

**NEWS BY THE MAIL.**

(By Special Telegram.)

BOMBAY, Jan. 27.

The English papers of the week ending Friday, the 10th of January, bring the following items of intelligence:—

**THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.**

**THE EMPRESS AUGUSTA'S DEATH.**  
The most august victim yet claimed by the Russian influenza is the Empress Augusta, who manifested symptoms on Friday, the 3rd instant. The disease ran its normal course until Sunday, when serious bronchial trouble began, the fever increasing, and there was also a difficulty of breathing through inflammation of the lungs. The Imperial family were summoned in the middle of Monday night, when the patient rallied, only, however, to pass peacefully away at a quarter past 4 in the afternoon of Tuesday. There were present the Emperor, the Empress, and the Grand Duchess of Baden.

The Queen sent a touching message of condolence.  
The funeral to the Mausoleum at Charlottenburg took place on Saturday. The ceremonial arrangements were similar to those on the death of the late Emperor William.

The press generally eulogise the late Empress Augusta, especially for her extreme charity.

**RAVAGES OF THE DISEASE.**

The influenza is decreasing throughout Germany, though there are still many sufferers, including Prince Bismarck and Dr. Dollinger.

The disease still rages in France, particularly in the provinces. Outdoor army drill has been curtailed, and the school holidays have been extended. The mortality in Paris is between two and three thousand a week; in Ostend a little under a thousand; and in Marseilles ninety deaths daily, a number which has rarely been reached even in cholera outbreaks.  
At Vienna the epidemic is very severe, the victims being forty-two a day; and it is spreading throughout Italy.

The epidemic has prostrated large numbers in America, and in Canada all classes have been attacked from the Rocky Mountains to Quebec.

The epidemic is spreading rapidly in England, though at present the cases are of a mild type. The troops quartered in the Home District and London supply numerous cases. The Central Postal and Telegraph Departments of London conduct their business with difficulty, since over two thousand employes are prostrated. The hospitals are crowded, and large charitable institutions suffer severely. Policemen, postmen, schools, barracks, charitable institutions furnish many patients. The outbreak at Aldershot is especially giving concern to the head-quarters staff; 15,000 men are quartered in camp, besides many women and children. All precautions possible are taken at other chief military stations—Shorncliffe, Portsmouth, Devonport, Curragh, Colchester, Chatham—some of which are already seriously affected.

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS.**

**RUSSIA AND BULGARIA.**

**A Russian Protest.**

The Russian Government has addressed a Circular Note to the Powers declaring that the issue of the recent Bulgarian loan is in violation of the Berlin treaty. According to Russia, the Bulgarian Government has transgressed by pledging the revenues of the Eastern Roumanian railways as security for the loan without the sanction of the Porte. It further complains that the Bulgarian Government is under specific financial obligations to Russia for the payment of the costs of the occupation of Bulgaria after the war of 1877-78.

**Bulgaria's Reply.**

Bulgaria traverses the complaints, and declares that the Porte ought to formulate objections if any are entertained, not Russia.

**The European Press.**

The European press point out that Russia's glaring defiance of the Berlin Treaty in fortifying Batoum remains.

**THE EXILED ROYALTY OF BRAZIL.**

The Empress of Brazil has removed from Oporto to Lisbon.  
Dom Pedro is weak and ill, and is now residing at the Necessidade palace.

**SPANISH AFFAIRS.**

**Illness of the Infant King.**

The King of Spain is suffering from intermittent fever, which occasions uneasiness.

**A Government Crisis.**

Senhor Sagasta, finding that the position of the Government was daily weakening, offered his resignation. The Queen requested him to form a Conciliation Cabinet, including dissonant Liberals. The Government negotiations failed upon questions of financial policy, and Senhor Sagasta thereupon resigned; but the crisis has been suspended owing to the infant King's serious illness.

**GERMAN POLITICS.**

**The Bohemian Question.**

A conference between the German and Czeil leaders on the Bohemian question is proceeding. The Emperor is trying hard to heal the dissensions.

The Germans are incensed at Count Taffe's past concessions to the Czeils, who, they allege, are Russophiles at heart, and they refuse now to assist him to combat their extreme demands.

**RUSSIAN MILITARY MEASURES.**

It is reported at Vienna that Russia is preparing to assume the absolute command of the

army of Bokhara, numbering sixty thousand men.

The Czar has sanctioned a duplication of the lines of Polish railways, especially those bordering on the western frontier. The work will begin in the spring.

**EGYPTIAN FINANCES.**

The Egyptian Conversion scheme is again suspended in consequence of the solitary opposition of the French Government, whose action is denounced by every Frenchman of any importance in Egypt.  
The Egyptian Government now show less unwillingness than formerly to entertain proposals for the purchase of land for railway purposes by a private company.

