

when suddenly, to our great relief, we saw a flag signal being made, "Come up sluice street by water gate." Our small party at once rushed across the almost dry canal, and entered into the Legation zone through the water gate under the Tartar wall. As we crossed a hail of ill-aimed fire was directed on us from the Hata-Men gate, but not a man was touched, and at 3 P.M. Her Majesty's troops had the supreme gratification of finding they were the first to relieve the sorely pressed beleaguered garrison.

10. Our loss* during these operations was quite insignificant, which may be attributed to the fact that the enemy had never expected attack from this quarter, and had concentrated their defence on the eastern wall of the Tartar city, where the resistance was, I understand, of a most obstinate description.

11. The operations I have described have, happily, not been attended with the loss that might have been expected; nevertheless, the troops engaged have been subjected to a severe strain on account of the intense heat, the want of good water, the heavy mud or dust which characterises the roads in this country, and, above all, the want of sufficient rest. The patient endurance and ardour of the troops has, however, more than compensated for these difficulties, and I am proud of the manner in which Her Majesty's British and Indian troops have acquitted themselves.

12. In conclusion, I do not propose in this despatch to bring specially to your Lordship's notice the services rendered by many Officers of this force, but I take the opportunity of mentioning the names of those few who had a special opportunity of distinguishing themselves at the action of Yang-tsun. They are:—

Major T. E. Scott, D.S.O., 1st Sikh Infantry (attached).

Lieutenant W. F. Bainbridge, 1st Sikh Infantry.

Captain J. H. Gwynne, Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

No. 4995, Private Jackson, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, whose commanding officer reports that "as some shells from one of the batteries engaged were taking our troops and the Americans in reverse, he volunteered to get up on the embankment and tried to communicate with the battery." While doing so, he was exposed to fire from both sides.

I would also like to mention the names of two American Officers who gallantly supported our fighting line, viz.:—

Major William Quinton, 14th United States Infantry.

Captain J. R. M. Taylor, 14th United States Infantry.

As regards other officers and men, I deem the conclusion of the campaign to be the most fitting moment to bring their services to your Lordship's notice.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED GASELEE, Lieutenant-General,

Commanding China Expeditionary Force.

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for India.

ANNEXURES.

Annexure A.

China Expeditionary Force Orders, Tientsin, 4th August, 1900,

140. Movements.—The enemy is in position in the direction of Pei-Tsang on both banks of the Pei-Ho. The position is believed to be entrenched with outposts thrown forward.

(ii.) The Russian, French, and German Forces will operate on the left bank of the River Pei-Ho,

the British, Americans, and Japanese on the right bank.

(iii.) The British Forces will march to Hsi-Ku to-day, where they will bivouac for the night.

(iv.) The British Forces will march in the order given below:—

Royal Welsh Fusiliers with advance guard of one Company.

Detachment Royal Engineers.

One Field Troop 1st Bengal Lancers.

Head-Quarters Staff of Division.

One half Company 1st Sikhs (General Officer Commanding's escort).

12th Battery Royal Field Artillery.

R. 7 Ammunition Column Unit.

Hong Kong Royal Artillery.

1st Brigade Staff.

7th Rajputs, less one Company.

1st Sikhs.

Chinese Regiment.

1st Bengal Lancers.

Divisional and Brigade Head-Quarters Transport.

Commissariat and Transport.

Field Hospitals.

Rear Guard one Company 7th Rajputs.

(v.) The route will be by the Temperance Hall on the Taku road, through the Chinese City entering by the South Gate and over the Iron Bridge to Hsi-Ku. The road to be followed will be shown by the Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General for Intelligence, who will head the column.

(vi.) The troops will keep closed up as much as possible, water bottles are to be filled with boiled water or tea, and all mussocks filled with good water.

(vii.) The head of the column will leave the Temperance Hall at 2.30 P.M. Officers commanding units will hold their units in readiness to join the line of march in the order detailed above. No interval between units.

(viii.) Camp colour men of all units and one officer or non-commissioned Officer per unit will accompany the advance guard.

(ix.) No fires or cooking will be allowed in bivouac to-night.

(NOTE.—All units not mentioned in paragraph iv had marched to Hsi-Ku the previous evening.)

By order,

E. G. BARROW, Major-General,
Chief of the Staff,

China Expeditionary Force.

All transport of units will march immediately in rear of their own units.

Annexure B.

Detail of Casualties in the Action at Pei-tsang.

British non-commissioned Officers and Men, slightly wounded, 4.

Native Officers, slightly wounded, 3.

Native non-commissioned Officers and Men, killed, 1; dangerously wounded, 1; severely wounded, 9; slightly wounded, 7.

Total: killed, 1; dangerously wounded, 1; severely wounded, 9; slightly wounded, 14.

Annexure C.

Detail of Casualties in the Action at Yang-tsun.

British Officers, dangerously wounded, 1.

British non-commissioned Officers and men, killed, 1; died of sunstroke, 1; dangerously wounded, 1; severely wounded, 3; slightly wounded, 4.

Native non-commissioned Officers and men, killed, 5; dangerously wounded, 3; severely wounded, 6; slightly wounded, 20.

* *Vide* Annexure D.