

The enemy by this time had opened a smart fire on us, and Captain Alexander, to whom I reported what I had done, as well as the nature of the position which I had closely inspected from N, desired me to advance with the gun and matchlockmen. Koor Lutchmun Sing and three or four of my own sowars assisting me manfully, I succeeded in bringing up about 350 of the matchlockmen into a position KKK, still keeping the gun in the centre G. Our matchlockmen nevertheless were no cowards; they fought bravely, a little later, hand to hand, but they were new to the system of going straight a-head at our enemy, were immensely outnumbered, and were obliged to advance under a very heavy fire, which, as they could, under the most favourable circumstances, see only the heads of their opponents, they could not return with any effect.

3. By degrees, taking advantage of a number of small ridges intervening between us and the point which I had chosen for the attack, I pushed the men on to within twenty yards of the entrenchment, keeping up, as we advanced, a fire from the Rao's gun in answer to that of the enemy. I then ran the gun up to the little knoll A, which, distant about five yards from the entrenchment, gave me the command of the interior. By this time some 300 or 400 of the enemy ran out of the opposite side of the enclosure in the direction NN, and were promptly pursued by Captain Alexander and his sixty troopers, who cut up a considerable number of them, though not without some casualties, as even single fugitives, almost without exception, turned and fought. The Local Horse did not assist; they had no European officer (I have applied in vain for one), and either would not, or thought they ought not to move without an order to do so. At A we fired one round, and all the men lining that particular portion of the "moorcha" beginning to run, the matchlockmen made a rush, and to the number of 150 or 200 got in. Just as they did so, the enemy fired their gun in our faces, doing, however, no damage, and then, for the most part throwing away their guns, both parties went at it with swords. In less than a minute the main body of the enemy, some 600 strong, ran out in the direction SSS; a few still stood by the gun. These, in a very short time, were dispersed, and, as I thought, either cut up or driven out; but in this I was mistaken (without uniform it was difficult to distinguish foes from friends), and we had not proceeded fifty yards in pursuit, when we were stopped by shouts from the rear, and found that the enemy had retaken and loaded the gun. We re-took it, however, before they could fire it. Lutchmun Sing and I then pushed on with some half dozen sowars; but the rebels were too far a-head, and we picked up only a few stragglers. Captain Alexander then returned from the pursuit in the direction NN; the Local Horse came up at last, the enemy was pursued some three miles, and a number more accounted for; one and all, however, fighting to the last. Nine prisoners were also taken, of whom six were hanged. I ought to add that the enclosure C was evacuated directly we took the gun.

4. The enemy was certainly not less than 1,200 strong when we advanced from the position K K K, and probably numbered not less than 2,000. They had a few irregular cavalry, and, it is reported, about 50 sepoy; but I saw none of the latter. The former as usual kept well out of range, and ultimately disappeared without showing fight. They lost 125 men killed, their gun (an iron one) and limber, matchlocks, swords, bundles of clothes, burtons, ponies, &c., in fact their whole baggage. Our loss was not severe; 12 matchlockmen were killed, a few (amongst

them the brave leader of the Chowdrayan of Binsea's men, Bhowanee Sing) wounded; 2 of Alexander's men and 3 of his horses; 1 of the local horsemen and 4 of the horses badly wounded, and several other men and horses scratched more or less.

5. The pursuit over, we returned with the captured gun to Etawah, having accomplished the whole affair, including the 50 miles' ride in 12 hours. It may be worth mentioning that the very time we made the attack, Lallpooree Goosaeen, the Nana's Pirohit, with a considerable force of regular mutineers, was at Ajeetmul, scarcely more than 6 miles from the battle field, so that we rather stole a march on him.

6. I having been chiefly with the matchlockmen, my account is necessarily a one-sided one; but it must not be supposed that I wish to ignore the services rendered by the rest of the force. It is true that, owing to the nature of the position, the brunt of the assault fell upon the footmen; but the great loss sustained by the enemy is chiefly owing to the energetic pursuit of Captain Alexander and his horse. About 20 were killed in the entrenchment and within a few yards of it by the matchlockmen; 11 were killed by the small party with me; but the rest were, I believe, to a man cut up by Alexander's Horse; the fugitives, be it remembered, fighting most resolutely, and using swords, spears, and matchlocks, but too successfully.

7. The gallant conduct of Koor Lutchmun Sing, my Deputy Magistrate; of Raheem Buksh, a Duffadar, formerly of the Gwalior Contingent, now of the Etawah Local Horse; and of Bhowanee Sing, the leader of the Binsea men, deserves especial notice.

I have, &c.,

A. O. HUME, Magistrate.

P.S.—I enclose a copy of Captain Alexander's Report, with whom Mr. Maconochie (whom I have therefore not mentioned) served.

A. O. HUME.

#### No. 19.

### GENERAL ORDERS BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

*Fort William, January 15, 1858.*

No. 70 of 1858.

THE Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council has much satisfaction in publishing the following Report from Major-General Penny, C.B., Commanding Delhi Field Force, dated the 24th of November, 1857, with its enclosures, relative to the action fought at Narnool on the 16th of that month. His Lordship in Council concurs in the commendations given by his Excellency of the Commander-in-chief to the troops on this occasion.

#### No. 20.

*The Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army to the Secretary to the Government of India,*

*Military Department.*

*Head Quarters Camp, Merun ha Serai,  
December 29, 1857.*

SIR,

No. 45 A.

I HAVE the honor, by direction of the Commander-in-Chief, to forward, for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor-General in Council,