**THE GERMANS IN EAST AFRICA.**

Conflicts with the Arabs.  
The German forces were repulsed on Christmas Day when endeavouring to storm Bwanaheri's fortified post at Saadani. The Germans lost eight killed and six wounded.

On January 5th Major Wissmann led a strong force against the enemy and, after some hours' severe fighting, captured the Arab position, which was stubbornly defended by Bwanaheri with fifteen hundred men. The Arabs suffered great loss, but escaped. The Germans had two whites and ten blacks wounded.

The Arabs reoccupied Saadani directly Major Wissmann withdrew.

**TURKEY AND GREECE.**

It is reported that the Sultan intends to appoint Moukhtar Pasha, Special Commissioner at Cairo, to be Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Macedonia. The attitude of Greece and Servia is believed to have prompted this measure.

**THE CZAR'S HEALTH.**

It is reported that the Czar's recent illness is due to epileptic attacks to which he has become subject since the Borki Railway accident.

**RUSSIAN FINANCES.**

The Russian Budget is expected to show a material surplus revenue.

**GENERAL HOME NEWS.**

**A FATAL ACCIDENT IN AMERICA.**

The caisson of the bridge in course of construction on the Ohio river in Kentucky has collapsed. Out of eighteen men employed on it fourteen were crushed to death.

**KILLING INFANTS.**

A shocking case of baby-farming has come to light at Roxbury, Massachusetts. Thirty infants have been deliberately put to death by starvation and exposure. A woman has been arrested charged with the crime.

**THE CENTRAL AFRICAN ADVENTURERS.**

Stanley writes that a deputation of the Christianised Wagasdas invited him to assist in restoring the sovereignty of Mwangi at Uganda since he became a Roman Catholic while reigning as a Muhammadan king. Stanley declined to assist the murderer of Bishop Hannington.  
Emin Pasha is able to walk, but is still at Baganoyo.

**THE ALEXANDRIA GARRISON.**

Colonel Sir William Butler is appointed Commander of the garrison at Alexandria.

**SIR L. GRIFFIN.**

Sir Lepel and Lady Griffin have started for Burma to inspect the Ruby Mines.

**THE CLEVELAND STREET SCANDAL.**

Trial of Mr. Newton.  
The Cleveland Street scandal is being investigated in connection with the prosecution of Mr. Newton, Solicitor, his clerk, and an interpreter who were accused of assisting certain offenders in fleeing the country. A warrant against Lord Arthur Somerset was issued.

It is reported that the police are investigating another West End scandal. Two persons well known in society have within the last ten days quitted England, and rumours of further intended disappearances are strangely rife. The case of conspiracy against Mr. Newton is proceeding.

**THE MAGAZINE RIFLE FOR INDIA.**

The War Office commence immediately the armament of the European Infantry in India with magazine rifles. The first supply, 8,000, is about to be sent out towards the total, over 50,000, which is required.

It is not proposed to give the weapon to the native troops, who are not yet entirely armed with the Martini-Henry, a large number of these weapons given up by the regiments of the First Army Corps at Home on receiving the magazine gun being sent to India for issue to native regiments.

**BANQUET TO LORD HARRIS.**

Lord Harris will be banqueted at the Hotel Metropole on February 26th. Owing to Earl Sydney's illness, Viscount Cranbrook presides.

**THE QUEEN AND IRELAND.**

A resolution has been submitted by the Dublin Corporation, urging the Mayor to invite Her Majesty the Queen to open the new Science and Art Museum at Dublin.

Mr. Sexton proposed an amendment, to the effect that, if the Queen visit Ireland, such a manifestation of her personal concern for the welfare of the people be heartily welcomed, since the Irish freed her from responsibility for the grievous sufferings and wrongs that Ireland had endured at the hands of the Queen's Ministers.  
The amendment was carried by 31 votes to 5.

**THE QUARREL WITH PORTUGAL.**

(From our own Correspondent.)

London, Friday, Jan. 3.

