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CUTCHEE
MEEANEE
HYDERABAD
MOOLTAN
GOOJERAT
PUNJAUB.

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ERRATA IN SECOND VOLUME

OF

RECORD BOOK, SINDE IRREGULAR HORSE.

Page 1, line 3 from top, *for* "jutts," *read* "Jutts."
„ 3, „ 41 „ *for* "Lanadeyra," *read* "Janadeyra."
„ 11, „ 35 „ *for* "Sholipoor," *read* "Shapoor."
„ 12, „ 16 „ "if" not required.
„ 20, „ 23 „ "it" not required.
„ 23, „ 44 „ "will" not required.
„ 29, „ 20 „ "the" not required.
„ 32, „ 15 „ *for* "Synds," *read* "Syuds."
„ 39, paragraph 3, line 2 from bottom, *before* "as an escort," *insert* "leaving a party of fifty men under an European officer."
„ 40, bottom of page, *for* "Southern," *read* "Sind."
„ 42, in paragraph 5, semicolon should be between the words "boat" and "from," instead of between the words "hence" and "the."
„ 42, line 19 from bottom, comma after "usefully" not required, and *for* the word "and," *read* "aid."
„ 46, line 8 from bottom, "that" not required.
„ 48, „ 4 from top, comma not required after the word "Bunyas."
„ 48, „ 34 „ "the" not required.
„ 48, „ 36 „ *for* "Synds," *read* "Syuds."
„ 49, *for* "W. Arther," *read* "W. Maher."
„ 55, „ 9 „ *for* "Dulahs," *read* "Dulals."
„ 57, *for* "W. Arther," *read* "W. Maher."
„ 59, „ 29 „ *for* "forwarded," *read* "provided."
„ 59, *for* "W. Arther," *read* "W. Maher," in two places.
„ 60, „ 16 from bottom, *for* "Ghannur Khan," *read* "Ghamin Khan."
„ 61, „ 7 from top, "the" not required.
„ 65, „ 37 „ "the" not required.
„ 78, „ 4 „ "A" required.
„ 90, „ 11 „ "the" required.
„ 101, „ 32 „ *for* "Sonewald," *read* "Sonewah."
„ 101, „ 40 „ *for* "pice," *read* "pies."
„ 108, „ 21 „ comma required after the words "Durrya Khan."
„ 133, „ 17 „ *for* "$6\frac{4}{5}$," *read* "six $4\frac{3}{5}$."
„ 134, *for* "Boress," *read* "Borers."
„ 154, „ 34 „ "the" required.
„ 158, „ 12 from bottom, *for* "Evenest's," *read* "Everests."
„ 160, „ 18 from top, *for* "impassable," *read* "impalpable."
„ 219, „ 2 „ *for* "Loree Kooshtuk," *read* "Soree Kooshtuk."
„ 230, „ 10 „ *for* "Macaulay," *read* "Macauley."
„ 230, „ 17 „ *for* "charge front," *read* "change front."
„ 254, „ 41 „ *for* "lauds," *read* "lands."
„ 262, „ 9, from bottom, *for* "excavating," *read* "executing."

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RECORDS.

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Plan
of the
TOWN AND CANTONMENT
OF
JACOBABAD.
1853.

Scale of 200 Yards to an Inch.

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RECORD BOOK

OF

The Scinde

IRREGULAR HORSE.

(PRINTED FOR PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL REGIMENTAL USE ONLY.)

VOL. II.

FROM 8TH OCTOBER, 1851, TO 13TH JUNE, 1855.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY SMITH, ELDER AND CO., 65, CORNHILL.

1856.

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RECORD BOOK

OF THE

SCINDE IRREGULAR HORSE.

SIR, 8th October, 1851.

I HAVE the honor to report that, on the 5th instant, a party of Mounted Marauders, from the hills, attacked some jutts proceeding from Rojaun to Kusmore, and took from them forty camels, cutting down one of the men. On the information reaching Kusmore, Russuldar Hyder Khan, with a party of the Scinde Irregular Horse from that post, proceeded in pursuit of the robbers, followed their track into the hills, and came on the plunderers at Mundoo Ke Koonda; shots were exchanged, but apparently without much effect; the robbers escaped among the rocks and hills, where they were joined by a body of footmen, but the Russuldar recovered and brought back the whole of the plunder, without loss on our side.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde, Kurrachee.

SIR, 15th October, 1851.

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on the frontier under my command, during the date of my last report.

I have received intelligence of the assembly in the hills of some hundreds of outlaws and broken men of various tribes, for the purpose of a plundering excursion into the Kusmore district, and have taken measures to prevent or repel the inroad.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde, Kurrachee.

SIR, 17th November, 1851.

In forwarding the accompanying copy of correspondence, as per margin, with Government, relative to the proposal for widening and deepening the Begaree Canal, in Upper Scinde, I have the honor to request that you will favor me with your opinion on the points noticed in paragraph 3rd of the letter from Government.

To Government, No. 1,065, Dated, 10th June, 51.
From ditto, No. 9,912, of 15th Ooctober, with enclosures.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major John Jacob, Political Superintendent
on the Frontier of Upper Scinde, Jacobabad.

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[Copies.]

No. 1,065 of 1851.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT REVENUE.

10th June, 1851. From the Commissioner in Scinde, to the Right Honorable Lord Viscount Falkland, Governor-President in Council, Bombay.

My Lord,

I have the honor to report that, when I was at Khanghur, Major Jacob brought to my notice the immense benefit which would result to all the country north of Shikarpoor, if the Begaree Canal were deepened and widened so as to enable it to convey a greater body of water.

2.—An inspection of Major Jacob's published Map of "Cutchee and the "North West Frontier of Scinde," will show your Lordship in Council better than any description I can give, the direction of this Canal (which is one of the principal in Upper Scinde), and the present distribution of its water.

3.—It will be seen from the Map that, after leaving the Indus, the Begaree runs nearly due West, giving off on its Northern side a number of smaller Canals, which run in a direction generally North or North West, till they thin out and terminate about the edge of the desert.

4.—It will be remembered that the surface of this tract of country gradually slopes from the Indus, so that the water which, at the spot where the Canal branches off from the Indus, is many feet below the surface, after running 40 or 50 miles comes out close to, or on, the surface.

5.—Hence, the further the Canal recedes from the River, the nearer is the water to the surface, and the greater are the facilities for raising it, till at length, near the borders of the desert it may, during the height of the inundation, be allowed to flow over the fields, without the expense of any wheels or other contrivance for raising it.

6.—The soil throughout is naturally good, but, like most soils in Scinde, it becomes intensely salt if left untilled, and unirrigated; and almost all the wells in the country become either perfectly salt, or more or less brackish.

7.—At present, newly cultivated land near the desert will, from the extreme saltness of the soil, produce little but certain varieties of jowarree.

8.—Tillage and irrigation will, however, in the course of a few seasons, almost entirely free the land from salt, with the exception of occasional incurable patches; and by assiduous use of the wells, and by turning into them the water from the Canals, the most brackish wells become annually improved, till in the third or fourth year they remain sweet all the year through.

9.—These facts have been repeatedly proved in all kinds of situations, and under every variety of circumstance, by Major Jacob, since the settlement of this frontier, and there cannot be a doubt but that the whole of the district between Shikarpoor and the desert might become again, as it has been in more prosperous times, a sheet of cultivation.

10.—There are men now living who remember it so cultivated, and the marks of such former cultivation are everywhere now visible.

11.—Of late years, as your Lordship in Council is aware, the Frontier tribes have ravaged and desolated the country up to the gates of Shikarpoor. The few inhabitants who remained were almost as lawless as their neighbours, and lived more by retaliatory plunder than by honest labor.

12.—Since Major Jacob took charge of the Frontier, this state of things has been completely changed. He has rigidly enforced the disarming of all within our frontier, and has put down the practice of forays beyond our frontier, whilst his posts of Scinde Irregular Horse form a perfect cordon of protection to all within them against aggression from without.

13.—In going from Shikarpoor to Khanghur, I passed over the district; less than four years ago it was exposed to be ravaged by forays of Hill Belooches, who kept even the Brigade of Shikarpoor in constant alarm of an attack, and who, within the period in question, carried off from that district a large booty, undeterred by a strong detachment of the Brigade, which went in pursuit of them.

14.—It was impossible not to be struck with the present altered state of things. Single unarmed travellers seemed now as safe as elsewhere in Scinde, and

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the general sense of perfect security was shown by the improving state of the villages, and the fact that the people now trust themselves, their cattle and grain-yards, day and night, out in the open fields, instead of keeping, as was so lately their invariable custom, under shelter of their village walls. 10th June, 1851.

15.—All were loud in proclaiming their gratitude for the present perfect peace and security assured to them by Major Jacob's arrangements.

16.—Nothing further is now wanting to restore the country to its ancient state of prosperity than to give it, its ancient supply of water.

17.—To do this in the large district traversed by the Begaree and its branches, nothing more is requisite, on the part of Government, than to deepen and widen the Begaree, the great artery of irrigation, leaving the cultivators along its course to improve, in a similar manner, the smaller branch Canals which convey the water to their fields.

18.—The details of the additional capacity which Major Jacob proposes to give the Canal, are fully stated in the enclosures. The total expense he estimates at Rupees 1,30,094, which he proposes to divide between the English Government and His Highness Meer Ali Morad, in proportion to the benefit each will derive, so that Rupees 97,570 will be ultimately defrayed by us, and Rupees 32,524 by His Highness.

From No. 73, dated 1st April, 1852, with Enclosed Estimate.
To No. 541, dated 11th ditto.
From No. 87, dated 21st ditto.

19.—The return will be, at a very moderate calculation, an increase of revenue of about Rupees 89,000 to the British Government, and 30,000 to His Highness Meer Ali Morad.

20.—But it is not only in directly increased Revenue that the benefits of the improvement will be felt.

21.—An extended and improved supply of drinking water for man and beast, and better grazing of pasture, will tell indirectly, but very decidedly, on the prosperity of the cultivators throughout the district.

22.—Still more decided will be the moral effect on the people of the country: it will give the means of subsistence to many thousands, and thereby, like every such measure, strengthen our Government, more especially the reclaimed tribes of Hill Belooches, whose colonies are all, with few exceptions, on the canals fed by the Begaree, will find their means of profitable cultivation greatly increased.

