

No. 6.

*Brevet-Major Coke to Major Ewart.*SIR, *Camp before Delhi, July 5, 1857.*

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Major-General Sir H. Barnard, K.C.B., commanding the force before Delhi, that, in accordance with orders, the force as per margin,\* marched at half-past 2 o'clock A.M. yesterday, to attack the body of mutineers who had left Delhi on the previous evening.

On arriving at the junction of the roads from the city and cantonments, it seemed very doubtful whether the rebels would return by the right or left bank of the Canal from Allipore; I therefore sent on Lieutenant Roberts by the main road to feel for the enemy, and Captain Hodson, of the Guides, to the right bank of the canal.

I found the enemy were retiring by the Robtuck road to Delhi, but spread all over the country.

On crossing the canal, a considerable body, with guns, were seen at a village about a mile from the bridge, when I at once proceeded to attack them. After a few rounds from their guns they carried them off in the direction of the city, before we could get up to them, which they were enabled to do, as they were on a road, whereas we had to advance over the open country, which was in many places a swamp, through which our guns and troops could only make their way with much difficulty.

A number of the enemy were killed who had thrown themselves into the village on our front; the rest fled in every direction. The Cavalry of the Guides followed them with the greatest spirit, and succeeded in cutting up some more of the enemy.

It was useless to attempt any further pursuit, for the heat was great, and the European soldiers exhausted; I therefore returned to the banks of the canal, and allowed the men to rest under the shade of the trees.

While I was bringing the Infantry back, the Artillery, by some misconception, returned to camp.

During the time we were resting under the trees on the canal, the enemy had collected their forces, and, coming up under cover of the canal, made an attack on the Infantry. We beat them back, and pursued them for a considerable distance, but, seeing that there was a larger force collecting behind them, I withdrew the Infantry, and took up a position that commanded the bridge, and, as I expected they were bringing up guns, I sent into camp for Artillery. Before the guns arrived, however, the enemy made a second attack, and were beaten back with considerable loss. Soon after, the Artillery and Cavalry came up, and followed the enemy, who again dispersed, and fled in all directions.

I left the guns and Cavalry at the canal bridge, and brought back the Infantry to camp, where we arrived about 4 o'clock.

There were about 100 of the enemy killed in these attacks.

Inclosed is a Return of our loss, which was very small.

\* 2 Guns 5th Troop, 1st Brigade Horse Artillery; 4 Guns 2nd Troop, 3rd Brigade Horse Artillery; 3 Companies 3rd Bengal Artillery, and No. 14 Light Field Battery; Squadron of Her Majesty's 6th Dragoon Guards; Squadron of Her Majesty's 9th Lancers; the Guide Cavalry; Head-Quarters Wing of Her Majesty's 61st Regiment; 1st Punjab Infantry.

No. 7.

*Return of Killed and Wounded of the Detachments employed against the Enemy, under command of Major John Coke, on the 4th July, 1857.*

2nd troop 3rd brigade Horse Artillery—1 rank and file, 2 horses, killed.

3rd company 3rd battalion Artillery, and No. 14 Light Field Battery—1 rank and file, 1 horse, killed; 2 horses wounded.

Detachment 6th Dragoon Guards, Carabiniers—2 horses killed; 2 rank and file wounded.

Detachment Her Majesty's 9th Lancers—1 horse wounded.

Head-quarters and wing of Her Majesty's 61st Regiment—1 rank and file wounded.

Guide Cavalry—2 horses killed; 1 non-commissioned officer, 7 rank and file, 4 horses, wounded.

1st Punjab Infantry—1 non-commissioned officer, 7 rank and file, wounded.

Total—2 rank and file, 7 horses, killed; 2 non-commissioned officers, 17 rank and file, 7 horses, wounded.

JOHN COKE, Brevet-Major,  
Commanding detachment.

No. 8.

*The Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

*Head-Quarters, Camp before Delhi,  
July 17, 1857.*

SIR, I HAVE the honour, by desire of the Provincial Commander-in-chief, to inclose, for submission to the Governor-General in Council, copy of the Order issued this day by Major-General Reed, on quitting the Delhi field force.

2. I am further to inclose, for his Lordship's information, a state of the force, dated the 16th instant.

I have, &c.

H. W. NORMAN,  
Lieutenant.

No. 9.

*General Orders by Major-General Reed, Provincial Commander-in-chief.*

*Head-Quarters, Camp before Delhi,  
July 17, 1857.*

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR P. GRANT, K.C.B., having in a General Order, dated the 17th June, at Calcutta, announced his having assumed command of the Bengal army from that date, Major-General Reed has ceased to exercise the duties of Provincial Commander-in-chief.

Major-General Reed having been recommended by his medical advisers to avail himself of a sick certificate to repair to the hills, as the only chance of recovering his shattered health, which has latterly prevented him from taking an active part in the field operations, has made over the command and charge of this force to Brigadier-General A. Wilson.

It is with the greatest reluctance the Major-General has come to the determination to take this step, but his duty to his country must be paramount to any selfish consideration; and being incapacitated himself for the post by disease and weakness, he has no alternative than to devolve his arduous duties upon another.

Of Brigadier-General Wilson's merits it is unnecessary for Major-General Reed to speak; his judgment, gallantry, and conduct have been conspicuous