

I then led the party, by one of the side outlets of the palace, along the river bank to Major Simmons' position, under a smart fire from the enemy, by which, however, we received little damage.

Under cover of the night, all the sick and wounded were quietly and safely transported along the river bank to the entrenchment, by a path practicable for camels and doolies, but quite impracticable for guns. Captain Hardinge made several journeys to bring up fresh doolies, until every sick and wounded man was removed. He also took away the camels laden with Enfield ammunition. One of our 24-pounders, which had been used on the previous day against the enemy, but the working of which had ceased, owing to the musketry fire which poured upon it, was left in an exposed position; it was extricated in a very daring and dexterous manner by Captain Olpherts, aided by Captain Crump (killed), and Private Duffy, of the Madras Fusiliers.

At 3 A.M. the whole force proceeded undiscovered through the enemy's posts, until the leading division had reached the palace; the heavy guns and waggons were safely parked in the garden, which I had reconnoitred on the preceding day. The enemy were aroused too late to prevent the operation; but made an attack on the rear guard, which was ineffective.

I remained with Colonel Purnell, to secure the position thus gained with trifling loss. A large body of Sepoys was discovered in a walled garden, connected with that which contained our heavy guns by men of Her Majesty's 90th, 5th Fusiliers, and 32nd, who gallantly charged in, led by Colonel Purnell, 90th, and Captain McCabe, 32nd, and almost annihilated them, securing the garden itself as the rear of our position. Measures were immediately taken to open a road for the guns through the palace, and by the 1st instant every gun and waggon was safely lodged in the entrenchment.

It now remains for me to bring to your favourable notice the officers commanding corps and detachments—Colonel Stisted, 78th; Captain Brasyer, Seikhs; Captain Lowe, 32nd. The late lamented Major Simmons gave me very valuable aid.

To Colonel Purnell's lot fell the more difficult duty of commanding the rear guard and of securing the position when gained. In the whole of the operations his assistance and support were of the greatest value.

Lieutenant Fraser, of the Artillery, was left, on the 26th, by the fall of Brigadier Cooper, in charge of the heavy guns, and though wounded, his exertions assisted greatly in extricating the unwieldy train.

I must beg most particularly to bring to your notice Captain Olpherts, of the Bengal Artillery. Without his unflinching determination, skill, and fertility of resource, we should never have been able to withdraw the 24-pounder, but at the cost of a very heavy loss of life. From first to last his assistance has been invaluable, and cannot be too highly praised.

To Captain Hardinge's continued exertions is due the safe removal of the wounded, and camels, with rifle ammunition.

My Assistant Adjutant-General, Captain Dodgson, gave me every assistance. Captain Moorsom was here, as every where, a sagacious and daring guide. Captain Sitwell attended me zealously through the night.

Captain Olpherts recommends Private Duffy for the Victoria Cross for his gallantry in extricating

the 24-pounder gun under a very heavy fire of musketry, and I beg strongly to second his recommendation.

I have deeply to lament the loss of the gallant Captain Crump, Madras Army, killed whilst extricating the 24-pounder.

The loss was as follows:—

Artillery—1 captain killed.  
Her Majesty's 5th Fusiliers—1 private killed; 4 privates wounded.  
Her Majesty's 32nd Foot—1 serjeant killed; 1 captain, 2 serjeants, 1 private, wounded.  
Her Majesty's 78th Highlanders—2 privates wounded.

Total—1 captain, 1 serjeant, 1 private killed; 1 captain, 2 serjeants, 7 privates, wounded.

I have, &c.

R. NAPIER, Colonel,  
Military Secretary, &c.

No. 20.

*From Colonel R. Napier, Military Secretary, &c., to Major-General Sir James Outram, G.C.B., Commanding the Forces.*

SIR, Lucknow, October 5, 1857.

ON the 1st instant, I received your orders to take the enemy's battery in the position called Phillips' Garden, near the Cawnpore road. For this object you placed at my disposal the following troops:—

Detachments of Her Majesty's 5th Fusiliers; 32nd, 64th, 78th, and 90th Regiments, and the Honourable East India Company's 1st Madras Fusiliers, under Major Haliburton, Her Majesty's 78th; Captain Shute, Her Majesty's 64th; and Captain Raikes, Madras Fusiliers, amounting to 568 men; Lieutenant Limond, Engineers, and Lieutenant Tulloh, Acting Assistant Field Engineer, attended the column, with a party of five Miners of Her Majesty's 32nd, and a party of Artillery, under Serjeant Smith, with means of bursting guns.

In the afternoon of the 1st, the column formed in the road leading to the Paen Bagh, and advanced through the buildings near the jail, occupied the mass of houses on the left and front of Phillips' Garden, under guidance of Mr. Phillips, the former occupant, and the enemy were driven from some houses, and a barricade on the left of our advance, by 50 men of the Madras Fusiliers, led by Lieutenant Groom under a sharp fire of musketry, in a very spirited manner.

The houses in front were strongly barricaded, and in many cases the doors were bricked up; it was, therefore, late before we had worked a way to a point, from whence we could command the enemy's position. A party of the enemy was driven out, and a row of loopholes was commenced immediately, and the ground examined right and left. Attempts to penetrate the garden to the left were ineffectual; to the right an opening was obtained, which disclosed that the enemy's batteries were separated from us by a deep narrow lane, some 12 or 15 feet below the garden; the latter was surrounded by a deep mud wall, with buildings attached. The face of the battery was scarped, and quite inaccessible without ladders. A heavy fire was kept up from the face of the battery, and the lane was flanked by a strong barricade. As it was dark, and a direct attack would be certain to cost many lives, I determined to wait till day-light,