

No. 7.

*The Officiating Adjutant-General of the Army,  
to the Secretary to the Government of India,  
Military Department.*

*Head Quarters, Simla, May 28, 1859.*

SIR, No. 486.

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Commander-in-Chief, to transmit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General in Council, copies of two letters, dated 27th and 28th ultimo, from Brigadier A. H. Horsford, C.B., describing a successful expedition made by a force under his orders from Nanpara.

Lord Clyde desires me to express his approbation of the services rendered on this occasion by the Brigadier and the troops under his command.

I have, &c.

H. W. NORMAN, Major,  
Officiating Adjutant-General of the Army.

No. 8.

*Brigadier A. H. Horsford, C.B., Commanding  
Trans Gogra, to the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General Oude Force.*

*Dated Camp Bhurtpore,  
April 27, 1859.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Major-General Sir Hope Grant, K.C.B., commanding Oude Division, that having received intelligence of the movement of a body of rebels of between 2000 and 3000 in number to the westward, with a view to cross the Kowreealla River and enter the Khyryghur jungles, I assembled the force named in the margin,\* at Nanpara, and proceeded to endeavour to prevent the enemy from carrying out his intentions.

I had previously ascertained that all the boats on the Kowreealla had been withdrawn by the police on the right bank of that river, and was therefore aware, that from its depth and width, if time was not given the rebels to construct rafts, they could not cross.

My object being to prevent the enemy from breaking to the southward, I marched to the Gurwa River (between which and the Kowreealla River the rebels were reported to be) in a north-westwardly direction, leaving Pudnaha on my right; this led me through a track of dense forest, and over very difficult ground; but with the assistance of bildars to prepare the way for the guns, all obstacles were overcome, and I succeeded in reaching the left bank of the Gurwa River on the 25th instant at 8 A.M., having left my last encampment at 3 A.M.

I here ascertained that the enemy, in perfect ignorance of our approach, were assembled between the Gurwa and Kowreealla Rivers, and as my object, as I have previously stated, was to prevent them from breaking to the southward, I detached a body of cavalry to the only ford in that direction by which they could cross, and I

\* 3rd Troop 1st Brigade Bengal Horse Artillery, 42; Wing 1st Punjaub Cavalry, 236; Detachment 1st Sikh Irregular Cavalry, 126; 3 Companies 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, 241; 2 Companies 5th Punjaub Rifles, 128; 2 Companies Kemaon Battalion, 101.—Total, 874.

passed the Gurwa with my force, and so disposed it as to cover as much ground as possible with the purpose of driving the enemy into the apex of the triangle formed by the two rivers.

The main body of the cavalry were moved considerably to the right to endeavour to close the only line of retreat open to the enemy, due north, but unfortunately the denseness of the jungle prevented the cavalry from acting quite as I intended. They, however, succeeded in cutting up many stragglers.

My advance with the infantry and guns was a perfect surprise to the enemy, who offered but little resistance; but here, again, the jungle favoured their retreat, however upwards of 200 were killed during the day.

The greater part of the rebels fled to the northward, but a small force of cavalry and infantry were driven into the jungle, near the junction of the two rivers.

As soon as the troops had somewhat rested, after a severe day's work, and the great heat of the day had passed, I proceeded to clear this jungle; in the meantime, however, a body of about 40 sowars dashed across the open from this jungle, as their only means of escape, but of these only three got away.

The infantry went through the jungle and destroyed a few of the enemy, but from arms of all descriptions picked up, it was conjectured that the rebels must have swam across into the jungles on the opposite banks of the river.

It is now stated that Oomrow Sing has but very few followers with him, his force having dispersed and gone towards the hills.

During these operations, the troops have made long and fatiguing marches through a country covered with forest and traversed by several rivers; on the 25th they were under arms from 2 A.M. until 8 P.M., but both their health and spirit have been excellent. I have received every aid from Colonel Hill, C.B., 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, commanding the infantry; from Majors Moir, C.B., Bengal Horse Artillery, and Hughes, 1st Punjaub Cavalry, the former commanding the artillery, the latter the cavalry.

I beg to thank the following officers, who efficiently commanded their respective detachments:—

Lieutenant Danvers, 1st Punjaub Cavalry.  
Lieutenant Godby, 1st Sikh Cavalry.  
Captain Grant, Kemaon Battalion.  
Lieutenant Lane, 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade;  
and Lieutenant Forlong, 5th Punjaub Rifles.

I have also to thank Major Dillon, 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, my Major of Brigade; Captain Hoste, 5th Punjaub Rifles, Brigade Quartermaster; Lieutenant Sadler, 61st Regiment, commanding District Police; and Lieutenant Campbell, 79th Highlanders, my Orderly Officer.

Captain Steel, Deputy Commissioner, who has accompanied the force, has rendered very important services.

I subjoin a list of casualties, and beg to state that about 50 or 60 horses were captured during the day.

I have, &c.

A. H. HORSFORD, Brigadier,  
Commanding Trans Gogra.