

report, for the information of Government, the services of the Engineer corps and officers employed in the siege, whose talent and indefatigable exertions have so much contributed to the fall of the place.

So general has been the energy displayed by every officer, it would be impossible to make any distinction; and it only remains for me to mention the different officers, with a hope that they may be brought to the favorable notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

To Major Napier, my second in command; and Major Scott, of the Bombay Engineers; the duties of directing Engineer were, chiefly, intrusted; and to their talents and abilities in conducting the operations, our success is greatly owing.

Captains Abercrombie, Western, Siddons, and Lieutenant Maxwell, were also employed in directing, at the commencement, when the extended line of our operations against the town and citadel rendered such arrangements necessary; and I have every reason to be satisfied with these officers, especially with Captains Abercrombie and Siddons, who superintended the operations against the city. I am also indebted for the assistance, given to these officers, by Lieutenants Fulton, Paton, Glover, and Greathead.

The conduct of Captain Siddons and his corps requires particular mention being made, and I have much pleasure in forwarding his report.

Major Scott reports most favorably of the officers of the Bombay Engineers; Lieutenant John Hill, (wounded,) Kendall, Walker, Playfair, Fuller, and Berthon; and their services deserve every praise.

To Captain Longden, of Her Majesty's 10th Regiment, and Assistant to the Lahore Durbar Engineer, my best thanks are due for his diligence, and the very useful plans and information he has, from time to time, supplied; and I would here acknowledge the valuable assistance and intelligence I received from Major Napier, Chief Engineer in the former operations against Mooltan.

I have also to mention Lieutenants Taylor (wounded,) and Hyde, in charge of the Engineer Park, through whose able arrangements the operations have been greatly forwarded; and my thanks are due to Lieutenant Cracroft, Brigade Quarter-Master, who generally accompanied me.

Lieutenant Garforth, my Brigade Major, was wounded, severely, in the assault on the 2nd of January; and Lieutenant Maxwell has acted, since, as Brigade Major; and to both of these officers my warmest acknowledgments are due, not only for every personal assistance to myself, and for carrying on the duties of the Department, but for intelligence and zeal in everything relating to the operations.

I have omitted to mention General Cortlandt's Sappers, who, under Lieutenant Young, Bengal Engineers, made themselves very useful in our late operations.

*Brevet Major R. Napier, late Chief Engineer, Mooltan Field Force, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Mooltan Field Force.*

*Mooltan, January 23, 1849.*

The siege of Mooltan having been concluded, it is my duty to bring, to the notice of the Major-General Commanding, with the hope of their being favorably mentioned to the Commander-in-Chief, the services of the officers employed under me, in the early operations of the siege; in those for protecting the British and allied

camp, which terminated in the capture of the enemy's position and guns on the 7th of November, 1848; and in the preparation of the plans, and supply of siege materials, with the aid of which the siege has since been successfully concluded.

To the zeal and ability of Captain Abercrombie, my second in command, I am most highly indebted.

To Captain Garforth, for his services as Brigade Major, I am also most highly indebted; and his gallantry, and that of Lieutenant Grindall, in the assault of the Dhurum Sala, on the 12th of September 1848, was conspicuous.

The exertions of Lieutenant Maxwell, who acted as directing Engineer; of Lieutenant Taylor, in charge of the Park; and of every officer belonging to the Engineers, or doing duty with the Corps, were deserving of the highest praise. I never met a more zealous body of officers.

The services rendered by Lieutenant Glover, in the difficult operation of closing the head of the Wullee Mahomed Canal, and of Captain Longden, H.M.'s 10th Regiment of Foot, assistant to the Durbar Chief Engineer, have been most valuable.

I have great pleasure in mentioning, particularly, the services of Captain Siddons, Directing Engineer, and the Corps of Sappers and Pioneers under his command: they fully maintained their high character.

To Lieutenant Lake, of the Engineers, in command of the Troops of the Nawab of Bahawalpore, who conducted the left attack, I was also greatly indebted for his support and assistance. He reports very highly of the Company of Sappers under Lieutenants Pollard and Maunsell.

It would be unjust to omit favorable notice of General Cortlandt's Sappers, and the willing assistance afforded by them.

Although the defection of our ally, Raja Shere Sing, snatched from us the prize of success, when it seemed almost within our grasp, it is satisfactory to reflect that our labors have paved the way for the present, comparatively bloodless, triumph; that our trenches of the Khutteh Byragee and the Dhurum Sala, made us acquainted with the intricacies of the suburbs; and that to the respect, gained for our bayonets on the 12th of September, may be attributed the rapid fall of the strong positions of the Shums-Tabreez, Wuzerabad, and the Munde Awa, on the 27th of December, 1848.

*Brevet Captain H. Siddons, Commanding the Sappers and Pioneers, to the Brigade-Major of Engineers.*

*Mooltan, January 23, 1849.*

On the occasion of the fall of Mooltan, I believe it is my duty to make a report, as commanding the Corps of Bengal Sappers and Pioneers: to write such in detail, would be to embrace the whole of the siege operations, which, of course, is unnecessary.

Nor need I dwell on the exertions of my men, as their hard work and excellent conduct must have been observed by every one, from the Major-General downwards, and will, no doubt, receive ample justice in Brigadier Cheape's dispatch.

Custom justifies me in naming my Adjutant, Lieutenant Fraser, as having rendered me most important assistance, in carrying on all the details of the corps during the siege; his services were always available, when required, in the trenches; and he superintended the loading, tamping, and firing, of the mines, on the right attack.