



ROYAL GAZETTE.

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1843.

Concluded from Official Gazette of Wednesday last.

Return of Ordnance, Ammunition and Stores captured on the Line of March between Tezeen and Khoord Cabool, by the Force under the Command of Major General Pollock, C. B., commanding in Afghanistan.

Camp, Khoord Cabool, September 13, 1842.

1 brass twelve pounder howitzer, (No. 139, weight 6 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lbs. cast 1836, Hutcheson, horse artillery piece,) 1 brass twenty four pounder howitzer, (No. 35, weight 8 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lbs. cast 1828, T. Timbulo, foot artillery piece,) 1 twelve pounder howitzer sponge, 1 twenty four pounder howitzer sponge, 55 filled portfires, 4 common washers, 4 washers with hooks, 8 lynch pins, 4 nine or twenty four pounder howitzer ammunition boxes, 2 unserviceable store boxes, 51 unserviceable filled 5½ inch fuzes, 99 unserviceable 2 inch spherical case fuzes, 1 fuze marker, 1 driving mallet spherical case fuze, 1 iron trail handspike, 3 skeins of slow match, 1 fuze setter, 1 portfire socket, 10 filled and set twenty four pounder howitzer common shells, 9 filled and set twelve pounder howitzer common shells, 5 twelve pounder spherical case shells, 6 twenty four pounder howitzer canister, 8 twelve pounder howitzer canister, 1 unserviceable nine pounder carriage, 1 unserviceable twenty four pounder howitzer carriage, 2 clip bands pole yoke, 1 unserviceable common handspike, 1 locking chain, 6 trace chains, 2 pole or trace chains, 1 priming wire, 5 bullock yokes, 7 unserviceable bullock yokes, 1 fuze holder, 1 carpenter's two feet rule, 1 adze, 2 gimblets of sorts.

N. B.—No tangent scales or elevating screws to either of the above pieces of ordnance.

H. DELAFOSSE, Major, Commanding Artillery.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Taylor, commanding Her Majesty's 9th Regiment of Foot, to Captain Ponsonby, Assistant Adjutant General.

Camp, Khoord Cabool, Sept. 13th, 1842.

SIR,—I have to report, for the information of Major General Pollock, C. B. commanding the troops in Afghanistan, that, agreeably to his orders, I proceeded, at half past five o'clock yesterday evening, with 250 men of Her Majesty's 9th, to the support of the guards in charge of the public cattle feeding on the left of the Camp in the Tezeen valley, which were much pressed by the enemy. On clearing the left picquet, I was joined by Major Huish with a small party of the 26th native infantry. I threw forward a strong body of skirmishers, who quickly drove back those of the enemy on the plain, pursuing them to a range of low hills, where they made a stand till dislodged by our advance: further on, I found the enemy, in force from 5 to 600, had taken post along the crest and on the top of a range of steep hills running near a mile from the northward into the Tezeen valley; those towards the north were assailed by Captain Lushington, Her Majesty's 9th foot, with the left support and skirmishers, whilst I directed the attack against their front and left flank, which being turned, I ascended the heights between two ridges which concealed my approach till close to the summit, and within 20 yards of their main body consisting of over 300 men. Collecting 30 to 40 men with Lieutenants Elmhirst, Lister and Vigors, I ordered bayonets to be fixed, and the enemy to be charged, which was done with such resolution and effect, that the whole mass, taken by surprise, was pushed headlong down the hills, nor did they rally till out of musket shot. Their loss must have been very severe, as I observed numbers lagging behind to carry off their killed and wounded. As it was getting dark, I deemed it imprudent to pursue the enemy further, ordered the halt to be sounded, and, after remaining in possession of their position for half an hour, retired without molestation. It affords me great gratification to bear testimony to the spirit and gallantry displayed by officers and men on this occasion, especially Major Huish, 26th regiment native infantry, Captain Lushington, and those concerned in the charge on the enemy.

I beg to transmit a return of the killed and wounded.

A. B. TAYLOR, Lieut. Col. 9th Foot.

Copy of a Letter from Major Skinner, H. M. 31st Foot, to Captain Ponsonby, Assistant Adjutant General.

Boothkhal, September 14, 1842.

SIR,—I have the honor to report, for the information of the Major General commanding the army in Afghanistan, that I ascended the heights above the Tezeen valley, in front of our camp, with the detachment in the margin,* on the afternoon of the 12th instant, and occupied the ridge till daylight next morning. From a communication with Major General Sir R. Sale, G. C. B. I learnt that I was to take the high peaks to the right of my position, and, having driven the enemy from them, continue to operate among the lower hills to the head of the Huft Kotul, on the right flank of the advance guard of the army. These peaks were occupied in some force by the enemy, who was however easily driven from them and cleared away to the higher hills on my right. I ascended the first peak, which, although the way was steep, was not very difficult, in two small columns; the first, the companies of Her Majesty's 9th and 26th native infantry, under Captain Borton, of the 9th foot; the second under Lieutenant Sayers, of the 31st, composed of the two companies of Her Majesty's 31st foot and 33d native infantry, covered by the sappers and jezailchies under Lieutenant Orr. I detached Lieutenant Sinclair, of the 13th light infantry, with the company of his regiment and one of the 35th native infantry, to the higher peak on the right hand, and supported him by Lieutenant Orr and the sappers, (after I had possession of the first height,) who ascended by a steep ridge that connected them. Lieutenant Sinclair attained the summit of the hill without loss, driving the enemy away, and held it until the main column of advance came in sight, when he led his column on my right over the hills at the base of the higher mountains. The height I gained descends to the high road by a succession of small peaks, each connected by a narrow ridge; the enemy occupied, with small parties, each of these peaks, and was driven in succession from them. Captain Borton, at the head of a party of the 9th foot, made a gallant charge upon a strongly posted party of the enemy, and drove them away; he showed a great deal of boldness, however, and made repeated attempts to recover his ground, taking advantage of the necessarily slow advance of the supporting parties from the steep and difficult nature of the hills. After I gained all the peaks, and the enemy had fallen back, I continued parallel to the main column over the hills to some distance beyond the top of the Huft Kotul. Considering the great number that at one time opposed me, until the appearance of the main column drove them off, my loss was not great, while the enemy suffered considerably. I beg leave to bring to the notice of the Major General the very good conduct of the officers and men who were under my command.

I have, &c.

THOS. SKINNER, Major,
H. M. 31st Regiment.

* 1 Company H. M. 9th foot, 1 ditto 13th light infantry, 1 ditto 31st foot, 1 ditto 26th native infantry, 1 ditto 35th native light infantry, 1 ditto 33d native infantry, 50 Broadfoot's sappers, 50 Jezailchies.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Richmond, commanding 33rd Native Infantry, to Captain Ponsonby, Assistant Adjutant General.

Camp, Boothkhal, Sept. 14, 1842.

SIR,—Major General Pollock, C. B. commanding the troops, having entrusted me specially with the command of the rear guard of the army from Tezeen through the Huft Kotul pass, on the 13th instant, and having placed at my disposal the troops detailed in margin,* I have now the honor to report the operations of the day

* H. M.'s, 3rd light dragoons, 160; 1st regiment light cavalry, 295; Det. 3rd irregular cavalry, 60; Sikh cavalry, 200; total sabres, 750. Two 9-pounders No. 6 light field battery; picquets, H. M.'s 9th and 31st foot, 143; 4 co. 26th regt. N. I., 310; right wing, 33rd N. I., 129; 35th native light infantry, 294; picquets, 60th regiment N. I., 124; Sikh infantry, 300 total bayonets, 1300.