

tion with the troops under Captain Cleveland, Her Majesty's 98th Foot.

His Excellency in Council desires to record his approval of the manner in which these operations were conducted, and offers his thanks to the officers and men engaged on the occasion.

No. 10.

Colonel H. Holdich, Commanding Trans-Gogra, to the Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General, &c., &c., Oude Force, Lucknow.

*Camp Gonda,
June 17, 1859.*

SIR, No. 278.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of Major-General Sir J. H. Grant, K.C.B., Commanding Oude Division, a report from Major Vaughan, who had been directed in co-operation with Captain Cleveland, to drive out a party of rebels who had established themselves near Musha, in the Trans-Raptee District, and in so doing, I would beg to bring to the Major-General's notice the skilful and energetic manner in which this duty has been performed by Major Vaughan and Captain Cleveland, and the troops under their command. I beg to recommend, that the mention made of Subadar Hubeeb Khan, of the 5th Punjaub Rifles, should be brought to favourable consideration.

I have, &c.,
H. HOLDICH.

No. 11.

Major J. L. Vaughan, 5th Punjaub Rifles, Commanding Field Detachment, to Major M. Dillon, Major of Brigade, Trans-Gogra, Gondah.

*Camp Bunhonee, Trans-Raptee,
June 15, 1859.*

SIR No. 187.

IN obedience to the instructions of Colonel Holdich, C.B., Commanding Trans Gogra, dated the 11th instant, directing me to expel from the British territory a body of rebels believed to be near Musha, I marched on the night of the 12th instant from Sidonia Ghaut to that place, thirty miles, with the troops as per margin,* and was there joined by Captain Cleveland, commanding a field detachment at Bhinga, with a portion of his force, as per margin.†

2. The body of rebels against whom I was to operate proved to be eighteen or twenty miles east of Musha, in the neighbourhood of the Khungra-ka-Naka, as it is called, a well-known pass through the first range of hills into the Deokurk Valley (Nepaul). Accordingly I marched, on the night of the 13th June, to Bunhonee, late a police post, fourteen miles, and leaving the baggage at that village, made the following arrangements consequent on information there received.

3. Captain Cleveland, with three companies Moradabad Levy and fifty men of Hodson's Horse, was directed to attack the Rajah of Akonah, who was encamped, with two hundred followers, at Peeprah, on the edge of the forest, at foot of the hills, three miles north of Bunhonee, whilst I,

with the remainder of the force, should attack the main body of rebels, under one Purgun Sing, at the village of Bunkutta, where the Khungra-ka Naka, which it is to be understood is the bed of a hill torrent dry, except after heavy rain, emerges from the forest.

4. A separate report of Captain Cleveland's proceedings, which were very satisfactory, is annexed.

5. The force under my personal command got under cover of the forest, at the foot of the hills, about four miles north-east of Bunhonee, and here I left the cavalry, with orders to halt until I should open fire, and then press on, by the best road they could find, to Bunkutta. With the infantry and twenty men 1st Punjaub Cavalry I marched, under cover of the forest and parallel to the hills in view, to cut off the rebels from their retreat to Deokurk; and fall upon their rear; but their picquets had seen us before we entered the forest, and thus my intentions were to a certain extent frustrated, the main body of the rebels being in retreat, covered by a strong rear guard, when we reached their encampment. The Punjab Rifles, however, supported by the Moradabad Levy and the party of the 1st Punjaub Cavalry, followed the rebels with the greatest spirit, and inflicted considerable loss upon them, driving them in confusion through the pass for upwards of four miles. The pursuit never slackened for a moment whilst the rebels held together in a body, and when they broke and dispersed in the dense forest, they were followed in all directions by small parties of the Punjaub Rifles and Moradabad Levy, some of which did not rejoin for many hours afterwards.

6. I make no attempt to estimate the number of rebels slain, the immense extent of ground gone over by the troops in pursuit, the dense jungle, and the ravines with which it was intersected, anything like accuracy impossible.

7. The troops rested for a few hours in the standing camp, constructed by the rebels at Bunkutto, previous to burning it, and then marched back to Bunhonee, six miles.

8. The exertions made by the troops of both arms have been most meritorious, and I trust they will meet with the approbation of superior authority. The Punjab Rifles marched upwards of sixty miles between the evening of the 12th and noon of the 14th instant, besides pursuing the enemy for some miles at the double.

9. I wish to bring to particular notice the gallant and daring conduct of Subadar Hubeeb Khan, of the 5th Punjaub Rifles, who was ever foremost in the pursuit, and was several times engaged hand-to-hand. I consider him most deserving of the 3rd Class of the Order of Merit.

10. Captain Cleveland, 98th Regiment, who conducted the separate attack upon the Rajah of Akonah's party, rendered valuable service, and I have to thank him for the cordial assistance I have received from him during the present service. My thanks are also due to Lieutenant Grey and Ensign Gill, who directed the Punjaub Rifles and Moradabad Levy, respectively, in the attack under my personal command.

11. I am not aware of any rebels being now in the British territory, between Serdonia Ghaut and Toolsepore, and I therefore trust that the service entrusted to me will be considered to have been satisfactorily carried out.

12. I enclose a casualty return.

I have, &c.,

J. L. VAUGHAN.

* 2 troops 1st Punjaub Cavalry; 4 companies 5th Punjaub Rifles.

† 100 sabres, Hodson's Horse; 300 bayonets, Moradabad Levy.