

Merit, with effect from the 30th April last, in my Despatch, No. 193, of the 28th December, 1858, on account of his gallant conduct in defending his post at Lohari, in Central India.

3rd Cavalry, Hyderabad Contingent.

The 3rd Class Order of Merit.

Duffadar Syed Goolam Ghouse.
Trooper Mahomed Khan, 6th Troop.
Trooper Alla Dawd Khan, 6th Troop.
Trooper Myboob Khan, 6th Troop.
Trooper Ghoolam Dustagheer, 6th Troop.
Silladar Nuttay Khan, 1st Troop.

Brigadier Hill states, that the good conduct of these men has been previously brought to notice in the Central India Campaign, but the Despatch was not forwarded for my information.

3rd Cavalry, Hyderabad Contingent.

The 3rd Class Order of Merit.

Trooper Ali Sher Khan, 2nd Troop.
Trooper Fykröödeen (dangerously wounded), 6th Troop.

6. Rissaldar Major Shah Mirza Beg Bahadoor (dangerously wounded), to have the 1st Class Order of British India, with the title of Sirdar Bahadoor, conferred on him.

7. This Native Officer has on every occasion prominently distinguished himself, and has been six times wounded in different actions.

8. The gallantry with which Brigadier Hill, in person, Captains McKinnon and Hoeseason led the assault on the Ghurree of Chichumba, although the attack of the infantry proved unsuccessful, will not, I am sure, fail to meet the approval of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India. I have, &c.

C. DAVIDSON, Lieut.-Colonel, Resident.

No. 23.

Brigadier W. Hill, Commanding Hyderabad Contingent, to the Military Secretary to the Resident, Hyderabad.

Sir, Camp, Attölee, January 19, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Resident, that, as I approached the village of Wakhud, where I was to encamp on the 15th instant, I received a hurriedly written note from Captain Ivie Campbell, Enam Commissioner, who was at the village of Ressoad, informing me that a large body of Arabs and Rohillas had just entered the place, and were plundering it.

I continued my march, and proceeded at a sharp trot to Ressoad, about seven miles distant, and met Captain Campbell, who informed me, that he had been plundered of every thing he had, and narrowly escaped with his life, and that several of the inhabitants had been killed, and the insurgents had gone off about half an hour before my arrival, with all the property they had plundered, laden upon camels, tattoos, and bullocks.

On ascertaining that they had taken the direction of the Jintoor-road, I directed Captain Clogstoun, with his squadron of 2nd cavalry, to pursue in one direction, and Captain Nightingale, commanding the 3rd cavalry, to follow.

On my arrival at the village of Chichumba, about eight miles off, with the troop of Her Majesty's 12th Lancers, and 4 guns of the troop of Horse Artillery, I found that Captain Clogstoun had arrived first, and had pressed the insurgents so hard, with about 250 of his men, who were all that were up with him at the time,

that he was compelled to hazard many gallant men in a greatly unequal contest with nearly 200 of the rebels, which he did in a most gallant manner; and so determined was the attack that the insurgents were forced to seek for shelter in the village, throwing their plunder in every direction. It was not, however, before some loss was inflicted on the 2nd Cavalry, when I am very sorry indeed to state, Rissaldar Major Ismail Khan was killed, while fighting very gallantly, and Captain Clogstoun was also himself wounded, and his horse also.

When the rebels had sought protection in the village, Captain Nightingale, with the 3rd Cavalry, approached, and the two regiments immediately surrounded Chichumba, until arrangements could be made for attacking it. Though the Artillery were only 6-pounder guns, they were placed in position to open upon the village, and it was apparent, from the firing which ensued, that the place was well defended by small arms. On arrival of the 3rd Infantry, I made arrangements for assaulting the village, for, though it was only a weak wing, and only 110 men were available for duty, it was necessary to dislodge the insurgents without delay, who were in a small dilapidated Ghurree, with an open front, so as to prevent their escaping at night.

As some scattered houses lay around, which must be passed before entering the Ghurree, and Captain McKinnon was the only European Officer with the party, I determined to command it myself, as I foresaw that the assault would prove unsuccessful, if he was disabled, and any check should prevent a rush into the Ghurree.

The party advanced with skirmishers, supported by the Horse Artillery 6-pounder on the flanks, and, on entering the village, a few men fell; on nearing the Ghurree, the firing became heavier, when Captain McKinnon fell mortally wounded; immediately after, my Brigade-Major Captain Hoeseason was dangerously wounded, and my own orderly was shot dead by my side.

My utmost endeavours now completely failed in urging the men to follow me, and, by a dash, gain possession of the Ghurree; and, finding that many men crowded round their disabled commander to carry him off, which left me quite unsupported, no alternative was left me but to bring the remaining men out again, which I did under a heavy fire.

My object was now directed to prevent the rebels from escaping during the night, as I was informed by a prisoner that the party consisted of 200 Rohillas, 70 Arabs, and 70 Dhekanees, under the command of Haji Ali, an Arab chief.

I visited the cavalry pickets for this purpose, and gave directions that, just before sunset, the cavalry line of posts should be withdrawn, as if with the intention of joining the camp, at some distance off, to deceive the garrison, but that, as soon as it became dark, they were to take up their old position, and to be vigilant during the night.

Between ten and eleven o'clock that night, with a bright moon shining, the rebels commenced their march across the plain in a compact body, and first brought the pickets of the 2nd Cavalry into action, which was subsequently joined by the 3rd Cavalry; and the rebels, when in full retreat, kept up a continuous heavy firing upon the cavalry, which caused us much loss; the rebels, however, had upwards of 100 of their number cut up and speared.

As it was entirely an affair of pickets, I beg to forward a separate report from Captains Clogstoun and Nightingale, minutely detailing the part each regiment took on this very gallant occasion. So severe an example was dealt out to the rebels that