

under Lieutenant-Colonel Daubeny and Lieutenant-Colonel Nimmo, forced their way through the village, debouching at about 7 A.M. from the northern end, whilst the party under the command of Colonel Heathcote held their ground near the centre of the village until ordered to withdraw.

21. At 7.15 A.M. the firing had entirely ceased and the enemy were seen streaming away from Deh Khojah, carrying some of their dead with them. Their loss has been reported as very heavy, several chiefs of note having been killed, and one of the two guns in the village destroyed.

22. Whilst the fighting was going on in Deh Khojah, the enemy opened artillery fire on the city from Picket Hill and from a gun in position about 1,200 yards from the west face of the city wall. He also attempted to form up his infantry in the old cantonments under cover of this fire; but such was the steadiness and accuracy with which our guns were served that he was unable to do so, and within an hour his artillery fire was silenced and one gun on Picket Hill dismounted.

23. No words of mine can express my appreciation of the cool and gallant behaviour of all ranks.

24. Brigadier-General Brooke was killed whilst attempting to save the life of Captain Cruickshank, R.E., and by his death the service and the country have suffered a heavy loss.

25. Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Newport, 28th Native Infantry; Major R. J. Le P. Trench, 19th Native Infantry; Captain G. M. Cruickshank, R.E.; Lieutenant F. C. Stayner, 19th Native Infantry; and Second-Lieutenant F. P. F. Wood, 7th Fusiliers, all died whilst leading their men in the most forward manner; and Second-Lieutenant E. S. Marsh, 7th Fusiliers, was killed in helping to bring in Lieutenant Wood, who was then severely wounded.

26. The Reverend G. M. Gordon, Church Missionary Society, was also mortally wounded whilst attending the men under a heavy fire; and I take this opportunity of paying my small tribute of admiration to a man who, by his kindness and gentleness, had endeared himself to the whole force, and in the end died administering to their wants.

27. The sketch appended will show the movements executed. Attached is a list of our killed and wounded.

28. Whilst deeply regretting the loss of so many gallant officers and men, it would be difficulty to over-estimate the effect produced on the men of the garrison and on the enemy by this affair.

29. The spirits and *morale* of the troops under my command, which had been considerably damped and shaken by the result of the action at Maiwand on the 27th July, and the continued confinement within the city walls, were raised and confidence in their superiority over the enemy restored.

30. They were convinced that even when holding a strong position and in vastly superior numbers, the enemy could not withstand their attack, and the dread of the word "Ghazi" was dispelled.

31. On the other hand, the overweening confidence of the enemy received a shock from which it never recovered.

32. The villagers and ghazis, who had been carefully instructed that there were only some eight hundred British troops in Kandahar, and that the remainder were followers dressed up as soldiers, had it conclusively proved to them that this was a fallacy.

33. The feeling of security which had hitherto marked all their movements gave place to feelings of insecurity and doubt, and they refused to remain any longer distributed about in the surrounding villages, streaming back to their camp by thousands, numbers having been reported as having gone off to their homes.

34. Hardly a shot was fired by the enemy after the 16th; and on the 24th I received intelligence that Ayub Khan had shifted his camp into the Arghandab Valley, where he was intrenching himself, and that the majority of the local contingent had dispersed.

35. On the morning of the 25th, I reconnoitred the whole of the enemy's position about Picket Hill, the cantonments and Deh Khojah, and found the guns gone and the villages perfectly empty and abandoned; and I am now supplying myself with *blusa* and grain from them.

36. The same afternoon I caused all the dead, whose bodies had not been brought in on the 16th, to be collected and buried.

37. Brigadier-General Nuttall brings to favorable notice the following officers:—

Lieutenant-Colonel C. D'U. La Touche, commanding the Poona Horse.

Captain Mosley Mayne, commanding the detachment of the 3rd Light Cavalry.

Lieutenant T. P. Geoghegan, 3rd Light Cavalry.

Major G. C. Hogg, Poona Horse, Brigade Major; and

Lieutenant John Monteith, 2nd Sind Horse, his Orderly Officer.

38. I would myself wish to bring forward the names of Lieutenant-Colonel A. G. Daubeny, 7th Royal Fusiliers, who gallantly led the assaulting party right through the village.

Lieutenant-Colonel T. R. Nimmo, 28th Regiment Native Infantry, who commanded the support and was severely wounded; and

Colonel C. T. Heathcote, 19th Native Infantry, whose coolness under a heavy fire inspired his men with the greatest confidence.

39. My thanks are also due to Brigadier-General T. Nuttall and Brigadier-General G. R. S. Burrows; to Colonel W. French, commanding the Royal Artillery; Major P. H. Greig, commanding C-2nd, Royal Artillery; Captain J. R. Slade, commanding E-B, Royal Horse Artillery; to Lieutenant-Colonel A. M. Shewell, Deputy Commissary-General, who attached himself to my staff; to Deputy Surgeon-General J. O'Nial, whose arrangements for the sick and wounded were all that could be desired; to Surgeon-Major B. T. Giraud, M.D., Army Medical Department, doing duty with the 7th Fusiliers, whose great attention to the wounded on the field has frequently elicited my admiration; to Surgeon-Major J. Arnott, M.D., and Surgeon E. W. Kelsall.

I cannot overvalue the services rendered on the 16th and on many other occasions by Father T. Jackson, who was always in the foremost of the fight, attending upon and offering every assistance to the wounded, both European and Native.

40. I would wish also to bring to notice the gallant conduct of Lieutenant W. St. L. Chase, 28th Regiment Native Infantry, who under a heavy fire carried a wounded man (Private Murray, 7th Fusiliers*) from the front into a place of safety; also of Private Ashford, 7th Fusiliers, who accompanied and remained with Lieutenant Chase. I purpose making a further recommendation on the part of this officer and private.

41. My best thanks are due to Major C. J.

* No man of this name is included in the casualty rolls; probably Private W. Massey is meant.