

matchlockmen, belonging to different loyal Zemindars, ready to join us.

We moved on at once to the enemy's position, which was about a mile from Anuntram, and found them very strongly posted, stronger than we were led to believe from reports. Their right resting on the Cawnpore road, occupied a large tope of mangoe trees with a wall of six feet all round, and a small ditch in front; their left on a village (Phoolpore), and every grove and field between occupied by them. Their right was the chief position, and looked most formidable, the enclosure swarming with the enemy, and one gun facing down the road towards us.

Having reconnoitred, and having been offered the loan of a gun from Anuntram, we came to the decision of attacking the place. Having shown ourselves to the enemy, it appeared to us that the effect on the country around would be very bad, did we retire without attempting something; so I formed the cavalry into three troops; my own men I took opposite the right rear of the enemy's entrenchment, and within 300 yards; one troop I directed to go to the right, and the third to remain in the centre as a support for the gun, which had by this time come up, and was planted as near as we could judge opposite the enemy's.\*

Mr. Hume having with some difficulty collected about 200 or 300 matchlockmen out of the 700, advanced most gallantly with them towards the entrenchment. The fire of the enemy had been directed towards my troop; but, seeing the advance of our matchlockmen, they turned it towards them. Our gun then opened, advancing nearer at each discharge. About the fifth discharge, our gun was close up to the wall, and, a rush being made, headed in the most gallant manner by Mr. Hume, the enemy began to retreat.

Having already got to their right rear with my troop of 60 men, the time came for us to act. The word 'charge' was given by me, and in a few seconds we were in the midst of them, sweeping round the rear of the entrenchment to the village on the enemy's left. Many of the enemy escaped owing to the great height of cultivation and the villages, where it was impossible for cavalry to follow, and, had the Local Horse acted on the right, when they saw my troop coming round, the victory would have been most complete; but they rendered no assistance at first. However, the enemy were completely routed, their only gun, with a quantity of ammunition, baggage, ponies, matchlocks, swords, &c., captured, and about 125 killed in the field and six hanged. We followed them up for about three miles, and then gave up further pursuit, the enemy dispersing in all directions, and my party of cavalry being too small to detach after them; besides, we had then come about twenty-five miles, and had to return to Etawah the same evening, which we reached about 7 P.M.

The number of the enemy could not certainly have been under 1200 or 1300 men, including a few sowars.

Our casualties were:

Killed—12 matchlockmen.  
Severely wounded—2 sowars. Alexander's Horse.  
Severely wounded—3 horses. Alexander's Horse.  
Slightly wounded—1 horse. Alexander's Horse.  
Slightly wounded—1 sowar of Local Horse.  
Severely wounded—4 horses of Local Horse.  
Wounded—15 matchlockmen.  
Missing—2 horses.

A copy of Mr. Hume's report to Government is enclosed for the Brigadier's information, and shows

\* Strength in action of our force—50 troopers, including commissioned and non-commissioned officers, Alexander's Horse. 80 Etawah L. Horse. 300 matchlockmen. Total 440. 1 8-pounder brass gun.

the active and gallant part taken by that officer and his matchlockmen.

I now beg to bring to the notice of Brigadier Seatou, C.B., the able assistance I received from Mr. Hume, who gallantly led the assault, and Mr. Maconochie, who accompanied my troop of cavalry throughout the day, and was always to the front.

The conduct of my men was admirable, and many individual acts of gallantry were performed. Some of the sowars of the Local Horse did their duty well, and the conduct of the matchlockmen who went to the assault, after they once got in to the enemy, Mr. Hume reports to have been excellent.

I beg to bring all parties concerned to the favourable notice of the Brigadier commanding, and trust he may deem the affair worthy of being reported to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

I trust the Brigadier will not consider I exceeded my duty in attacking a position I had previously reported as being too strong for the whole of our force. I think, however, Anuntram will be free from Roop Sing and his followers, for some time to come.

The information regarding the enemy's regular troops at Ajeetmul, and mentioned by Mr. Hume, was only brought to-day; and it is fortunate as things have turned out, that we did not know of it yesterday, for we should not have gone out, and this victory would not have been gained.

I have, &c.,

W. R. E. ALEXANDER, Captain,  
Commanding Alexander's Horse, and at Etawah.

No. 18.

A. O. Hume, Esq., Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Etawah, to the Secretary to Government of the N. W. P., Agra.

Sir,

February 8, 1858.

I HAVE the honor to report that we yesterday obtained a signal success over the enemy near Anuntram

2. At 6 A.M. the 7th of February, Captain Alexander, Mr. Maconochie and myself left Etawah with 30 sowars to visit the picquet at Bukewar, and reconnoitre the enemy's position beyond. At Bukewar, we were joined by the picquet, viz., 30 of Alexander's Horse, and about 80 of the Etawah Local Horse. We then pushed on to Anuntram, a small town on the main Oreyah and Cawnpore road, distant about twenty-one miles from our camp at Etawah. At Anuntram I called out about 700 of the matchlockmen posted there to keep the enemy in check, and, taking a small gun of Rao Juswant Rao's, advanced along the main road. About a mile from Anuntram, we found the enemy posted in several dense mango topes, surrounded by high earth-banks, and occupying the intermediate Urhur and Castor Oil plant fields, in skirmishing order. As we drew near, the enemy concentrated themselves in the two enclosures C and B (see sketch), still keeping, however, some hundreds of men out as skirmishers in the field immediately surrounding their position. As the banks surrounding the enclosure were not less than six feet high from outside as there were no entrances, and the branches of the trees come down to within two feet of the top of the bank, Captain Alexander, finding that his cavalry could not attack them with any reasonable chance of success, halted them at D. After consulting him I posted the Local Horse at E, and then leaving them there with orders to cut up any fugitives, drew the men up in a sort of line at GG, with the gun in the centre.