23.—Those who are under Major Jacob's immediate influence have already shown an excellent spirit in this respect. I have now before me, in a private letter from Major Jacob, an account of some late proceedings of Jummal Khan Doombkee, once a notorious plundering leader, but since Sir C. Napier's Trukkee campaign, in which he was made prisoner, settled near Khanghur. He last year obtained from Lieut. Farrington a grant of waste land near Koomree, the next post to Kusmore, on the Scinde Frontier. Here he collected all the idle Belooches from his own village and Lanadeyra, the Jekranee colony near Khanghur, and set them to work on the old canal, which they have dug out, besides making a dam about 50 yards long, and in the centre 30 feet high, very strong and solid, secured with trunks of large trees, &c., to prevent the water of the Canal flowing into a hollow. This has been done entirely by men who, ten years ago, would have rather starved than touched a spade or hoe, and yet, when visited by Major Jacob and his officers, they seemed as proud of their work as they would have formerly been of a successful foray, and even those officers who had encouraged them to the work, could hardly have believed that it was executed by Belooche robbers, putting into their works of peace, as they did formerly into their plundering expeditions, a far greater amount of energy than the Scindee cultivators.

24.—I have referred to this case in some detail, because one such instance is worth any amount of the best reasoned speculation, as to the probable results of measures like that in question, calculated to afford numerous opportunities for similar improvements. Your Lordship in Council would, I am convinced, think such results cheaply purchased at a considerable outlay of money, and will therefore, I am sure, accord them a place among the profitable returns to be expected from that now recommended.

25.—As the Begaree lies, in part, in those districts of His Highness Meer Ali Morad, which form a portion of Major Jacob's political charge, and as it runs almost entirely through frontier districts, I would recommend that the work be

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10th June, 1851. placed entirely under Major Jacob's superintendence, the Collector and his Deputies being directed to co-operate with him in every way, more especially by placing at his disposal the ordinary machinery for canal clearances, including, if necessary, the services of his Deputy, Lieutenant Dickson.

26.—There can be no doubt His Highness Meer Ali Morad would readily consent to bear his share in a project so advantageous to him, but his pecuniary difficulties may prevent him from paying down, or even promising to pay, his share in money. I would recommend, therefore, that the same course be pursued as has, I find, been usually followed in the ordinary annual clearances of this very Canal. His Highness furnishes as many statute laborers as he can. If they are fewer than the number at which he is assessed by the Collector, according to the general and long established custom of the country, the deficient men are entertained and paid by the Collector, and His Highness debited with the amount.

27.—Your Lordship in Council is well aware that, besides possessing a more minute and accurate acquaintance with the country than any European living, and having brought all his observations to the test of regular scientific survey, Major Jacob is, as a practical engineer, second to none in the Government service, and I have not therefore thought it necessary to submit his plan for the criticism of any other officer, simply because I know of none whose scientific attainments are greater, or who could, without the labor of years, add to them so accurate a knowledge of local circumstances.

28.—Moreover, the whole plan is so simple, and its results so certain, that there is hardly room for any reasonable difference of opinion, the work being merely the enlargement of an existing Canal, and not the excavation of a new one, to the results of which some degree of uncertainty must always attach.

29.—I trust I may be pardoned for expressing my respectful opinion that the acknowledgments of Government are due to Major Jacob for maturing and bringing forward a plan which, however closely connected with the great and philanthropic objects he has most at heart, is not one which he was officially bound to take the trouble of bringing forward.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

No. 9,912 of 1851.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

15th October, 1851. SIR,

Adverting to your letter of the 10th June last, No. 1,065, with accompaniments, I have been directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit for your information the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor-General, No. 337, dated the 24th ultimo, relative to the proposal for widening and deepening the Begaree Canal in Upper Scinde.

2.—The work, I am to state, cannot be commenced at any rate until a reply is received from the Honorable the Court of Directors to the reference which the Most Noble the Governor-General is about to make. In the mean while, it is desirable that you should consult Captain Turner, and report as to the advisableness and possibility of obtaining further information than has been afforded by Major Jacob as to the advantages likely to result from the work, and its probable cost.

3.—The Governor in Council is likewise desirous of being informed if cultivators for so large an increase of cultivation are likely to be found on the terms estimated; also, whether the increased volume of water from the proposed enlargement of the Canal, is likely to suffice as deducible from the extent of the existing irrigation, with many other points: for instance, as to how the levels have been ascertained, &c.

4.—In Major Jacob's estimate, dated the 31st March last, there are apparently errors which have been corrected in red ink in this office, so as to

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show the amount is Rupees (1,39,368 10) one lac thirty-nine thousand three hundred and sixty-eight, instead of Rupees (1,30,094) one lac thirty thousand and ninety-four. 15th October, 1851.

5.—As regards the suggestion for the removal of the bunds in the Sind, the Governor in Council, I am to state, would not authorize its adoption, without being satisfied that the country at Shikarpoor, or elsewhere, would not be rendered unhealthy by the inundation.

I have, &c., &c.,
(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To H. B. E. Frere, Esq.,
Commissioner in Scinde, Kurrachee.

No. 337 of 1851.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

SIR, 24th September, 1851.

The Governor-General having had under his consideration the papers submitted with your letter, No. 8,718, dated the 1st instant, relative to the widening and deepening of the Begaree Canal in Upper Scinde, directs me in reply to make the following communication.

2.—The Governor-General can have no hesitation in his expressing his cordial approval of the general proposal for widening and deepening the irrigation canal above adverted to, when so many, so great, and such immediate advantages may be expected from it.

3.—The question of estimate, calculations, &c., are details for which the Government of Bombay is responsible, and which his Lordship leaves to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, without interference on his part.

4.—If the work can be executed for anything like the sum named, and if it be likely to produce anything like the return anticipated, its early execution is very desirable.

5.—Adverting to the very peculiar relations existing at this moment between the British Government and His Highness Meer Ali Morad, whose consent will be necessary to the commencement of any operations on this Canal, which partly passes through his territory, and adverting further to the probability that instructions will, within a very short time, be received from the Court of Directors, which will indicate the measures to be adopted by the Government of Bombay towards His Highness, the Governor-General would advise the Governor in Council not to open the question with His Highness at the present moment.

6.—This act of caution cannot involve a delay of any consequence. In the mean time, the necessary sanction of the Court of Directors to the proposed expenditure will be sought.

I have, &c., &c.,
(Signed) H. M. ELLIOTT,
Secretary to Government of India,
with the Governor-General.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary to Government.

(True Copies.)
(Signed)
Assistant Commissioner.

To H. E. Goldsmid, Esquire,
Secretary to the Government, Bombay.

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No. 1,301.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

7th July, 1851.

SIR,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter, No. 129, dated the 17th ultimo, I have the honor to forward extract paragraphs 66 to 80 of my letter to Government, No. 857, of the 21st May last, relative to the political duties of the frontier, and to request that you will be good enough to inform me what establishment will, in your opinion, be sufficient to enable you satisfactorily to discharge the duties indicated by me; including an establishment for your Political Assistant.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major Jacob, Political Superintendent
on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

EXTRACT PARAGRAPHS 66 to 80 of a letter from the Commissioner in Scinde, No. 857, dated 21st May, 1851, to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Bombay.

Political duties in Upper Scinde.

Par. 66.—There is one point which, as being connected with the fiscal duties of the Collector of Shikarpoor, requires notice here, though its discussion belongs more properly to the Political Department.

67.—The duties formerly entrusted to a separate officer, as Resident at Khyrpoor, have, for the last two years, been transferred to the Collector of Shikarpoor.

68.—I cannot tell how matters might go on if the Collectorate were once fairly settled, but at present the arrangement does not, in any respect, work well. The Collector, already overburdened with far more work than he can perform, has his attention distracted by an entirely foreign, and, as matters now stand, not very compatible class of duties, which, for their proper performance, require far more undivided attention than the Collector can possibly give them. His Highness the Meer is obviously discontented at getting only a portion of the time and attention of an overworked officer, who has other most pressing duties to attend to; and this too even lately, when he personally liked the Collector and Political Agent (Mr. George Inverarity) as well, if not better, than any officer with whom he has had to do.

69.—But the principal evil is the divided authority regarding the political duties at one and the same Court. As regards all the Meer's possessions on the right bank towards Kusmore and the Murree Hills, Boordika, and his other frontier districts, Major Jacob is necessarily the medium of communication with the Meer, and the duty *could not*, without very serious risk to the peace of the frontier, be entrusted to other hands. Major Jacob's authority, however, is confined to matters affecting the frontier, and with regard to all others the Meer communicates with the Collector.

70.—The consequence is, as might be easily supposed, a divided and uncertain policy, sure to produce misunderstanding—a state of things of which His Highness naturally avails himself when it suits his purpose.

71.—Our relations with His Highness cannot, at present, be placed on a very satisfactory footing, till matters now, I believe, under reference to the Government of India, are disposed of; but the state of our relations with him is rendered far more unsatisfactory than it need be by the present division of agency in our intercourse with him; and while such division exists, I cannot feel free from apprehension that serious inconvenience may one day be experienced.

72.—As a great, and, perhaps, in some respects, the more important share of the duty is now entrusted to Major Jacob, and cannot, without risk, be taken from him; and as he is pre-eminently qualified, in every respect, for efficiently discharging the whole, I would very strongly recommend that the whole be entrusted to him.

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73.—For somewhat similar reasons, I would advocate the whole charge of the Colonies of Boogtees, Doombkees, Rumdanees, and Iskranees, being made over to him. The Colonies of the three latter tribes, though nominally under the Collector, are, from their close proximity to Khanghur, and Major Jacob's unequalled personal influence over the people, in point of fact more under him than any one else, and the benefits of his influence are most conspicuous. They are so far out of the Collector's way, that he cannot possibly look after them efficiently; but while he can do little good, he may do much harm, with the best possible intentions. Political duties in Upper Scinde.

74.—I think, therefore, that there can be no doubt they should be wholly and solely under Major Jacob's control.

75.—The arrangement of proximity will apply less forcibly to the Boogtee Colony, near Larkana; but I am by no means satisfied with its present condition, and feel convinced it would be far better to place it also under Major Jacob, to whom the Boogtee colonists there even now look for counsel and assistance in difficulties as to their natural protector.

76.—I would, in fact, constitute Major Jacob Political Agent, not on the frontier only, but throughout Upper Scinde, as far as His Highness Meer Ali Morad and these colonists are concerned.

77.—But to enable him to discharge the additional duty thus imposed upon him, some additional assistance will be requisite.

78.—Indeed, even as matters now stand, he requires further aid. His personal knowledge of every person and place within his range, is so minute and accurate, and he reduces everything to so perfect a system, that he gets through the work, and it is done, as Government is aware, most efficiently; but I doubt if this could be done by any other man in the Government service; and as it is most desirable that arrangements so excellent and important, in every point of view, should not be left too dependant on the life or health of any one man, I think he should have under him a "Frontier Staff Officer," whose appointment would not only relieve Major Jacob of a great mass of details, but render matter of official record much which may otherwise be lost, and which is of the utmost importance to the maintenance of the present admirable system of frontier guardianship.

