

leary in the interval of brigades;—the Infantry in contiguous columns of brigades at intervals of deploying distance;—Artillery in the intervals, followed by two 8-inch howitzers on travelling carriages, brought into the field from the Fort of Loodiana, by the indefatigable exertions of Lieutenant Colonel Lane, Horse Artillery;—Brigadier Godby's brigade, which I had marched out from Loodiana the previous evening, on the right;—the Shekawatee Infantry on the left;—the 4th Irregular Cavalry and the Shekawatee Cavalry considerably to the right, for the purpose of sweeping the banks of the wet nullah on my right, and preventing any of the enemy's horse attempting an inroad towards Loodiana, or any attempt upon the baggage assembled round the Fort of Budhowal.

In this order the troops moved forward towards the enemy, a distance of six miles, the advance conducted by Captain Waugh, 16th Lancers, the Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master of Cavalry, Major Bradford, of the 1st Cavalry, and Lieutenant Strachey of the Engineers, who had been jointly employed in the conduct of patrols up to the enemy's position, and for the purpose of reporting upon the facility and points of approach. Previously to the march of the troops, it had been intimated to me, by Major Mackeson, that the information by spies, led to the belief the enemy would move somewhere at daylight, either on Jugraon, my position of Budhowal, or Loodiana. On a near approach to his outposts, this rumour was confirmed by a spy, who had just left his camp, saying the Sikh army was actually in march towards Jugraon. My advance was steady; my troops well in hand; and, if he had anticipated me on the Jugraon road, I could have fallen upon his centre with advantage.

From the tops of the houses of the village of Poorein, I had a distant view of the enemy. He was in motion, and appeared directly opposite my front on a ridge of which the village of Aliwal may be regarded as the centre. His left appeared still to occupy its ground in the circular entrenchment; his right was brought forward and occupied the ridge. I immediately deployed the cavalry into line; and moved on. As I neared the enemy, the ground became most favorable for the troops to manœuvre, being open and hard grass land. I ordered the cavalry to take ground to the right and left by brigades; thus displaying the heads of the infantry columns; and, as they reached the hard ground, I directed them to deploy into line. Brigadier Godby's brigade was in direct echelon to the rear of the right; the Shekawatee infantry in like manner to the rear of my left;—the cavalry in direct echelon on, and well to the rear of, both flanks of the infantry;—the artillery massed on the right, and centre, and left. After deployment, I observed the enemy's left to outflank me, I therefore broke into open column and took ground to my right. When I had gained sufficient ground, the troops wheeled into line. There was no dust, the sun shone brightly. These manœuvres were performed with the celerity and precision of the most correct field day. The glistening of the bayonets and swords of this order of battle was most imposing; and the line advanced. Scarcely had it moved forward 150 yards, when, at 10 o'clock, the enemy opened a fierce cannonade from his whole line. At first his balls fell short, but quickly reached us. Thus upon him, and capable of better ascertaining his position, I was compelled to halt the line, though under fire, for a few moments, until I ascertained that, by bringing up my right, and carrying the village of Aliwal, I could

with great effect precipitate myself upon his left and centre. I therefore quickly brought up Brigadier Godby's Brigade; and, with it, and the 1st Brigade under Brigadier Hicks, made a rapid and noble charge, carried the village, and two guns of large calibre. The line I ordered to advance, H. M.'s 31st Foot and the Native Regiments contending for the front; and the battle became general. The enemy had a numerous body of Cavalry on the heights to his left, and I ordered Brigadier Cureton to bring up the right Brigade of Cavalry, who, in the most gallant manner, dashed in among them, and drove them back upon their Infantry. Mean while, a second gallant charge to my right was made by the Light Cavalry and the Body Guard. The Shekawatee Brigade was moved well to the right, in support of Brigadier Cureton, when I observed the enemy's encampment, and saw it was full of Infantry: I immediately brought upon it Brigadier Godby's Brigade, by changing front, and taking the enemy's Infantry "en-revers." They drove them before them, and took some guns without a check.

While these operations were going on upon the right; and the enemy's left flank was thus driven back; I occasionally observed the brigade under Brigadier Wheeler, an officer in whom I have the greatest confidence, charging and carrying guns and everything before it, again connecting his line, and moving on, in a manner which ably displayed the coolness of the Brigadier and the gallantry of his irresistible brigade, H. M.'s 50th Foot, the 48th N. I. and the Sirmoor Battalion, although the loss was, I regret to say, severe in the 50th. Upon the left, Brigadier Wilson, with H. M.'s 53rd and the 30th N. I. equalled in celerity and regularity their comrades on the right; and this brigade was opposed to the "Aieen" troops, called Avitabile's, when the fight was fiercely raging.

The enemy, well driven back on his left and centre, endeavoured to hold his right to cover the passage of the river, and he strongly occupied the village of Bhoondree—I directed a squadron of the 16th Lancers, under Major Smyth and Captain Pearson, to charge a body to the right of the village, which they did in the most gallant and determined style, bearing everything before them, as a squadron under Captain Bere had previously done, going right through a square of Infantry wheeling about, and re-entering the square, in the most intrepid manner with the deadly lance.—This charge was accompanied by the 3rd Light Cavalry under Major Angelo, and as gallantly sustained. The largest gun upon the field and 7 others were then captured, while the 53rd Regt. carried the village by the bayonet, and the 30th N. I. wheeled round to the rear in a most spirited manner. Lieutenant Colonel Alexander's and Captain Turton's troops of Horse Artillery, under Major Lawrenson, dashed almost among the flying Infantry, committing great havoc, until about 800 or 1000 men rallied under the high bank of a nullah, and opened a heavy but ineffectual fire from below the bank. I immediately directed the 30th Native Infantry to charge them, which they were able to do upon their left flank, while in a line in rear of the village. This native corps nobly obeyed my orders and rushed among the Avitabile Troops, driving them from under the bank, and exposing them once more to the deadly fire of 12 guns within 300 yards. The destruction was very great, as may be supposed, by guns served as these were. Her Majesty's