

and his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab.

10. This object was to show such an overwhelming body of troops in the disturbed districts as not only to render opposition unavailing, but to convince the tribes by the first demonstration that to offer further opposition in arms would be an act of madness.

11. His Excellency believes that this is the only manner in which the Government of India should condescend to execute offensive operations against the border tribes. And as a matter of fact, it is only in such a mode that protracted hill campaigns can be avoided, with their consequences of extreme risk to small bodies of troops; of useless bloodshed amongst ourselves and the uncivilized enemy; and finally, of loss of prestige along the border, the preservation of which is a matter of the greatest importance and State economy.

12. Accordingly, reasoning in this sense, all the troops stationed in Rawul Pindee (as per margin)* were at once transferred to Hazara, Abbottabad, the head-quarters of that district, being about 65 miles from Rawul Pindee. The 20th Native Infantry marched a distance of 232 miles from Lahore to Abbottabad in ten days in the month of August. The 38th Foot moved in like manner from Sealkote, and finally reached Derbund, in Hazara. The 1st and 4th Goorkhas coming from the distant hill stations of Bukloh and Dhurmsalla emulated the exertions of the above corps, and joined General Wilde in a wonderfully short space of time, considering the distance traversed. The 31st Native Infantry having left Umballa was also able to take part in the campaign, in its occupation of Derbund with the 38th Foot, having marched a distance of 422 miles. Two Companies of the Sappers and Miners actually covered nearly 600 miles by forced marches in twenty-nine days in August and September, and were ready to take part in the advanced guard of General Wilde's force.

13. Other regiments (as per margin),† left their several stations of Cawnpore, Allyghur, Umritsur, Lahore, and Campbellpoor, and took post at Rawul Pindee as they arrived; and formed the immediate reserve to meet any eventuality as alluded to above, the 9th Cavalry having joined the brigade at Derbund.

14. In like manner troops were held in readiness at Peshawur and Nowshera to support the Guide Corps at Hote Murdan, which is opposite to the country of the Akhoond.

15. When it is recollected that all the necessary movements for these extensive strategic precautions were carried through in the deadly heats of August and September, there not having been a note of war until nearly the end of July, it is impossible, his Excellency thinks, to exaggerate in terms the alacrity of the officers and soldiers in carrying out the orders for their concentration, or the efficiency of the Commissariat Department, aided by the civil officers, by which that concentration was rendered possible.

* D Battery, F Brigade, Royal Artillery.

E " 19th " "
 2-24th " " "
 1st Battalion, 6th Foot.
 1st " 19th " "
 2 Companies, 77th Regiment.
 16th Bengal Cavalry.
 2nd Goorkha Regiment.
 24th Native Infantry.
 † 30th Native Infantry.
 19th " "
 23rd " "
 9th Bengal Cavalry.
 20th Hussars.

16. In correspondence with General Wilde, it was determined that the operating force, consisting of between 6,000 and 7,000 men immediately under his command, should be equipped in such a light manner as to insure absolute mobility over the highest mountains in Hazara, and the absence, with the exception of the commissariat and ordnance trains, of all baggage. This measure was carried out, as reported by General Wilde, with great success.

17. The spectacle has been seen of British troops, European and native, operating over and among mountains 10,000 feet high, in bivouac for three weeks, the General in command himself being without a tent.

18. It is placed on record that the English regiments moved as easily and with as little incumbrance as the native; this fact even extending to the commissariat arrangement for rations. It is further shown that the health of neither English nor native troops suffered in any significant degree.

19. The political consequences of this experience are, his Excellency ventures to observe, at least as important as the military ones.

20. His Excellency thinks that a great lesson has been learnt in mountain warfare which should never be lost sight of in future hill campaigns in India; it being certain that in all such operations the presence of heavy trains and comparative useless baggage is more fatal to the initiate of the General in immediate command, than any positive resistance it may be in the power of the enemy to offer.

21. His Excellency would now leave General Wilde to complete the narrative.

22. His movements for the taking of the passes and the occupation of the Muchaie Peak were characterized by great skill and decision, the results of the submission of the tribes having quickly followed on the demonstration as had been originally anticipated.

23. After taking of the Muchaie Peak, the troops remained, as shown in the despatches, for a fortnight in the independent territory without molestation, except that of a very petty kind, for which the heads of tribes were made immediately responsible.

24. Although, in a spirit of humanity, as little devastation as possible was committed against those who had offended so deeply, heavy punishment was nevertheless inflicted on the particular leaders, viz., the Pyraree Syuds, who had shown marked inveteracy.

25. In the meantime the tribes of independent Hazara have learnt that British regular forces, with trains of ordnance, can, and on occasion will, penetrate the most difficult fastnesses, and carry fire and sword through glens which have hitherto been deemed inaccessible, and were never approached by the native predecessors of the British Government.

26. It will surely be understood, his Excellency believes, along the entire border stretching from Peshawur to Scinde, that hostility on the part of border tribes will hereafter be met and curbed in like manner, and, therefore, it may be hoped that the Hazara Expedition may prove to have had a lasting effect.

27. His Excellency would now invite the special notice of Government to the excellent services rendered by Major-General Wilde and the Political Commissioner, Major Pollock. The two authorities have acted throughout in consultation together, and in the most praiseworthy spirit of harmony. Major-General Wilde's care and self-sacrifice have been unremitting, and he has shown himself to be able to stand by his own judgment, when a weaker man might have grasped at personal opportunities