

ness and good feeling, characteristic of their high discipline.

23. It is due to military merit and devotion of the highest order, and it may be some consolation to the relatives of the officers in question, that his Excellency should record how nobly three officers of the greatest promise, died in action. Lieutenant Richmond, of the 20th Native Infantry, when about to be relieved at the expiration of his tour of duty, prevailed on his commanding officer, because it was a post of danger, to allow him to remain for four successive days, in charge of the "Eagle's Nest" piquet, where he was killed by a bullet through his head.

Lieutenant Chapman, of the 101st Royal Bengal Fusiliers, although knowing that he was dying of a mortal wound, bound up the wounds of a brother officer, and sent an important message to the position.

Lieutenant Davidson, of the 1st Punjab Infantry, rather than retire from his post, died, fighting to the last against overwhelming numbers, with a heroism that elicited the admiration of one of the principal Chiefs of the Bonair tribe.

24. As regards the officers named for the Victoria Cross, the usual recommendations will be submitted hereafter.

25. So important is the question of supplies in all military operations, that the Commander-in-Chief would not do justice to the most efficient manner in which they were managed in the Eusufzye Field Force, were his Excellency not to bring to the notice of the Government, the excellent services of the Assistant Commissary-General, Captain Jenkins. Notwithstanding the difficulties of feeding so large a force in a mountainous country, beyond the limits of our own territory, not only was no complaint ever preferred, but the General Officers in command, and Commanding Officers of regiments report that the rations were remarkably good, and that their issue was liberal and uninterrupted throughout.

26. Surgeon W. Simpson, M.B., 71st Highland Light Infantry, and Surgeon W. Munro, M.D., 93rd Highlanders, on different occasions Senior Medical Officers with the British portion of the force; Surgeon Buckle, the Senior Medical Officer with the native troops, and the medical officers of the force generally, performed their duty ably and successfully, under difficult circumstances.

27. Before concluding this letter, it is due to the native troops employed, particularly to the regiments organised since 1857, that the Commander-in-Chief should submit to the Government of India a practical proof of their discipline and fidelity. Every effort was made by the Akhoond of Swat and the hostile tribes, to seduce to their cause, their co-religionists in the native regiments opposed to them, but with the exception of one young Bonair recruit, their sense of duty and discipline kept them true.

From Brigadier-General Sir N. Chamberlain, K.C.B., Commanding Eusufzye Field Force, to the Adjutant-General,—(No. 1, dated Camp, Crest of the Umbeyla Pass, the 21st October, 1863.)

IN continuation of my letter of the 19th instant, reporting that the force would move from camp at Nowakilla the same evening, I have now the honour to submit for his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's information, an account of the proceedings of the force up to this date.

2. I must first inform his Excellency that, on the same day (18th October) that the other troops

moved up from their camps in the rear to Nowakilla, the troops, as per margin,* marked to the mouth of the Durrin Pass. This is the Pass by which the force under Major-General Sir S. Cotton, K.C.B., entered the hills in 1858; and by moving the above troops to the mouth of this Pass, the impression was of course conveyed that the force was about to enter the hills by the same route as before.

3. On the afternoon of the 19th orders were sent to the troops mentioned in the last paragraph to march after dark to Permouli, and there to form a junction with the troops as per margin,† which would leave the camp at Nowakilla at nine p.m. The united detachments were then to proceed under command of Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Wilde, C.B., to Goorkhawa, and thence penetrate into Chumla by the Umbeyla Pass.

The annexed report from Lieutenant-Colonel Wilde, C.B., will inform the Commander-in-Chief of the proceedings of this advanced column and of its success in reaching the crest of the Umbeyla Pass on the afternoon of the 20th. I trust that his Excellency will concur with me in considering that the [duty was satisfactorily performed, and that credit is due to Lieutenant-Colonel Wilde and to the officers and troops employed under his orders.

4. I should here mention that, on the afternoon of the 19th, when it would be too late for the Chumla or other tribes to make any preparations on a large scale for impeding the march of the troops through the Umbeyla Pass, a proclamation was forwarded by the Commissioner to the Chumla and Bonair tribes, stating the object with which the force was about to enter the Chumla Valley, and assuring them that it was with no intention of injuring them or of interfering with their independence, but solely because it was the most convenient route by which to reach the Hindoostanee fanatics and to effect their expulsion from the Mahabun.

5. The main column, composed of the troops as per margin,‡ marched from Nowakilla at one a.m. on the 20th October, and reached Roostum at seven a.m. The road was a mere village track, and as any attempt to improve it earlier would have revealed our intended route, it had only received such improvement as a company of Sappers could hastily give it, late on the afternoon of the 19th, when concealment was no longer necessary or practicable; the civil authorities aided in removing obstructions by employing large parties of villagers, who worked at the road by torch-light, and a line of fires marked the route by which the troops were advancing.

6. The main column rested for a short time at Roostum for the troops to refresh and breakfast, and I took the opportunity of selecting the best available position for the depôt of sick and weakly men, &c., to be left at that place. At about nine a.m. the troops were again in motion. As far as the village of Soorkhawa, the track was tolerably good, and lay through small open valleys; but at a little distance beyond Soorkhawa the real Pass commences. As a road for troops it certainly presents great difficulties. The track lies up the bed of a stream encumbered with boulders and large masses of rock, and is overgrown with low trees and jungle. The hills on either side rise to some

* Peshawur Mountain Train; Huzara Mountain Train; 1st Punjab Infantry; 5th Goorkha Regiment.

† 100 Sabres, Guide Cavalry; 100 Sabres, 11th Bengal Cavalry; Guide Infantry; 6th Punjab Infantry; 20th (Punjab) Native Infantry.

‡ ½ C. battery, 19th Brigade, Royal Artillery; Company of Sappers; 71st Highland Light Infantry (550); 101st Royal Bengal Fusiliers (500); 32nd Bengal Native Infantry; 3rd Punjab Infantry; 6th Punjab Infantry.