

How remember.

How long has this form been in use in the irregular cavalry of the Bengal army? The form was only introduced since 1856, after the irregular cavalry.

Can you recommend any improvement in the wording or matter of the oath administered to the recruit of the irregular cavalry of the Bengal army when first enrolled?

Not having seen the oath, I cannot form an

Should the irregular cavalry corps of the Bengal army be raised each in a prescribed district, and be recruited there and there only?

No; a mixture is good.

Or should the irregular cavalry corps of the Bengal army be recruited over a wide area; in fact, without reference to districts?

Yes; without reference to districts.

Should the corps of irregular cavalry of the Bengal army be homogeneous as to race or caste?

No.

Should the corps of irregular cavalry of the Bengal army be composed of rissalahs, each of which shall consist of separate tribes or castes, or should the tribes or castes be mixed up together in the whole corps?

Rissalahs of different tribes would be desirable, as they can always pit the one against the other in case of row.

If the corps of irregular cavalry of the Bengal army are not homogeneous, but composite, in what proportions should the races, tribes, or castes enter?

Equal, as near as they can be procured, but Mussulmans will always preponderate.

What agency should be employed for recruiting?

The commanding officer alone.

What precautions should be taken before the local authorities or through their instrumentality, in connexion with recruits for the irregular cavalry of the Bengal army?

Every man entertained ought to be registered by the local authorities in the district from whence he comes, and security taken from the head man of the village, if possible.

Should a troop or squadron of Europeans form a component part of the irregular corps of cavalry of the Bengal army?

I do not consider this necessary.

If so, should such troops or squadrons be enlisted for this special purpose, or be composed of men selected from the European cavalry corps serving in India, or be integral portions of European corps, and subject to periodical relief?

If it should be considered necessary, I would insist specially for this purpose.

How should the barracks and stables of such isolated European troops or squadrons be placed?

In rear of the regiment, and in front of the European officers' quarters.

Would such detachments of Europeans seriously complicate commissariat arrangements?

Most certainly. Besides, in my opinion, a regiment of irregular cavalry ought to be able to move at an hour's notice, and this they could not do if they had to get commissariat stores, &c.

native troopers with whom they would be associated?

23. With sabres and carbines, the same as the native troopers.

How should the irregular cavalry of the Bengal army be armed.

With tulwars and carbines.

No reply required to No. 25.

Do the existing dress and equipments admit of improvement? If so, state in what respects.

No; I consider the dress and equipments of my old regiment—the 9th irregular cavalry—perfect, and I believe all the old regiments are dressed much the same. In some regiments of irregular cavalry the dress of the European officers is far too flash and expensive. I would recommend their being restricted to a plain, soldier-like uniform, and as like their men as possible.

J. CHRISTIE, Brigadier,
Commanding Dinapore Division.

II.—RULES OF DISCIPLINE AND MILITARY CODE.

Can you suggest improvements in the articles of war now in use in the irregular cavalry of the Bengal army?

1. Since the irregular cavalry have been subjected to the articles of war, they have deteriorated very much. I would most earnestly recommend that the old *punchayet* system be re-introduced, which was invariably found to answer so well.

Should the special rules regulating punishment in the native army be retained, or should they be assimilated to the rules which obtain in the British army?

I would have nothing to say to the special rules regulating punishment in the regular native army, or in the British army either.

Does the system of native courts-martial work satisfactorily in the irregular cavalry of the Bombay army?

Most certainly not. I recommend they should be abolished in the irregular cavalry, and trial by *punchayet* introduced again.

What means are adopted to acquaint the troopers of the Bengal irregular cavalry with the military code under which they serve and are governed?

In my regiment I had the old articles of war read which concerned the men, once a quarter.

What proportion of the troopers of the Bengal irregular cavalry can read and comprehend the articles of war in their own vernacular?

Very few indeed can read, but all understand them when read and explained to them.

J. CHRISTIE, Brigadier,
Commanding Dinapore Division.

III.—ORGANIZATION, PROMOTION, AND REWARDS.

