

at the sap and making rifle pits around the pah, few casualties occurring.

Captain Betty, R.A., arrived during the day, and assumed command of the Royal Artillery, which enabled Lieutenant Carre to render some assistance to Lieutenant Hurst in constructing the sap, he having been at it without intermission.

During the night a few of the enemy were perceived trying to effect an escape from the Pah, but being immediately fired upon, returned to their earthwork.

I omitted to mention that Captain Betty, R.A., threw some well directed shells at the Maori reinforcement in the bush and on the hills, which evidently disconcerted them considerably.

At an early hour on the morning of the 2nd April, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry Havelock, Bart., Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, arrived with hand grenades, which were at once thrown into the enemy's position with great effect by Serjeant McKay, R.A., who thus rendered good and gallant service, at great personal risk, under a galling fire.

About noon I ordered Captain Betty, R.A., to have a six-pounder Armstrong gun carried into the sap. An entrance having been made, it opened fire on the enemy's work, destroying the palisading, making a considerable breach, and silencing in a great measure, the fire of the enemy on the men engaged at the head of the sap.

The Commander of the Forces, with his Staff, &c., arrived on the ground at this time and witnessed the remainder of the operations.

Colonel Mould, C.B., R.E., coming up with General Cameron, gave his able assistance towards the completion of the sap into the enemy's work.

As it was known that women and children were in the pah, the enemy was called upon to surrender previous to the concentrated fire of the Armstrong gun and hand grenades on their work, they were told that their lives would be spared, and, if they declined, they were requested at least to have compassion on their women and children and send them out. They replied that they would not do so, but would fight to the last. The pah was then carried, the enemy effecting his escape from the opposite side of the work dashed through a space from which the troops had been thrown back under cover, to enable the gun to open. They were, however, speedily followed up, and suffered a severe loss during a pursuit of nearly six miles. Lieutenant Rait, R.A., with his troopers and Captain Pye, Colonial Defence Force, with a small detachment having headed them and kept them back until the infantry came up. I regret to say that in the pah and in the pursuit some three or four women were killed unavoidably, probably owing to the similarity of dress of both men and women, and their hair being cut equally short rendering it impossible to distinguish one from the other at any distance.

The troops were recalled about sun down and bivouacked around the enemy's late position.

At an early hour this morning I caused diligent search to be made for the killed and wounded of the enemy. Their loss was considerable, amounting to 101 killed, besides 18 to 20 reported by native prisoners as buried in the pah, 26 wounded and taken prisoners, 7 taken prisoners.

In addition to this number, the natives were seen to be engaged carrying off dead and wounded early in the morning, at the most distant point of pursuit, and fresh tracks showed that they had been similarly occupied during the night.

I beg to bring to the special notice of the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces the

gallant bearing of Captain Baker, 18th Royal Irish, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, during the whole of the operations, but more especially on the occasion already mentioned, of the fall of that brave and lamented soldier Captain Ring.

Also the determined bravery of Captain Harford, Waikato Militia, who was very severely wounded (loss of eye), and the gallantry of Lieutenant Harrison, Waikato Militia, both of whom remained at the head of the sap nearly the whole time, keeping down the fire of the enemy by the well-directed balls of their own rifles, likewise the gallant conduct of Serjeant McKay, R.A., who, as before mentioned, under a galling fire, threw, with the greatest precision and coolness, hand grenades from the sap, and from the lodgment made in the outerwork of the enemy, into his stronghold.

The wounded received the greatest possible attention, on the field, from the Senior Medical Officer, Doctor White, 65th Regiment, ably seconded by Assistant-Surgeons Spencer, 18th Royal Irish, Stiles, 40th Regiment, and Hilston Royal Navy, until the arrival of Doctor Mouat, C.B., V.C., the P.M.O., who left nothing undone in providing for their comfort, &c. I trust the conduct of the officers and men under my command during this long operation of three days and three nights without cover, and constantly under fire, may meet with the approval of the Commander of the Forces.

The casualties on our side, of which I enclose a return, are, I regret to say, severe.

I beg to recommend to the favorable notice of the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, the able services rendered by the following officers who so cordially assisted me in carrying out my operations, viz. :—

Colonel Leslie, C.B., Commanding 40th Regiment; Major Blyth, 40th Regiment, Commanding Detached Force, on right flank; Captain Blewitt, 65th Regiment, Commanding Detached Force on left flank; Captain Vereker, Commanding Detachment 12th Regiment; Captain Inman, Commanding Detachment 18th Royal Irish; Captain Cay, Commanding Detachment 70th Regiment; Captain Betty, R.A., Commanding Royal Artillery, Lieutenant Rait, R.A., Commanding Mounted Royal Artillery Troopers.

Lieutenant Hurst, 12th Regiment, acting as Engineer.

Lieutenant-Colonel Haultain, Commanding Waikato Militia, and Captains Jackson and Von Tempsky of the Forest Rangers.

Doctor White, 65th Regiment, Senior Medical Officer in charge of Field Force.

I have further to claim the kind consideration of the Commander of the Forces for the Officers of my Staff, viz. :—

Captain Baker, 18th Royal Irish, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, and Captain the Honorable F. Le. P. Trench, 40th Regiment, A.D.C., who afforded me the greatest help, both day and night, by their untiring zeal and energy in carrying out my orders.

I beg to enclose a sketch of the enemy's work and our approaches to it, made by Lieutenant Hurst, 12th Regiment; also a rough sketch of the country, between this and the enemy's position, shewing the combined movement of the Force on the night of the 30th ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE J. CAREY.
Brigadier-General.

The Assistant Military Secretary,
Head Quarters.