsend as Principal Medical Officer with the Forces, on that

officer being incapacitated by a severe wound, and Surgeon-Major G. Farrell, in charge of the field hospital, have been indefatigable in their care of the sick and wounded, and deserve all praise.

As no officer had been appointed Superintendent of Transport before the force left Kuram, I requested Lieutenant-Colonel Mark Heathcote, Assistant-Commandant of Communications, to undertake this duty, at all times a difficult and somewhat thankless one. Colonel Heathcote and the officers\* under him have had unusual difficulties to contend with. They have all worked hard, and I am much indebted to them for the good service they performed.

Major H. Wright, Madras Staff Corps, and the officers of the Commissariat Department, have done and are doing all in their power to feed the troops, and to collect supplies sufficient for the winter's consumption. I wish specially to bring to notice the valuable aid I have received from Captain E. Stratton, Superintendent of Army Signalling. In a country like Afghanistan signalling by heliograph and flags is of the greatest assistance: the able and intelligent manner in which Captain Stratton has carried on his work has helped materially to the success of the operations.

Captain E. Shafto's death has deprived me of the services of a talented and able Commissary of Ordnance. The sudden death of this promising young officer is much deplored by all the officers of the Force.

Major Hastings, Political Officer, and H. M. Durand, Esq., C.S., my Political Secretary, have afforded me every assistance, and I desire to bring their good services to the notice of the Government of India.

Major-General J. Hills, C.B., V.C., joined me shortly before leaving Ali Khoyl. I have received much help from him, and am glad to avail myself of his services for the important post of Military Governor of the city of Kabul.

The Rev. J. W. Adams, Chaplain of the Church of England, the Rev. J. Mauson, Presbyterian Chaplain, and Father G. Browne, have been unremitting in their attention to the spiritual wants of the troops.

To the officers of my own personal Staff I am much indebted. Captain G. T. Prettyman, R.A., A.D.C.; Lieutenant Neville Chamberlain, Assistant Political Officer, and Surgeon C. W. Owen.

45. I cannot speak too highly of the excellent conduct and high state of discipline of all the troops under my command. No soldiers could be more eager to meet the enemy or more determined to undergo privations and hardships with cheerfulness. For several days the work required from both officers and men was very severe, and the exposure very considerable. A good spirit and a proper soldierly feeling caused all difficulties to disappear, and made the work of the commander easy.

46. The number of guns now in our possession, including those captured on the 6th and following days, amount to 214, many of which are of large size and heavy calibre as will be seen by the accompanying return.

I am, &c.,

FRED. ROBERTS, Major-General,  
Commanding Kabul Expeditionary Force.

\* Captain W. Winter, 33rd Regiment; Captain L. Downes, 100th Regiment; Lieutenant E. Booth, 33rd Regiment; Lieutenant F. Kitchener, 2-14th Regiment; Lieutenant A. F. Cotton, 35th Native Infantry; Lieutenant W. Lambert, 4th Punjab Cavalry.