

keep the Guides Cavalry exposed to fire all day, because I had only a very small reserve of infantry to meet a sudden rush against our position.

14. This state of things continued all the morning. The enemy brought their standards up to within one and two hundred yards of our men on the front and right, but could not be induced by their leaders to make an effective charge.

15. About half-past one I saw the skirmishers of Brigadier-General Macpherson's force coming up between us and Charasiah. I went to the General, and, after pointing out the position of the enemy to him, said that if I could have a few companies to support the Guides, I could clear the front and left of our position.

16. The General ordered Lieutenant-Colonel F. M. Armstrong, with three companies of the 45th Sikhs, to join our force.

17. As soon as Brigadier-General Macpherson's skirmishers came up abreast of us our line advanced, and drove the enemy right off the ground. In ascending the steep hill to the left, the Guides came under the fire of some of the enemy posted in rocky ground on their left flank.

Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong, therefore, inclined to his left, and cleared this part of the hill. I am greatly indebted to him, and the fine regiment he commands, for the assistance afforded us.

18. Directly the line moved forward, the Guides Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, supported by the two guns of F-A Royal Horse Artillery, advanced and pursued the enemy nearly up to the Súm-i-Daldal Kotal, the cavalry cutting down those who fled by the plain, while the guns made excellent practice at parties of men who were being driven over the top of the hill by the infantry.

19. I beg to bring Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart to the favourable notice of the Lieutenant-General. He showed great ability during the engagement, and his knowledge of the language and the country were most useful during the whole time the column was out.

20. No enemy remained in sight at 4 P.M., and the force returned to Sherpúr under Brigadier-General Macpherson's orders.

21. The Lieutenant-General will see from the enclosed returns that scarcely any damage fell on the camp-followers and transport animals, and that the enemy gained no advantage over us at any time. I wish to acknowledge that this is due to the excellent conduct of the troops, and to express my thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. P. P. Campbell, who commanded the Corps of Guides, and to Major G. S. White, who commanded the half battalion of the 92nd Highlanders.

22. I enclose a sketch of the country by Lieutenant C. H. Manners Smith, Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General with the column, to whom I am much indebted, as I am also to Captain M. A. Alves, Royal Engineers.

23. The loss of the enemy was severe. There were twenty-five bodies lying in one place close to the front of our position; others were found scattered about the hills, and the cavalry killed twenty-nine on the plain beyond. As the fighting lasted some time, many of the dead and wounded had been carried off before we advanced, but two badly wounded men were brought back to Kabul, where they are now under treatment in the dispensary, and others were left to the care of the villagers.

24. The wounds received by our men were generally severe, being principally from Martinis and Sniders. I fear that several of the wounded will die in spite of the great attention paid to them by

Surgeon J. Lewtas of the Guides, and Surgeon J. J. Morris of the 92nd Highlanders.

25. I ought not to close this report without mentioning the name of Ressaldar-Major Ghúlam Naksband Khan, Sirdar Bahadur, who was sent with the column as a political officer, and rendered most valuable service.

### I.

*Return showing the Strength of the Force under the command of Brigadier-General H. T. Macpherson, C.B., V.C., engaged in the Operations of the 25th April, 1880, at Charasiah.*

Brigade Staff—Total by Regiments, 3 officers.  
Total Arms of the Service, 3 officers. Total Staff.

6-8th Royal Artillery—Total by Regiments, 1 officer, 71 men.

No. 2 Mountain Battery—Total by Regiments, 1 officer, 114 men. Total Arms of the Service, 2 officers, 185 men. Total artillery.

3rd Punjab Cavalry—Total by Regiments, 1 officer, 85 men. Total Arms of the Service, 1 officer, 85 men. Total cavalry.

92nd Highlanders—Total by Regiments, 8 officers, 278 men.

45th Sikhs—Total by Regiments, 8 officers, 555 men.

2nd Goorkhas—Total by Regiments, 1 officer, 129 men. Total Arms of the Service, 17 officers, 962 men. Total infantry.

Grand Total—Total by Regiments 23 officers, 1,232 men. Total Arms of the Service, 23 officers, 1,232 men.

H. T. MACPHERSON, Brigadier-General,  
Commanding 1st Brigade, 1st Division,  
Kabul Field Force.

Kabul, 1st May, 1880.

*Return showing the Strength of the Column under the Command of Colonel F. H. Jenkins, C.B., at Charasiah, on the 25th April, 1880.*

F-A Royal Horse Artillery—1 British officer, 41 British non-commissioned officers and men. Total 42. 45 horses, 57 followers, 26 ponies, 24 mules.

92nd Highlanders—9 British officers, 266 British non-commissioned officers and men. Total 275. 3 horses, 205 followers, 74 ponies, 8 camels, 76 mules.

Guides Cavalry—4 British officers. Total 4. 8 Native officers, 251 Native non-commissioned officers and men. Total 259. 273 horses, 282 followers, 242 ponies, 40 camels, 90 mules.

Guides Infantry—7 British officers. Total 7. 14 Native officers, 600 Native non-commissioned officers and men. Total 614. 12 horses, 416 followers, 136 ponies, 63 camels, 81 mules. Besides these, a few animals and camp-followers with the Commissariat and Transport Departments.

Grand Total—21 British officers, 307 British non-commissioned officers and men. Total 328. 22 Native officers, 851 Native non-commissioned officers and men. Total 873. 333 horses, 960 followers, 478 ponies, 111 camels, 271 mules.

C. H. MANNERS SMITH, Lieutenant,  
Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General,  
Sherpúr Cantonment, 26th April, 1880.

### II.

*Numerical List of Killed and Wounded of the Force under the Command of Brigadier-General H. T. Macpherson, C.B., V.C., in the Operation of the 25th April, 1880, at Charasiah.*

No. 2 Mountain Battery—1 private wounded.  
Total 1