

seem to have been understood by the Superintendent of Telegraphs.

11. On the 23rd ultimo Wazeer Shah Mahomed, the Ameer's Foreign Secretary, and Moostaffi Habibulla, Finance Minister, arrived in my Camp at Ali Kheyl from Kabul, and during their stay which extended over three days, were treated with the consideration and marks of respect due to their position.

12. F-A Royal Horse Artillery, 12th Bengal Cavalry, 2 guns No. 2 Mountain Battery, 1 Company 72nd Highlanders, 7th Company Sappers and Miners, 5th Goorkhas, and 23rd Pioneers, under Brigadier-General Baker, moved down from the Shuturgurdañ on the 24th and passing through Dobandi, which was found to have been deserted by its inhabitants, crossed over the Shinkhi Kotal, and reached Kushi the same evening, thus securing our entrance into Logar Valley and obtaining a standpoint in it.

13. The strength and position of the troops under my command stood thus on the 26th of September:—

At Kushi—F-A Royal Horse Artillery.

No. 2 Mountain Battery.

12th Bengal Cavalry.

7th Company Sappers and Miners.

72nd Highlanders (7 companies.)

5th Goorkhas.

23rd Pioneers.

At Shinkai Kotal—5th Punjab Infantry, 6 Companies.

At Shuturgurdañ—4 Guns No. 1 Mountain Battery.

72nd Highlanders, 1 Company.

92nd Highlanders, 6 Companies.

3rd Sikhs.

14th Bengal Lancers.

At Sirkai Kotal—92nd Highlanders, 1 Company.

5th Punjab Infantry, 1 Company.

At Karatiga—92nd Highlanders, 1 Company.

5th Punjab Infantry, 1 Company.

At Ali Kheyl— $\frac{1}{2}$ C-4th Royal Artillery.

Squadron 9th Lancers.

5th Punjab Cavalry.

2 Companies 8th Foot.

67th Foot.

28th Punjab Native Infantry.

At Zuberdust Killa—G-3rd Royal Artillery.

11th Native Infantry.

28th Punjab Native Infantry.

At Peiwar Kotal—8th Foot, 4 Companies.

At Kuram— $\frac{1}{2}$ C-4th Royal Artillery.

Wing 13th Bengal Lancers.

8th Foot, 2 Companies.

Details British Regiments.

At Budesh Kheyl—2 Guns No. 1 Mountain Battery.

1st Bengal Cavalry, 1 Squadron.

20th Punjab Native Infantry.

At Thull—1st Bengal Cavalry, 2 Squadrons.

29th Punjab Native Infantry.

14. On the 27th, I moved my Head Quarters from Ali Kheyl to the Shuturgurdañ, in company with Head Quarters of the Cavalry Brigade, the 9th Lancers (1 squadron), 5th Punjab Cavalry, 28th Punjab Native Infantry, and a detachment 5th Punjab Infantry. The Infantry were directed to bring up the rear, whilst the cavalry and staff were to push forward and endeavour to reach Kusini Kheyl or the Shuturgurdañ before dark. About 10.30 A.M. the head of the column was joined by 25 men of the 92nd Highlanders, who had been sent from Karatiga to act as an advance guard. This precaution was adopted by order of Lieutenant-Colonel Perkins, C.B., Royal Engineers, to Officer Commanding at the Shutur-

gurdañ, in consequence of a rumoured gathering of Mongals and Machalgah Ghilzais in the Hazar Darakht defile. On their march downwards however this detachment saw no indication of the presence of an enemy.

At 11 A.M., whilst halting to allow the baggage to close up, a report reached me that 2,000 Mongals barred our advance, occupying the pass between Jagi Thanna and Karatiga. I ordered out a reconnaissance under Captain Vousden, 5th Punjab Cavalry, who ascertained that the enemy in force held both sides of the ravine half a mile beyond Jagi Thanna. During this reconnaissance Captain Vousden's horse was shot.

The detachment 92nd Highlanders, supported by a dismounted troop 9th Lancers, speedily cleared the northern side of the gorge, but the enemy clung obstinately to the precipitous hills on the south, and some little time elapsed before they were driven from their position.

On the arrival of the 28th Punjab Native Infantry, a commanding hill was held until the rear guard had passed.

15. I regret to have to report that Deputy Surgeon-General Townsend was severely wounded by a bullet, which entered his right cheek. The wound is not dangerous, but I am for the time deprived of his valuable services, as it was found necessary to remove him to Ali Kheyl.

No other casualties occurred on our side. As regards the enemy, they kept so closely under cover that though a few were seen to fall, their loss was probably trifling.

16. Meanwhile a warm engagement had for some hours been carried on in the direction of Karatiga, and presently large numbers of the enemy were seen retreating before a small detachment of the 92nd Highlanders and 3rd Sikhs, which had been sent out from Karatiga, and which were with excellent judgment and boldness led up a steep spur commanding the defile.

The energy and skill with which this party was handled reflected the highest credit on Colour-Sergeant Hector Macdonald, 92nd Highlanders, and Jemadar Sher Mahomed, 3rd Sikhs. But for their excellent services on this occasion it might probably have been impossible to carry out the programme of our march.*

Havildar Fazul Jan and three sepoy 3rd Sikhs were killed early in the day. The Havildar died gallantly, killing one of his opponents after he himself was wounded and before being finally overpowered.

In this encounter the enemy suffered so severe a loss, that they abandoned their intention of attacking Karatiga, and withdrew to their homes with an estimated loss of 30 killed.

17. I had intended that the rear guard of the Force should leave Ali Kheyl on the 28th, but owing to the whole of the ammunition not having arrived from Kuram till very late on the night of the 27th I thought it advisable to defer their march till the next day; meanwhile, on the 28th, I went on to Kushi, where I found Brigadier-General Baker encamped with the following troops, who had arrived at that place on the dates named:—

On 24th. 1 Company 72nd Highlanders; 5th Goorkhas; 12th Bengal Cavalry. 4 guns No. 2 Mountain Battery.

On 25th. F-A Royal Horse Artillery; 7 Companies 72nd Highlanders.

On 26th. 2 guns No. 2 Mountain Battery. 23rd Pioneers; 7th Company Sappers and Miners; 6 Companies 5th Punjab Infantry.

On 27th. 14th Bengal Lancers.

* 18 Rifles, 92nd Highlanders; 45 Rifles, 3rd Sikhs