Major Serpa Pinto is certainly for the moment the pivot round which political excitement turns instead of repudiating the monstrous aggression in Shire-land, his masters at Lisbon are clinging with deplorable obstinacy to preposterous antiquated theories about their rights in Africa, dating back from apocryphal transactions in the middle ages. Expeditions started in the 16th century and claimed as at that date by the then enterprising navigators of Portugal are gravely presented to us now as justifying a Portuguese officer of Mozambique in raiding on a territory that has been for the last twenty-five years in the hands of Livingstone's followers, that is dotted over with British trading and missionary stations, and has quite explicitly been declared to be under its protection by the British Government, and has no back history behind its recent settlement to confuse the issue—unless, as I say, we are asked to go back to paper claims dating from the 16th century. A certain M. Batalha Reis, Portuguese Consul at Newcastle-on-Tyne, has been writing a long letter in the *Times*, in which he presents us with a picture of Portuguese exploration and commercial activity in Africa, which seems to represent most of the continent as practically Portuguese. But the defect of this theory is that, if the picture corresponded with the facts, then all Africa ought to have been civilised and settled long before Livingstone, Cameron, Speke, Grant or Stanley were born or thought of. No doubt Portugal was first in the field in Africa by hundreds of years, but she did nothing there except hang on to a few coast stations and emit bombastic proclamations. Englishmen have done almost all the real work of opening up Africa, and mapping its physical geography, and Germans have done the rest. All Portuguese rights there have lapsed and ceased to exist with the efflux of time, now the heirs thereof want to come on our traces after we really have explored and opened the country, and reap the fruits of our work. The position is absurd and unjust, and in the end will be corrected by a public opinion to stand such nonsense. But if they are doggedly obstinate—and decaying powers may sometimes show that quality when no active powers remain—what are we to do?

Happily so far the tone of official communications with Lisbon continues courteous. Major Pinto even pretends, according to a telegram received at Lisbon just after Christmas, that he has committed no act of hostility against the English; on the contrary, that he has rendered them good service. Of this is no excuse, but it keeps up the flavour of friendliness in the negotiations. He is said to be on his way back to Europe. Stories are frequently set on foot pointing to arbitration, but these have been often repudiated on both sides. The French papers alone show animosity to England on the matter. Some of them urge Portugal to insist on "her undoubted rights on the Zambesi and in Nyassaland," and to pay no attention to England who in case she employed violence, would have to reckon with France and Russia; "the guarantors of the rights of the weak against the strong?" The malvolent hatred of England entertained by Republican France is a curious feature of modern foreign politics which may yet have an important influence on public opinion. In spite of pretended assurances that he has done nothing hostile to England, Major Pinto also, it seems, sends word to his Government that he has established Portuguese sovereignty over Nyassaland, and, as a Lisbon correspondent writes, "the gravity of this announcement, if officially confirmed, cannot be exaggerated." The last item of news bearing on the complication is that, in opening the Cortes yesterday at Lisbon, King Carlos, referring to the Shire entanglement, said:—"My Government being inspired by the national sentiment, and acting in conformity with the unanimous wish of the two Chambers, has endeavoured to convince the Government of her Britannic Majesty of the right whereby Portugal rules over the territories to the north and south of the Zambesi. My Government has confined itself, during the incident and in all its communications, to asserting the rights of Portugal to territories which she has always claimed, and to reiterating the declarations she has already made. It will persist in this attitude, with the support which the representatives of the nations will certainly not withhold."

On the other hand, the British Government cannot recede from the position that the Shire case is under its protection, because they are, and always have been, as a matter of fact. The American Secretary of State, in contradicting some canard about an intervention in the matter contemplated by the United States, says definitely that he has no doubt the difficulty in hand will be promptly and easily arranged; but so far the facts do not seem to favour that hopefulness, and I hear privately from people likely to know that our Government is under the impression it will have to undertake some serious military operations in Delagoa Bay. That will be a very painful necessity to be forced upon, and only preferable to a declaration of war.

The Lucknow cricket team left for Bareilly on the morning of January 24th.

Mr. C. T. Metcalfe, C.S.I., and Mr. J. W. Gardner have been permitted to resign the Bengal Civil Service.

**THE CHIN-LUSHAI EXPEDITION.**

(From our own Correspondent.)

CAMP TERIOI, Jan. 8.

