

Six British officers.

A civil officer and establishment.

Five officers' chargers, and 25 mules.

51. The post at Fort White has been reduced to hold a garrison of 330 rifles. It and the posts on the line of communications to Kalemio have been put in thorough repair, and all will be rationed by the 15th of May. Arrangements have also been made for keeping open communication during the rains between Haka and Kan and Fort White and Kalemio.

52. It is outside the limits of a despatch to give in detail the working of, and results accomplished by, the various departments; but it is most fair and necessary that their services should be alluded to.

53. The Survey Department, under Lieutenant T. F. B. Renny-Tailyour, R.E., has accomplished much. Upwards of 3,000 square miles have been surveyed and added to the map.

54. The Intelligence Department, in the person of Lieutenant E. W. M. Norie, Middlesex Regiment, has been indefatigable in collecting information and making road sketches.

#### THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

55. Owing to the very serious amount of sickness, the medical duties, especially with the Southern Column, were most arduous. The skill and energies of the departmental officers and subordinates were severely taxed to grapple with the mass of sick men, not only in the hospitals, but in their carriage and conveyance to the field and base hospitals. Malarial fever and dysentery, in a lesser degree, were almost the only diseases from which the troops and followers suffered.

Sanitation was invariably carefully attended to, with the happy result that no sickness that could be attributed to its neglect ever broke out.

Malaria, or jungle fever, is always more or less prevalent in the valleys and in the Terai lying under the Chin Hills and down the Burma frontier. Owing to the very late and inclement rainy season, the last months of 1889, during which the troops were marching through this part of the country, proved extremely unhealthy. I attribute the sickness from which the officers and men of the Southern column so grievously suffered to malarial poison alone, imbibed in passing through a tainted belt of country under circumstances which could not be avoided or improved. All that skilful medical treatment and attention could suggest was done to alleviate the disease and minimise its after-effects.

Of the 69 British officers who served with the Southern Column, only seven escaped an attack or attacks of malarial fever, whilst one died, and 26 were invalided from this ailment alone.

On the 26th March, excluding all sick who were previously sent down, there were remaining in the hospital 11 British officers, 86 British and 281 native troops, and 994 followers. The medical arrangements for both columns worked well and smoothly throughout, and the supply of medicines and medical comforts was ample and good.

56. The statistics of the Northern and Southern Columns, taken together, show that, of all ranks, 9 were killed in action, 207 died of disease, of whom 72 were fighting men, and 2,122 were invalided (including 1,413 public followers and coolies).

Amongst these the following officers are included:—Major F. E. C. H. Gordon-Cumming, Cheshire Regiment, who was mortally wounded near Old Saglain on the 23rd March, and died the same day; Second Lieutenant F. A. K. Foster, King's Own Scottish Borderers, killed in action

near Taungtek on the 12th January; and Captain L. H. Gramshaw, 5th (Militia) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, Orderly Officer, who died of disease at Kan on the 11th January.

#### THE COMMISSARIAT DEPARTMENT.

57. On account of the long lines of communication which connected the main columns of the force with the bases of supply, the variety of the transport employed, and the roughness and difficulties of the road and waterways, I find it impossible to condense the work of the department, and the interesting reports rendered by the Commissariat officers in charge, into the space of a paragraph. All the reports, with my remarks, will be forwarded separately.

From the commencement to the end of the campaign, the troops and followers were fed well and liberally.

It having been necessary to send to Kan and Kalemio, the two main forwarding depôts, large quantities of rations before the end of the rains, it was inevitable but that a proportion would be spoiled. Occasionally the damaged stores escaped detection before issue, but there was never any lack of good food ready to replace them, nor of readiness on the part of the officials of the department to do their very best for the troops, and make the expedition, as far as they were concerned, successful.

58. The Transport Department of the Southern Burma Column has been in charge of Lieutenant A. H. Morris, Royal Irish Regiment. The total number of animals employed with this column has been 69 elephants, 994 mules, 537 ponies, with 975 attendants, and the general health and condition of the animals, thanks to the incessant care and attention of Lieutenant Morris, Veterinary-Surgeon Evans, and the transport staff of assistants, has been very good.

59. The Telegraph Department has worked well, under many difficulties of transport labour, and sickness. The construction of the line kept pace with the advance of the troops into Haka. The wire has been invaluable throughout the operations.

60. The Postal Department has also served us well. Our thanks are due to the authorities for their arrangements, which have conducted much to the pleasure and comfort of the troops in the field.

61. The Public Works Department must also be mentioned for its assistance and co-operation. The roads from Pauk to Kan, from Kan to Chaung-kwa (now under construction and approaching completion), from Kalemio to Fort White, and from Kalemio to Kalewa—all heavy and toilsome works in an unhealthy country—have been carried out at the instance of the military authorities, and to meet their wants.

62. As Chief Political Officer with the expedition, my work has been rendered easy, by the hearty support and assistance rendered me by Mr. D. Ross, Political Officer with the Southern Column, and Mr. B. S. Carey, Political Officer with the Northern Column. We have worked together throughout in complete concord. The services of Mr. Ross have been of great value. His intimate knowledge of the Burmese language, the medium of all our communications with the Chins, and his patience and tact in dealing with the tribes, have conducted much to our peaceful victories. I commend his good services to the special notice of the Chief Commissioner of Burma.

Mr. Carey, at Fort White, threw himself with intelligence and energy into the breach of the troublesome situation that existed round that post