

General Neill, the Madras Fusiliers were the first to carry relief and security to Benares and Allahabad: they formed a part of the force which, under Major-General Sir H. Havelock, first penetrated to Cawnpore and Lucknow: they shared in the long-sustained occupation of Alum Bagh, under Lieutenant-General Sir J. Outram, and in the reduction of Lucknow by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief: and they have borne an active part in the final and complete re-establishment of the Queen's authority in Oude.

After twenty months of arduous service, the Madras Fusiliers are about to return to their Presidency, their work fully accomplished, and their high character as soldiers enhanced.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council will receive the Regiment with public honours.

The Regiment will arrive at the terminus at Howrah, about four, P.M., and will be paraded at five o'clock P.M., before the Stairs of the Great Entrance of the Government House, there to be received by His Excellency.

The troops in town and garrison will be paraded in front of Government House at half-past four o'clock, P.M.

All the Civil Officers of the Government, the Officers of the Garrison, and General Staff, and all other Military and Naval Officers at the Presidency, except those on duty, are requested to be in attendance at the Great Entrance of the Government House at five o'clock.

All ships of war and Government vessels in the river will be dressed in honour of the occasion.

After their reception by His Excellency the Governor-General, the Madras Fusiliers will march out by the West Gate, and by the river side to the dockyard beyond Hastings Bridge, where they will immediately embark on board their ships. On their march the regiment will be saluted by the fort, and by Her Majesty's ship "Pearl."

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*Fort William, Military Department,
15th February, 1859.*

No. 196 of 1859.

AGREEABLY to the Notification, No. 176, issued on the 12th February, 1859, the 1st Madras Fusiliers arrived in Calcutta on the afternoon of the 14th instant, and were received by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General with public honours.

The troops in garrison and the Calcutta Volunteer Guards, cavalry and infantry, paraded in front of Government House, and received the 1st Madras Fusiliers with presented arms.

The Regiment having taken post in front of the Great Entrance of Government House, His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General advanced on the stairs, under a general salute from the assembled troops, and attended by—

The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

The Honourable the Chief Justice.

The Honourable the Members of the Council of the Governor-General.

The Members of the Legislative Council of India.

The Honourable the Puisne Judges of the Supreme Court.

The Judges of the Sudder Adawlut.

The Major-General Commanding the Presidency.

The Advocate General.

The Venerable the Archdeacon.

The Civil, Military, and Naval Officers of the Presidency. And

The Personal Staff of the Governor-General and of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

After receiving the salute, His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General proceeded to address the 1st Madras Fusiliers in the following terms:—

"Colonel Galwey, Officers, and Soldiers of the Madras Fusiliers,

"I am glad to have the opportunity of thanking you publicly, in the name of the Government of India, for the great services which you have rendered to the State.

"More than twenty months have passed since you landed in Calcutta. The time has been an eventful one, full of labours and perils; and in these you have largely shared.

"Yours was the first British Regiment which took assistance to the Central Provinces, and gave safety to the important posts of Benares and Allahabad.

"You were a part of that brave band which first pushed forward to Cawnpore, and forced its way to Lucknow, where so many precious lives and interests were at stake.

"From that time you have, with little intermission, been in the front of danger.

"You are now returning to your Presidency, your ranks thinned by war and sickness; but you return covered with honour; carrying with you the high opinion of every Commander who has led you in the field; the respect of your fellow-soldiers in that great English Army in which from the beginning you have maintained a foremost place; and the gratitude of the whole community of your fellow countrymen of every class.

"Further, you have the satisfaction of knowing that you do not leave behind you a single spot of ground, upon which you have set your feet, where peace and order have not been restored.

"When you reach Madras, tell your comrades of the Madras Army that the name of the 1st Fusiliers will never be forgotten on this side of India.

"Tell them that the recollection of all that is due to your courage, constancy, and forwardness, will never be effaced from the mind of the Government under whose orders you have served.

"Tell them especially that the memory of your late distinguished leader is cherished and honoured by every Englishman amongst us, and that, though many heroic spirits have passed away since the day when he fell in front of you in the streets of Lucknow, not one has left a nobler reputation than General Neill. I now bid you farewell, Fusiliers; and I wish you a speedy and prosperous voyage to your own Presidency. You are indeed an honour to it."

At the close of the address, the 1st Madras Fusiliers marched away, amid the cheers of a very large concourse of spectators, to embark on board their ships.

By Order of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council,

R. J. H. BIRCH, Major-General,
Secretary to the Government of India.

J. COSMO MELVILL.

India Office, 26th April, 1859.