When I wrote my last letter we were on the eve of commencing the road, which since then has progressed (as far as the trace is concerned) about fifteen miles from Fort Lungleh; while it is hoped that the road will be open in a day or two between this camp and the Fort for mule transport. It was originally expected that this part would have been open much sooner, but the hill side was rousing so rocky and precipitous that in many places blasting could not be avoided. As is often the case, what looked like easy earth-cutting before the earth was turned, eventually was found to be rock underneath. At any rate a regular cannonade has been going on for the last week, and I expect has done more to frighten the Kukis than anything else. Owing to the height we have got up to, I am afraid that we shall still find difficulties till we descend to the lower slopes. The road passes along the eastern side of the range between Lungleh and Terioi, crossing over and passing to the western side when it nears that hill, and finally crossing the range again at this camp. This part is very level, only rising 400 feet in eight miles; and I think everyone, including mules and transport coolies, will be thankful for even a slight cessation of the inevitable ups and downs of a military road in the hills. From here the road skirts the eastern side of Moisum under a very high precipice, and descends into a deep gorge, through which one of the sources of the Klong or Dileisari river flows. Here the road has hit a very lucky crossing, as this stream runs for miles through precipitous banks. On the opposite side of the stream is our present advanced camp; from which the trace has at present proceeded about 3 miles in a north-easterly direction, going down towards the valley of the Matt river. Here, I am glad to say, we are again in the land of the "almighty bamboo," which we left behind us at Lower Lungleh when we ascended to higher latitudes. This will be a great blessing, as not only can you cut your self speedily and well with it, but it is very useful in a hundred other respects—dried, as cooking utensils, water-carriers, etc. Without bamboo, hutting for a large number is a long and tedious operation. We are very fortunate as regards water all along the present line as far as it goes; many water-courses trickle down the various precipitous passes, and while on the eastern side towards Klong Camp the water-courses are much larger and not less various.

Many signs of rhinoceros have been met with; and a few days ago I was awakened in the early morning by the hoarse bark of a karkar who was near our water-supply, not 300 yards from camp. Unfortunately it is much easier to hear than to see them, and one karkar shot the day before Christmas Day by a Gorkha is the only one I have heard of. A leg of the above was a very welcome addition to our Christmas dinner, though I don't think any one had much to complain of. Everyone produced something they had kept for the great occasion, and we had as jolly an evening as one could hope for under the circumstances. The clerk of the weather most kindly kept the rain off till the 26th, when it fell in torrents for a day and a night, making everyone very uncomfortable and regretful that they did not bring a larger supply of handkerchiefs. At one time we were afraid that the influenza epidemic had broken out, but were glad to find after a few days sniffling that our fears were groundless.

A wing of the Bombay Pioneers seems to have marched in here on the 2nd, but most unfortunately the day before they had a case of cholera, and had to remain in cholera camp a few miles out of Lungleh. The other wing came on next day, and immediately started widening the road for mules, while the Sappers tackled the rock-work; the other half having moved on to the Klong Camp. Most fortunately cholera died out after three cases, and the rest of the regiment is expected here in about three days; two companies going on to Klong Camp the day after to-morrow.

Since my last letter a reconnaissance party, consisting of Captain Petrie, R.E., Captain Chambers, Assistant Intelligence Officer, Captain Allen, Chief Transport Officer, and Mr. Murray, Assistant Political Officer, went northwards to inspect the path which will be followed by the Northern Column. This is being out by our allies the Howlongs along the course of the Klong or Dileisari stream. This river flows northwards to Cachar, and by following its course all difficulties as regards water-supply are done away with; also, as it has turned out, a very good turn for the Transport has been done. Each Howlong Chief has cut a certain length of jungle, and this will be improved by a half company of the Sappers and one hundred Pioneers. The reconnaissance party was away about seven days, and on its return reported most favourably on the route. They found the river navigable for rafts in parts. This will effect an immense saving in transport.

In all probability a ration depot will be formed about 40 miles from Lungleh, and another probably at Liempunga's village when he has been subdued. From here troops can proceed to all sides and punish the rest of the offenders with ease; and owing to the recent victory that one month's provisions for the whole Column are to be stored at Chankali Bazar, the strain on the Commissariat will be greatly relieved. This place is commonly marked on the map as Bepari Bazar. Four hundred

Frontier Police under Mr. Daly will co-operate from Cachar, while some Gorkhas will be moved to watch the frontier, and thus our enemies cannot resort to their old trick of retiring and letting us burn their villages, only to come back on our disappearance. Immediately the stretch of road between Lungleh and Teriot is open for mules, the Sappers will begin building rafts and improving roads. Most of the troops begin moving up by batches from Rangamati and Chitkong on the 15th. The first party of the 2nd Gorkhas for the Northern Column are timed to reach Lungleh on the 24th. I expect the Commissariat and Transport will be very pleased when the Column is fairly launched, as they have their hands full at present with the preparations. The general opinion at present is, I believe, that we will meet with resistance; and as the "retiring" policy of the Kuki is highly exasperating to their opponents, it is to be hoped that they will stand and let us give them a taste of our power for once. Till they feel this, I am afraid they will not see that we are not trifling with them.

Messengers from the brothers of the late Chief Howsta, whose village was burned in the last expedition, came in to Fort Lungleh the other day and said they wished to give in. They were given the same terms as last year I believe, i.e., to bring in all heads and loot in their possession, and that they would then have terms dictated. Up to the present they have not seen fit to do this, so I expect they receive a visit from a part of our force as we pass.