79.—The duties of such a Frontier Staff Officer would, however, be to a great extent military, and to aid Major Jacob in his other duties, I would recommend that he have a separate assistant for political duties, on Rupees eight hundred per month, with a very small establishment, and that he should reside as Major Jacob may from time to time think fittest, at Sukkur, Khyrpoor, or elsewhere.

80.—I would beg distinctly to state it as my opinion, from what I have seen of the Meer and our intercourse with him, that unless some such plan be followed, and the duties of Political Agent are severed from those of Collector, at least until the Collector's own duties are reduced to something like system, very serious embarrassment will one day be experienced.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner.

SIR, 8th July, 1851.

I have the honour, by direction, to forward you copy of a letter, No. 494, from the Assistant Adjutant-General, Scinde Division, for your information.

I have, &c., &c.,
(Signed) H. HARVEY, Lieut.,
Major of Brigade.

To Major Jacob, C.B.,
Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse.

SIR, 3rd July, 1851.

Major Jacob's letter, No. 110, of the 21st May last, having been submitted by the Brigadier-General Commanding the Division to Army Head-Quarters for the perusal of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, I am instructed to inti-

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3rd July, 1851. mate that the vigilance and energy evinced by the officer commanding at Kusmore, and his detachment of of the Scinde Horse on the occasion referred to, has His Excellency's warm approbation, and General Manson will feel obliged by your communicating the same to Major Jacob.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General,
Scinde Division of the Army.

To Brigadier Wilson, K. H.,
Commanding in Upper Scinde.

21st July, 1851. SIR,

I have the honor, by direction, to forward copy of a letter, No. 529, from the Assistant-Adjutant-General, Scinde Division of the Army, and its accompaniments, for your information.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) H. HARVEY, Lieut.,
Major of Brigade.

To Major Jacob, C.B.,
Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse.

15th July, 1851. SIR,

I am directed by the Brigadier-General commanding the Division, to transmit to you, herewith, a star of the 2nd Class of the order of British India, with a supply of ribbon, for presentation to Russuldar and Bahadoor Meer Furzund Ali, of the 1st Regiment Scinde Irregular Horse, appointed to that distinction by the Government of India, and to request that, in the event of the weather being propitious, so as to render travelling practicable by you, at this season of heat, you will be pleased to present the star at Khanghur to the Russuldar, in the presence of Major Jacob, C.B., and the officers and men of the two Regiments of Scinde Horse assembled on parade for the purpose, giving to the ceremony every eclat and publicity which circumstances will permit, and at the same time causing the object thereof to be clearly explained to the assembled troops.

In the event of the great heat preventing your journeying to Khanghur, and presenting the star in person, General Manson will feel obliged by your causing the same to be done at the hands of Major Jacob, and he directs me to add how much he regrets that he cannot have the satisfaction of presenting personally to the Russuldar so appropriate a reward of long and distinguished service.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Assistant Adjutant General.

To Brigadier Wilson, K. H.
Commanding Upper Scinde, Shikarpoor.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. HARVEY, Lieutenant,
Major of Brigade, Upper Scinde.

5th September, 1851. SIR,

I have the honor, in reply to your letter, No. 188, dated the 22nd ultimo, to transmit for your information copy of two letters addressed by me to Government on the subject of your Office Establishment, replies to which I hope shortly to receive.

Letter No. 1,387, dated the 18th July, 1851.
Letter No. 1,501, dated the 1st August, 1851.

I have, &c., &c.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major Jacob, C.B., Political Superintendent
on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

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18th July, 1851.

My Lord,

I have the honor, in reference to previous correspondence noted in the margin, on the subject of the office establishment of the Political Superintendent on the Frontier, to submit for the consideration of your Lordship in Council the enclosed copy of a letter from that officer, No. 129, dated the 17th ultimo.

To Government, No. 651, dated 9th April, 1850.
From Government, No. 2,060, dated 6th May, 1850.
From Government, No. 945, dated 28th May, 1850.
From Government, No. 2,906, dated 15th June 1850.
From Government, No. 6,470, dated 9th Dec. 1850.

2. I would most strongly recommend, for the reasons assigned by Major Jacob, that the establishment in question be made a permanent one, and put upon an efficient footing; and with this view I have ascertained that the following establishment will be sufficient to enable Major Jacob to carry out the measures proposed in paragraphs 66 to 80 of my letter to Government, No. 857, of the 21st May last.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

For the Political Superintendent.

1	English Writer	Rs. 80
1	Moonshee	60
1	Persian Writer	30
6	Chuprassees at 6 rupees each. . .	36
	Stationery	40—246

For the Political Assistant.

1	English Writer	Rs. 60
1	Persian Ditto	30
3	Chuprassees at 6 rupees each . .	18
	Stationery	30—138
	Total Monthly cost . . .	Rs. 384

3.—This will make a total increase of Rupees 254 per month upon the present expense, which amounts to Rupees 130.

4.—In recommending this establishment for sanction, I have not been unmindful of the injunctions of your Lordship in Council, to propose no avoidable expense, unless it have a tendency to improve the resources of Government.

5.—That such will be the effect of the expenditure now recommended, I have no doubt, for I am satisfied that the revenue results of the complete pacification of the Frontier, if developed in the mode in which Major Jacob would develope them, with such additional means at his command as I have recommended, might be reckoned not by thousands, but by lacs of rupees.

6.—The force kept up on the Frontier in question is not, like much of our military expenditure, an outlay barren of immediate financial results. I have already, on more than one occasion, reported to your Lordship in Council how, while all beyond Major Jacob's outposts is exposed to rapine and bloodshed, and is, in truth, a desert, perfect peace and security exist within; and the population is increasing and becoming settled, cultivation is extending, and the revenue improving.

7.—This will doubtless go on to a considerable extent, without any further trouble on our part, but the restoration of peace to a country which a generation or two ago was flourishing, and which has lately been for many years a desert, gives rise to claims and disputes of every kind, regarding boundaries, water, &c., and the development of the resources of the country will be much checked, unless there are the means at hand to inquire into and adjust such claims, which cannot be done by any one so well as the Political Superintendent, nor by him without establishment.

8.—I lately submitted to Government, with my letter in the Revenue Department, No. 1,065, of the 10th ultimo, a single project of Major Jacob's, perfectly feasible in the course of a season or two, and calculated ultimately to add nearly a lac of rupees to the Government revenue; and had he the necessary leisure

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18th July, 1851. and establishment, many more, equally practicable and beneficial, would, I am confident, follow.

9.—It is not right that the expense of such labours, at present perfectly voluntary on his part, should be thrown on Major Jacob; and, for the same reason, I would very strongly recommend that he should receive a separate salary of not less than Rupees 1,000 per mensem for his Political duties, for which he now receives nothing whatever, extra to his pay as Commandant of the Scinde Irregular Horse. I have not a shadow of doubt but that the extra expense would be repaid to Government many fold, and that within the course of a season or two.

10.—The circumstances are very similar to those under which Government have, at different times, and always with such excellent effect, morally and financially, sanctioned Bheel agencies and other similar appointments, the points of difference in the two cases being all in favour of the measure now advocated, viz.:—

1st. That the agency to which the duty is to be entrusted, is already organized and on the spot, and waits only the authority to act in improving the country otherwise than as Major Jacob now acts, as a volunteer, and the means of doing so through the moderate establishment now asked for.

2nd. That the people to be reclaimed are not like Bheels, a jungle-race, only a remove above the beasts of the forest, but a race more than half civilized—turbulent and sanguinary, it is true, in their habits hitherto, but possessing the energy and much of the capacity, both intellectual and physical, calculated to make a fine race of civilized men.

3rd. That their reclamation to settled and orderly habits is no longer a problem, but a proved possibility, of which numerous and striking instances have already been afforded in a great measure by Major Jacob's volunteer efforts in the cause.

4th. That the country to be settled and improved is not a feverish jungle, but a country which, though for years a desert, through the want of a settled and powerful government, has supported, and can at any time again support, as large a population, and can pay as much revenue per square mile, as any district in this fertile province.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Falkland,
Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

P.S.—I have no doubt whatever, that if the plan I have above proposed were sanctioned, a very considerable saving might be effected in the military charges of Upper Scinde. But this is a subject into the details of which I hardly feel authorized to enter on this occasion. It involves, moreover, other considerations than those which seem to me sufficient to justify the increase applied for, viz., the necessity for making adequate provision for the duty required by Government, and the certainty that the efficient provision for a proper discharge of such duty will largely add to the Government revenue.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner.

1st August, 1851. My Lord,

In transmitting the accompanying copy of a memorandum from the Civil Auditor, dated the 7th ultimo, with copy of a letter from Major Jacob, Political Superintendent, No. 162 of the 24th idem, relating to the continuance of his temporary office establishment, I have the honor to recommend that a further sanction for six months be accorded, pending a consideration by your Lordship in Council of the propositions contained in my letter, No. 1,387, of the 18th ultimo.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE.
Commissioner in Scinde.

To the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Falkland,
Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

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MY LORD, 1st October, 1851.

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier, for the information of the Right Hon. the Governor in Council.

2.—The pursuit described in the first paragraph of that communication was marked by the promptitude and perseverance of which the Scinde Irregular Horse have given so many examples.

3.—The intelligence contained in the second paragraph is in accordance with the expectations formed of the probable policy of the late Vizier's son and successor, and appears to be authentic.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Falkland,
Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

SIR, 21st October, 1851.

I am directed by the Right Hon. the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2,040, dated the 1st instant, forwarding copy of one from Major Jacob, Political Superintendent and Commandant on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

2.—In reply, I am desired to state, that the pursuit of the robbers by parties of the Scinde Horse is, as usual, deserving of approbation.

3.—I am further instructed to inform you, that in case of your being able to supply Government with intelligence of events towards Persia, or generally beyond the Frontier of Scinde, its value cannot be estimated without an approximation to correctness in dates, which will allow it to be tested with that obtained from other sources.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary.

To H. B. E. Frere, Esq.,
Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 3rd December, 1851.

In consequence of the Murree tribe having assembled in the hills for evil purposes, and having threatened to make a predatory inroad into the plain country, I am at Sholipoor with two squadrons of the Scinde Irregular Horse to watch the movements of the mountaineers. His Highness the Khan of Kelat has lately arrived at Gundava, and I am informed that he purposes shortly moving a force to attack the Murree plunderers in their hills.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 5th February, 1851.

I have the honor to report that on the 2nd February, 1851, two armed robbers from the hills attempted to steal some camels from the neighbourhood of Koomree; the jutts gave the alarm, and a patrol of the Belooche Mounted Guides, which was passing at the time, followed the robbers towards the hills.

