

this place, I have to request that you will inform his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that this purpose was effected on the evening of the 25th instant. But before detailing the circumstances, I must refer to antecedent events. I crossed the Syc on the 22nd instant, the bridge at Bunnec not having been broken. On the 23rd I found myself in presence of the enemy, who had taken a strong position, his left resting on the enclosure of the Alum Bagh, and his centre and right drawn up behind a chain of hillocks. The head of my column at first suffered from the fire of his guns, as it was compelled to pass along the trunk road between morasses; but as soon as my regiments could be deployed along his front, and his right enveloped by my left, victory declared for us, and we captured five guns. Sir James Outram, with his accustomed gallantry, passed on in advance, close down to the canal. But as the enemy fed his artillery with guns from the city, it was not possible to maintain this, or a less advanced position for a time taken up; but it became necessary to throw our right on the Alum Bagh, and refuse our left, and even then we were incessantly cannonaded throughout the 24th; and the enemy's cavalry, 1,500 strong, crept round through lofty cultivation, and made a sudden irruption upon the baggage massed in our rear. The soldiers of the 90th, forming the baggage guard, received them with great gallantry; but lost some brave officers and men, shooting down, however, twenty-five of the troopers and putting the whole body to flight. They were finally driven to a distance by two guns of Captain Olpherts' battery.

The troops had been marching for three days under a perfect deluge of rain, irregularly fed, and badly housed in villages. It was thought necessary to pitch tents, and permit them to halt on the 24th. The assault on the city was deferred until the 25th. That morning our baggage and tents were deposited in the Alum Bagh under an escort, and we advanced. The 1st Brigade, under Sir James Outram's personal leading, drove the enemy from a succession of gardens and walled enclosures, supported by the 2nd Brigade, which I accompanied. Both brigades were established on the canal at the bridge of Char Bagh.

From this point the direct road to the Residency was something less than two miles; but it was known to have been cut by trenches, and crossed by palisades at short intervals, the houses also being all loopholed. Progress in this direction was impossible; so the united column pushed on, detouring along the narrow road which skirts the left bank of the canal. Its advance was not seriously interrupted until it had come opposite the king's palace or the Kaiser Bagh, where two guns and a body of mercenary troops were entrenched. From this entrenchment a fire of grape and musketry was opened, under which nothing could live. The artillery and troops had to pass a bridge partially under its influence; but were then shrouded by the buildings adjacent to the palace of Fureed Buksh. Darkness was coming on, and Sir James Outram at first proposed to halt within the courts of the Mehal for the night; but I esteemed it to be of such importance to let the beleaguered garrison know that succour was at hand, that with his ultimate sanction I directed the main body of the 78th Highlanders and regiment of Ferozepore to advance. This column rushed on with a desperate gallantry, led by Sir James Outram and myself, and Lieutenants Hudson and Hargood, of my staff, through streets of flat-roofed loop-holed houses, from which a perpetual fire was kept up, and overcoming every obstacle, established itself within the enclosure of the Residency. The joy of the garrison may be

more easily conceived than described; but it was not till the next evening that the whole of my troops, guns, tumbrils, and sick and wounded, continually exposed to the attacks of the enemy, could be brought step by step within this *enceinte* and the adjacent palace of the Fureed Buksh. To form an adequate idea of the obstacles overcome, reference must be made to the events that are known to have occurred at Buenos Ayres and Saragossa. Our advance was through streets of houses such as I have described, and thus each forming a separate fortress. I am filled with surprise at the success of the operation, which demanded the efforts of 10,000 good troops. The advantage gained has cost us dear. The killed, wounded, and missing, the latter being wounded soldiers, who I much fear—some or all—have fallen into the hands of a merciless foe, amounted, up to the evening of the 26th, to 535 officers and men. Brigadier General Neill, Commanding 1st Brigade; Major Cooper, Brigadier, Commanding Artillery; Lieutenant-Colonel Bazely, a volunteer with the force—are killed. Colonel Campbell, Commanding 90th Light Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel Tytler, my Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General; and Lieutenant Havelock, my Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General, are severely, but not dangerously, wounded. Sir James Outram received a flesh wound in the arm in the early part of the action near Char Bagh; but nothing could subdue his spirit; and though faint from loss of blood, he continued to the end of the action to sit on his horse, which he only dismounted at the gate of the Residency. As he has now assumed the command, I leave to him the narrative of all events subsequent to the 26th.

Enclosed is the return of casualties up to that date.

I have, &c.,

H. HAVELOCK, Brigadier-General,  
Commanding Oude Field Force.

No. 4.

*Numerical Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing, of the Troops composing Oude Field Force, in the Actions of the 25th and 26th September, 1857, under Brigadier-General Havelock, C.B., Commanding.*

*Adjt.-General's Office, Oude Field Force,  
Lucknow, September 30, 1857.*

- 1st Madras Fusiliers—1 serjeant, 12 rank and file, killed; 2 lieutenants, 3 serjeants, 32 rank and file, wounded; 11 rank and file missing.  
Her Majesty's 5th Fusiliers—1 serjeant, 6 rank and file, killed; 2 captains, 3 serjeants, 26 rank and file, wounded; 16 rank and file missing.  
Her Majesty's 64th Foot—1 lieutenant killed; 2 serjeants, 8 rank and file, wounded.  
Her Majesty's 84th Foot—1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 9 rank and file, killed; 1 captain, 3 lieutenants, 2 serjeants, 1 drummer, 21 rank and file, wounded; 9 rank and file missing.  
Her Majesty's 78th Highlanders—2 lieutenants, 5 serjeants, 32 rank and file, killed; 2 captains, 4 lieutenants, 4 serjeants, 71 rank and file, wounded; 1 serjeant, 5 rank and file, missing.  
Her Majesty's 90th Light Infantry—11 rank and file killed; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 2 lieutenants, 46 rank and file, wounded; 26 rank and file missing.  
Regiment of Ferozepore—1 havildar, 5 rank and file, killed; 1 native officer, 2 havildars, 34 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file missing.