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War Office,
7th June, 1904.

The following Despatch has been received from Lieutenant-General Sir C. C. Egerton, K.C.B., D.S.O., Indian Army, Commanding Somaliland Field Force:—

To the Secretary of the Army Council, London,
S.W.

Head-Quarters, Berbera,
5th April, 1904.

Sir,
With reference to my Despatch No. 3475, S.A. of date, I have the honour to forward herewith the reports of gallantry in the field of the following Officers:—

Lieutenant H. A. Carter, 117th Mahrattas, No. 6 Company, Indian Mounted Infantry	} At Jidballi on the 19th December, 1903.
Subadar Bhairo Gujar, 119th Infantry (The Mooltan Regiment)	

Lieutenant C. L. Smith, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, at Jidballi on the 10th January, 1904, and to strongly recommend them for favourable consideration.

I have, &c.,
C. C. EGERTON, Major-General,
Commanding Somaliland Field Force.

Extract of report, dated 26th December, 1903, from Lieutenant W. Sargent, Commanding No. 1 Section, No. 6 Company, (Poona) Mounted Infantry, at Jidballi, 19th December, 1903.

During the action of the 19th instant, when the two Sections of the Poona Mounted Infantry were retiring, Subadar Bhairo Gujar (119th Mooltan Regiment), seeing No. 3072, Private Dana Gujar, dismounted and hard pressed, returned alone to his aid, and under a fire from the enemy's horsemen, who were about 50 yards from Private Dana Gujar, mounted him on his pony and carried him off. The Section, which was retiring at a fast pace, was several hundred yards away.

Lieutenant H. A. Carter returned to the assistance of No. 2367, Private Jai Singh, who was also dismounted in another part of the field, and, taking him up behind him, brought him away. The enemy was close on Private Jai Singh, and his Section several hundred yards off.

Both these Officers returned to the aid of the dismounted men at risk of their own lives, and there is little doubt that if they had not gone back, both men would have been killed.

Extract of report from Lieutenant H. W. Stevens, 5th Somaliland Mounted Infantry, dated 12th January, 1904:—

I wish to draw your attention to an incident which occurred in the early part of the fight at Jidballi on the 10th January. I refer to the gallant manner in which Lieutenant Smith endeavoured to save the lives of Doctor Welland and Hospital Assistant Rahamat Ali. You are, I believe, aware that Rahamat Ali was hit early in the fight, that Lieutenant Smith and Doctor Welland went out to his assistance, endeavouring to bring him out of action on a horse, that the rapidity of the enemy's advance rendered this impossible, and that Rahamat Ali was killed. After his death, Lieutenant Smith did all that any man could do to bring out Doctor Welland, helping him to mount a horse, and, when that was shot, a mule. This was also hit, and Doctor Welland was speared by the enemy. Lieutenant Smith stood by Doctor Welland to the end, and, when that Officer was killed, was within a few yards of him (as I saw personally) endeavouring to keep off the enemy with his revolver. At that time the dervishes appeared to be all round him, and I was much astonished later to find he had escaped with his life.

In forwarding the report relative to Lieutenant Smith, Lieutenant-Colonel Kenna, V.C., D.S.O., Commanding Mounted Troops, states that the enemy made a very sudden and determined rush on the 5th Somali Mounted Infantry, at the beginning of the Jidballi fight: they were supported by rifle fire, and came from cover of bushes close at hand.