

fire star shell to light up the ground where the enemy were collected, and this enabled the infantry to get in several effective volleys. There still remained a few stray men in the centre of the camp, who, while the fighting was going on, had employed themselves in looting whatever they could lay their hands on. These, finding their friends had failed to hold their ground, turned their thoughts to flight. Several were shot down while attempting to flee, and indeed it is doubtful if any of those who had delayed making their escape till the end of the fight succeeded in getting out of camp at all. I would here mention that, although the main attack was directed against our left flank, men were observed in large numbers on the hills on our right, apparently awaiting events. A considerable body was also seen to our front, and it was subsequently reported that it was part of the enemy's plan to assault from this direction simultaneously with the attack on our left, but for some reason not explained this did not come off. There is no doubt, however, that had the first attack not been so speedily met and dealt with, the Waziris were ready to take advantage of any confusion, and would have tried to rush the camp from all sides. I had therefore up to the last to be prepared for a second and perhaps more formidable attack from some other quarter.

18. At 6 A.M., when day was beginning to dawn, the enemy's fire slackened, and it was apparent that their retreat had commenced. I at once sent orders for the cavalry to start in pursuit and inflict as much damage as possible. There was some slight delay in this order being carried out, as during the fight, whilst the sowars were engaged in defending their front and rear, the syces who should have been saddling the horses had run away and hidden themselves, which could hardly be wondered at, considering that the enemy, as already stated, had succeeded in getting among the horses. In spite of these difficulties, the squadron numbering sixty-one sabres under Major O'Mealy, within ten minutes of receiving the order, was trotting to the right flank of the camp with the object of gaining the road to the Inzar Kotal which was apparently the direction of the enemy's retreat. The cavalry was followed almost immediately by the troops as per margin,* under the command of Colonel Meiklejohn, 20th Bengal Infantry, whom I had ordered to push on as rapidly as possible in the direction of the Inzar Kotal and pursue as long as there was any chance of inflicting loss.

19. The cavalry, after trotting about three miles, came in sight of the retreating enemy, the main body of whom they estimate to number some 1,000 or 1,500 men. Here the ground was very broken and covered with large stones, and it was impossible to go faster than a trot. On gaining slightly better ground, the squadron cut into the line of the enemy's retreat, and charged where the crowd was thickest, inflicting great loss. After pursuing some distance, the squadron was re-formed under a fire from both sides and again charged where the enemy was thickest. By this time the Waziris were so scattered and the ground so bad, that "pursue" was ordered, and the enemy was cut down or speared singly, the lance proving its excellence as a weapon of pursuit. The cavalry horses were beginning to tire, so, rallying for a 1st effort, the squadron charged up a steep slope among olive trees at the last of the enemy within

* No. 3 (Peshawar) Mountain Battery, 4 guns; No. 2 Company, Bengal Sappers and Miners, 140 rifles; 3rd Regiment of Sikh Infantry, 349 rifles; 20th (the Duke of Cambridge's Own) Regiment of Bengal Infantry, 200 rifles.

reach. The ground being now quite impracticable for mounted action, sections were dismounted and the retreat harassed by volleys as long as within range. The squadron then retired until it met the main body of the pursuing column which had been joined about two miles from camp by the 100 rifles of the 1st Gurkhas, who had held the deserted Darweshkhel fort already mentioned.

20. On being met by the cavalry Colonel Meiklejohn pushed on with the whole force to the Inzar Kotal and continued the pursuit for some three miles down the other side. The enemy were seen in full retreat, streaming away towards Shakai on the left and Khaisara on the right, but too far off for the guns to be brought into action. Smaller bodies, however, came under the fire of the infantry and suffered loss. As further pursuit would now have been useless, the order was given to retire to the Inzar Kotal, and from there the whole pursuing force returned to camp, which was reached at 4 P.M.

21. Our losses during the attack and in the pursuit are given in the accompanying returns and amounted altogether to 45 killed and 75 wounded, including camp-followers. Of British Officers, Lieutenant Macaulay, R.E., was killed, and the following wounded:—Of the Staff, Lieutenant M. L. Hornby, Orderly Officer, severely; in the 1st Punjab Cavalry, Surgeon-Major P. de H. Haig, Indian Medical Service, severely; in the 1st Gurkhas, Captain A. G. B. Lang, severely; Lieutenant R. D. Angelo, dangerously; and Lieutenant C. Herbert, dangerously; and in the 20th Bengal Infantry, Lieutenant I. F. R. Thompson, severely. Of Native Officers, Subadar Padam Singh Rana and Jemadar Adjutant Kharak Singh Nagarkoti were killed.

22. In addition to our losses in Officers and men, the enemy during the attack succeeded in carrying off a considerable amount of Government and private property, including 35 Martini-Henry rifles, two Martini-Henry carbines, and Rs. 2,600 in cash from the Commissariat Agent's treasure chest. The rifles for the most part belonged to men who were killed or wounded, and the carbines to two sowars who were wounded in the cavalry pursuit and whose horses went off over the Inzar Kotal. Fifteen cavalry horses (including the two above mentioned) and several horses and ponies belonging to Officers and others were missing, and there is little doubt that these all eventually found their way into Mahsud country, as the majority were seen galloping down the Toi Valley and were probably caught by the enemy who were watching the fight from the neighbouring hills. Forty-eight Government mules were killed, or had to be shot, and 58 were wounded, in addition to five camels killed and wounded.

23. The enemy's loss was large; 125 bodies were counted in the immediate neighbourhood of camp, and many others were seen along the road traversed by the pursuing column. During the pursuit itself the cavalry killed some 50, wounding many more, and the infantry accounted for about 25. From information subsequently received, the British Commissioner estimated the enemy's killed at 350. The number of wounded is not known. Ten prisoners were taken, of whom eight are wounded.

24. It is difficult to estimate the number of the enemy engaged, but from the reports since received, I hardly think this could have been less than 3,000. Of this number, only about half took part in the actual attack on the camp, the remainder were awaiting events, ready to join their fellow tribesmen if successful. The enemy con-