

Adjutant-General, and Captain Holland, 24th Punjab Infantry, were all shot in this enclosure. The attack had been carried on with great vigour from 10.30 P.M. till 2.30 A.M. when the sounds of tomtoms and pipes approaching up the Graded Road indicated reinforcements coming to the enemy. The garrison of the enclosure was already hard pressed, and so I sent Lieutenant Rawlins, 24th Punjab Infantry, up to the fort to bring down 100 men from there. The enemy were all round the enclosure, and there was every chance of his having to fight his way. He went with three orderlies and arrived back safely with the reinforcements. The fight lasted till 4.30 A.M., when the enemy withdrew.

18. At daybreak it was ascertained that the North Camp had not been seriously attacked, and that all was well there. I consequently ordered the 31st Punjab Infantry with the Squadron, 11th Bengal Lancers, and two guns, supported by a wing of the 24th Punjab Infantry, to pursue the enemy, the majority of whom had withdrawn in the direction of Khar and Butkheyla.

19. They pursued for a short distance up the valley when they came across a very large gathering of the enemy, and as it was evident that this attempt on our camp had been the signal for a large tribal gathering, I ordered Major Gibbs, who was in charge of the pursuit, to retire and bring up all the stores, ammunition, and treasure of the troops in North Camp to the Kotal, and concentrate all his force before dark in that place.

20. The Squadron, 11th Bengal Lancers, under Captain Wright, which had covered the advance of Major Gibbs' force, had pushed right on to Chakdarra, being fired on the whole way, and Captain Wright wisely determined to stop at that place, where his party has proved a useful reinforcement to the two companies, 45th Sikhs, under Lieutenant Rattray and Lieutenant Wheatley, forming the garrison of the post.

21. The rest of the force retired to their respective camps. The manner in which Lieutenant Climo, on whom the command of the 24th Punjab Infantry devolved when Lieutenant-Colonel Lamb and Captain Holland were wounded, covered this retirement is most praiseworthy, and I shall have again to draw attention to the good work done by this officer on subsequent occasions.

22. The withdrawal of all baggage and stores from North Camp to the Kotal, was commenced at once, there being no transport, however, to bring up the E. P. tents, all the camels being at Dargai, the camp equipage was left by my order, and was burnt by the enemy in the night. Almost every tent had been struck by Major Gibbs' force, but there was no time to do more. All day large bodies of the enemy were seen coming from different directions in the valley, and joining the enemy who were visible all over the hill tops, and it was certain that last night's fight was not merely an attempt to do as much harm as possible and then clear off, but the beginning of an important movement to try and turn us out of the valley and regain possession of the pass, and that we must prepare for another attack in the night.

23. They did not wait till night, however, for while the stores, &c., from North Camp were being sent up to the Kotal, the troops in North Camp were threatened by the enemy on the hills to the west, and the retirement was completed under cover of fire from the 24th Punjab Infantry and the Guides Cavalry, who had arrived in camp at 8.30 A.M. that morning.

24. At about 6.45 P.M., as the 31st Punjab Infantry were arriving in the Kotal Camp, a body of the enemy, about 1,000 strong, made a sudden

attack down from the hills on the west, and driving in No. 2 Picquet of the 24th Punjab Infantry, tried to rush the camp. Lieutenant Climo, with two companies, 24th Punjab Infantry, at once went up the hill to meet them, and aided by 2 guns, No. 8 Bengal Mountain Battery, drove them back with loss towards the North Camp.

25. The Guides Cavalry arrived at 8.30 A.M. this morning (27th). The Guides Infantry arrived at 7.30 P.M. I would like to call His Excellency's attention to the march of this regiment. The Officer Commanding Guides received my telegram calling him to Malakand at 9 P.M. on the 26th, the Cavalry of the Corps left Mardan at 12.30 A.M. and arrived at Malakand at 8.30 A.M., i.e., a distance of 32 miles in 8 hours, and the Infantry left Mardan at 2 A.M., arriving at Malakand at 7.30 P.M., i.e., in 17½ hours. The heat on the road between here and Mardan was intense and the march reflects great credit on the regiment.

26. Our Casualties on the first night were—
Killed.

Honorary Lieutenant L. Manley, Commissariat Department.

Wounded.

Dangerously, Major W. W. Taylor, 45th Sikhs. Severely, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Lamb, 24th Punjab Infantry, Major L. Herbert, D.A.A.G., Captain H. F. Holland, 24th Punjab Infantry, Lieutenant F. W. Watling, No. 5 Company, Queen's Own Sappers and Miners.

Native Ranks.

Killed, 21.

Wounded, 31.

27. At 8.30 P.M. the enemy attacked with their whole force all along the line, but were repulsed everywhere. The force in the Kotal this night was composed of—

24th Punjab Infantry,
6 Companies, 45th Sikhs,
Guides Infantry,
Guides Cavalry,
No. 5 Company, Queen's Own Sappers and Miners,

No. 8 Bengal Mountain Battery,
and was disposed as follows:

On the right flank.—Holding a position about 50 yards in a rear of that which they finally held on the night of the 26th were the 45th Sikhs, with 2 guns, and supported by 100 of the Guides Infantry under Lieutenant McCaskill.

In the centre.—Holding the top of the Graded Road and the enclosures occupied by the Sappers' Camp, Commissariat and Field Engineers' Park were the—

31st Punjab Infantry.
No. 5 Company, Queen's Own Sappers and Miners.

The Guides.

2 guns.

On the Left.—Holding the hill to the north of camp and overlooking the short road to North Camp were the 24th Punjab Infantry and two guns.

28. The 31st Punjab Infantry being short of Officers, Lieutenant Maulean was sent from the Guides to assist Major Gibbs. The position on the right and the centre enclosure were hardly pressed the whole night.

29. About 100 yards in advance of the north-east corner of the central enclosure was a fortified serai, and, in order to check the advance of the enemy along the Graded Road, a party of 25 men, 31st Punjab Infantry, under Subadar Syed Ahmed Shah, was sent to occupy it, with orders