

especially when troops move up from the east, and into Rajpootanah and the Punjab from the south, will be very serious, and without aid from Bengal very embarrassing.

Everything quite quiet to the North-West. I have heard nothing further from Colonel Seaton's Column. Rajpootanah seems to be settling down since the discomfiture of the Mundesore rebels by Durand's Column.

I trust the Commander-in-Chief received General Penny's communication. Troops are quite ready, under Sir J. Lawrence's instructions (by order of the Supreme Government), to advance on Rohilkhund the moment His Excellency can spare a couple of European Regiments.

W. MUIR.

J. W. SHERER, Esq., Cawnpore.

P.S.—Colonel Becher is here; we expect Scindia over immediately. It will be a new era in our fast reviving prestige.

CCXLI.

18th December 1857. Friday.

MY DEAR SHERER,—Yesterday evening I was rejoiced by again receiving one of your despatches, dated the 10th instant. We are all very glad that Outram maintains his position at Alum Bagh, and hope that the idea of temporarily abandoning Oudh altogether has been relinquished. I mentioned in one of my letters, which perhaps you may not have received, that we heard of the intended evacuation by a letter Lady Outram received from Sir James.

Allypore
Column.

Everything continues quiet to the westward. The Allypore Column was on the 16th at Suhawur, 12 miles east of Kassgunge; yesterday it was to advance on Putteealee, where the enemy are said to have been assembling. I conclude that there was prolonged fighting in that vicinity, as reports have come in from various quarters that heavy firing was heard in the direction of Kassgunge from 5 a.m. till 10 a.m. yesterday. The result must soon be known.

Fighting in
Central Doab.
Action at
Gungeeree.

The following particulars regarding the action at Gungeeree may be of interest as explaining the unusual proportion of loss amongst the Carabineers and Hodson's Horse. It is from a letter of Sapte, who, with Colonel Farquhar and the little Boolundshuhur Column, had reached Gungeeree the day before.

On Monday morning Seaton's Column arrived at that place,

and encamped 2 miles in advance of Farquhar's. "About two hours after his arrival a large body of Cavalry suddenly appeared on some rising ground in front of his camp. The Carabineers, Hodson's Horse, and some Horse Artillery, got ready sharp and went at them and away they bolted, but a heavy fire was opened on our advancing troops from two 6-pounders and one 9-pounder, which the gallant Carabineers charged and took, but not without heavy loss. Three charges of grape were poured into them at about 150 yards, which told fearfully. Wardlaw, Hudson, and Wyse of Carabineers were all shot by musket shots. Head of 9th Lancers wounded by a shell, said to be mortally (no; he is doing well). Doyley, who charged with them, had a very narrow escape from being cut down, but his English hunting-cap saved him. Our total loss was about 12 killed and 50 wounded. The Carabineers lost about 25 horses killed and wounded out of 70! Hodson's Horse suffered too. The enemy lost between 400 and 500 killed—and their three guns which the Carabineers took. The two 6-pounders are the post guns of Shah-jehanpoor, and the 9-pounder the last of the Bareilly Battery. As it has turned out, *our* move on Gungeeree was a good one, for it brought the rebels into the open, which they would not have done had they known of the proximity of Colonel Seaton's Army. Kassgunj was evacuated during the night, the rebels having fled towards Puttialea. We were ordered to halt here to-day, and to-morrow we retrace our steps towards Boolundshuhur. I have now recovered 60 guns in all, and hope I shall pick up some more in my wanderings. My own district, Boolundshuhur, has been perfectly quiet in my absence."

Furruckabad rebels discomfited.

Wardlaw, Hudson, and Wyse shot. Head, of 9th Lancers, wounded.

Kassgunje evacuated.

Sapte reports he has recovered sixty guns. Boolundshuhur quiet.

A letter, dated the 14th inst. from Deolee, reports all right in that direction. Neemuch is quite quiet; but the "Shahzada," with a party of the Mundessore fugitives, is supposed to have gone *via* Jalra Puttun in the Kotah territory. This, however, is uncertain.

Neemuch quiet.

The Deesa Column is expected to proceed towards Rajpootanah about Christmas.

Colonel Fraser has asked that the following statement, furnished by a native, of the supposed forces of Khan Buhadoor be made known to the Commander-in-Chief. He has 35 guns, of which 12 are 12-pounders, a few sixes and nines, and a great number very small ones of native make. His Infantry are estimated at 18,000; but by far the greater part are an un-drilled rabble. Of 5000 Cavalry, 2000 are said to be fit for service; the remainder new levies. Of this force, 10,000 men and 8 guns are at Budaon, 5000 and 4 guns at Buheree, between

Detail of Khan Buhadoor's forces.

Bareilly and Nyneetal, 2000 and one gun at Meergunj, 5000 and 10 guns at Bareilly:—the rest scattered in detachments. But this must be received merely as a very loose estimate.

Kaladoongee
attacked.

The dak with Nyneetal has been somewhat irregular of late. Alexander, writing on the 7th, says that his post at Kaladoongee had been attacked by some mounted Insurgents, supposed to have been some of Ramsay's sowars who deserted in June last, and who had a spite against the Thanadar. They "killed the Thanadar and 3 others, and an advance vidette of my new Hindoo Cavalry," Alexander writes. "They have bolted without going against my Cavalry, who were unarmed on parade, about a mile from the Thannah. 200 of the Goorkhas are ordered down, but too late, I fear, to do any good." From a person who has lately come from Rampoor, Alexander learns "that the Nawab is still the object of the vilest abuse among the Pathans. So he cannot use them for us; and only keeps them, by gratifying their mercenary propensities, from going against us. The relief to him from an advance into Rohilkhund will be as great as to us. Judged with a due regard to the difficulties with which he has had constantly to contend, he should indeed deserve well of us, if he come out successful at the last, which indeed I hope he will." This is the concurrent opinion of all who are acquainted with the state of things in Rohilkhund.

Nawab of
Rampore.

I have a letter from Sir John Lawrence, dated the 15th. He says he has marched that day for Mooltan, where he hopes to be early next month to see Lady Lawrence off. He then returns to Lahore.

W. MUIR.

J. W. SHERER, ESQ., Cawnpore.

CCXLII.

19th December 1857. Saturday.

MY DEAR SHERER,—The enclosed bulletin will give you the result of the firing referred to in my letter of yesterday. The discomfiture of the Furruckabad rebels at Puttiallee, though strongly posted and protected by an entrenchment with 11 guns, has been most complete—600 killed.

Defeat of
Furruckabad
force at
Puttiallee.

The effect will be immense. Mynporie will probably be evacuated; at any rate the Column, if it (as we understand it will) advances there, will meet no serious opposition. And the rebels at Etawah will also be shaken. They form a detachment, you know, of the Furruckabad troops—two regiments, it is said,