

The Governor-General has ever felt, and feels unbounded confidence in the army which serves in India. He relies fully on the conviction that their services will be given cheerfully and gallantly, as heretofore, whatever may be the obstacles opposed to them; and he does not doubt that, with the blessing of Heaven, such full success will continue to follow their efforts as shall speedily give to the Government of India the victory over its enemies, and restore the country to the enjoyment of peace.

The Governor-General will not fail earnestly to commend the past services of this army to the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government, and of the East India Company.

A salute of 21 guns has been ordered to be fired at every principal station of the Army in India.

The Commander-in-Chief in India to the Governor-General of India.

*Head-quarters, Camp, Goojerat,
February 26, 1849.*

By my letter of the 21st instant, written on the field of battle, immediately after the action, your Lordship will have been made acquainted with the glorious result of my operations on that day against the Sikh Army, calculated, from all credible reports, at 60,000 men of all arms, and 59 pieces of artillery, under the command of Sirdar Chuttur Sing and Rajah Shere Sing, with a body of 1500 Afghan Horse, led by Akram Khan, son of the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan; a result, my Lord, glorious indeed for the ever-victorious Army of India; the ranks of the enemy broken, their position carried, their guns, ammunition, camp equipage and baggage captured, their flying masses driven before the victorious pursuers, from mid-day to dusk, receiving most severe punishment in their flight: and, my Lord, with gratitude to a merciful Providence, I have the satisfaction of adding that, notwithstanding the obstinate resistance of the enemy, this triumphant success, this brilliant victory, has been achieved with comparatively little loss on our side.

The number of guns taken in action, and captured in the line of pursuit, I now find to be fifty-three.

The official report, made by the Adjutant-General of the Army, on the 20th instant, will have informed your Lordship that I had directed Brigadier-General the Honourable H. Dundas to join me, by forced marches, and that I had closed up, to so short a distance of the Sikh army, that they could not possibly attempt the passage of the Chenab, in order to put into execution their avowed determination of moving upon Lahore; make a retrograde movement by the Kooree Pass (the only practicable one for guns); or indeed, quit their position, without my being able to attack them, and defeat their movement.

On the 18th instant, Brigadier Markham had proceeded from Ramnuggur, up the left bank of the river, to Kanokee, to which I had directed forty-seven boats to be sent up. On the morning of the 20th, this officer crossed the Chenab, by my instructions, and joined me at 11 o'clock A. M. At the same time, Lieutenant-Colonel Byrne was directed to move down the left bank, from the position he held in front of Wuzeerabad, with two corps of infantry and four guns, leaving two regiments of Irregular Cavalry to watch the fords, and to prevent any marauding parties, or bodies of the routed enemy, from effecting a passage.

On the same day, a reconnoissance was made of the enemy's position, and it was ascertained that their camp nearly encircled the town of

Goojerat, their regular troops being placed immediately fronting us, between the town and a deep water-course, the dry bed of the river Dwara; this nullah, which is very tortuous, passing round nearly two sides of the town of Goojerat, diverging to a considerable distance on the north and west faces, and then taking a southerly direction, running through the centre of the ground I occupied at Shadewal. Thus, the enemy's position, on the right, was greatly strengthened, the nullah giving cover to his infantry, in front of his guns, whilst another deep, though narrow wet nullah, running from the east of the town, and falling into the Chenab, in the direction of Wuzeerabad, covered his left.

The ground between these nullahs, for a space of nearly three miles, being well calculated for the operation of all arms, and presenting no obstacle to the movement of my heavy guns, I determined to make my principal attack in that direction, and disposed my force accordingly.

On the extreme left I placed the Bombay column, commanded by the Honourable H. Dundas, supported by Brigadier White's brigade of cavalry, and the Scinde Horse, under Sir Joseph Thackwell, to protect the left, and to prevent large bodies of Sikh and Afghan cavalry from turning that flank; with this cavalry, I placed Captains Duncan's and Huish's troops of horse artillery, whilst the infantry was covered by the Bombay troop of horse artillery, under Major Blood.

On the right of the Bombay column, and with its right resting on the nullah, I placed Brigadier-General Campbell's division of infantry, covered by No. 5 and No. 10 light field batteries, under Major Ludlow and Lieutenant Robertson, having Brigadier Hoggan's brigade of infantry in reserve.

Upon the right of the nullah, I placed the infantry division of Major-General Sir W. Gilbert, the heavy guns, eighteen in number, under Majors Day and Horsford, with Captain Shakespear and Brevet-Major Sir Richmond Shakespear, commanding batteries, being disposed, in two divisions, upon the flanks of his left brigade.

This line was prolonged by Major-General Whish's division of infantry, with one brigade of infantry under Brigadier Markham, in support, in second line; and the whole covered by three troops of horse artillery, Major Fordyce's, Captains Mackenzie's and Anderson's, and No. 17 light field battery under Captain Dawes, with Lieutenant-Colonel Lane's and Captain Kinleside's troops of horse artillery, in a second line, in reserve, under Lieutenant-Colonel Brind.

My right flank was protected by Brigadiers Harsey's and Lockwood's brigades of cavalry, with Captain Warner's troop of Horse Artillery.

The 5th and 6th light cavalry, with the Bombay light field battery, and the 45th and 69th regiments, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Mercer, most effectually protected my rear and baggage.

With my right wing I proposed penetrating the centre of the enemy's line, so as to turn the position of their force in rear of the nullah, and thus enable my left wing to cross it with little loss, and, in co-operation with the right, to double upon the centre, the wing of the enemy's force opposed to them.

At half-past 7 o'clock, the army advanced, in the order described, with the precision of a parade movement. The enemy opened their fire, at a very long distance, which exposed to my artillery both the position and range of their guns. I halted the infantry just out of fire, and advanced the whole of my artillery, covered by skirmishers.