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India Office, December 31, 1880.

THE following General Orders by the Governor-General of India have been received at the India Office:—

**GENERAL ORDERS.
MILITARY DEPARTMENT.**

Simla, the 27th October, 1880.

FIELD OPERATIONS.

No. 598.—THE Viceroy and Governor-General in Council has much satisfaction in directing the publication, for general information, in continuation of G. G. O., No. 551, of 1880, of the subjoined correspondence regarding the gallant and devoted conduct of the 66th (the Berkshire) Regiment of Foot at the affair of Maiwand on the 27th July last.

From Major-General G. R. Greaves, C.B., Adjutant-General in India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.—(No. 5994-A.,—Kabul,—dated Simla, the 25th October, 1880).

I AM directed by the Commander-in-Chief to forward, for the information of Government, the accompanying letter from Lieutenant-General Primrose, C.S.I., reporting on the gallant and determined stand made by the 66th Regiment at Maiwand.

The events mentioned have already been referred to in my letter No. 5351-A., dated the 25th September, 1880; but the details now given show the gallantry and devotion to duty of the officers and men who fell on that occasion.

The accompanying documents, mentioned in paragraph 1 of Lieutenant-General Primrose's letter, are Brigadier-General Daubeny's report and accompaniments of the proceedings of the force under his command in connection with the burial of the dead on the field of Maiwand, which have been forwarded to Government with this office No. 5948-A., dated the 22nd instant.

From Lieutenant-General J. M. Primrose, C.S.I., Commanding the 1st Division, Southern Afghanistan Field Force, to the Adjutant-General in India, Simla,—(No. 1050-K, dated Kandahar, the 1st October, 1880.)

IN forwarding the accompanying documents, I would most respectfully wish to bring to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's notice the gallant and determined stand made by the officers and men of the 66th Regiment at Maiwand.

The disposition of the regiment was as per margin*, and of this number 10 officers and 275 non-commissioned officers and men were killed, and 2 officers and 30 non-commissioned officers and men wounded.

The officers and men nearly all fell fighting desperately for the honour of their Queen and country.

I have it on the authority of a Colonel of Artillery of Ayub Khan's army, who was present at the time, that a party of the 66th Regiment, which he estimated at one hundred officers and men, made a most determined stand in the garden marked "A" in the accompanying plan.

They were surrounded by the whole Afghan army, and fought on until only eleven men were left, inflicting enormous loss upon the enemy.

These eleven charged out of the garden and died with their faces to the foe, fighting to the death.

Such was the nature of their charge and the grandeur of their bearing that, although the whole of the ghazis were assembled around them, not one dared approach to cut them down.

Thus standing in the open, back to back, firing steadily and truly, every shot telling, surrounded by thousands, these eleven officers and men died; and it was not until the last man had been shot down that the ghazis dared advance upon them.

He further adds that the conduct of these men was the admiration of all who witnessed it.

This is the testimony of a man who witnessed the scene, and who gave the information before Brigadier-General Daubeny proceeded to Maiwand.

From an examination of the ground, from corroborative evidence, and from the position in which the bodies were found, I have not the least hesitation in stating that this account is true; and I think His Excellency will agree with me when I say that history does not afford any grander or finer instance of gallantry and devotion to Queen and country than that displayed by the 66th Regiment on the 27th July, 1880.

A nominal roll of the officers and men who fought and died thus nobly has been already forwarded to you; and enquiries from survivors elicit the following facts:—

Lieutenant-Colonel James Galbraith was last seen on the nullah bank, kneeling on one knee,

* Fighting line.—15 officers, 364 men—all ranks. Baggage guard in rear.—4 officers, 63 men—all ranks. With smooth-bore battery.—1 officer, 42 men—all ranks. Sick.—32 men.