When the patrol approached, the thieves drew their swords and attempted to resist, but were captured unhurt, and brought in prisoners.

On appearing before me at Khanghur on the 5th February, the prisoners stated that their names are Peeran and Bushan, that they are Mussoree Boogtees from Barkoon, which place they left about fifteen days ago, for the purpose of plundering in Scinde; that they remained a few days at Beebrack-Ke-Deyra, and thence proceeded to steal camels near Kundkote, where they were seized by Pandey Kosah, as above mentioned.

I have committed the men to jail, pending the receipt of instructions from you

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5th February, 1851. regarding them, and beg leave strongly to recommend that these prisoners, as well as others imprisoned under similar circumstances, be transported beyond sea, or imprisoned for life, for the reasons discussed in former correspondence with the Commissioner in Scinde.

Nothing of importance has occurred on the Frontier under my command during the past week.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

18th March, 1851. SIR,

It being of vital importance to the troops and inhabitants of Khanghur that the Indus water reach that place as early as possible in the season, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to order the mouth of the Begaree Canal to be opened forthwith.

I am informed that water in the river is already high enough to enter the Begaree, and if if it should again subside, still once filling the tank at Khanghur would be a most important advantage.

The excavation of the Begaree Canal some time ago was carried beyond the mouth of the Noorwah, so that the admission of the water so far will not interfere with that work.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Collector of Shikarpoor. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

19th March, 1851. SIR,

I have the honor to report that Mahomed Hussan, Minister of His Highness the Khan of Kelat, visited me at Khanghur on the 11th instant, and took his departure this morning.

Mahomed Hussan has again made earnest application in the name of His Highness the Khan for pecuniary assistance from the British Government, but has nothing more to adduce in favor of such a grant than has already been brought to the notice of your predecessor by me, *vide* letters No. 256, of the 20th November, and No. 269, of the 8th December, 1849, and which has been laid before and replied to by the Government of India, *vide* letter from the Commissioner in Scinde to me, No. 880, of the 16th May, 1850, with accompaniments.

I have explained to the Minister that all that he has mentioned and urged in favor of his application had been on the former occasion fully and fairly laid by me before Government, which had decided against granting any assistance to His Highness the Khan of Kelat, and that I could now do no more than report to you his renewed request, without the least hope of its being complied with.

Mahomed Hussan was accompanied by the Boogtee Chief, Islam Khan, and by Belooch Khan, of Lharee, the head of the Doombkee tribe. The latter has petitioned that Wuzzeer Khan, son of the deceased Chief, Beejar Doombkee, and the rest of his tribe, who were settled near Khyrpoor, in the custody of His Highness Meer Ali Morad, after the hill campaign of 1845, may be allowed to return to Cutchee and reside with him—Belooche Khan, at Lharee. Belooche Khan, offers to be security for the future good conduct of these men, and his request is backed by the Minister, Mahomed Hussan, and by His Highness the Khan of Kelat. Wuzzeer Khan, the son of Beejar, has none of the influence or power of his father; he is, in fact, despised by all men as a drunken debauchee—his character is contemptible, and it matters little whether he be released from restraint or not, or where he be allowed to reside. Belooche Khan is a very peaceably disposed person, and though the head of the whole Doombkee tribe, never had anything to do with that part of it which, under Beejar Khan, so long plundered this country. After the severe lesson which has been taught them, and being without leaders of note, I am of opinion that, if these Doombkees were released, they would reside quietly with their Chief at Lharee.

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When these men were captured or allowed to surrender in the hills, I am of opinion that it would have been far better to have removed them to such a distance as to preclude all thought of returning to their country, but as they have been settled so near the border and their former abodes, and are able to hold frequent intercourse with their brethren in Cutchee, a sort of feverish restless state of feeling is kept up among them, which appears to me to be a greater evil than any likely to ensue from their release; wherefore, under all the circumstances of the case, I think that the petition of Belooche Khan might be granted without inconvenience or danger. 19th March, 1851.

The Boogtee Chief, Islam Khan, appears very penitent and submissive. He begged of Mahomed Hussan to endeavour to make his peace with the British Government, offered to give full security for good conduct in future, and requested the Kelat Government to allow him to leave his hills and reside in the plain of Cutchee. At the request of the Minister, I allowed Islam Khan to attend him on his visit to me, and he came accordingly.

Islam Khan makes earnest petition that his wife, and others of his people now settled near Larkana, may be allowed to rejoin him: he declares that his flight from that settlement was solely caused by the intrigues of Aliff Khan, then Adjutant of the Police, that this officer was continually demanding and receiving bribes as the price of his favour and protection, and that he frightened Islam Khan and the others almost out of their senses by threatening them with vengeance of the British Government; until, unable to endure this state of things, they fled back to their hills in despair.

I have reason to believe that there is much truth in this statement of the Boogtee chief.

The prayer of his petition is backed by His Highness the Khan, and by the minister, Mahomed Hussan. The latter informs me that he is quite satisfied with the security which Islam Khan has given for his future conduct, and begs of me to intercede in his behalf. Islam Khan is now powerless for evil. The reasons mentioned in a former part of this letter, and in former correspondence on the subject, with regard to the evil of settling the hill men so near the border, are of course even of more force as regards the Boogtees than the Doombkees, the latter being further off than the others; and after fully considering the question, I am of opinion that the prayer of the Boogtee chief may with propriety be gratified, so far as to allow his wife and others, now at Mehmood Deyra, to rejoin him—provided that they be perfectly willing to do so—care being of course taken that this people clearly understand that such a proceeding on their part was entirely optional.

I have the honor to forward the original Persian petitions and correspondence regarding the subject of this letter.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

SIR, 21st March, 1851.

I have the honor to bring to your notice that I applied to the Acting Collector of Shikarpoor, to have the Indus water admitted into the Begaree Canal, as soon as the river rose sufficiently to enter its mouth; when, somewhat to my surprise, that officer informed me that the water would not be admitted before the beginning or middle of May next.

Copies of the letters on the subject are forwarded herewith.—It is, perhaps, unnecessary for me to explain to you that the arrival of the Indus water at Khanghur as early as possible in the season, is of vital importance to man and beast at that place.

The troops on the border have in former years suffered the greatest distress for want of water; but the men bore all without a murmur and with the greatest cheerfulness, knowing that every exertion was being made to increase the supply of water. It is owing to the honest, hearty, and zealous exertions of the men of the Scinde Irregular Horse, that a great portion of this country is fast changing

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21st March, 1851. from desert to corn-fields; and it will be with feelings of shame and humiliation that I shall have to inform them that their services are so little valued that the Collector of Shikarpoor considers them and their horses not worth supplying with water.

The proceeding on the part of the Collector in shutting out the water from the Begaree, is certainly as unnecessary as it is cruel. Mr. Inverarity says that his experience convinces him that the admission of the water early in the season will be injurious to the canals, and thereby to the cultivation and revenue; but my personal acquaintance with the Begaree and its branches commenced some time before Mr. Inverarity entered the service, and I am convinced that the injurious effects which he apprehends are purely imaginary. The canals are more injured by drift sand, when left empty at this season, than by any action of, or deposit from, the water.

The fall, also, of the ground from the mouth of the Begaree to Khanghur, is so great that the water runs in a strong stream along the Canal the moment it commences to enter its mouth. The stream is not dependant on the pressure of the head of water in the Indus, as the Collector supposes, but will flow strongly along the Canal even if the level of the water in the river be but a few inches above the bottom of the Canal at its mouth.

I have not a doubt about the matter. But were it otherwise, leaving out of the consideration the health, comfort, and efficiency of the men, the loss in horses alone (such as the Scinde Irregular Horse experienced on this frontier in the year 1847) caused by the deficiency and bad quality of the water, would amount to more than tenfold any loss which could possibly accrue to the revenue by the early admission of the water into the canals; wherefore, supposing the injury to the canals to be real as it is imaginary, still the shutting out of the water would be cruel and illiberal in the extreme.

Considering the immense advantage to the country generally as respects the revenue, and all else caused by maintaining the efficiency of the border force; and considering of what vital importance the supply of water is to that force, I think that I had a right to expect, instead of opposition, cordial support and assistance in this matter from the civil officers of the district.

It appears to me that it is clearly the duty of the Collector of Shikarpoor to make every exertion in his power to afford us a good supply of water as early as possible in the season, instead of purposely keeping us without it for six weeks after it would otherwise have spontaneously reached us.

The comfort and health of the men and horses of two cavalry regiments, and altogether of some ten thousand human beings (for such is now the number at Khanghur and its immediate neighbourhood), is surely of more importance than the chance of injury to a few acres of Jowaree.

Such being the case, I beg the favor of your issuing orders for the immediate admission of the water into the canals supplying Khanghur, and for the future that all the practicable means be used to cause the Indus water to reach that place as early in the season as possible.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

25th March, 1851. SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that the Zemeendars and other inhabitants of Khyree Ke Ghurree, have made repeated complaints to me of the hardship of their having to pay import duty on such things as fire-wood and grass, which they cut in places in the desert close by, but within the Kelat territory, by reason of their being watered from Cutchee (such as Summajee, &c.) and bring into Khyree Ke Ghurree for use.

The Bunyahs, also, of Rojaun complain much of their being made to pay duty on grain, &c., which they may bring from Khyree Ke Ghurree to Rojaun, for the supply of the detachment of British troops at that place.

Now this duty is levied on pretence of Rojaun being Kelat territory; yet

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again at this place, Rojaun being foreign territory, the British Government maintains a Moonshee and others for the Collection of import and export duties. 25th March, 1851.

Howbeit it appears to me that if the boundary line be so strictly observed in the one case, we are also bound to respect it in other places; and that if our ryots of Khyree Ke Ghurree be not allowed to cut a stick or a blade of grass at Summajee without paying import duty, because it is within the Kelat boundary, neither should we keep an establishment for collecting customs at Rojaun in the Kelat, or at Khanghur in the Khyrpoor territory.

This impost of import and export duty, where the territory of three powers are so mixed up with each other, vexatious in the extreme to the people, is highly injurious to trade, and is not, on this frontier, attended with any real profit to the state, but on the contrary does, I am certain, eventually injure the revenue, by the inconvenience it causes to merchants and others in carrying on their trade.

This is well known to the better informed people of the country, and not a little merchandise, &c., which would otherwise pass through Scinde to Kurrachee, does in consequence find its way to the sea, *viâ* Beloochistan and Sonemeeanee.

But supposing it advisable to continue to levy these duties on merchandise passing the frontier line, it can hardly be proper to tax such things as firewood, forage, &c., consumed by the people on the spot, and brought (though from so-called foreign territory) from the desert or jungle a few miles from their village.