The survey party have just returned from a flying visit to Bos Poi. From this hill and from Moismun (both being over 5,000 feet) an immense area of country can be seen, and has been fixed. Twenty-one villages were counted from Moismun, and the position of seven already fixed, one very large one being strongly stocked. They have been very lucky in the weather, which is very clear; even after rain the clouds disappear in a moment. In a day or two Lieutenant Bythell, Captain Shakespear and Mr. Murray will pay a visit on ahead to the Malliumpui Kiang. From the highest peak of this range Langpui, a vast new field of country will be opened up for the Survey; and it is hoped none of our difficulties ahead will be brought back. Mr. Murray will interview the chiefs of the Malliumpui tribe—a powerful clan who sent in their submission during last rains after hesitating a long time; chiefly, I fancy, to see if we were in earnest or not this year.

The telegraph under Mr. Walker is keeping pace with the road, and is pushed on most energetically—being almost at the Klong Camp. General Treagar, accompanied by Colonel Westmacott, Bombay Pioneers, Major Leach, C.R.E., Captain Shakespear, Intelligence Officer, and Mr. Murray, inspected the road to-day as far as the Klong Camp, returning the same night to Fort Lungleh. The signalling party under Captain Browne has arrived at Lungleh, and a detachment has been attached to the advanced party.

A great deal of conjecture is going on as to when and where we will first signal our Chin friends, though I am afraid this much desired event is still in the dim future. The Pioneers was not the only cholera scare we have had; some time ago it suddenly broke out among the coolies at Burkul. Rapidly spreading, 33 fatal cases occurred in 24 hours. Luckily an officer was on the spot and immediately burnt the whole camp, not leaving a single spot. The coolies were terrified and fled, and with them the cholera. The health of the coolies at Burkul now is excellent, and what might have seriously hampered the arrangements of our operations has been most effectually stamped out by this prompt action.

I hope shortly to be able to send you news of the operations of the Northern Column, and also that our Haka route has reached and crossed both the Hatt and Koldazine rivers, when it is hoped the back of the expedition will have been fairly broken. A rather serious accident occurred to-day upon the road: a large stone from a blast of dynamite unfortunately hit a Pioneer and broke one of his legs. This is most singular, as he had been given due notice and had gone considerably further than what is usually considered the zone of danger. The blast was a very small quantity of dynamite.

**THE ROYAL VISIT TO LAHORE.**

**THE PRINCE'S REPLY TO THE ADDRESS.**  
The following is the text of the reply of His Royal Highness to the Address presented on behalf of the Punjab on the occasion of the Conversazione at the Lawrence Hall on Saturday—

SIR MERVYN PLOWDEN AND GENTLEMEN,—I tender you my warmest thanks for the very cordial Address which has just been read to me; an Address which, coming as it does on behalf of the Province of the Punjab, gives me peculiar gratification and interest; inasmuch as it shows how united is the vast and varied population of this Province in their loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty the Queen Empress; and it will be a most pleasing duty to me to repeat to Her Majesty the terms in which your heart-felt sentiments of attachment to Her Majesty have been announced.

I feel I cannot give you a better idea of the immense interest and sympathy which exist in the mind of our beloved Sovereign towards her Indian subjects, than by telling you that notwithstanding her inability to visit her Indian Empire—a fact she never ceases to deplore—Her Majesty has by the greatest diligence acquired some knowledge of the Hindustani language. Other Provinces of India may be richer than

the Punjab, some may present scenes of greater beauty; but there is no Province in India that can boast, as the Punjab can, that it is the bulwark of defence against foreign aggression, or that can be termed, with the same significance, the Guard Room of our Eastern Empire.

As the Punjab is one of the greatest recruiting grounds, so it is also the home, or place of service, of a large portion of the army in Northern India; and it is particularly gratifying to me to think that it is here, in this Soldiers' land, that I shall see at Muridki a force of Cavalry such as is seldom brought together in any part of the world.

At Lahore itself I have observed to-day much that has interested and impressed me; side by side, at this one of the most ancient capitals of India, I see the signs of prosperity and vigorous civilisation, in the new buildings which are opening up on every side, and in the loyal demeanour of a contented and manly population. Let me, Gentlemen, once more thank you, and through you, all classes of the Punjab, for the gratifying Address and hearty welcome you have given me to-day.

**THE SUNDAY PROGRAMME.**

On Sunday His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor attended Divine service at the Cathedral, which was crowded to the doors. The Lord Bishop of Lahore preached the sermon, taking for his text St. John, chap. x. ver. 22. In the course of his sermon he pointed out that the day was the anniversary of the Cathedral's foundation, and made an eloquent appeal for funds still wanting to pay off debt. The Rev. W. F. Armstrong, Rev. M. S. Saunders, and a strong choir assisted in the service.

