

numbers. From the difficult nature of the country, I deemed it advisable to send back a reinforcement of 50 Native Infantry to Lieutenant Combe. The results fully bore me out in this order, as the Rear Guard was attacked by some stragglers; and two privates, 24th Regiment Native Infantry, were wounded.

I proceeded to occupy the village of Sonoric, which was done without resistance. It was quite deserted: in it were the two fortified houses of the before-mentioned Takoors, which I ordered to be destroyed, and which order was carried out as well as the means at my disposal would admit of.

30th December, 1858.—About 10 A.M., it was reported to me, that several of the enemy were lurking among the hills and jungle to our left rear. I, with the following party, 25 rank and file, 3rd Europeans, and the police, proceeded, by a detour, to the north-west, while Lieutenant Leslie, with the 24th Regiment Native Infantry, was ordered to make a similar detour in a south-west direction, and meet the party under my command, to the west of a large hill behind which the enemy were supposed to be. We scoured the jungle for about three hours, but without being able to bring them to action, although they were seen in the distance, and one was wounded by a man of the 24th Regiment Native Infantry. Their knowledge of the country, and the thickness of the jungle, enabled them to escape.

Amongst these hills the police succeeded in retaking a quantity of cotton and thread, which had been looted by the enemy some days previously, and which I handed over to the Thessaldar of Chunderie.

31st December, 1858.—Early in the morning, before day-light, information was given me, that the Rana, with 300 men, was at Poorah, in a small ghurrie, and was looting the country. I immediately ordered the camp to be struck, and pushed on the 3rd Cavalry, in hopes of surrounding him in his stronghold, while I followed with the rest of the column. His look-outs, however, posted on a high hill, discovered the approach of the cavalry, and he at once retreated to another small ghurrie in some strong jungle, about a coss beyond, and to the eastward of Poorah.

On learning this, I left the artillery and baggage with a guard of the 24th, and proceeded in two parties (one commanded by myself, the other by Lieutenant Leslie), by different routes, to try and surround him.

The party under my command first came upon him,* on which he quickly vacated his position, running straight on to Lieutenant Leslie's party. The enemy had now only one line of escape open, and of which they were enabled to take advantage by our numbers not being quite sufficient to complete the cordon. We pursued them till the jungle became impracticable for troops to work in, when I returned to Poorah and pitched camp.

The officers and men have in every instance willingly and effectually carried out my orders, and to them I tender my best thanks, especially Lieutenants Combe and Leslie, who so ably performed the duties allotted to them.

To Captain Sneyd also I am indebted for his kindness in placing the police at my disposal.

I have, &c.

JAS. O'B. FORREST, Captain,
Commanding Field Force Detachment.

* Killed in this affair, 10.

No. 4.

Allahabad, February 7, 1859.

FORWARDED by order of the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

W. MAYHEW, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Adjutant-General of the Army.

No. 5.

No. 308 of 1859.

IN publishing the following letter from Brigadier-General Sir R. Napier, K.C.B., Commanding Gwalior Division, forwarding one from Cornet Tonnochy, 8th Hussars, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council desires to record his approbation of the conduct of Cornet Tonnochy, and those under his command.

No. 6.

Brigadier-General Sir R. Napier, K.C.B., Commanding Gwalior Division, to the Chief of the Staff.

Camp, Naharghar, January 27, 1859.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for submission to the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief, a report from Cornet Tonnochy, 8th Hussars.

This officer has performed useful service, and has conducted the duties entrusted to him ably and creditably.

The Native Officers mentioned in Cornet Tonnochy's report will, I trust, receive his Lordship's favourable notice.

I have, &c.

R. NAPIER, Brigadier-General,
Commanding Gwalior Division.

No. 7.

Cornet Augustus Tonnochy, Her Majesty's 8th Hussars, to Captain Thomas Field, Royal Artillery, Sepree.

Camp, Deepna Khera,

November 25, 1858.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, agreeably to your instructions, I marched from Kolaras and from thence to Ranode. On reaching this place, the Kumashdan informed me that Man Sing had crossed the Betwa to join Tantia Topee, and was last heard of at Jakblown Ghat, but that he had left Bhyron Sing and Nirunjun Sing, with about three hundred followers, matchlockmen, in the fort of Akajhree.

On the morning of the 8th I advanced to the Fort of Akajhree with the force, as per margin,* and found the enemy evacuating it.

I had communicated on the day previous with Colonel Scudamore, Her Majesty's 14th Dragoons, who was encamped at Myapore, and in command of the Flying Column.

The fort, which is built of stone, is a strong one, containing four towers inside the second wall, which command the entire enclosure.

I here learnt that the enemy had gone towards Gurohie, a village situated on the borders of the Jhansie territory, to which place I advanced on the 9th, with the cavalry and (35) thirty-five matchlock-men of Esanghur.

* Cavalry composed of 1st Bombay Lancers, Meade's, and Bolandshere Horse, 115; matchlock-men, 125; one native gun.