I beg leave strongly to recommend that these petty exactions of import and export duties on this frontier be totally abolished on the part of the British Government, that the other two Governments concerned in the matter—Kelat and Khyrpoor—be induced to do the same; and this they would, I am certain, at once accede to without difficulty, so that the trade might be quite free so far.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,

To the Commissioner in Scinde, Political Superintendent, &c., &c.
Kurrachee.

SIR, 26th March, 1851.

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on the frontier under my command during the past week.

The Murree mountaineers have assembled in force in the hills at Surtoff, for a predatory excursion into the plain. Of this further particulars will be reported hereafter.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,

To the Commissioner in Scinde, Political Superintendent on the
Kurrachee. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

SIR, 1st April, 1851.

In accordance with instructions received from you, I have the honor to forward herewith an estimate of the cost of enlarging the Begaree Canal.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,

To the Commissioner in Scinde, Political Superintendent, &c., &c.
Kurrachee.

Present.				Proposed.			
Breadth.		Depth.		Breadth.		Depth.	
At Mouth.	At Noorwah.	At Mouth.	At Noorwah.	At Mouth.	At Noorwah.	At Mouth.	At Noorwah.
24 feet.	18 feet.	9 feet.	7 feet.	40 feet.	30 feet.	11 feet.	8 feet.

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1st April, 1851.

	Feet.
Total length of Begaree, from its mouth to Noorwah - - - - -	183,000
Mean breadth of present Canal - - - - - - - -	21
Mean breadth of proposed Canal - - - - - - - -	35
Mean breadth of new excavation - - - - - - - -	14
Mean depth of new excavation - - - - - - - -	9½
Proposed mean increase in depth of the old part of the Canal - - -	1½
Area of section of new excavation, 14 × 9½ × 21 × 1½ - - square feet	165
Cubic contents of new excavation = 165 × 183,000 cubic feet - - -	30,103,500
Total cost, at 216 cubic feet per rupee - - - Rs.	1,30,094

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent, &c., &c.

(Note.)

The water of the Begaree Canal is shared by His Highness Meer Ali Morad and the British Government, very nearly in the proportion of ten to the former and twenty-seven to the latter.

The new excavation will be rather more than in that proportion in favour of the British Government, because nearly all the lands to the westward of the Noorwah belong to us; wherefore I am of opinion, that a fair division of the cost of the proposed excavations will be as one to three, that is, three-fourths to be paid by the British, and one-fourth by His Highness Meer Ali Morad. This gives:—

British share - - - - - - -	Rs. 97,570
Meer Ali Morad's - - - - - -	32,524

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

9th April, 1851.

SIR,

I have the honor to report, that nothing of importance has occurred on the Frontier under my command, during the past week.

At Koomree, on the 7th instant, when en route to Kusmore on duty, I received intelligence of the Murree mountaineers having again assembled in force, with the intention of making a raid into the plain country; I therefore returned instantly to Khanghur, sending Lieutenant Merewether with a detachment to Kusmore, thinking it not impossible but that some hostile attempt might be made in that direction, when the Murrees found that I was looking for them on this side. I have a squadron at Shahpoor, and purpose proceeding to that place myself to-night, but I have no further news of the enemy to-day, save that they are still assembled in force, apparently not having yet decided in which direction to proceed.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent, &c., &c.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

16th April, 1851.

SIR,

I have the honor to report the Murree plunderers, whose proceedings were mentioned in my last report, finding that there was little chance of their making a successful raid anywhere on the Frontier under my command, are reported to have proceeded to the eastward, beyond my range, carried off a number of cattle from the neighbourhood of Asnee and Mittenkote, killed some grass-cutters belonging to the Punjaub Cavalry, at the former place, and then returned safely to their hills.

Finding that there was no likelihood of an attempt being made by the robbers in this direction, I yesterday returned to Khanghur.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

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SIR, 21st April 1851.

In compliance with instructions contained in your letter, No. 541, of the 11th April, to my address, I have the honor to forward a rough estimate of the increase to cultivation and revenue which may be expected to accrue from enlarging the Begaree Canal.

The advantages will, I am well assured, not be less than I have set forth in this estimate, but may probably be greater.

The plentiful supply of good drinking water for man and beast, and of improved grazing for the cattle, are also advantages which must ultimately add considerably to the revenue, although the amount cannot well be estimated.

As connected with this subject of the Begaree Canal, it appears proper to bring to your notice the great advantages which would accrue from freely admitting the Indus water into the extensive hollow known by the name of the Sind, which leaves the Indus near Kusmore, and nearly joins the Begaree at Shereghur.

This Canal has been wholly or partially bunded for nearly twenty years past, but even now, at high floods, its water sometimes reaches the Begaree.

I am informed that, formerly, when this channel was free, the water was not only brought in a very much larger stream into the Begaree, but spontaneously overflowed the lands about Neehal, Zurkeyl, Dukkee Ke Ghurree, Khanpoor, &c., and even those close around Shikarpoor; and that such was the effect of this inundation, that the water in the wells about Shikarpoor, and in the tract of country above mentioned, stood permanently about eight feet nearer the surface than at present.

This inundation is said to have extended also to Jaghun and the westward. The best informed of Zemeendars, and others likely to be acquainted with such matters, assure me, that if this inundation were again to take place annually, the profit to the revenue would be not less than a lac of rupees.

The cost of freely opening the channel would be, I am assured, trifling in proportion. The bunds across this channel or hollow ("the Sind") are chiefly in the British territory of Kusmore, where it leaves the river near Gheehulpoor; the remainder of the "Sind" is in the territory of His Highness Meer Ali Morad. Knowing the great advantage which would accrue from re-opening this channel, I last year induced the officers of His Highness the Meer to cut a new entrance into the Sind near Budanee. When the wheat, which is now extensively grown in the bed of the hollow, shall have been reaped, the water will be admitted; but the new cut is but 30 feet wide, and about six feet deep, while, to produce the full effects above mentioned, a very much larger mouth is necessary, and, certainly, the removal of the bunds across the old natural channel appears to be the best method of effecting the object in view.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

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21st April, 1851. ESTIMATE of the probable permanent increase of cultivation and revenue, after the lapse of a year or two, caused by the proposed enlargement of the Begaree Canal:—

	Probable increase of Cultivation.	Probable increase of Revenue.
	Beegahs.	Rupees.
From the Meerzawah to the Hazarwah inclusive, on the North side of the Begaree, the lands all belong to British Government: in that district, in the Purgunnah of Mobaruck and Meerpoor, the amount of lands now lying waste, which would be brought under cultivation if the supply of water from the Begaree were sufficiently increased, is about - - - - - - - -	30,000	36,000
The whole of the lands to the Eastward and Northward of the Moradwah, forming the Roopah Purgunnah, &c., belong to British Government. The lands lie very low, and are capable of cultivation to any extent for which the supply of water may suffice. The greater part of this tract of country is now lying waste for want of water; the increased supply of which would bring under cultivation at least - - - - - - - -	40,000	48,000
The lands of Choodea and Sookrah are Jaghire belonging to Meer Mahomed; these are now worth about 3,000 rupees per annum: the increased supply of water would make them worth about 7,000 - - - - - - - - - - - -		4,000
The lands of the Abdalwah, near the village of Ummow, are shared half by the British Government and half by one Shere Sing; they are worth about 1,000 rupees per annum: with the increase of water they would be worth about 2,000 - - - - -		1,000
Total increase on lands belonging to the British Government		89,000
From the mouth of the Begaree to the Sonewah inclusive, the lands belong to His Highness Meer Ali Morad. There is a large piece of country which might be, and which was formerly, cultivated in this district, but the lands are highly cultivated, compared with those along the course of the Begaree further from the river, and the increased supply of water would not bring an annual profit from these lands of more than - - - - - - - -		24,000
The Noorwah and its branches belong wholly to His Highness Meer Ali Morad; much low land of good quality is within the reach of its water, and the waste lands which would be brought under cultivation from its irrigation on the increase of the Begaree, could not amount to less than - - - - - - - -	5,000	6,000
Total increase of revenue to His Highness Meer Ali Morad -		30,000
Total increase of revenue to the British Government - -		89,000
Grand Total - - - - - - - -		1,19,000

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Khanghur, 21st April, 1851. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

30th April, 1851. SIR,

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on the frontier under my command during the past week.

The Murrees have been plundering in Cutchee, and a small party of their horsemen, a few days ago, carried off some three hundred camels from the neighbourhood of Shahpoor.

I have the honor, &c.,
JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

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SIR, 9th May, 1851.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 699, of the 2nd May, 1851, to my address, with accompaniments herewith returned.

With reference to the subject in question, I have the honor to state that if it be advisable for Government to interfere directly in any way in the breeding of horses in Scinde, I am of opinion that the best mode of doing so would be that mentioned in the second paragraph of your letter under reply; and it is possible that some little advantage might accrue from the adoption of such a measure in Upper Scinde, because the Cutchee and Kelat breeders might, and doubtless would, send their mares to Arab stallions at Khanghur.

But on the whole, I am of opinion that it would be utterly hopeless to attempt to form a useful breed of horses in Scinde, in any considerable numbers, by means of the employment of Government stallions.

Experience shows that such undertakings, to be successful, must be conducted by private persons, without Government aid. Even the Indian studs have failed to accomplish the objects of Government, although the circumstances under which they were formed and conducted were far more favourable to success than the state of affairs in Scinde.

The Scindee horse is a wretched creature, which it is scarcely worth while to attempt to improve, when so many good breeds of horses exist in the neighbourhood of the province, and are brought to the market in such numbers.

The introduction of good stallions alone would not have the least effect in insuring a good produce: many other conditions are also necessary. The mares must be tolerably good in the first instance, and must be well kept. A half-starved dam will bring a worthless produce, whatever the sire may be.

The foals, also, must be well fed and cared for, or they will be worth nothing. All this depends on the Zemeendars and private breeders; and unless properly attended to, the money expended on Government stallions would be entirely thrown away.

On the other hand, if the Zemeendars, Jaghiredars, and others had really serious intention of breeding horses in any considerable numbers for sale, they would assuredly purchase their own stallions, the cost of which would be a mere trifle compared to the whole outlay necessary for carrying out the scheme to any practical advantage.

More than five years ago one of the richest Jaghiredars in Scinde, Meer Khan Mahomed Talpoor—one of the men referred to by Captain Rathborne, expressed to me his wish to breed horses, and his great desire to possess an Arab stallion. The man's parsimonious ideas prevented his purchasing one for himself, although his income amounted to some £10,000 a year; but thinking that he was in earnest regarding the breeding of horses, and that the thing might be ultimately of some public use, I presented him with an excellent young and very handsome Arab stallion. This horse he still has, and I am told that Meer Khan Mahomed has some fifty or more foals of his getting; but I also learn that these are worth little or nothing, by reason of the badness of the mares, and because of the poor keep both of dam and foal.

