

No. 5 Company, Bengal Sappers and Miners—Subadar Fateh Ali, slightly wounded; 1 naik, 1 sapper severely wounded.
28th Bombay Pioneers—1 havildar, 1 naik and 8 privates wounded.

On the 26th I moved in two columns, down the two valleys forming the head of the Bohai Dag, and thoroughly punished the Baizai; the columns joined hands and camped at Khawarina.

On the 27th Brigadier-General Westmacott, with the force in the margin,* punished the Kuda Khel, whose fortified villages are situated close to the Durand boundary, and a small column visited Torakhwa, a reserve remaining in a central position. Brigadier-General Westmacott's column found the Kuda Khel forts occupied by the enemy, as well as the heights above the village. The forts were cleared by the fire of No. 5 (Bombay) Mountain Battery, Captain Knapp's horse being shot whilst coming into action.

The 2-1st Gurkhas were sent to clear the heights, from which a galling fire was kept up, and the heights were shelled by the battery in various directions. The Gurkhas crowned the ridge forming the Durand line and locked down into the Dakha plain. The work of destroying the forts and towers was completed, and the force was carefully withdrawn by Brigadier-General Westmacott, covered by the Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

The Casualties were—

2-1st Gurkhas,—1 rifleman dangerously and 4 severely wounded.

There is no information as to the enemy's losses, but three or four dead bodies were found on the heights. The force encamped at Kung, at which place the 13th Bengal Lancers and Oxfordshire Light Infantry from Nahakki had camped the previous day.

On the 29th the force returned to Nahakki, two battalions and a battery being detached to the Sam Ghakke Pass in consequence of a cavalry reconnoissance being opposed.

On the 30th September I moved with the 2nd Brigade under Brigadier-General C. R. Macgregor to Yakhdand, Pipal and Danish Kul, the districts inhabited by the Dawezai, Utmanzai, and Isa Khel, returning to Nahakki on the 3rd October, after detaching a small column† under Lieutenant-Colonel H. O. Woodhouse to move into the Peshawar Valley by the Alikandi route, through the Burhan Khel country, the district of Pindiali.

The evacuation of the country was now carried out without incident, and the last of my troops reached Peshawar on the 7th October.

7. The expedition proved productive of little fighting, but the splendid force under my command would, I believe, have made little of any possible opposition. I cannot speak too highly of the 20th Punjab Infantry and 2-1st Gurkhas, on whom the brunt of the work fell. I would wish for no better regiments for hill-fighting under their respective commanders.

The work done during the expedition by the 28th Bombay Pioneers and No. 5 Company Bengal Sappers and Miners, is worthy of the highest commendation. The 28th Pioneers also did excellent work in reserve to the 1st Brigade in the attack at Bedmanai, and at Jarobi covered the retirement, showing high soldierly qualities in both instances.

* 4 guns, No. 5 (Bombay) Mountain Battery; Oxfordshire Light Infantry; 1 Squadron, 13th Bengal Lancers; 2-1st Gurkhas; 4 Companies, 28th Bombay Pioneers; † No. 5 Company, Bengal Sappers and Miners.

† 9th Gurkha Rifles; 2 guns, No. 5 Mountain Battery; 3 Company, Bengal Sappers and Miners.

The main difficulties to contend with were the passes, over which roads had always to be made, and anxiety regarding water; as in the western Mohmand country, the supply is almost entirely from tanks, the dams of which had been cut by the Mohmands, and they often only contained a little dirty water.

8. The Imperial Service Troops under my command proved their fitness to fight in the first line, and were utilized exactly the same as the regular native troops. The cavalry escorts of the Patiala and Jodhpore Cavalry did good reconnoissance work on more than one occasion, and came under fire. The 1st Patiala Regiment was employed under Lieutenant-Colonel Graves in the operations in the Mittai and Suran valleys, and covered the retirement of the Brigade under fire; their good service was brought to my notice by the General Officer Commanding the 3rd Brigade. The Nabha Regiment, owing to its having been added to my force late in September, had to be kept on the line of communications.

9. I trust the objects of the expedition were fully carried out, thanks to the fine body of troops I had the honour of commanding and to the hearty co-operation of my staff and of all ranks in the force, in attaining the objects in view.

10. In conclusion, I would venture to bring to the notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the following Officers:—

Major G. H. W. O'Sullivan, Royal Engineers, Assistant Quartermaster-General. An invaluable and highly trained Staff Officer.

Major C. L. Woolcombe, King's Own Scottish Borderers, Assistant Adjutant-General. An Officer of great tact and a thoroughly reliable Staff Officer.

I am much indebted to both the above Officers.

Surgeon-Colonel E. Townsend, M.D., Army Medical Staff, whose great experience and ability relieved me of all anxiety regarding medical arrangements.

Captain G. R. C. Westropp, Chief Commissariat Officer.

Captain F. C. W. Rideout, Divisional Transport Officer.

Captain F. A. Hoghton, 1st Bombay Grenadiers, Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General, Intelligence.

Lieutenant C. E. F. K. Macquoid, 1st Lancers, Hyderabad Contingent, Intelligence Officer.

Captain F. H. Kelly, Field Engineer

Captain W. C. Knight, 4th Bengal Cavalry, Section Commandant.

Brigadier-General R. Westmacott, C.B., D.S.O., Commanding the 1st Brigade, Mohmand Field Force, who commanded his brigade excellently in all operations, and whose experience and judgment were of the greatest assistance.

Captain W. P. Blood, Royal Irish Fusiliers, Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General, 1st Brigade.

Captain F. J. M. Edwards, 3rd Bombay Cavalry, Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General, 1st Brigade.

Lieutenant R. C. Wellesley, Royal Horse Artillery, Orderly Officer to the General Officer Commanding the 1st Brigade.

Lieutenant H. N. Field, Devonshire Regiment, Assistant Superintendent, Army Signalling.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. Woon, commanding the 20th Punjab Infantry.

Captain P. G. Walker, 20th Punjab Infantry.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. R. Sage, commanding the 2-1st Gurkhas.