

forcing their position at Duleepore, and attacked the Cavalry and Horse Artillery, under Lieutenant-Colonel Robertson, but were driven back with severe loss; another body, of about 300, showed themselves at the edge of the jungle to the south-west, but retired on Lieutenant-Colonel Longden moving up his guns.

On the 13th I halted at Peeroo, having previously sent back to Jugdespore for provisions; but learning on that evening that the rebels had again shown themselves in force at Jugdespore, attacked our position, and threatened our camp, I marched back on the morning of the 14th, since when I learned that the main bodies of the rebels lie concealed in the thickest parts of the extensive jungle, whence, in consequence of the extreme heat of the weather, and the exhaustion experienced by the troops as soon as they enter the thick jungle, I fear it will be most difficult for me to expel them with the means at my disposal.

I am of opinion that the only measure to be adopted for clearing this district of the rebels, or indeed for getting at them in the jungle, is to cut broad roads through it in several directions. I have already communicated with the Civil authorities on the subject.

I beg you will assure his Excellency that the exertions made by the force under my command, to ensure the success of our operations, have been of no ordinary kind; without tents, or anything but the clothes on their backs, they (one and all) have been exposed to the inclemency of the weather in the several attempts to accomplish the object in view, viz.—the destruction of the rebel force. No troops but the two seasoned regiments now with me could, I feel confident, have gone through all the fatigue and exposure to which they have been subjected; indeed the Casualty Return of Colonel Corfield's force, which simply operated for a few hours before sunset, will prove my assertion, seven (7) men having died of coup-de-soleil in that time; and further, that out of a party of 110 men of the 6th Foot, which left their camp with Lieutenant-Colonel Longden on the 13th instant, to meet the convoy already mentioned as ordered from Jugdespore, full sixty (60) men fell out, most of whom had to be carried into their camp.

Lieutenant-Colonel Fenwicke, commanding 10th Foot, fell, I regret to say, from the effects of a sun-stroke, near Duleepore,* and the immediate presence of the Doctor alone prevented a fatal result. This officer will not be able to resume his duties again without a change to Europe.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD LUGARD, Brigadier-General,
Commanding Azimgurh Field Force.

No. 44.

Colonel T. B. Corfield, Commanding S. P. Shahabad, to the Chief of the Staff with Brigadier-General Sir E. Lugard.

SIR, Camp, Peeroo, May 12, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Brigadier-General Sir Edward Lugard, K.C.B., that yesterday, after I had detached my cavalry, with two 9-pounder guns of the Royal Artillery with you, on hearing firing in the direction of Juttowra, I immediately proceeded with

* When Captain Orme assumed command of the Regiment.

the force noted in the margin,* towards the jungle. After advancing about two miles, and just at the entrance of the jungle, the enemy opened fire upon me, on which I advanced three companies of infantry in skirmishing order, and opened fire with my guns.

After considerable opposition I brought up my right shoulder, driving the rebels towards my left, in the direction you had proceeded in with the cavalry and artillery; all firing on my right then ceased, as I had arranged with you that I should not advance into the jungle, unless I heard long continued firing in the Juttowra direction. I then halted to watch the outlets of the jungle on this side; about half an hour afterwards the rebels again appeared in force, moving from our left front towards the position they first occupied. On this I advanced, and reinforcing the skirmishers, closed round the village and stormed it. The rebels then retreated into other villages close at hand. I pursued them steadily, burning each village as I took it.

At sunset I recalled my skirmishers, and was returning to camp when the Brigadier-General's message to advance on Juttowra reached me. As night was coming on, and my men had had no food all day, I was unable to comply with his orders.

I have the honour to inclose a return of my casualties; it is impossible to estimate correctly the loss of the rebels, but I have every reason to believe it must have been heavy, more particularly on my left.

I beg to state that I have every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the officers and men engaged, both with the Infantry under Major Stratton, Her Majesty's 6th Regiment, and the Indian Naval Brigade, under Lieutenant Carew, who worked their guns admirably. The small detachment of Seikhs, under Lieutenant Earle, behaved with their usual gallantry.

The Deputy Magistrate of Sasseram, Mr E. Baker, accompanied me, and was of the greatest assistance; and Lieutenant Staunton, Engineers, who, in the absence of my Staff Officer, kindly consented to officiate as my Orderly Officer, was of the greatest use to me.

I have, &c.,

T. B. CORFIELD, Colonel,
Commanding S. P. Shahabad.

No. 45.

RETURN OF CASUALTIES.

Killed by Coup-de-soleil.

1 Corporal, 5 Privates, Her Majesty's 6th Regiment.

1 Private, 24th Regiment.

Wounded.

1 Serjeant, 13th Light Infantry.

2 Privates, 6th Regiment.

1 Private, Seikh Battalion.

T. B. CORFIELD, Colonel,
Commanding S. P. Shahabad.

* Her Majesty's 6th Regiment, with drafts, 750 strong.

Indian Naval Brigade, two pounders, one 5½ 9-inch mortar, 110 men.

Seikh Battalion, 60 men.