

Immediately I got within range they opened upon me with round shot, from (3) three guns, posted along the road above mentioned, which being rather lower than the fields, were not visible from where I was. I moved off to the left, keeping as well as I could out of range of their shot, and got between them and their camp, where I left the infantry, a portion of the cavalry, and the detachment of police, under Ensign Chalmers, in a mangoe tope full of thick jungle, with orders to watch the guns, keep out of range if possible, and endeavour to keep the enemy in play until reinforcements should arrive from Phillibheet; and taking the remainder of the cavalry with me, I went back by the way I had come, to see how Ressaïdar Hukdad Khan was getting on.

Ressaïdar Hukdad Khan reported that he had come across a body of the enemy's cavalry, about (19) nineteen in number, (14) fourteen of whom had charged him in the most determined manner, that the (14) fourteen were all killed, and (5) five horses captured, with a loss on our side of (2) two sowars killed, (1) one duffadar, and (1) one sowar wounded, and (1) one horse missing; the Ressaïdar himself also was wounded. I cannot speak too highly of the coolness and judgment of Ressaïdar Hukdad Khan on this occasion. I remained on the enemy's left watching their movements, and seeing that they were moving their guns towards where I had left Ensign Chalmers, I proceeded down the road they had been posted on at a trot, but had not got above a quarter of a mile, when I heard a volley of musketry, and on getting off my horse, and looking with my telescope, I saw the enemy making off helter skelter towards their own camp. On joining Ensign Chalmers, he reported that for about an hour and a half the enemy had kept up a fire at intervals from their

guns, at the end of which time they edged towards their standing camp, and got between it and the tope he held; at the same time he received a note from me, directing him, in the event of the enemy passing him, to return direct to Nooreah, which he proceeded to do; on his getting clear of the tope, he found that the enemy had received reinforcements of cavalry, and was drawn up in such a position as to command the road for his return, and that he estimated their numbers at (250) two hundred and fifty infantry, (150) one hundred and fifty cavalry, and (3) three guns, and that, as soon as he was clear of the tope, they fired (3) three round shot at him, but without effect, after which their cavalry immediately charged. He faced his men about, and when they were within (120) one hundred and twenty yards, gave them a volley that emptied (5) five saddles; they halted, and hesitated; his infantry and cavalry shouted, and made an attempt to charge, but he restrained them; the joint effect of the volley and attempt to charge, was however such that the sowars turned and retired, or rather ran away towards their guns, which were immediately limbered up, and taken back to their standing camp, without giving him any more annoyance. I returned to Nooreah at one o'clock.

Great praise is due to Ensign Chalmers, and the detachments of the 24th Punjab Infantry and 2d Punjab Cavalry under his command, as also to Mr Low, and the few police who were with him, for their steadiness under fire.

Attached is a casualty return.

I have, &c.,
FRANCIS CRAIGIE, Lieutenant
2d Punjab Cavalry, Commanding
Detachment.

No. 32.

CASUALTY RETURN of a Detachment under Command of Lieutenant Craigie, in the Action at Nooreah, on the 29th August 1858.

Corps.	Killed.		Wounded.			Horse Missing.
	Rank and File.	Horses.	Native-Commissioned Officers.	Native Non-Commissioned Officers.	Rank and File.	
2d Punjab Cavalry	3	3	1	1	1	1
Total.....	3	3	1	1	1	1

FRANCIS CRAIGIE, Lieutenant,
Commanding Detachment.