In the afternoon H. R. H., accompanied by Sir James Lyall and party, visited the tomb of Jellangir at Shahdera. On the conclusion of the visit a move was made for the Railway Station, where the Royal party took train for Muridki, where they will be the guests of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

**THE MURIDKI CAMP.**

**THE ASSAULT—AT-VRMS.**

(By Special Telegram.)

CAMP MURIDKI, Jan. 27.  
The special train from Lahore this morning conveyed Lady Lyall and a very numerous company of visitors to the Camp to witness the assault-at-arms competitions.

His Royal Highness and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief arrived on the ground, which is only two hundred yards from the Camp station, at 11:30 A.M., by which time the competitions, under the supervision of Colonel Shakespear, had commenced.

Up to luncheon at 1:30 the following competitions had been decided. *Tent-Pegging by sections*, won by the 7th Dragoon Guards from the 17th Lancers, after a tie, by a single point.

*Tent-Pegging for non-commissioned officers*, won by Sergeant Meadows, 7th Dragoon Guards, with a highest possible.

*Tent-Pegging for Native Cavalry* was won by the 18th Bengal Lancers from the 5th Bengal Cavalry, with 44 points against 34. *Sword against Sword* was won by Sergeant Curtis, King's Dragoon Guards.

*Lime-cutting* was won by Sergeant Rowe, King's Dragoon Guards, after a tie with Sergeant Cordey, 7th Dragoon Guards.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Jan. 25.  
Crowds of spectators were present to-day watching the manoeuvres, the most notable among which were, Prince Adolphus of Teck, Lord and Lady Cremorne, Sir Pentab Singh and Uree Singh of Joolpur, Major Afzur Jang of Hyderabad, and the Commander-in-Chief of Cavalry and Ulwar. After the action on Friday afternoon at Gooma Oor, the Northern Division took up a line of night outpost on the north side of the Degh River, the right at Nungul Eas, centre Dupyalah, and left at Nungul Doona Sing. To the south of the Degh the Southern Division occupied a similar line, with the exception that the left, instead of being opposite Nungul Eas, extended two miles further south, resting on Nungul Kaswalla. At 9 A.M. this morning (Saturday) both forces were under arms. Col. Palmer still north of the Degh having concentrated the greater portion of his Division at Dupyalah, under cover of a cloud of patrols, took ground to his right, and marched to Choharu, where eventually, about 11:30 A.M., he effected the passage of the Degh.

In the meantime the 1st and 3rd brigades of the Northern Division, under Col. Gerard and Cooke, at Nungul Kaswalla and Nungul Doona Sing respectively, seeing that Col. Palmer had broken through between them, and that his main body was debouching on the plain to the north of Lamri commenced to retire gradually towards Sidhanwalli; the picquets, which had furnished the outpost line during the night, forming themselves into contact squadrons, covered the retirement of the two brigades with a dense screen of scouts and patrols. As the Northern force advanced, so the two Southern brigades fell back, converging from the north and west on Sidhanwalli, where Col. Lance had previously withdrawn an reserve brigade, intending, on the arrival of Col. Gerard and Cooke, to meet Col. Palmer's attack on the plain to the north of that village.

Col. Palmer, on reaching Lamri, distant about 4 miles due west of Sidhanwalli, having ascertained that the ground over which he would have had to advance to reach Col. Lance's position, was unfavourable for manoeuvres of an extended nature, declined the challenge. Instead of changing front to his left and attacking Col. Lance at once at a disadvantage, he continued to advance in a south-easterly direction, deciding to make for Miani, a village situated on the Gujranwala road, a short distance from the north bank of the Ravi, and about 2 miles south of Sidhanwalli. By making Miani his objective, he not only hoped to outflank

Col. Lance, but to also cut him off from his line of communication.

Col. Lance, however, on learning of Col. Palmer's intention, dispatched Col. Gerard's brigade to Miani, intending to follow with his other two brigades as soon as Col. Palmer's exact whereabouts in that direction were made known. At 3 P.M. the two Divisions were ten miles apart. General Luck, perceiving that Col. Palmer could not possibly reach Miani in sufficient time to attack Col. Lance before night closed in, communicated with both the Divisional leaders, ordering Col. Palmer to reverse his front, and march northwards towards Lamri, while Col. Lance was directed to march from Sidhanwalli straight towards camp. By this means both forces must have met about two miles north of the Camp. Some delay, however, occurred before Col. Palmer could retrace his steps, or Col. Lance recall Col. Gerard from Miani. Consequently it was 4:30 P.M. before the two Divisions came in sight of each other. But before the action could take place, Sir Frederick Roberts, who had been watching the movements of both forces since 10 A.M., thinking that both men and horses had had more than sufficient work for one day, ordered the troops home to camp.

