

Finance for the approbation of the Government, and for publication in the official periodical.

Art. 3. The maximum of the prices which can be fixed for gold and silver bullion shall be those established by the Laws of July 28, 1860, and August 18, 1843, that is to say, 715 dollars for the quilogram of gold of the lei (quality) of one thousand millesimals, and forty-two dollars nine hundred and twenty-six millesimals for the quilogram of silver of the same quality.

The lowest price for fine gold shall be (700), seven hundred dollars for the quilogram, and as regards the silver, that shall be adopted which in the opinion of the Committee is nearest to the current rate of the market.

Art. 4. The prices which may be established shall not be altered nor modified until at least one month shall have passed from the day in which the alteration or modification accorded is announced in the official periodical.

Art. 5. The Superintendent will take care to obtain the necessary data, in order that the Committee may be aware of the alterations which may take place in the market prices of bullion, of the abundance or scarcity of circulating medium, and of the necessities of the country in this respect.

Let this be noted, communicated, and published.

(Signed) PEREZ.

(Countersigned) ALEJANDRO REYES.

*War Office, July 16, 1864.*

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to signify Her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross on the under-mentioned Officer of Her Majesty's Indian Forces, whose claim to the same has been submitted for Her Majesty's approval, for his gallant conduct during the operations at Umbeyla, on the North-Western frontier of India, as recorded against his name; viz :

Corps.	Rank and Name.	Acts of Bravery for which recommended.
Bengal Staff Corps	<p>Lieutenant Henry William Pitcher, Adjutant, 4th Punjab Infantry</p> <p>Date of Acts of Bravery, October 30th and November 16th, 1863</p>	<p>For the daring and gallant manner in which, in the course of the recent operations against the Frontier Tribes, on the 30th October, 1863, he led a party of his Regiment to re-capture the Crag Picket, after its garrison had been driven in by the enemy; on which occasion sixty of them were killed in desperate hand to hand fighting.</p> <p>From the nature of the approach to the top of the Crag amongst the large rocks, one or two men only could advance at one time; "and while I ascended one path," relates Major Keyes, commanding the 1st Punjab Infantry, "I directed Lieutenant Fosbery, of the late 4th European Regiment, to push up another, at the head of a few men. He led this party with the greatest coolness and intrepidity, and was the first man to gain the top of the Crag, on his side of the attack. Lieutenant Pitcher, equally cool and daring, led a party of men up to the last rock, until he was knocked down and stunned by a large stone thrown from above, within a few yards of him."</p> <p>Lieutenant Pitcher also displayed great gallantry in leading on a party of his Regiment to endeavour to recover the Crag Picket, when it again fell into the enemy's hands, on the 13th of November, as related in the following extract from Major Keyes' report of the 16th of that month;</p> <p>"The duty of leading the first charge devolved upon Lieutenant Pitcher, and I beg to bring to the special notice of the Brigadier-General Commanding, the admirable manner in which he performed this important duty. He was by many yards the foremost of his party, and the gallant bearing of this excellent young Officer was the admiration of all spectators. It is impossible to say too much, or to over-rate his services on this occasion. Lieutenant Pitcher was severely wounded, and was obliged to be carried back."</p>