The young produce, too, even if better fed, would be ruined by the manner in which it is reared, the foals being tied up till their young limbs become crippled.

The experiment, therefore, has been tried, and failed; as I am of opinion it always will do, owing to the stinginess of the breeders.

Captain Rathborne's opinion regarding the deterioration of the horses in Scinde since the conquest, is by no means agreeable to my experience, which goes back to some five years before the conquest.

The Scindee horses were never, in my opinion, other than worthless. Every individual decent horse in the province was imported from the neighbouring countries.

My opinion on the whole matter in question is shortly this: the Jaghiredars and Zemeendars, if they choose to take to breeding horses and cattle for sale, have ample means of doing so without any assistance from Government. On the other hand, without such intentions on the part of the Jaghiredars, &c., no interference of Government will be of the least avail; wherefore, I would not interfere in the matter at all.

As connected with this subject, I may mention that very good horses are bred at Kelat.

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9th May, 1851.

The Khan had two beautiful Arab stallions presented to him by the late Captain Pontardent, and the produce of these proved to be excellent. I have seen some individuals of them quite equal to Arabs. These stallions are now both dead. Mahomed Hussan has several times expressed a wish to me to obtain others for the Khan's stud, and I think that the present, by the British Government, to His Highness of a couple of good Arab horses, would be highly appreciated, would be judicious, and ultimately might be useful to us. I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of an old letter of mine on the subject of the breed of horses in Scinde.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

24th May, 1851.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 825, of the 17th May, 1851, to my address, with accompanying correspondence relative to the Boogtees settled near Larkana.

As therein directed, I have the honor to inform you that I consider what you have ordered for the Colonists to be generally sufficient.

But with respect to that part of Mr. Inverarity's letter of the 3rd March, 1851, regarding the Colonists being already burdened with a debt to Government, which it will take years to liquidate, it appears to me that it would be judicious at once to remit, with a good grace, a debt which there is little chance of recovering, and to consider the grain, &c., supplied to these people on former occasions, as a gift instead of a loan.

My opinions regarding the principles which should guide our dealing with these people, coincide, I believe, very nearly with those of Mr. Inverarity.

But the original fault of placing these reformed marauders so near to their old haunts and connections will, I much fear, prevent their being quite satisfied with any arrangements which may be made for their support.

Their minds are restless: none of them appear to take kindly to their new mode of life, or to exert themselves honestly to earn a livelihood.

It appears to me no easy task now, to remedy this, for new concessions will assuredly give rise to new demands.

But, possibly, something might be done by finding employment in ordinary daily labour for hire on public works, such as canals, roads, &c., for such of the Colonists as might be able to work at such times as they might not be employed on their own fields.

Finally, if it be found that no reasonable amount of assistance will induce these people to become industrious cultivators, and to earn their bread by their own labour, it will, in my opinion, be the least inconvenient course to allow them the alternative of returning to their former country; at least, to allow as many of them to return as the Kelat authorities may wish, and for whom some kind of security may be offered; excepting, of course, any notorious character among them, such as Kummond, Dota, &c., who may be likely to do mischief.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

17th June, 1851.

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that pay to my office establishment as Political Superintendent on the Frontier of Upper Scinde has, by G. L. to the Commissioner in Scinde, No. 148, of the 15th January, 1851, been sanctioned up to the 30th April last.

As mentioned in my former letters on this subject, I have the honor to point out that this establishment, consisting at present of one English and Persian

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writers, is absolutely necessary to enable me to carry on the duties of this Frontier. 17th June, 1851.

This must, I think, be as evident to you as it is to me, wherefore I have the honor to request that Government may be moved to sanction the monthly pay of these writers as a regular permanent charge.

I was appointed Political Superintendent on this Frontier, on the 7th February, 1848, and since that time, the whole of the Political and Magisterial duties of the border have been performed by me.

The civil charge of the Frontier was never, any more than the military command, a sinecure, and the duties of this charge, instead of diminishing, have necessarily greatly increased, and are still increasing, as a natural and inevitable effect of greatly increased population and security for life and property, with all their consequences.

When no man dared to live in the country, near the border, the Civil Magistrate was little required there; as it is, things are very different—old claims are revived, boundaries long forgotten warmly disputed, and have to be decided on; and every piece of land finds more than one owner.

Now Government may think it just and proper that the Commandant of the Scinde Irregular Horse should perform the duties of Political Superintendent of the Frontier without extra pay, as he has done for three or four years past, but I feel certain that it never could be the intention of Government that he should, out of his Regimental allowances, pay for the establishment necessary to enable him to carry on those duties, or that the better those duties should be performed, the more he should have to pay for performing them.

Yet such is the practical result of the present arrangement.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

SIR, 12th July, 1851.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,301, of the 7th July, 1851, to my address, with accompaniments, and, as therein directed, to state that, in my opinion, the undermentioned establishment will be sufficient to enable me satisfactorily to discharge the duties indicated by you, including those of my Political Assistant.

ESTABLISHMENT for the Political Superintendent on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

	Rs.
1 English Writer	80
1 Moonshee	60
1 Persian Writer	30
6 Chuprassees at 6 Rs. each	36
Stationery	40
Total Monthly Cost	—246

Political Assistant.

1 English Writer	60
1 Persian ditto	30
3 Chuprassees at 6 Rs. each	18
Stationery	30
Total	—138
Grand Total	Rs. 384

I have, the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

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13th July, 1851.

SIR,

With reference to former correspondence on the subject, I have the honor to bring to your notice that Mahomed Hussan, the Kelat Minister, has again applied so me, to request the release of the Doombkees taken with Beejah Khan, &c., now settled in the territory of His Highness Meer Ali Morad, and to report that, in my opinion, no grave objection exists to the release of these men.

Letter No. 60, dated 19th March, 1851, from Major Jacob to the Commissioner in Scinde.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

13th July, 1851.

SIR,

With reference to the subject of your letter, No. 928, of the 31st May, 1851, I have the honor to forward the accompanying letter, with list of names, received to-day from Mahomed Hussan, Wuzzeer of Kelat.

I have the honor, also, to annex a list, in English, of all the Boogtees, &c., now at the settlement near Larkana, from which it will appear that the Kelat authorities wish the whole to have the option granted them of returning to their hills.

For reasons given in former correspondence, I am of opinion that, on the whole view of the question, the least inconvenient course would be to grant this option to all; causing it, however, to be fully understood that all who choose to remain in Scinde, are at liberty to do so.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

16th July, 1851.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,289, of the 5th July, 1851, to my address, with accompaniments herewith returned.

After perusal of these documents, and due consideration of the subject of which they treat, I am of opinion that the establishment of a commercial fair, of the description proposed by Dr. Gibson, might possibly be found of advantage to the British trade with Central Asia, but, if it be determined to establish such a fair, I am clearly of opinion that the place of assembly should be Shikarpoor, and not Kurrachee.

However, on the whole view of the question, it appears to me that the establishment of this fair is, perhaps, not required for the improvement of trade with Central Asia, &c.

I am of opinion that trade can never be forced with permanent advantage; but that, whether the proposed fair be established or not, our commerce with Khorasan and the countries beyond will be best aided by simply removing the obstacles and difficulties which now beset the path of the trader, and by leaving all else to find its level, according to the natural actions and re-actions of demand and supply.

I quite agree in opinion with the committee assembled by the Commissioner in Scinde, at Kurrachee, to report on the best method of extending the trade with Central Asia, as to the *principles* which should guide our proceedings, but the committee is, in some respects, mistaken as to the *facts* of the case; for instance, the report of the committee sets forth that the frontier duties were abolished in 1844 by Sir C. Napier. This is not the case. Import and export duties have always been, and are still, levied on this frontier, and are most vexatious and injurious to the trade.

These duties, those levied in the Kelat territories, the dangers caused by predatory tribes infesting the road of the Bolaun, and the want of direct and good roads through Scinde, are the chief obstacles to a thriving trade in this part of the world.

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Remove those obstacles, and the commerce would speedily flourish. 16th July, 1851.

The British Government can, with the greatest ease, effect all that is required. But we can hardly, with common decency, call on the Khan of Kelat to forego his duties on merchandise passing through his territories, while we levy similar contributions on the same goods ourselves, and even collect those vexatious duties within the Kelat territory: we having maintained, for some years past, a custom-house establishment at Rojaun.

We can hardly, with propriety, find fault with the Kelat Government for not putting a stop to the levy of transit duties (or, as the committee styles them, blackmail) by petty chiefs within its territories, when the weakness of the Kelat Government has been solely caused by our own acts, as has been repeatedly urged by His Highness the Khan, when begging for aid to enable him to control his turbulent and rebellious subjects, the Murrees, &c.

On the other hand, His Highness the Khan of Kelat is most willing and anxious in all things to be guided by the wishes of the British Government; and the peaceable condition of Cutchee and the neighbouring mountains is of quite as much importance to us as to the Khan.

Wherefore, the wise and proper course to be pursued appears to me to be clear. Afford the Khan of Kelat sufficient assistance, countenance, and support, to enable him to put down the only tribe of plunderers which still troubles his territory; treat him, as he deserves to be treated, as an humble subordinate, but most friendly ally of the British; and, then, with regard to this trade, induce him, by quiet advice and argument, to reduce the Government duties levied on goods passing through his territories to a moderate and reasonable amount, entirely to abolish all dues collected on such goods by petty chiefs and others, and to afford proper protection to the merchants themselves and their goods.

The artificial and political difficulties besetting the trader passing through the Kelat territory would then cease to exist. Natural difficulties there are none; the road through the Bolaun Pass is perfectly good and practicable, even for wheel carriages; from Dadur to Kunda the country is a level plain, presenting no physical obstacle whatever.

This is the natural route for commerce from Khorasan to the sea, instead of that viâ Kelat and Sonmeanee.

Having smoothed the way so far through the whole length of the Kelat territory, from Shawl to Kunda, our business is now with our own territory.

All our duties levied on this frontier should be immediately abolished. The amount collected is not of any great importance, while the injury done to the trade, by the vexation and annoyance of the impost, is great. Let all be free going and coming.

Next let good roads with bridges over the canals be made from Khyree Ke Ghurree to Shikarpoor, and also to Larkana direct. Roads have been lately sanctioned from Khanghur to those two places, and this will complete all that is required so far.

From Larkana will make a good road, with bridges over everything, to Sehwan, and thence direct to Kurrachee, through the hills, with a good permanent cut over the Lukkee Pass. The expense of all this will be trifling compared to the important results.

Next make a good road from Kotree to Tatta, and thence to Kurrachee. Lastly, complete the bunder at Kurrachee, and improve that seaport as much as can be conveniently done.