In the irregular cavalry of the Bengal army what is the system of promotion; is it based on merit alone, on seniority alone, or on merit and seniority combined?

Merit; but if both seniority and merit are combined, of course the latter.

Are the native commissioned officers and non-commissioned officers of the irregular cavalry of the Bengal army generally intelligent, useful, and efficient?

Yes; if they are promoted as above, and it is the commanding officer's own fault if any but efficient commissioned and non-commissioned officers are pro-

PAPERS CONNECTED WITH THE RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY

of CAVALRY and INFANTRY OFFICERS ON CIVIL EMPLOY

	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	
European Light Cavalry			3			a Placed disposal of States.
ditto			3			
ditto			3			
ditto			3			
European Bengal Fusiliers			3	1		
ditto			3	1		
European Regiment	1	4	1			b 1 Officiating.
ditto		3	1			
ditto		3	1			c Officiating.
ditto	1	3				d 1 Revenue Survey.
Native Infantry		1				
ditto		1				
ditto		1				e Officiating.
ditto	1					
ditto		2				
ditto		2				
ditto	1	2	1			f 1 Revenue Survey.
ditto		2	1			
ditto		2	1			
ditto		2	1			g 1 Revenue Survey.
ditto		3	1			
ditto	1	3	2			h 1 Officiating.
ditto		1				
ditto		2				i 1 Officiating.
ditto		2				j 1 Revenue Survey.
ditto		1	1			
ditto		1	1			
ditto		1	4			
ditto			1			k Revenue Survey.
ditto			1			
ditto			2			
ditto			2			
ditto		1	2			l 1 Revenue Survey and i Officiating.
ditto		1	1			
ditto	1		2			
ditto		1				
ditto		2	1			
ditto		1	2			
ditto		1	1			
ditto			1			m Revenue Survey.
ditto		1	3			
ditto		1				
ditto		1				
ditto			1			
ditto	1		1			
ditto			1			
ditto			1			
ditto			1			
ditto			1			
ditto			1			
ditto			1			
ditto			1			

List of Cavalry and Infantry Officers

	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Total
65th Native Infantry			1			1
66th ditto			2			2
67th ditto			2			2
68th ditto			1			1
69th ditto			1			1
70th ditto			2			2
71st ditto			4			4
72nd ditto			1			1
73rd ditto	1	2	1			4
74th ditto			1			1
Total	4	11	87	54	—	116

LIST of CAVALRY and INFANTRY OFFICERS serving MILITARY OFFICES.

	Colonels.	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Total
Personal Staff of the Governor-Gen.						
Ditto ditto Commander-in-Chief			1	2	1	4
Ditto ditto Lieutenant-Governor.			2			2
Town Major				1		1
General Officers of Divisions	1	1				2
Secretariat of the Government, Military Department.			3			3
Adjutant-General's Department			1	2	1	4
Quartermaster-General's Department.			1	5	4	10
Judge Advocate-General's Department.			1	7	1	9
Audit Department			1			1
Pay Department				11	2	13
Surveyor General's Department					3	3
Army Commissariat Department, including the Auditor and Keddah Establishments.			1	4	26	31
Stud Department			1	6	4	11
Clothing Department			1	2	1	4
Fort Adjutants			7	2	1	10
Divisional Staff				1	7	8
Personal Staff of General Officers					1	1
Brigadiers			1	10		11
Brigade Majors				15		15
Military Employ	2	15	13	92	45	167
Civil Employ	—	4	11	87	54	156
Total	2	19	24	179	99	323

H. RICKETT.

February 24, 1859.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

AND APPENDIX.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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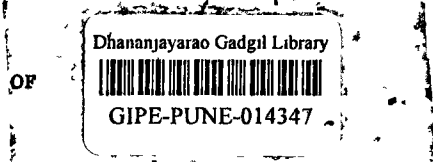
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1859.

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(R E P O R T)



THE COMMISSIONERS

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE

ORGANIZATION OF THE INDIAN ARMY;

TOGETHER WITH THE

187

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

AND APPENDIX.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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