The final result, therefore, never took place, much to the disappointment of the numerous spectators present, who had been in an eager state of expectancy from early morning. The final proceedings have brought the working portion of the Camp to a termination: Monday and Tuesday next being reserved for the finals in the assault-at-arms competitions, and the march past before the Prince. On the whole, General Luck and the troops under his command are much to be congratulated on the thorough success of their operations to date, and on the small hitch of any kind having occurred to mar or upset the programme.

The weather, which looked most threatening a few days ago, fortunately, after a few slight showers, cleared up, allowing the last four days' operations to be carried out in their entirety, with complete comfort and absence of sickness and hardship, which must have ensued to both men and horses, had, as seemed only too probable, heavy rain fallen during the earlier portion of the week.

The Commissariat arrangements, under the personal superintendence of Captain Yielding, ably assisted by his assistants, Captain Caulfield and Lieutenant Bretherton, throughout the duration of the Camp, and more especially during the final manoeuvres, have met, as they honestly deserve, the commendation of all concerned; in fact one cannot speak too highly of the manner in which, at a moment's notice during the last few days, hundreds of manna of stores have been moved from one point to another, without the usual delay and confusion which so invariably happens on these occasions.

**TRANS FRONTIER NEWS.**

Native agents send the following items of news from across the frontier:—

General Ghulam Haider Khan, Charkhi, who was away in Kunar returned to Jellalabad on the 18th and reached Kai in the Shiwarai country on the 20th. Five companions have been sent from Kai to Deh Bala, as reports of the Sangu Khel Shiwaris being again in revolt have been received.

Of the Khans of Bajaur, only Khalid Khan of Babakara, Mian Said Jan Sahibzada, of Mian Kalai, Haji Mulla Zaman, also of Mian Kalai, and a few Khans of the Mohmand tribe attended the Durbars of General Ghulam Haider Khan at Marowra and Hissar in Kunar. Umra Khan of Jandol is displeased with them on this account; but owing to their being the friends of the Amir he has not ventured to do anything.

The Amir sent some time ago for charcoal from India for his workshops at Kabul. The Amir has deputed a man to search for traces of coal in Afghanistan.

**RAWALPINDI CAMP.**

(From our own Correspondent.)

Jan. 26.  
On Friday, 24th instant, the two Divisions were formed up ready to attack the village of Sydan. The two Brigades composing each Division were first formed up in mass. The two front companies of each front battalion then went off in skirmishing order, with the next two companies in support. This formation continued till the enemy was sighted, when the Mountain Batteries were brought up, and the artillery duel began. When the enemy's guns were silenced, the companies that had previously been skirmishing, formed for attack and advanced against the enemy's position, being gradually reinforced as the position was carried. Then the other lines passed through, cleared the position and made good the victory by pouring volleys on the retreating foe. After this the troops marched back to quarters, arriving about 4 o'clock. The enemy was scattered in skeleton fashion, which takes away greatly from the feeling of realism.

On the 20th instant the troops marched out from Pindi for manoeuvres, returning on the 31st. Recent will probably be the destination.

The Divisions and Brigades are at present formed thus:—

**1ST DIVISION.**

Commanded by Col. Channer, V.C.  
1st Brigade—Commanded by Col. Jackson, R. S. Fusiliers.—The Devonshire Regiment, 20th Punjab Infantry and 22nd Punjab Infantry.  
2nd Brigade—Commanded by Colonel Hilton, Seaforth Highlanders.—Seaforth Highlanders, and 1st and 2nd Battalions 5th Gorkhas.

**2ND DIVISION.**

Commanded by Col. Waterfield, 45th Sikhs.  
3rd Brigade—Commanded by Col. Bridges, 22nd Punjab Infantry.—Northumberland Fusiliers, R. S. Fusiliers, 14th Sikhs, and 15th Sikhs.  
4th Brigade—Commanded by Colonel Lynch, Highland Light Infantry.—R. S. Fusiliers, 34th Pioneers, 37th Dragoons, and 5th Sikhs.  
Very probably a battalion will be taken from both the 3rd and 4th Brigades to form a 5th Brigade.  
On Saturday last the horse of an officer of the Pioneers bolted and the officer had to throw himself

off to save himself from going down a deep gullah the horse, by the greatest luck, escaped unhurt.

The rain has now all cleared away, but has laid the dust; a great boon to the troops. It sounds like a "cracker" to say that one could not see one's hand in front of one for the dust, but that has been a grim fact on several occasions. The weather is bitterly cold now.