Having provided a good, safe, and free road for the merchants and their goods, Government has, in my opinion, done all that it should do for the trade. If there be a word of truth in the principles of political economy, nature will best do all else, and further interference would in all likelihood prove injurious.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

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28th July, 1851.

SIR,

With reference to the subject of your letter, No. 1,069, of the 10th June, 1851, I have the honor to report that the circumstances regarding the re-admitting the water into the old channel of the Sind, near Kusmore, are as follows:—

The old mouth of the Sind leaves the Indus about a mile below Kusmore, in the British territory; a little before it reaches Gheehulpoor enters the territory of His Highness Meer Ali Morad.

This channel is completely bunded across within the British boundary, so that, for many years past, no water has passed, except on rare occasions, at very high floods.

The old Noorwah Canal leaves the Indus about seven miles below Kusmore, crosses the channel of the Sind, and runs to Koomree, &c.

This canal has been recently partially cleared by Jummall Khan and the Doombkees, who have raised a strong bund across the channel of the Sind, to prevent the water of the Noorwah escaping into it. This Noorwah is said to be the boundary between the territory of Meer Ali Morad and the British, but this appears not to have been properly settled, and is disputed below Budanee, and at a distance of about two miles from that place a new cut was last year made, on my recommendation, by the people of His Highness Meer Ali Morad, but it is very small compared with the old channel, and only supplies water for the fields in the bed of the Sind, between Budanee and Kund Kote.

There are other occasional inlets from the river to the Sind, and at high floods the water runs into the Begaree near Shereghur.

While when the Sind is empty, and the Begaree high, the water of the latter sometimes is wasted by running back into the Sind.

To prevent this, there was formerly a pucka-built bund and sluice-gate erected, so as to regulate the flow of water at will. The old sluice having fallen into decay, a new one was made close to the Begaree Canal, about three years ago, by Lieutenant Dansey, then in charge of the Canal Department at Shikarpoor, but this also, from defective construction, or other causes, has fallen to pieces.

The channel of the Sind varies from 100 to 400 yards in breadth, and a considerable part of its bed is now cultivated, and yields a good crop of wheat; the water for the fields being partly supplied from wells, which are numerous all over it.

Such is the state of affairs at present. Fully to re-admit the water into the Sind, either of two methods may be effectively adopted.

First,—New channels may be cut between the mouth of the old Noorwah and Gheehulpoor, where I have ascertained that there are two favourable spots for the purpose. These new channels would be about 300 yards each in length.

Two such channels, each fifty feet wide and six feet deep, might suffice: these would cost about Eight thousand rupees each. The Shereghur bund and sluice, if properly constructed, would cost Four thousand rupees. Total cost of this plan, Twenty thousand.

Secondly,—Instead of any new cutting, the old might be opened and the bunds all removed, for a cost of about one thousand rupees, while the supply of water would be much greater than by making new cuts.

The removing of these bunds might injure the present cultivation within the Kusmore district to the amount of about 500 rupees a year, but would not hurt the Noorwah, as the water would flow from the Sind into that Canal. The sluice at the Begaree would, of course, be required in either case.

On the whole view of the question, it would, in my opinion, be highly advisable not to make new cuts, but to open the old channel of the Sind, and admit the water as freely as possible.

I have the honor to annex a rough sketch of the Sind, &c.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

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SIR, 13th August, 1851.

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on the frontier under my command during the past week.

It has to-day been reported to me that the Murrees have assembled in force, at Kahun, for the purpose of making a raid into the plain, and plundering the Khyheeree villages, Poolijee and Chuttur.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

SIR, 10th September, 1851.

I have the honor to report that I yesterday received information of the hill tribe of Murrees having assembled in arms, in force, at Surtoff.

The intention of these mountain robbers is said to be to attack the villages of Poolijee, &c., and to plunder the Khyheerees in that part of the country, but my own opinion is, that they will not leave the hills, and their real object is to attack the Boogtees and Keytranees who have lately been plundering and killing some of the Murrees in the valley of Kahun.

I have sent a detachment to Shahpoor, and have my whole border force on the alert to prevent any inroad which the mountaineers may possibly attempt.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

SIR, 23rd September, 1851.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,893, of the 15th September, 1851, to my address, and with reference to the subject thereof to state that, in my opinion, the measures expedient to be adopted by the British Government towards the Khan of Kelat, under existing circumstances, are as follows:—

To make over to His Highness the Khan the sum of fifty thousand rupees (50,000) on the following conditions:—

1st. That he march a sufficient army into the hills of Cutchee, and effectually and permanently reduce to order the predatory hordes inhabiting them.

2nd. That having thus reduced the mountaineers, he establish such police arrangements in Cutchee as may effectually prevent, in future, the British frontier being disturbed and annoyed by the petty inroads of small parties of marauders passing through Cutchee to the British border.

I do not think that it would be advisable to attach any other condition to the pecuniary grant above mentioned, but the Government of Kelat should be made fully to understand that, unless the above-mentioned conditions be completely fulfilled, in every respect, no future assistance of any kind or description will, under any circumstances, be granted.

The police of the Khan of Kelat established in Cutchee should, of course, act in communication with, and under instructions from, the Political Superintendent of the Frontier, when necessary, and the latter officer have *express* authority, in accordance with the present practice, to move parties of horsemen into and about the plains of Cutchee, as he may think proper.

It appeared to me at one time that (as proposed by you) it would be an excellent arrangement, to receive for a term of years, &c., as a set off to the pecuniary grant to the Khan, the little district of Rojaun, on our border, belonging to Kelat.

But facts which have since occurred have induced me somewhat to change my opinion with regard to the establishing of a boundary line between our territory and that of Kelat, on this frontier, and I am now convinced that the only good permanent mode of fixing this boundary, so as to prevent future dispute, is to

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23rd September, 1851. adopt along the whole line, from Chandia to the Indus, the old rule which has been confirmed by you and your predecessor, as regards the western part of the border, namely, that the limit of the Scinde territory is the extent to which the Indus water flows at the time of the boundary settlement, or to which it can be satisfactorily proved ever to have flowed at any former period, and that all lands beyond the limit watered by streams from the hills, &c., belong to Kelat.

My reason for this change of opinion is this—*The Desert is partially disappearing!*

If peace and quiet continue, and a few more such seasons as the last occur, the great part of that which was formerly desert will become arable or pasture land.

Even now, there are corn-fields as far as ten miles northward from Khanghur, and grass land extends at intervals from those fields the whole way to Shahpoor; the same remark applies to Rojaun, while from Khyree Ghurree to Kunda, a distance of near forty miles (formerly all perfect desert), there are either cultivated fields or grass lands the whole way.

It is true that such a fall of rain as has lately occurred, and which has been the chief cause of all this, may not happen once in a century, but I cannot help thinking that the greatly increased cultivation along the border, in this neighbourhood, is tending to augment the fall of rain. I have come to this conclusion from observation during the last three or four years, as compared with the eight or nine previous years, and from the reports of the natives.

The latter also observe the increased supply of rain during the last three years, and attribute it to the blessing of God, which may be right enough, though the secondary cause appears to be the one mentioned.

At all events, it appears clear that the possession of the little districts of Rojaun, Mamool, &c., would not really make our boundary one bit more definite than at present.

All my observations in former correspondence, regarding the boundary line on this frontier, and the advantage of having the political boundary to coincide with the geographical boundary of the desert, were founded on the supposed permanency of the latter.

No change appeared to have occurred in the character of this desert, from the time I first saw it, more than twelve years ago, up to the date of my letters to Mr. Pringle, regarding the settlement of the boundary. According to the traditions of the natives, no important change had occurred for nearly a century, and the thing appeared to me to be as permanent a limit as the sea shore. It now, however, proves to be otherwise, and the line of desert no definite boundary at all.

It is my firm belief that if perfect tranquillity, with safety for life and property, can be preserved for some ten years longer, on both sides of this border, that the desert on the north-west of Scinde will cease to exist.

On the whole, it appears to me that it will be better to make no further attempt to obtain Rojaun, &c., from Kelat, but to affirm the water-rule as fixing the boundary along our whole border from Chandia. The lands of the last-named district adjoin the hills, and of course this rule cannot apply to them; the boundary there, if ever disputed, should be settled, I imagine, by arbitrators, and recorded by land-marks.

When settling our connections with the Khan of Kelat it would, I think, be very advisable to have the boundary between his territory and Scinde definitely settled along the whole line of the territory belonging to His Highness Meer Ali Khan, as well as our own, and to obtain the Meer's formal agreement to the well known water-rule there also.

The subject of the settlement of these boundaries being intimately connected with that of the grant of pecuniary assistance to Kelat, I have thought it better to treat of them in the same letter, which will, I trust, be approved of by you.

The caution contained in the second paragraph of your letter under reply has been duly attended to.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

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SIR, 24th September, 1851.

I have the honor to report that, after the dissolution of the gathering of the Murree mountaineers, reported in my last, the notorious border robber, Sunjur Rind, with five other horsemen, left the hills, and carried off some camels from the neighbourhood of Tumboo, about 15 miles north of Khyree Ghurree, (beyond the British boundary.) The thieves were pursued by parties from Khyree Ghurree, Rojaun, and Khanghur; the two last named parties came on them near the deserted village of Jehana (between Lharee and Hajee), recovered all the camels, but could not, after their 80 miles' journey, catch the robbers, whose mares were fresh.

It has been reported to me, by the Kelat authorities, that a strong detachment of Persian troops has occupied the city of Heerat, at the request of the son of the late Yar Mahomed Khan.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

SIR, 24th September, 1851.

With reference to the subject of your letter, No. 661, of the 23rd September, 1851, to my address, and under instructions from the Commissioner in Scinde, I have the honor to request that it may be explained to the Boogtees and Doombkees in question, that such of them as may wish to return to Cutchee are at liberty to do so, causing these people, at the same time, perfectly to understand that they are at full liberty to remain in their present positions, if they prefer doing so, and that, whatever course the chiefs may wish to pursue, it is entirely optional with each member of their tribe, male or female, free or slave, whether to follow them or not.

I should recommend that no one of these people be allowed to leave his present abode for three or four days after this communication shall have been made to them, so that the business may be discussed and fully understood by all.

After this, I have the honor to request that, all persons wishing to return may be forwarded at one time to me, at Khanghur, under the charge of a few policemen, when I will deliver them over to the chiefs of their tribes, Belooch Khan and Islam Khan, whom I have sent for to receive them.

I shall be obliged if you will be good enough to send me a Persian roll of all the prisoners above mentioned, coming to Khanghur, showing men, women, and children.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Collector of Shikarpoor.

