

the night one of the enemy's powder magazines, close to the gateway, blew up, burying several of our men in the ruins. It was impossible to guard against such an accident—indeed it is only surprising it was the only one on the south side; for the enemy's ammunition was lying about in great quantities, and there was nothing to distinguish their magazines from the other houses. In the morning Lieutenants Pollard and Maxwell, with the Bengal sappers, removed a considerable quantity of powder from another magazine, close to a burning house, and threw it over the wall, where it exploded without doing any mischief.

The proceedings of the other column were similar: they all pushed quite through the town, left parties in advance posts, and retired to more open ground in the centre of the town.

When the left column, which was intended to go by the ramparts, and leave guards at the gates, had struck into the town, an application was made to Colonel Dundas, who sent two companies of Her Majesty's 60th Rifles, to hold the gates.

The other columns had however exceeded their instructions; for a company of the 72d Bengal Native Infantry had crossed the town, and obtained possession of the Pak, and the road to the Hurungates, before the 60th Rifles arrived.

The Pak-gate was cleared during the night by the Bengal Sappers, the Hurun-gate by the Bombay Sappers, and the Bohur-gate was nearly opened, when the explosion took place, which rendered it impossible to go on. It was opened next morning by the Bengal Sappers.

It is quite impossible to say where the Engineer officers were: the troops were so scattered by the narrow lanes that there were no distinct columns. The only real guide was to follow the retreating enemy, which was done. Not only are the ramparts so incomplete as to render a passage round them by a column of men quite impracticable, but the parts which are complete were, at the time of the assault, crossed by traverses, and cut up by small trenches.

The night closed before the communication between the different bodies could be effected, but by morning the troops were in communication with each other.

It is to be regretted that we had not a couple of hours daylight, as we should then have probably avoided the explosion of the magazine, but the town was as completely cleared of the enemy by dark as it is at the present moment.

The steady and well-directed fire of Her Majesty's 60th Rifles kept down that of the enemy very considerably, while the troops were approaching the breach, and a discharge of grape thrown on the top of the breach by Lieutenant Keir, Bombay Artillery, just over the heads of the Fusiliers, as they advanced, was of the utmost advantage to us; but when the top was gained, and our men became mingled with the enemy, the fate of the day depended on the steadiness and courage of the Fusiliers, and both men and officers answered nobly to the call.

Where all behaved so well, and the operations were on such an extended scale, it would be impossible for me to particularize each act of gallantry. I would therefore beg to refer the brigadier commanding the division to the report of officers commanding regiments and posts, and merely mention such as came under my notice.

The gallantry of the following officers was conspicuous: Captain Tapp, deputy assistant adjutant general, attached to my staff, who was wounded in capturing a gun on our first entering the town, whereby I was early deprived of his valuable assistance;

Captain Leith, 1st Fusiliers, commanding the storming party, who was very severely wounded; and Lieutenants Daly and Mules, 1st Fusiliers. I would also bring to special notice the conduct of Colour Sergeant John Bennett, 1st Fusiliers, who volunteered to accompany the storming party, and rushing up the breach, planted the Union Jack on its crest—standing beside it until the whole brigade had passed. The colour and staff are riddled with balls.

I beg to mention the names of Major Mignan, commanding 1st Fusiliers; Major Mant, commanding 19th Regiment Native Infantry; Major Houner, commanding 4th Rifles; and Major Hobson, 1st Fusiliers; all of whom exerted themselves to the utmost, and were most successful in their different arrangements.

To Major Scott, Commanding Engineer, I am particularly indebted for his able assistance and untiring zeal, throughout the operations.

My best thanks are also due to the following engineer officers, for the zeal and activity they displayed in the different duties on which they were employed:

Captain Abercrombie and Lieutenant Taylor, and other officers of the Bengal Engineers, whose names I am unfortunately unable to give:

Lieutenants Kendall and Berthon, of the Bombay Sappers, and 2d Lieutenants Playfair and Fuller of the same corps.

To the following officers temporarily attached to my staff my best thanks are due:

Lieutenant Pollexfen, Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General:

Lieutenant Henry, Postmaster to the force.

I am much indebted to my Major of Brigade, Captain Hart, for the able and zealous assistance he afforded me in his arduous office throughout the operations.

I have the greatest pleasure in bearing testimony to the humanity and forbearance of the troops under my command. Not a single instance of wanton cruelty or ill treatment of the peaceable inhabitants of the town has been brought to my notice.

*List of killed, wounded, and missing, in the 2d Infantry Brigade, on the 2d January 1849.*

*Camp Mooltan, January 3, 1849.*

1st Bombay European Regiment Fusiliers—4 rank and file, killed; 5 European officers, 4 serjeants, 1 drummer, 49 rank and file, wounded.

4th Regiment Native Infantry (Rifles)—8 rank and file, killed; 1 European officer, 1 native officer, 2 havildars, 4 band men, 35 rank and file, wounded.

19th Regiment Native Infantry—4 rank and file killed; 1 European officer, 3 havildars, 33 rank and file, wounded.

Total of all ranks—16 killed; 139 wounded.

*List of European Officers Killed, Wounded, and Missing, in the 2d Infantry Brigade, on the 2d January 1849.*

*Camp Mooltan, January 3, 1849.*

1st Fusiliers.—Captain R. W. D. Leith and Lieutenant W. Gray, dangerously; suffered amputation of an arm each; Lieuts. E. Dansey and G. Herne, slightly; 2d Lieut. E. A. Law, slightly; wounded.

4th Rifles—Lieut. T. S. Warden, wounded by a bullet in the shoulder.

19th Regiment Native Infantry—Ensign J. Gordon, wounded severely.

FOSTER STALKER, Brigadier Commanding 2d Infantry Brigade, Bombay Column Mooltan, Field Force.