

No. 8.

GENERAL ORDERS BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

*Military Department,
Allahabad, July 29, 1858.*

No. 321 of 1858.

THE Right Honorable the Governor-General is pleased to direct the publication of the following two despatches from Brigadier F. Berkeley, C.B., commanding Soraon Field Force, dated the 15th and 18th instant, the former reporting the capture of the village and fort of Dehaign, and the latter reporting the subsequent capture of the Fort of Tiroul.

No. 9.

Brigadier Berkeley, C.B., Commanding Soraon Field Force, to Major-General Sir W. Mansfield, K.C.B., Chief of the Staff.

SIR, *Camp, Soraon, July 15, 1858.*

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that I yesterday attacked and captured the village and fort of Dehaign, employing for that purpose the force as per margin.*

2. The rebels retired into the fort on our approach, allowing the skirmishers to occupy the village with very little opposition.

3. I directed patrols of cavalry to encircle the fort, and posted the Horse Artillery, with a cavalry escort, on ground where they would have a good view of any rebels attempting to escape from the north side.

4. On the arrival of the heavy guns, I caused

* Major Mitchell, $\frac{1}{2}$ E. Troop, Royal Horse Artillery; Lieutenant Cottingham, No. 4 Company, 4th Battalion Royal Artillery, one 13-pounder, one 8-inch mortar, one 24-pounder howitzer, two $5\frac{1}{2}$ -inch mortar; Lieutenant-Colonel Carmichael, Her Majesty's 32nd Light Infantry, 200 bayonets; Brevet-Major Gillum, Detachment Her Majesty's 54th, 80 bayonets; Lieutenant Gordon, 7th Punjaub Infantry, 542 bayonets; Lieutenant Richard, Detachment Seikhs Ferozepore, 70 bayonets; Lieutenant-Colonel Whistler, Detachment 6th Madras Light Cavalry, 52 sabres; Captain Balmain, Lahore Light Horse, 60 sabres.

them to open in the direction pointed out to us by natives, but it was impossible to judge what effect was produced, the fort being completely hidden by trees and thick scrubby jungle. I determined therefore to attack at once with the infantry, and ordered the 7th Punjaub Regiment to advance in skirmishing order, supported by the detachment of the 54th Regiment, under command of Major Gillum, the 24-pounder howitzer followed close in rear, guarded by a company of Her Majesty's 32nd Light Infantry.

5. The 7th Punjaub Infantry, in two bodies, respectively headed by Lieutenant Gordon, who was in command of the regiment, and Captain Colls, of the 32nd Light Infantry, Field Engineer, dashed gallantly forward, and following the enemy rapidly up, entered the wicket along with them, closely followed by the detachment, Her Majesty's 54th Regiment.

6. About two hundred and fifty of the rebels were killed in the ditch, the rest were rapidly chased through the jungle, and cut down in every direction; about a hundred and fifty of those that escaped from the fort were cut up by the Cavalry and Horse Artillery, but several parties succeeded in getting off, owing to the paucity of cavalry; in all about five hundred were killed.

7. Dehaign cannot properly be called a fort; it is a large area of jungle surrounded by a dilapidated earthen wall and ditch, and fenced with a thorny abattis; in the centre is a square brick-house, in this I have left a strong Seikh picquet to protect the labourers Mr. Willock has procured to cut the jungle, level the walls, &c., when that is done, the picquet will be withdrawn and the house destroyed; no guns were found in the fort.

8. Both Officers and men exerted themselves to the utmost, and I trust will be considered to have merited the approbation of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. Mr. Willock, Joint Magistrate, accompanied me, and rendered every assistance in his power.

9. I enclose herewith a return of casualties, which I am happy to say, are very few; also a nominal roll.

I have, &c.

F. BERKELEY, Brigadier,
Commanding Soraon Field Force.

No. 10..

NUMERICAL RETURN of Casualties in the Field Force under Command of Brigadier F. Berkeley, C.B., on the 14th July, 1858.

Camp, Soraon, July 15, 1858.

Corps.	Killed.		Wounded.			Remarks.
	European Drummers, Rank & File.	Native Drummers, Rank and File.	European Officers.	Native Drummers, Rank and File.	Horses.	
H.M.'s 54 Regiment	1	2 men died of sunstroke.
Lahore Light Horse ... ..	...	...	1	...	6
6th Madras Light Cavalry ... ..	...	...	...	1	...
7th Punjaub Infantry ... ..	...	2	...	6	...
The Ferozepore Regiment... ..	...	...	...	1	...
Total	1	2	1	8	6	

F. BERKELEY, C.B., Brigadier,
Commanding Soraon Field Force.