

4. The political objects of the war have been completely attained by its military results; and these are largely due to the efficiency with which, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the tasks allotted to them have been carried out, and the difficulties opposed to them surmounted, by the General Officers Commanding the forces employed in the campaign.

5. The Governor General in Council has received with pleasure from the Commander-in-Chief His Excellency's acknowledgments of the ability with which, in the elaboration of his arrangements, he has been assisted by the Heads of the General Staff of the Army.

6. For their steady courage and disciplined endurance throughout the vicissitudes of this campaign the highest praise is due to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of the British and Native Forces engaged.

7. The services rendered by the superior and subordinate officers of the Medical, Ordnance, Survey, Telegraph, and Postal Departments merit from the Government of India an acknowledgment which cannot be too unreservedly recorded.

8. The work required of the Commissariat Department—supply and transport—was of an exceptionally difficult and arduous character; and in acknowledging these difficulties, as also the zeal and energy evinced by the officers generally in overcoming them, it is incumbent also to place on record that great credit is due to the Civil and Political Officers from whom that Department received such valuable assistance.

9. The other duties devolving on the Political Officers attached to the operating columns were of a very delicate character, requiring for their successful performance much tact and discretion. They have been performed to the entire satisfaction of the Governor General in Council.

10. Special recognition is due to the valuable and self-denying labours of the Clergy of all denominations who were present with the troops in the field.

11. The Governor General in Council desires to express his high appreciation of the cordial co-operation of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and of the Administrative Officers of that Province, in the prosecution of a campaign materially aided by the experienced advice and loyal assistance of the Punjab Government.

12. His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, by his personal supervision of the collection of supplies and transport in Sindh, has rendered to the Government of India services which are most highly appreciated and gratefully recorded by the Governor General in Council.

13. The prompt and practical loyalty with which the just cause of the British Government in its declaration and prosecution of hostilities against the Amir of Kabul has been espoused and supported by the Chiefs and Princes of India, cannot be too warmly acknowledged; and the Governor General in Council highly appreciates the efficiency with which their military duties were performed by the contingents from the Panjab States, under their able commander.

14. The Governor General in Council deeply deplures the many valuable lives lost, not only in action with the enemy, but also by the fatal effects of exposure and disease. He desires to express to the relatives of all who have thus perished in the cause of their country his deep sympathy in their bereavement.

A nominal return of casualties will hereafter be published.

15. The Governor General in Council has recommended to Her Majesty's Government that a

medal, with clasps for those present at Ali Musjid and Peiwar Kotal, be awarded to all officers and men engaged in the late Afghan war.

ALI MUSJID, 21st November, 1878.

No. 833, dated Camp, Jellalabad, 17th March, 1879.

From Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Browne, C.S.I., C.B., V.C., Commanding 1st Division Peshawar Valley Field Force, to the Quarter-master-General in India.

IN my despatch No. 111 of the 29th November, 1878, I had the honour to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, an outline of the proceedings of the force under my command at Ali Musjid on the 21st November.

2. Though the 1st Brigade did not reach their destination at the time I reckoned on to co-operate with me, still the movements of the 1st and 2nd Brigades were observed by the enemy on Rotas, and this, together with the arrival of the Guides and 1st Sikhs at Kata Koostea under Lieutenant-Colonel F. H. Jenkins, Corps of Guides, had the effect I relied on, and made the Amir's troops commence a retreat.

3. Moreover, a small force of the 20th Native Infantry, detached under Major H. W. Gordon of that regiment from Tubai, came across a party of the enemy on Rotas, and drove them before them, and some fifty were captured by a few men under Captain W. H. Meiklejohn of the same regiment.

4. The attack at 4.30 P.M. of the 21st made on the entrenchments by Brigadier-General Appleyard, C.B., with detachments of the 81st Foot, the 14th Sikhs, and the 27th Native Infantry, decidedly contributed to shake those who still held, and this portion of the enemy also took the earliest advantage of the darkness to abandon their position unobserved.

5. The bulk of the defenders appear to have escaped by the Chura Valley and the Pesh Bolak road, but the cavalry and a few infantry retired up the pass towards Kata Koostea. The Guides and 1st Sikhs having, however, reached this point about 4 P.M., received these fugitives with a heavy fire, and killed several men and horses, wounding many others.

6. On the morning of 22nd November more of the enemy appeared coming from Ali Musjid, and were stopped and captured at Kata Koostea. The total of prisoners here was 280 of all ranks, with 256 stand of arms, and 25 horses and mules.

7. His Excellency will observe that the whole plan of attack was carried out in accordance with the sketch drawn up by me after my reconnaissance of Ali Musjid on the 16th November. The only part of the day's proceedings which did not come off exactly was the failure of the 1st Brigade and a part of the 2nd Brigade to reach their destination in time.

8. The enemy's positions may be thus described:—

Their extreme right rested on a ridge connecting with the big range of hills behind Ali Musjid, and a line of breastworks, broken by three peaks, extended at an angle of 45° from this range due east. These peaks commanded the fort of Ali Musjid, and upon them and along the line of breastworks eight pieces of artillery were posted.

9. Between the eastern peak and the fort of Ali Musjid, distant about 500 yards, there was a deep gorge.

10. The fort is on a detached hill commanding the defile; within it eight guns were mounted; some 40 or 50 yards below the fort, on a cliff, two more; and below that again, one gun a few feet