

In the meantime Captain Jacob, who had been working round very cleverly, had succeeded in establishing himself in a similar position on the left of the enemy's main position. On moving across to the low spurs, I found that the right flank of the enemy were completely cut off from their main body, and were in full flight, and that the main position which was still held, was enfiladed on the right.

The enemy had by this time lost heavily, and commenced shortly to evacuate the main position. The guns followed smartly up into the firing line, and fired case. The original containing force of infantry under Lieutenant Anderson had now cleared and occupied the main ridge, and the action terminated suddenly at about 11 A.M., bands of fugitives being shelled as they fled across the hills. There was no time to ascertain the enemy's loss, as we had yet to go through the pass (which was six miles through), and I estimated it roughly at about 100 killed; however, from subsequent enquiries from the inhabitants and from those who were on the ground the next day, there was no doubt but that the enemy lost from 200 to 250 killed and about the same number of wounded. Their dead were left on the field. Their strength was about 1,500 fighting men and 500 followers. Many rifles, jezails and swords were captured, as well as some horses, ponies and camels.

Amongst their killed were the following chiefs of note:—

Baluch Khan (Nosharwani), Chief of Kolwa and their General,

Mehrab Khan (Nosharwani), Chief of Bolida, Shakroola Khan (Gitchki), Chief of Tump,

Haiatan Khan (Rind), Chief of Wakhai,

Gul Muhammad Khan (Nosharwani), of Bolida,

and other minor chiefs.

Our losses were as under:—

6th Bombay Cavalry—Wounded, 1.

No. 4 (Hazara) Mountain Battery—Killed, 1; Wounded, 1.

30th Bombay Infantry—Killed, 2; Wounded, 10.*

Surgeon-Captain E. G. R. Whitcombe, with his hospital-assistants, was up in the firing line from the commencement of the action, tending the wounded.

The advance was resumed at 11.45 A.M., and no further opposition was met with in the pass. On clearing the pass the cavalry pressed on, under orders to reach the river and cut off the fugitives. On reaching the River Kej, they were fired on, and killed four and wounded five of the enemy. In the meantime the main body advanced on Turbat. On approaching Turbat fort, at about 4.30 P.M., a desultory fire was opened on the column from the fort. As the troops had had two long and tiring days, I considered it sufficient to drop a few shells into the fort, and reached camp at about 5.30 P.M.

Where all did well it is difficult to particularize; but I would give especial mention to Lieutenant Paine and Jemadar Shaikh Khuda Baksh of No. 4 (Hazara) Mountain Battery, to Captains Southey and Jacob, Subadar Ahmad Khan and Jemadar Fazl Shah, all of the 30th Bombay Infantry. The perfect drill, steadiness, and discipline of the battery was admirable, while the ready and gallant way the infantry scaled the steep hills under fire, and cleared ridge after ridge was most praiseworthy. Lieutenant Naylor and the 6th Bombay Cavalry worked with great dash throughout the day.

* One died subsequently of his wounds.

Terms were offered to and refused by Mehrab Khan (Gitchki), who abandoned Turbat Fort during the night of the 2nd February, the fort having been shelled that morning.

It was intended to blow up and assault the fort on the morning of the 3rd, on the arrival of the detachment of the Bombay Sappers and Miners, under Lieutenant W. Bovet, who arrived on the evening of the 2nd, having marched forty miles that day. It is worthy of note that the same detachment marched thirty miles to Charbak Fort the next day, thus completing seventy miles in forty-eight hours. A forced march was made to Charbak Fort by the force on the night of the 3rd and the fort surrounded, information having been received that some of the enemy had taken refuge there, and the tower of the fort was blown up. The force returned on the 7th, and the next few days were occupied in blowing up the forts of Gushtang, Kaor-i-Kalat and Kala-i-Nao, the villages close to them having been burnt on the 2nd February.

It now remained to visit the different valleys, to see if any further opposition was to be expected, and to restore confidence among the people. A flying column under Major G. E. Even was despatched to Bolida, where the forts of Chib and Koshk were blown up, and Bet Fort taken possession of. On its return, the main column under my command proceeded to Tump; the fort was surrendered and occupied by us, as well as the fort of Phulabad, which was blown up on the return journey. The force now proceeded to Mand, close to the Persian frontier. The various headmen and chiefs who had been summoned to attend having all come in, the return journey was commenced. At Turbat, prior to the final move to Kolwa, fines amounting to Rs. 50,000 were imposed on the different chiefs by Lieutenant Knox.

Kolwa (120 miles east) was now visited, and the forts at Sharak, Nag, Ser, and Hor Kalat were blown up. Hor Kalat was the property of Baluch Khan, and was the scene of the treacherous attack on Captain Burn's camp.

The expedition having now successfully accomplished its work, returned to India, one portion returning via Kalat and Quetta, and the remainder via Balor, Ormara and Karachi.

Provision for the security, after our departure, of the Kej, Tump, and Bolida valleys was provided for by garrisoning Turbat, Kalatak, Tump, and Bet Forts with all available Kalat State troops, and a detachment of the 30th Bombay Infantry.

Altogether thirteen forts were blown up, and large quantities of crops belonging to the Chiefs who opposed us were consumed; also a considerable number of fines were imposed. The inhabitants of the country were not allowed to appear armed in the vicinity of our troops.

Confidence was restored, and the combination of which Mehrab Khan and Baluch Khan were the head was thoroughly broken up.

I would, in addition to the names of those officers whom I have especially mentioned in the account of the action of Gok Parosh, bring to notice the names of the following officers who afforded me every assistance during the expedition:—

Major G. E. Even, 30th Bombay Infantry, who acted as my Staff Officer.

Lieutenant H. H. Turner, Royal Engineers, who was Transport Officer to the force, and was indefatigable.

Lieutenant S. G. Knox, Political Agent, Kalat, throughout made excellent arrangements, and