

Roorkee, from all parts of the district, that a large force (headed by the Nawab of Nujeehabad) of the enemy had crossed the river Ganges, fallen upon the towns of Kunkul, Jawalapore, and Hurdwar; destroyed the Government property at Myapore; seized upon the horses of the cavalry picquet; taken prisoner and carried off Mr Dubrass, the telegraph signaller; proclaimed these districts as having been conquered by the aforesaid Nawab; and the last petition from the Thanadar of Jawalapore to the Tessildar of Roorkee was to the effect that the advance guard of the enemy had got as far as Bhudurabad, and that they were about to march on Roorkee. I was therefore directed by Captain Reed, commanding at Roorkee, to request Lieutenant Boisragon, commanding at Munglour, to proceed immediately with a portion of his detachment* towards Myapore; this order he received at about half-past 8 P.M. on the 8th instant, and at 9 A.M. the next morning his detachment had reached Myapore, a distance of 24 miles, across, to say the least, a very indifferent roadway for guns. This proves what can be done by good and willing soldiers, and I am certain that the above circumstance will afford you satisfaction.

Immediately on my arrival here, at 8 A.M. on the 9th instant, I proceeded (accompanied by Captain H. Drummond, Engineers; Lieutenant Thomason, Engineers; and Mr Melville, of the Civil Service, with three or four sowars) in quest of the position of the enemy. After patrolling down the bank for two or three miles we suddenly came upon their encampment, pitched within a few feet of the water, opposite to the ford of Unjinie (a distance of about three miles in direct line from Kunkul), but, owing to the nature of the country, we could not see more than a few yards from the bank. I perceived, however, that they were in considerable force (I should say about 500 men), and from the fact of their having fired a three or six-pounder at us, we ascertained of their being in possession of guns; having gained all the necessary information, we leisurely retired under a very slight discharge of musketry. The only damage done at this place (but nowhere else) is the destruction of the Government bungalow (built by Sir P. Cautley), and the chowkie of the cavalry picquet by fire, and the carrying off of the aforesaid signaller, Moola Mehisu of the canal works, five sowars with their horses, and a dozen bildars; the telegraph wire was also cut, and a portion of it carried away, but this was immediately rectified by establishing an office at Jowalapore.

Yesterday, about 2 P.M., information was brought me by Shewpersad, native agent, belonging to the canal department (whom I beg to recommend very favourably to you, as he was the only man who brought any intimation), that the enemy were crossing in a very large force with guns, and that a great number of them had established themselves on the south of Kunkul, which they were about to enter. I immediately made the following preparation:—A guard † was left for the protection of the camp, under Mr Phillips of the canal department, whom I instructed also to watch the ford and down opposite the Myapore Bridge, and give me immediate information if the enemy endeavoured to turn my left; and, with the rest of the detachment, I marched straight through the main street of Kunkul, and

arrived at its south side just in time to prevent their effecting an entrance into it. The following was the disposition of the detachment—the Nusuree battalion and Sikhs, under Lieutenant F. Boisragon (with the latter men Mr Melville of the Civil Service kindly volunteered his services); the guns under Lieutenant St George, of the Artillery. Lieutenant Thomason, Engineers, at my requisition, very kindly took charge of the cavalry. Captain H. Drummond, Engineers, was watching the movements of the enemy from the dam, which (at my request) he opened at a most opportune moment, effectually cutting off their retreat, but which at the same time prevented our following them up. Before the firing commenced, Captain Drummond joined, and continued with me during the whole of the affair, and I am much indebted to him for his excellent advice.

Before the affair commenced, I was compelled to detach cavalry and infantry in several quarters to prevent the enemy from getting to my right, left, or rear; besides, I had to advance very cautiously, as, from very good information, I learnt that the towns of Hurdwar, Kunkul, and Jawalapore, were in collusion with the rebels; I therefore commenced the fight with the numbers as per margin.* I forward a plan of the ground (drawn out by Captain Drummond) which will give you an idea of what was done.

It was evidently the object of the enemy to reach Jawalapore. I therefore threw myself between it and Kunkul; the guns were posted between that town and a large native building. Lieutenant T. Boisragon charged with his Ghoorkas; took them in flank, and drove them into the river, whilst the Seiks charged in front into their position amidst the tombstones, which was carried in a few seconds, whilst the guns (on our left flank) poured grape into the enemy as they retreated across the river; several of the officers killed men with their own weapons, and the nephew, I believe, of the Nawab, was shot dead by Lieutenant T. Boisragon, and I am given to understand that the Nawab himself was wounded by some one of our party. The affair lasted about half an hour; the cavalry, led by Lieutenant Thomason and Mr Melville cut up the enemy, who took down our right bank. I should say the enemy were 1000 strong, (they also had 2 guns), of which, killed, wounded, and drowned, they must have lost certainly 100. We obtained a quantity of swords, muskets, and other native weapons, also some ammunition. Our guns were capitally served under the superintendence of Lieutenant St George, of Artillery. I am glad to report that we had not a single man wounded.

Where every officer and man (European and Native) performed his duty well and cheerfully, it would be invidious, nay, impossible, to particularise. I am indebted to one and all, and I trust you will be pleased, and express your approbation of their conduct.

I forgot to state before that at Roorkee, Lieutenant T. Boisragon's party was increased by 10 Europeans from the Thomason College, and there was a further increase of 20 men of the 1st Punjaub Cavalry at Kunkul.

We have also taken 15 horses.

* 50, Ghoorkas, 50, Sikhs, and two 6-pounder guns, under Lieutenant St George, of Artillery.
† 8 Ghoorkas, 8 Sikhs, and 5 sowars of 1st Punjaub Cavalry.

* 8 Europeans, 30 Ghoorkas, 30 Seiks, 2 guns, and 16 men of the 3d Punjaub Cavalry.