



# The Edinburgh Gazette.

Published by Authority.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1849.

INDIA BOARD, March 21, 1849.

**T**HE following Despatches, relating to military operations in the Punjab, have been received at the East India House:—

The Adjutant-General of the Army to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

*Camp, Chillianwalla, January 23, 1849.*

I have the honour, by direction of His Excellency the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief, to transmit, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India, a copy of a despatch of the 7th instant, from Major-General W. S. Whish, C. B., commanding the Mooltan field force, and of the detailed reports which accompanied it, of the assault upon that city on the 2d instant; and I am to add, that his Excellency has instructed me to communicate to the Major-General his cordial approval of the arrangements ordered for the attack, which appear to have been made with a spirit and gallantry highly creditable to the officers and troops of every arm employed.

Major-General W. S. Whish, C. B., Commanding Mooltan Field Force, to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

*Camp, Mooltan, January 7, 1849.*

Having now received the report of the Bombay column, during the assault of the city, on the 2d instant, I have the honour of forwarding that received from Brigadier Markham on the 3d instant, and associating with it the letter of this date received from Brigadier the Honourable H. Dundas, C. B., commanding the Bombay division of the field force, both of which I shall be obliged by your submitting to the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief.

The steady advance of both columns under their respective commanders, Brigadier Stalker, C. B., and Brigadier Markham (which, as regarded that under the latter, was but temporarily checked from the necessity of entering the city by the left

breach) ensured the early realization of what each had been directed to aim at, and by sunset the city was in complete possession of our gallant troops, whose conduct throughout was remarkable for humanity to the unarmed inhabitants they occasionally met, and not less so for the severity with which the opposition of the enemy was overcome from street to street, many of which were narrow and intricate, and several barricaded.

In the letters accompanying, the gallantry and good services of various officers are particularized, and, on the fall of the citadel, it will be my pleasing duty to take up that strain regarding many. It will, however, be better timed now to mention the spirited proposition on the 1st instant of Lieutenant-Colonel Franks, C. B., to escalate the citadel during the assault of the city, provided I placed 500 of each regiment of the 1st brigade under his command. After due consideration of this suggestion, I deemed it most eligible to forego it, as I had not time to examine into the difficulties that might have attended it; nor would the hour fixed for the assault have been auspicious, unless I had deferred it till dawn of the 3d.

Brigadier Stalker has brought to Brigadier Dundas's notice the conduct of Colour-Serjeant J. Bennett, 1st Fusiliers, on the 2d instant, and I cannot forbear my testimony to the joyful feelings which it excited in myself, and officers of the staff around me, when noticing his planting the British standard in the crest of the breach, and maintaining it there, in the midst of the musketry fire of the enemy, until the troops had passed.

The troops of the Bombay column suffered much from an explosion, during the night, of a magazine in the city.

I beg to enclose casualty lists, of which the total of each column is as follows:—

Bengal Division—3 European rank and file, and 1 native rank and file, killed; 3 European officers, 1 serjeant, 17 rank and file, and 6 native rank and file, wounded.

Bombay Division—4 European rank and file, and 22 native rank and file, killed; 8 European officers, 4 serjeants, 51 rank and file, and 2 native officers, 5 havildars, 121 rank and file, wounded; 1 native rank and file missing.