

columns, and, as we advanced, occasionally opened on the enemy, who continued in position so long we hoped they would oppose us with their whole force, but they retired on our approach, and we entered the village.

The fields in front of the village were purposely flooded to prevent our advance. The left column then went towards the fort of Mammoo Khail, and the right column proceeded to Koocee Khail; the ground was impracticable for cavalry, nearly the whole distance, but on one or two occasions an opportunity did offer, and the enemy suffered accordingly. Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, with some companies of the 9th Foot and the 26th Native Infantry, occupied part of the heights in front of the village of Koocee Khail, while Captain Broadfoot, and some of the 26th Native Infantry, cleared the hills to the left of Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor's position. As Koocee Khail is about two miles from Mammoo Khail, and as a position there might have been attended with risk, unless very strongly supported, I directed Major-General M'Caskill to retire on Mammoo Khail. As I considered it of importance to hold Mammoo Khail, which was the enemy's position, I wrote for the whole camp to be brought here, and it arrived in safety yesterday afternoon.

I left the camp standing, and selected Major Davis, of Her Majesty's 9th Foot, to command the party as per margin* for its protection. The duty was one of considerable importance, as it was by no means improbable that the enemy would take advantage of our advance to send a party to the camp. The squadron of dragoons having arrived just as I was starting, their horses would not have been equal to a day's hard work, which induced me to leave them in camp. The overthrow of this party of the enemy must, I conclude, have been very unexpected, as the whole of their camp equipage, with its carriage cattle, was captured by Captain Broadfoot's corps and the 3d Irregular Cavalry.

I have much gratification in reporting that the troops, both European and Native, of each branch and department, well supported the character of British soldiers.

Where all are equally zealous in the cause, and devoted to their duty, my thanks are equally due to all; but I may be permitted to mention the names of corps and departments employed. Major-General M'Caskill, K.H., commanding the right column; Brigadier Tulloch, commanding the left column; Captain Abbott, commanding light field battery; Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, K.H., commanding Her Majesty's 9th Foot; Major Huish, commanding the 26th Native Infantry; Captain Napleton, commanding the 60th Native Infantry; Major Blair, commanding the 10th Light Cavalry; Captain Oldfield, commanding a squadron of the 5th Light Cavalry; Captain Tait, commanding the 3d Irregular Cavalry; Captain Abbott, Field Engineer; Lieutenant Becher, commanding Sappers and Miners; and Superintending-Surgeon Steven,

* Three companies of the 26th Native Infantry, three companies of the 60th Native Infantry, and 50 sowars of the 3d Irregular Cavalry.

and Captain Nugent, officiating Sub-assistant Commissary-general. The officers of the staff who conveyed my orders to the different columns, and otherwise aided in the movements of the day, were Captain Havelock, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General; Captain Smith, Major of Brigade; Captain Ponsonby, Assistant Adjutant-general; Captain Lane, Commissary of Ordnance; Lieutenant Sir R. Shakespear, Military Secretary; Captain Codrington, Assistant Quartermaster-General; Lieutenant Mayne, officiating Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, who was most active throughout the day; Lieutenant Tytler, Baggage-master; Lieutenant Pollock, Aide-de-Camp, and Captain Macgregor, Aide-de-Camp; to the last mentioned officer I am not only indebted for services in the field, but for valuable information, and for constant exertions to obtain supplies for the force, which his local knowledge and personal acquaintance with the Mullicks enabled him to do.

I have this morning heard from several quarters, that the two Chiefs Hadji Ali and Khyroollah Khan, have gone to Cabool, attended by about 60 men. If I had removed to camp at Gundamuck yesterday, there can be little doubt that the enemy would have reoccupied this place, and he would have announced to the Cabool authorities he had beaten us back. Koocee Khail has been destroyed by fire; the fort and village of Mammoo Khail have been also destroyed by fire; and, before I quit this place, the trees, to which much value and importance are attached, will be cut down.

I have the honour to enclose a return of casualties. I regret I shall be deprived of the services of Major Huish, 26th Native Infantry, and Captain Edmonds, Her Majesty's 9th Foot, for some time, though I hope not long. Lieutenant Robertson, of the 37th regiment Native Infantry, doing duty with the 26th Native Infantry, is slightly wounded, and will, I trust, soon return to his duty.

I have the pleasure to enclose reports from Major-General M'Caskill, K. H., and Captain Broadfoot.

I have, &c.

G. POLLOCK, Major-General,
Commanding in Afghanistan.

From Major-General John M'Caskill, K. H., Commanding Infantry Division, to Captain Ponsonby, Assistant Adjutant-General.

*Camp, Mammoo Khail,
Aug. 25, 1842.*

SIR,

I BEG to detail to you, for the information of Major-General Pollock, C. B., the operations of the right column in the affair of yesterday, after it had become separated from that of the left, on the complete success of the combined attack on the enemy's position in advance of Mammoo Khail.

You are aware that this force consisted of four companies of Her Majesty's 9th Foot, and six of the 26th Regiment Native Infantry, under the immediate command of Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, K.H. of the former corps. The enemy had fled