

at Mooltan, and the second quickly followed; the two detachments mustered 320 men. This aid secured the place, and enabled the Chief Commissioner to move the 1st Punjab Cavalry and the 2nd Punjab Infantry towards Delhi.

30. By this time repeated calls had been made from Delhi for further reinforcements of European troops; and it was urged that Brigadier-General Chamberlain's moveable column should march down to Delhi. To this measure the Chief Commissioner was obliged to demur; but he agreed that General Chamberlain should go, provided that Lieutenant-Colonel J. Nicholson were appointed to command the column in his stead. But by way of reinforcement, a wing of Her Majesty's 8th was despatched from Jullunder for Delhi, and a wing of Her Majesty's 61st from Ferozepore; and it was promised that the remaining wings of these two corps should follow as soon as the whole of the Bombay European Fusiliers should arrive. Some European artillerymen were also despatched. It was at this period that the gunners of the old Sikh army, many of them covered with the scars of former service against us, were enlisted to serve against the mutineers at Delhi. To the same destination were now despatched the Muzhubee corps of Sappers and Miners (already alluded to in para. 12), who had been collected from the works of the Baree Doab Canal, and other places, and who now rendered excellent assistance in the operations before Delhi. The Judicial Commissioner, Mr. B. Montgomery, also had raised five troops of Sikh Cavalry, that formed the nucleus of Hodson's Horse at Delhi, which afterwards became so well known.

31. The Chief Commissioner then informed Brigadier-General Nicholson, by electric telegraph, commanding the movable column, of the events at Jhelum and Rawul Pindee. General Nicholson was then in the Jullunder Doab. On hearing the news, he quietly disarmed the 33rd and 35th Native Infantry, and a wing of the 9th Light Cavalry. The 59th he had recently disarmed at Umritsur. Instructions were also sent to disarm the 4th Native Infantry, one wing of which was at Noorpoor, and the other at Kote Kangra. The wing at Kangra was disarmed by Major Reynell Taylor and Captain Younghusband by means of about an equal number of Local Police Battalion; and Kangra fortress has since been held by a detachment of European troops. The wing at Noorpoor (of which, however, some two-fifths were Punjabees) surrendered their arms at the order of Major Wilkie, their commanding officer.

32. By these measures in the Jhelum division, and in the Trans-Sutlej States, some six regiments of Native Infantry and a wing of Light Cavalry were rendered innocuous; and the disarming policy proved quite successful. No armed Native Infantry now remained in the Punjab, except the 39th at Dera Ismael Khan on the frontier, who quietly surrendered their arms; two corps at Peshawur, who were perfectly overawed, and were doing well; and one Native Infantry corps, and a wing of cavalry at Sealkote, who broke out into mutiny, as will now be described.

33. Hearing of the disarming at Jhelum and elsewhere, the Sealkote sepoys immediately broke out. The infantry contented themselves with sending their officers away; but the cavalry waylaid the officers, and murdered every European they could meet. The brigadier, four other officers, two medical officers, a missionary clergyman and his family, were slain. Many others would doubtless have fallen victims, had not the old fort at Sealkote, belonging to the Rajah Tej Singh, in

which were located a body of our newly-raised levies, afforded a safe refuge for the European officers and ladies. On this occasion the military police misbehaved, the only instance of misconduct on the part of the Punjab police during the crisis. The detachment of the local battalion and the horsemen were, indeed, much too weak to oppose the mutineers with any success; but they might have defended themselves in the gaol. The native officers, however, joined the insurgents, and the men remained passive. The mutineers remained in the station during the day, pillaged all the moveable property, collected all the carriages available, emptied the treasury, burned the public offices, released the prisoners from gaol, blew up the magazines, and then, taking with them the only gun in the place, an iron 12-pounder, and all their spoil, marched for the Ravee, about 50 miles distant. On their departure the villagers from the neighbourhood entered the deserted station to plunder, but were expelled by the levies from the fort. Captain Lawrence and another officer were sent up from Lahore to form a special commission. They tried, convicted, and executed the two chief native officers of the military police, the chief native officer of the gaol, and some dozen of the villagers who were the ringleaders in the plunder. Some forty or fifty more of the country people were flogged or imprisoned, and order was restored.

34. From the course which the mutineers took, it seems probable that they intended to proceed to Goordaspore, to induce the 2nd Regiment of Irregular Cavalry stationed there to rise; then crossing the Ravee to gain over the 16th Regiment of Irregular Cavalry, at Hoshyapore, and the disarmed men of the 4th, and the 33rd, and to move across the Sutlej towards Delhi. They doubtless knew well that along this line of country there was no European force to oppose them, except the moveable column; and that lay many miles to the south, so that they might hope to outmarch it. But Brigadier-General Nicholson, with the column, was at Umritsur. He received news of the Sealkote mutiny early on the day after its occurrence. He had collected a large number of light country carts, so as to be able to march rapidly in the event of such an outbreak as this occurring. He instantly marched to meet the mutineers, with 600 men of Her Majesty's 52nd, and nine guns and two troops of newly-raised Sikh Horse. He placed the Europeans on the country carts, and, despite the burning sun, he made a distance of 40 miles that very day, arriving at Goordaspore in the evening. Early the next morning he heard that the mutineers had crossed the Ravee, and were advancing on the station of Goordaspore. At this moment his position was critical. By advancing against the mutineers he would have to leave the 2nd Irregular Cavalry, doubtful friends, at Goordaspore. These men might, at the proper moment make a diversion to the rear of the moveable column in favour of the mutineers. But Nicholson was not a soldier to hesitate. He advanced out of Goordaspore at at once some six miles towards the Ravee. The mutineers had no idea of the proximity of the column, and when they saw it drawn up to bar the road, they mistook the British Infantry, in their dusky coloured uniforms, for the Umritsur Police Battalion. Under this erroneous impression the mutineers advanced with courage to the attack; soon, however, to discover their mistake. They were driven back in confusion. Many were killed, and more still were drowned in the river, which had risen since they had