

have caused the duty entrusted to him to be carried out without accident, and in a manner which, beyond its present and immediate effect, will doubtless convince the border tribes that they cannot inflict annoyance on our frontier without rendering themselves liable to punishment, despite the almost inaccessible situation of their villages.

It is gratifying to the Governor-General in Council to be able to offer his hearty thanks to Major-General Wilde for his conduct in his recent command.

The valuable and untiring exertions of Major Pollock, the Commissioner, and the services of those under his orders, will be acknowledged in the proper department of the Government; but his Excellency in Council desires here to express his satisfaction at the cordiality and good-will with which Major-General Wilde and Major Pollock acted together prior to and throughout the operations.

Brigadier-General Bright, and Brigadier-General Vaughan, C.B., have earned the approval of the Government by the manner in which they commanded their respective brigades, and all the commanding officers named in Major-General Wilde's Reports deserve the thanks of Government.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rothney, commanding the 5th Goorkha Regiment, has already received the commendation of the Governor-General in Council, for his prompt movement to Oogie in July last, and for his resolute conduct in maintaining his position until reinforcements enabled him to drive the enemy from his immediate vicinity.

The staff of the force and officers of departments are reported to be deserving of approval for a correct and intelligent performance of their duty, and are therefore entitled to the thanks of the Governor-General in Council; but the very important services from the first movement of troops of the principal Commissariat Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Dickens, upon whose exertions the success of the expedition so much depended, demand special recognition which the Governor-General in Council is happy to accord.

The troops employed, British and Native, have exhibited some of the best qualities of soldiers by their discipline, their cheerfulness, and their active and willing exertions under all circumstances. The opportunity of serious encounter with the enemy was denied to them; but there can be no doubt from their whole conduct, and from their anxious desire for such opportunity, that had the enemy ventured to make a serious stand, the force would have distinguished itself, and inflicted signal punishment on its adversaries.

As it is, the troops have rendered admirable service in a most difficult country, when deprived of tents and many of their usual comforts; and his Excellency in Council offers the best thanks of the Government of India to each of the corps engaged.

Nor does the Governor-General in Council forget that various troops, European and Native, moved with great rapidity from distant stations, some of whom were necessarily kept in reserve, and not actively engaged. These troops underwent great fatigue at a most unfavourable season, but pressed forward with ardour in the hope that they might be of use. To all of these, and to the departmental and civil officers by whose exertions they were enabled to quit their stations with promptitude, the Governor-General in Council tenders the thanks of the Government.

His Excellency in Council desires to express his appreciation of the prompt and gallant aid rendered by the Nawab of Umb and his retainers, and of the useful service of the Hazara Levies and Police, some of whom distinguished themselves; and his Excellency would finally acknowledge the assistance rendered by troops of his Highness the

Maharajah of Cashmere, placed temporarily at the disposal of the British Government, and usefully employed by Major-General Wilde.

ARTHUR BROOME, Colonel,  
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

(From Lieutenant-Colonel P. S. Lumsden, Quartermaster-General of the Army, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, Simla, No. 563, dated 5th November, 1868).

BY desire of the Commander-in-chief in India, I have the honour to forward despatches, as per margin,\* from Major-General Wilde, C.B., C.S.I., commanding Hazara Field Force.

2. It is unnecessary for his Excellency to advert to the policy of Government which caused the assembly of the force; but in justice to the troops actually engaged in the field, to others placed in reserve, and to the administrative departments under Government, Sir William Mansfield deems it right to trouble the Right Honourable the Viceroy in Council with a brief narrative of events antecedent to the matter treated of by the Major-General.

3. It will not have escaped the recollection of Government that in the month of July the most urgent telegraphic notices came from the Punjab, indicating serious disturbance in British Hazara, the same being due partly to domestic insurrection and partly to complicity; indeed it may be said, invasion by the independent tribes of the border.

4. The warning was so urgent, and the call for assistance so imperative (certain detachments of our troops being in fact beleaguered by the insurgents), that the Government of India lost no time in requesting the Commander-in-chief to exercise his authority, and to tender such recommendations as might be fitting to meet a state of war.

5. At the same time his Excellency was made aware that the position of affairs, as respects British interests, was doubtful in the country of the Akhoond, the inference being that it might not be possible to localize the petty war in independent Hazara.

6. Accordingly, a military policy was now pursued, with the full sanction of Government, as his Excellency believes, for the first time.

7. Thus instead of weakening the garrison of Peshawur, or drawing troops from the posts along the border, according to the first recommendations which came from Major General Wilde, it was determined to supply the force for operation from the rear stations in the Punjab and from the North-Western Provinces; whilst the whole front of the border stations which is held by the regular troops in Peshawur, and by the Punjab force along the border was preserved intact.

8. The consequence was that for the time being, the force in the neighbourhood of the frontier was almost doubled.

9. His Excellency had another object in view, in which he believes he has the happiness to be in complete accord with his Excellency the Viceroy

\* 1.—No. 1, dated 24th October, 1868.

2.—No. 2, " 25th " "

3.—No. 3, " 25th " "

4.—No. 4, " 26th " "

5.—Annexures I to VII.

6.—Annexure VIII. Map of the countries in which the Hazara Field Force operated during August, September, and October, 1868, by Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. Johnstone, Revenue Surveyor, North-Western Frontier.

7.—Annexure IX. Six Disposition Maps by Major C. C. Johnson, Assistant Quartermaster-General.