Last night was the first night of the burlesque "Aladdin," and I hear it went capital from start to finish. Rumour also has it that, though all were good, Major Way and Mrs. Chancellor share the first honours.

**FIELD DAY AT PESHAWUR.**

(From a Correspondent.)

A most interesting and instructive field-day took place on Saturday, the 25th inst. A most carefully planned scheme was made out and worked most admirably. Colonel Harvey deserves the greatest credit for the most instructive day's work we have yet seen in Peshawur. The general idea was that a force of 2 Battalions of Infantry attacking force of 1 Squadron of Cavalry in contact at the Peshawur City Railway Station. The Sappers were naturally in the attacking force. The artillery, one section with each force, formed the 1st Squadron of Cavalry. The Infantry (4 companies) advanced in extended order across the open, an advanced guard moving along the Nirpeta road. The main body of the attacking force halted at 12 noon close to the city Railway Station, where dinners were prepared. Prior to this a party of the attacking force was surprised by a mounted officer and immediately put out of action. Hostilities were then suspended for an hour when flags of truce were exchanged by the antagonistic forces. The few attacking force then took up a position half a mile from cantonments. This was admirably chosen, the defenders being quite under cover and the attacking force having to advance over a small section of ground under a heavy fire. This, however, did not damp the courage of the attackers, although their strength was only half of that of the defenders. They gallantly charged the position at the point of the bayonet, the artillery unlimbering and firing shrapnel at 100 yards. The umpires were of opinion that artillery could not be used so heavy a fire from modern fire-arms. This is, however, a moot point, as the complete resolution caused by the invention of magazine rifles and smokeless powder has so altered the condition of war that it is almost impossible to decide on the ultimate result of an action. The meet of the Peshawur Vale Hunt had unfortunately to be postponed.

**Muzab & J. W. B.**

**RAWALPINDI.**

The weather is bitterly cold here, but bright and clear, and the roads most pleasant for pedestrians. We had very good Sikh sports lately, and the usual hospitality shown by Colonel Waterfield and officers. Then the same afternoon a small concert at the Club house, which rather failed for want of performers. The fact is, we have not a very large contingent of musical people in this station, and those who can play and sing evidently don't care to be heard, too often, which seems a pity, the season for entertainments in Pindi being steady. Last evening we had the usual at the Club house, and I hear rumours of coming paper-chases.

The Library is again open at the Club, and I hear that a certain sum is to be spent every month upon new books, which will be a blessing to our community. In fact the Club all round is being renovated.

I hear that there is an idea of having the children's Fancy Ball over again here, for the benefit of those "grown ups" who could not see it at Sir Flus Baker's. Then the big dance to Sir Fred. Roberts is fixed for the 31st instant.

The number of sick in the hospitals increases steadily. I hear, but this state of affairs must remedy itself when the camp of exercise is broken up.

The Seaforth Highlanders are to remain in Pindi this hot weather, and the Northumberland Fusiliers going to the hills.—Jan. 25.

**UMBALLA.**

The splendid band of "the Queen's," by kind permission of Colonel Hood, performed an excellent selection of music in the Club grounds yesterday afternoon. The number of listeners was small, owing principally to its not having been sufficiently widely advertised by circular notices. It is hoped that those of us who did come may not be disappointed of a repetition next week, when we may have another opportunity of hearing and appreciating music played in the capital style in which "Faust up to date," "Adieu," &c., were given under the able direction of Mr. Rogan.—Jan. 25.

**MULTAN.**

The latest little entertainment we have had for a long time was given last evening by the children of the Multan European School, under the patronage of Colonel H. A. Little, C. B., which reflects great credit on the management, to wit, the Revd. A. Bridge and the Misses Mallandaine.

The evening's entertainment opened with a Ode, "See our Ours," by the school children and, alternately, some of the ladies present, very kindly assisted with songs, a duet (Mr. Cole playing the piano accompaniment) and a recitation. After an interval of a few minutes a piece called "Little Pickle" or "None so blind as those who will not see" was put on the stage by the school children.

It was surprising to see the amount of confidence with which the little folks went through their respective parts before a comparatively large audience. They appeared quite at home the stage, and took their parts remarkably well. Little Jack was the mischief of the neighbourhood, and gave enough trouble all round to his aunt, the housemaid (Polly), school-master and others. The only one who befriended him in his difficulties was his uncle. The performance was certainly a great success. After the performance each child belonging to the school was called up and given a small present of some useful article or toy, according to age, and distributed by Mrs. Bell. A simple justice was done to the tea, cakes and sweets thoughtfully provided, the evening's entertainment was brought to a close with an intimation that the little ones that the next day was a holiday for them.—Jan. 25.