

Jagdalak Kotal:—2nd Goorkhas, 42 men; Sappers and Miners, 4 officers 190 men. Total, 4 officers, 232 men.

Jagdalak Fort:—Hazara Mountain Battery, 2 guns; 10th B.L., 1 officer, 40 men; 2nd Goorkhas, 4 officers, 187 men; Details, Guides, &c., 8 men. Total, 5 officers, 235 men.

Force with Brigade Headquarters at Jagdalak Fort:—

15th December:—Hazara Mountain Battery, 4 guns; 10th B.L., 6 officers, 224 men; 2-9th Foot, 5 officers, 207 men; 2nd Goorkhas, 4 officers, 187 men; 4th Goorkhas, 2 officers, 100 men; Sappers and Miners, 3 officers, 73 men; Details, Guides, &c., 18 men. Total, 20 officers, 809 men.

16th. to 19th December:—Hazara Mountain Battery, 4 guns; 10th B.L., 6 officers, 222 men; 2-9th Foot, 17 officers, 487 men; 2nd Goorkhas, 4 officers, 187 men; 4th Goorkhas, 2 officers, 287 men; Sappers and Miners, 3 officers, 73 men; Details, Guides, &c., 18th men. Total, 33 officers, 1,274 men.

20th December:—Hazara Mountain Battery, 4 guns; 10th B.L., 17 officers, 487 men; 72nd Foot, 1 officer, 45 men; 2nd Goorkhas, 6 officers, 372 men; 4th Goorkhas, 6 officers, 377 men; 24th P.N.I., 4 officers, 481 men; Sappers and Miners, 3 officers, 73 men; Details, Guides, &c., 25 men. Total, 43 officers, 2,070 men.

Garrisons left at the outposts on 21st December when General Gough advanced:—

Jagdalak Fort:—10th B.L., 6 officers, 210 men; 2nd Goorkhas, 14 sick men; 24th P.N.I., 4 officers, 431 men. Total, cavalry, 6 officers, 210 men; infantry, 4 officers, 431 men.

Kotal:—Hazara Mountain Battery, 2 guns; 10th B.L., 12 sowars; 24th P.N.I., 50 men; Sappers and Miners, 5 officers, 190 men. Total, 2 guns, 5 officers, 252 men.

Pezwan:—I-A, R.H.A., 2 guns; 10th B.L., 50 sowars; 51st Foot, 3 companies; 24th P.N.I., 1 company; Sappers and Miners, 2 officers, 80 men. Total, 2 guns, 50 cavalry, 5 companies.

Effective strength of Brigade which advanced from Jagdalak on 21st December:—

Hazara Mountain Battery, 4 guns; 2-9th Foot, 17th British officers, 487* native officers, rank and file; 72nd Foot, 1 British officer, 45 native officers, rank and file; 2nd Goorkhas, 6 British officers, 399 native officers, rank and file; 4th Goorkhas, 6 British officers, 377 native officers, rank and file; Sappers and Miners, 3 British officers, 73 native officers, rank and file; Details, Guides, &c., 25 native officers, rank and file. Total, 33 British officers, 1,406 native officers, rank and file.

C. J. S. GOUGH, Brigadier-General, late 1st Brigade, 2nd Division, Commanding 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, K.F.F.

Kabul, December 26, 1879.

From Brigadier-General C. J. S. Gough, C.B., V.C., Commanding 1st Brigade, 2nd Division, Kabul Field Force, to the Chief of the Staff, Kabul Field Force.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report of the movements of the brigade under my command since the 12th instant, for the information of Lieutenant-General Sir F. S. Roberts, K.C.B., commanding the Kabul Field Force.

* Including band.

On the 12th instant I was at Gandamak with an effective force as per margin.†

The outpost at Pezwan near the Soorkhab was held by 187 men of the 2nd Goorkhas, four guns of the Hazara Mountain Battery, one company of sappers, and 50 men of the 10th Bengal Lancers. The Sappers were employed road-making.

Jagdalak Kotal was held by two companies of Sappers and 40 men of the 2nd Goorkhas.

Jagdalak Fort by 180 men of the 2nd Goorkhas, two guns of the Hazara Mountain Battery, and 90 men of the 10th Bengal Lancers.

From information I had received, and from the fact of the Ghilzai workmen employed by us on the roads, &c., were deserting in great numbers daily, a rising on their part against us appeared imminent. I was also informed by Major-General Bright, commanding the 2nd Division, that news had been received that there had been severe fighting at Kabul, and that our force there had been attacked by immense numbers of enemies, and I was warned to hold myself in readiness to advance towards Kabul at once in case of communications being interrupted.

On the 13th I received an order from General Bright to advance and reinforce the outposts at Jagdalak and Pezwan, immediately on the arrival at Gandamak of the 24th Punjab Native Infantry and three companies of the 51st Light Infantry; which had been ordered up from Jellalabad. These troops arrived that evening, and on the 14th I marched with all effective troops as stated above (with the exception of I-A, R.H.A., which I left at Gandamak), reinforcing Pezwan that day by 280 men of the 2-9th Foot and 187 of the 4th Goorkhas, and Jagdalak Fort by 207 men of the 2-9th Foot, 100 of the 4th Goorkhas, and 130 of the 10th Bengal Lancers. I also took on with me two guns of the Hazara Mountain Battery from Pezwan to Jagdalak.

In order to have some security for the good conduct of the Khugiani tribes, I took with me two of their principal chiefs as hostages. I think it also right to bring to the notice of the Lieutenant-General that on the 13th December, Hydar Khan, Malik of Gandamak, brought me a letter addressed to him and to all the Khugiani chiefs by Asmatoolla Khan, in which he urged them to join in a general combination of all the tribes from Kabul back to Peshawar, which was prepared to drive us out of the country; at the same time Hydar Khan assured me of his fidelity to us.

On the 15th December Lieutenant-Colonel Daunt, commanding the 9th Foot, marched from Pezwan to Jagdalak Fort with 280 of his own regiment and 187 of the 4th Goorkhas. His rear-guard was attacked by the Ghilzais whilst on the march. All the troops which I had brought from Gandamak were supplied, previous to starting, for seven days, but on arrival at Jagdalak, I found that the garrison there had only one day's supply in hand, and had sent their transport into Gandamak for more. Early on the morning of the 15th the telegraph wire was cut on both sides of Jagdalak, but not before I was able to report my arrival with my small force at Jagdalak and to receive Sir Frederick Roberts' order to advance as soon as I possibly could to Kabul, and bring on with me Colonel Hudson's detachment at Lataband. That evening crowds of men with standards were observed assembling on all the surrounding hills, and numerous beacon fires were lit on all the peaks of the Seah Koh, and I received information that Asmatoolla Khan, a Ghilzai:

† At Gandamak: 10th Bengal Lancers, 130; No. 5 Co., Sappers, 73; 2-9th Foot, 487; 4th Goorkhas, 375; I-A, R.H.A., 6 guns.