

fired into camp at night. At Idak a Gurkha sepoy was mortally wounded, while on grazing guard, by a fanatic, who was at once cut down by some cavalry troopers. With this exception there were no casualties during my advance to Sheranni.

19. On March 5th Mr. Anderson, C.S., with an escort consisting of the 20th Bengal Infantry and half a company of sappers, under the command of Colonel W. H. Meiklejohn, C.M.G., and accompanied by the Afghan representatives, who had arrived at Sheranni on the 3rd, marched for Charkhel (Charkheiaghar) to demarcate the northern portion of the boundary. On the 7th the first pillar was erected on the highest peak of that range, and on the 19th the boundary was completed to Khwaja Khidr, a distance of 50 miles.

20. On March 8th, leaving Colonel Egerton's column to support the delimitation party, I marched towards Bannu with the remainder of the divisional troops. When halted at Darpa Khel on the 10th a small foraging party, which had been sent into that village for wood, was attacked by some fanatics, and it became necessary to send a company of the 5th Gurkhas to clear the place. The villagers suffered some loss and two Sepoys of the 5th Gurkhas were wounded— one severely. On the 13th I reached Bannu.

21. In the meanwhile the orders of Government had been fully complied with by the Mahsuds. On March 1st the tribe had carried out all the terms with the exception of the surrender of three of the hostages; but on March 4th these were brought into my camp at Sheranni.

22. On March 11th the head-quarters of the 2nd Brigade marched from Kundiwan and arrived at Tank on the 14th. The following troops are now left in Wana: a mountain battery, a company of sappers, and two regiments of infantry, and at Barwand there is a wing of infantry. In the Tochi Valley there are a mountain battery, a company of sappers, and four regiments of infantry, and this force cannot be reduced until the delimitation of the remaining section of the boundary, viz., from Charkhel to Laram shall have been completed.

23. I am thus in a position to report that the work entrusted to me is practically finished, and that the objects of the expedition, as set forth in the proclamation of December 16th, have been accomplished. The sections of the Mahsud tribe concerned in the attack on the British camp at Wana have been severely punished; the terms of Government have been fully complied with, and the demarcation of the boundary has so far been successfully carried out.

24. I forward herewith a map showing the routes followed by the force. From this it will be seen that our troops have traversed Waziristan from one end to the other, and have visited every part of the Mahsud country. The fact of our having penetrated into their remotest glens and reached strongholds, never before visited by British troops, will, it is hoped, have a good effect on the future conduct of the tribe.

25. A return of casualties during the operations is attached. Although the number of killed and wounded is comparatively small, the losses entailed by severe work and exposure have been considerable, 171 deaths having occurred from pneumonia alone.

26. The troops, have, however, endured fatigue, exposure, and hardships generally, with cheerfulness, and the conduct of all ranks of the Field Force under my command has been admirable as regards discipline. The 2nd Battalion, Border

Regiment, arrived in the field from Multan in poor health; but the effects of the fever, with which all ranks were saturated, rapidly disappeared, and the battalion performed the hardest duties in severe weather to my complete satisfaction.

27. In conclusion, I have to bring to the special notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the services of the following Officers:—

Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Mason, D.S.O., Royal Engineers, Assistant Quartermaster-General for Intelligence, already brought to notice by myself on three previous occasions, has again proved himself all that a Staff Officer should be. My task would have been a very much more arduous one had I not had the benefit of his advice, based on a thorough acquaintance with all that could be known of the Waziris and their country. Apart from his special intimacy with North-West Frontier matters, he has every qualification for a high position on the Staff.

Major A. R. Martin, 5th Gurkhas, Assistant Adjutant-General, is a most able Staff Officer, and his services have been invaluable. I consider Major Martin well worthy of advancement.

Captain M. H. S. Grover, 2nd Punjab Cavalry, was Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General with the Field Force head-quarters from the commencement of the expedition until January 24th, when he was recalled to India for duty. I have every reason to be satisfied with his work. He was succeeded by Captain C. H. Powell, 1st Gurkhas, to whom the work was quite new, but who has done it very well.

The work of the Bengal Sappers and Miners under Captain A. G. Hunter-Weston, Royal Engineers, and his Officers, has been excellent, and I am indebted to it for the removal of many of my difficulties in a very mountainous country.

Captain R. A. Browne, of the Border Regiment, has superintended the signalling of the Field Force to my satisfaction, and great credit is due to him and to all serving under his orders.

Surgeon-Colonel L. D. Spencer, M.D., Indian Medical Service, has most ably administered his department in the field, and I commend the excellent work done by himself and by his Officers and other subordinates for very favourable consideration. He has been well supported by all, but I wish to give special prominence to the valuable services of Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. T. B. Bookey, Indian Medical Service, and Surgeon-Major J. Shearer, M.B., Indian Medical Service.

Captain H. Wharry, Staff Corps, has been my Chief Commissariat Officer throughout the operations. He has had considerable difficulties to contend with, but these have always been overcome by his ability and readiness of resource. He has been efficiently supported by the commissioned, warrant and non-commissioned officers working under his orders, both in the supply and transport branches.

Major R. A. Wahab, Royal Engineers, has made a complete survey of all the new country opened out by the expedition, which will not be the least important result of the operations. His work, as well as that of all serving under him, has been carried on under conditions of fatigue and exposure in severe weather, which often demanded great endurance.

My Aide-de-Camp, Lieutenant the Honourable F. H. S. Roberts, King's Royal Rifle Corps, and the other Officers of my personal Staff have rendered me every assistance.

The 1st Brigade was commanded by Brigadier-General A. H. Turner, Staff Corps, whom I have already brought to notice for good work performed