

miles from Munchoora, with two Native Regiments, awaiting the return of the 2nd Brigade, after crowning the heights on the Kubbul spur.

3. The Batteries were not engaged until the night of the 3rd, when the Hazara Mountain Battery was employed in assisting the advance piquets of the 1st Brigade, which had proceeded as far as Munna-ka-Dunna in repelling a night attack of the enemy; and a fire was kept up on the ridge leading to the enemy's breast-work with apparently good effect.

4. On the morning of the 4th October, the 2nd Brigade having re-joined Head-Quarters at the village of Koongullee, the whole of the Artillery of the force was collected at Munna-ka-Dunna by 10 A.M. At 11 A.M. the centre division of D Battery, F Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery, under Lieutenant Higginson, and under the personal superintendence of Lieutenant-Colonel Renny, V.C., commanding the Battery, came into action on a small plateau, on the ground occupied during the night by the advance piquet of the 1st Brigade, to cover the advance of the brigade against Sungas erected on a knoll about 1,000 yards in front of our position. Some excellent practice was made, from the effects of which the enemy were driven out of their defences previous to the arrival of the attacking column. A few rockets were fired from the same position by a detachment of 2nd Battery, 24th Brigade, Royal Artillery, under Lieutenant E. A. Wilson. These being shot rockets were not found of great use on this occasion, and the fire was shortly discontinued.

5. The Peshawur and Hazara Mountain Batteries, under the command of Captain Elliot and Major De Bude, respectively, accompanied the advance to the attack of the Sunga, and covered the column in its further progress to the summit of Chittabut, on the crest of the Black Mountain, where these two batteries bivouacked during the night; D Battery, F Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery, and the Mountain Mortar Battery, remained at Munna-ka-Dunna.

6. On the morning of the 5th, the two Mountain Batteries again proceeded to support the advance from Chittabut to the Muchaie Peak, when both batteries materially assisted by the precision of their fire in dislodging the enemy from pine forests on the flank of the line of march, and finally by clearing the summit of the mountain before the infantry assaulted.

7. The small loss sustained by the attacking column on the 4th and 5th is, I believe, attributable in a great measure, to the accurate and powerful fire of the three batteries above referred to.

8. Since the 5th instant, no battery has been engaged. On the 14th, the Peshawur Mountain Battery was detached with a flying column under Brigadier-General Vaughan, C.B., to cover the burning of the villages of Kudrut Shah.

9. Two elephants of the Elephant Battery were brought up the Muchaie Peak, and no accident occurred to them, though they went over many very dangerous and difficult places.

10. Though the nature of the operations has not admitted of the extensive use of artillery under

my command, I feel myself bound to bring to the Major-General's notice the zeal and intelligence displayed by the Officers in command of D Battery, F Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery and 2nd Battery, 24th Brigade, Royal Artillery. Lieutenant-Colonel Renny, V.C., and Captain Jackson, in bringing their batteries to the front, under many and great disadvantages, a battery of Horse Artillery suddenly converted into an Elephant Battery has much to contend with in the way of hard work, in mounting and dismounting its guns and carriages, and in adapting itself to the necessities of mountain warfare, so opposed to its antecedents; and I consider the greatest credit is due to Lieutenant-Colonel Renny, V.C., and the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers and men under his command.

11. Captain Jackson arrived at Rawul Pindee with his men only, and having very inferior mules, and men totally new to the work, has managed to keep his battery well to the front over some very difficult country. When it is remembered that less than two months ago the battery possessed neither mortars nor mules, I feel sure the Major-General will consider great credit due to Captain Jackson and his Officers; Non-Commissioned Officers and men.

12. The two Mountain Batteries of the Punjab Frontier Force have now, as they have ever, done most excellent service, and their perfectly workmanlike equipment and accurate practice reflect the greatest credit on Captain De Bude and Captain Elliot, and the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and men under their command. The general excellencies of these two batteries are better known to the Major-General than they are to me, as they have been so long under his immediate command; but I feel it my duty, as commanding the Artillery of this force to record my highest approval of the effective condition of these two batteries.

13. To Major Hughes, late commanding Peshawur Mountain Battery, under whom the battery attained such excellence, my thanks are especially due for his zealous assistance as my Orderly Officer, and for the help he rendered in organizing the Mountain Mortar Battery.

14. Lieutenant R. M. Stewart, Adjutant of the Royal Artillery, has been from the beginning of the greatest service to me, and is an Officer of great merit and promise.

15. In conclusion I beg to bring to the notice of the Major-General the active exertions of Mr. McDermott, Deputy Assistant Commissary of Ordnance, in charge of the Field Park, and his subordinates. My thanks are also due on this head to Major Simeon, who succeeded me in command of the Royal Artillery at Rawul Pindee, and was mainly instrumental in getting the stores and ammunition pushed on to Abbottabad, when the establishments at Rawul Pindee were much too small for the hard work required of them.

I have, &c.,

E. ATLAY, Lieutenant-Colonel,
F Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery,
Commanding R. A. Hazara Field
Force.

A. WILDE, Major-General,
Commanding Hazara Field Force.