SIR, 4th October, 1851.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 698, of the 3rd October, 1851, to my address, with accompaniments, and with reference to the subject thereof, I have the honor to point out to you that, in the copy of the letter from the wife of Islam Khan, which accompanied your letter, the lady states that none of the people wish to return to their former homes, but that they will return if ordered.

The lady herself states that she will return; but, from the tone of her letter, it is evident to me that she also would prefer remaining where she is.

As to the camels required by these people, the sale of their crops, &c., &c., I am decidedly of opinion that they should be left to make their own arrangements in every respect, without any manner of assistance or interference whatever. The people cannot be regarded in any other light than as pardoned criminals. Their chiefs, many months ago, petitioned for their return; the people themselves were informed of this, and expressed a similar wish; this permission has

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4th October, 1851. now been granted; they have had more than ample time to prepare for their departure: those who wish to go can do so at once, and should be forwarded to me at Khanghur. But I am of opinion that they should settle all their debts before being allowed to depart, and that they are not entitled to aid from Government in any way.

The letter from His Highness Meer Ali Morad, a copy of which accompanied your letter under reply, does not appear to me to require any remark, as I am not aware that the opinion of His Highness, as to the propriety of allowing the Doombkees to return to Lharee, was called for.

I have the honor to return herewith the copy of the letter from Mahee "Mendee," as it appears possible that the sense may have been altered by error of the copyist. Please return it to me corrected if necessary.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Collector of Shikarpoor. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

8th October, 1851. SIR,

I have the honor to report that, on the 5th instant, a party of mounted marauders from the hills attacked some Jutts proceeding from Rojaun to Kusmore, and took from them forty camels, cutting down one of the men. On the information reaching Kusmore, Russuldar Hyder Khan, with a party of the Scinde Irregular Horse from that post, proceeded in pursuit of the robbers, followed their tracks into the hills, and came on the plunderers at Mundow Ke Koonda. Shots were exchanged, but apparently without much effect: the robbers escaped among the rocks and hills, where they were joined by a body of footmen, but the Russuldar recovered and brought back the whole of the plunder, without loss on our side.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde, Frontier of Upper Scinde.
Kurrachee.

5th November, 1851. SIR,

I have the honor to report that, on the 2nd instant, Mungun and Rais, two Mussooree Boogtees of note, with eight horsemen, attempted a predatory inroad in the neighbourhood of Kusmore. Being pursued by a party of the Scinde Irregular Horse, they fled towards Rojaun, but were unexpectedly met by a party of fifteen horsemen from that place, who attacked the marauders and killed the two leaders above mentioned; their eight followers escaped.

Nothing of importance has occurred on the frontier under my command during the past week.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde, Frontier of Upper Scinde.
Kurrachee.

24th November, 1851. SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2,411, of the 17th November, 1851, to my address, with accompaniment, and with reference to its subject, to state:—

1st. That in my opinion there is little room to doubt that cultivators will be forthcoming in numbers amply sufficient to meet the increased cultivation, consequent on the proposed enlargement of the Begaree Canal.

2nd. Some years ago I should, from all that I knew of the country and of its inhabitants, have had most serious doubts on this point, but the changes which

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have taken place in the state of the country during the last five years (as surprising to me as they are to the native inhabitants) suffice, in my opinion, to remove from my mind all doubt in the matter. 24th November, 1851.

3rd. The number of inhabitants of the village of Jacobabad, I am informed by good authority, now equals that of those of the town of Larkana; very few of these people are from other parts of Scinde; nearly all are immigrants from Cutchee, from Beloochistan, from the hills north of Cutchee, and some few from the Punjaub.

4th. With the sole exception of the Murrees, *all* the tribes of hill and plain (and even all the individuals of those tribes, save eight or ten notorious robbers), who formerly followed only the profession of arms, and made plunder their chief occupation, have now taken seriously to peaceful pursuits; robbery having ceased to be successful is now fast ceasing to be respectable and fashionable among the Belooches, and this change, of which we have as yet seen only the commencement, must alone, it appears to me, (judging from what has already occurred,) cause an increase in the available labor in the country, sufficient to meet the increased demand.

5th. The return of the Doombkees from Khyrpoor to their native country, and the town of Lharee, which has lately taken place, will, I have little doubt, be attended with the happiest effects on that part of the Cutchee.

There is little or no probability of these people resuming their predatory habits, but they will enable their Chief, Belooch Khan, most effectually to protect his town (Lharee) and lands from the incursions of the Murrees, who, since the removal of Beejah Khan, with so large a portion of the Doombkee tribe, to Khyrpoor, have been in the practice of laying waste that country, and have thrice sacked and once burnt the town of Lharee itself.

6th. The peace and prosperity of Cutchee again greatly affect the supply of labor available for the cultivation of lands on the British side of the border, for at seed time and harvest great numbers of laborers appear (from time immemorial, whenever the country has been tolerably quiet) to have been in the habit of proceeding from one province to the other, to afford their aid to the farmers.

7th. When making inquiries about the enlargement of the Begaree, I conversed on the subject with some of the oldest, most respectable, and apparently best informed Zemeendars of the country; they had no doubt whatever about the advantages to Government of the proposed scheme, and it was chiefly on information received from them that I formed my own opinions on the matter.

The demands for an increased supply of water for the lands now under cultivation, especially those irrigated by Canal from the Noorwah (a principal branch of the Begaree), are most pressing. The disputes and quarrels which consequently arise, are sometimes most violent, and in the season of the inundation are brought before me daily, and even hourly.

The enlargement of the Noorwah, which would, of course, follow that of the main feeder, would bring half the desert under cultivation. More might be adduced pertinent to the subject of the supply of labor, but what is set forth above may be sufficient, and I wish to avoid troubling Government with unnecessary matter.

With regard to the levels, there is no doubt whatever about this part of the business, as the water flows rapidly along the present channel of the Begaree, runs freely into all the canals from it, and at the tail of the present Canal the ground falls rapidly, so that the water, if allowed to do so, would run over the surface of the ground.

The water of the Noorwah, a little beyond Ahmedpoor (a small village lately re-inhabited, one coss north-east of Khanghur), requires to be banked up, instead of having canals dug for it.

With respect to the estimate of the cost of the proposed undertaking, it seems that there was an error in my figures, but independently of such errors, precise correctness was not pretended by me, neither does it appear that the general question is at all affected by the work costing a few thousands of rupees, or of pounds, more or less.

As it was, I formed my rough estimate of the outlay and of the pecuniary value of the advantages likely to ensue from the work, chiefly on the opinions and representations of well-informed natives of the country; and as regards my estimate of the cost, I considered it to be tolerably safe, inasmuch as a respect-

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24th November, 1851. able and sufficiently wealthy inhabitant of Shikarpoor, accustomed to such works, expressed his willingness to undertake the execution of the work by contract, at the rate mentioned by me, and to give ample security for its due performance.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

26th November, 1851. SIR,

I have the honor to report that Deen Mahomed, the Murree Sirdar, has written to His Highness the Khan of Kelat, to state that the men of his tribe have refused to obey him, and that they are assembling for the avowed purpose of plundering all Cutchee.

Nothing of importance has occurred on the frontier under my command during the past week.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

3rd December, 1851. SIR,

In consequence of the Murree tribe having assembled in the hills for evil purposes, and having threatened to make a predatory inroad into the plain country, I am at Shahpoor with two squadrons of the Scinde Irregular Horse to watch the movements of the mountaineers. His Highness the Khan of Kelat has lately arrived at Gundava, and I am informed that he purposes shortly moving a force to attack the Murree plunderers in their hills.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

27th December, 1851. SIR,

On the assembling of the Field Force at Roree, of which you have been nominated to the temporary command as by Division Orders, No. 9, of the 25th instant, General Manson requests that you will kindly take the opportunity of seeing that it be in all respects prepared for field service, and also by your directing that it be practised in the formation of advance and rear guards, and the important duties of pickets, patrols, and outposts.

From the known qualifications of the Regiments of Scinde Horse under your command in these duties, this request must be considered to apply more to the Regiment of Infantry forming part of the Field Force, and as time must elapse before Head Quarters can reach Roree, General Manson feels assured that he will find the Roree Brigade, on his arrival, in a state to carry out whatever is required of it with the most complete discipline and order.

Under existing circumstances, you are requested to be particular that the troops and followers be not permitted to go more than one mile beyond the camp, except to Sukkur, and he trusts to your ability and vigilance to prevent any collision between our soldiers and camp followers, with those of Meer Ali Morad, of Khyrpoor.

Till further orders, the returns of the force under your command, according to the form now in use, are to be made to Brigadier Wilson, K. H., for submission to the General Commanding.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

To Major Jacob, C.B.,
Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse, Sukkur.

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[Copy.]

No. 5,531 of 1851.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From A. Malet, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay, to H. B. E. Frere, Esq., Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir, 31st December, 1851.

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor-in-Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 22nd instant, No. 2,610, and to inform you that the movements of the Murrees should be provided against by such means as Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier of Upper Scinde, may have at his disposal, without interfering with any instructions he may receive to co-operate in the movements ordered in consequence of the measures connected with His Highness Meer Ali Morad, of Khyrpoor.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary.

No. 80 of 1852.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

True copy forwarded to the Political Superintendent on the Frontier in reference to his letter, No. 262, dated 3rd ultimo.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

River Indus, 12*th January*, 1852.

On the 27th December 1851, the 2nd Regiment Scinde Irregular Horse proceeded en route to Roree to form part of a field force ordered to assemble as a precautionary measure against His Highness Meer Ali Morad, of Khyrpoor. The force was commanded by Major Jacob. The Regiment reached Sukkur on the 30th; crossed the Indus to Roree, where it remained with the Field Force until the 24th February 1852, when the Field Force being broken up, the Regiment under Major Jacob recrossed the Indus to Sukkur, remained at that place at the request of the Commissioner in Scinde until the 3rd March, when it returned to Khanghur, where it arrived on the 4th. The following letters, &c., will show the proceedings of the Regiment while with the Field Force at Roree. 27th December, 1851.

My dear Mr. Frere, 1st January, 1852.

Our little force is now encamped near Roree ready for anything. Poor Ali Morad is in a dreadful state of alarm at all these preparations. He yesterday sent his son Shaw Newaz to me to beg to be informed of what he had done to cause troops to be put in motion against him, and to declare his entire obedience to any orders which the British Government might think proper to give him. He told me that his father's life, country, and all else were ours to dispose of as we might please; that force in this case was utterly uncalled for, as our wishes, if conveyed by one single messenger, however mean, would be instantly and fully attended to, with much more to the same purpose. I could, of course, only reply that I did not even know for what purpose the force was assembled; that I was totally ignorant of the intention of the British Government towards His Highness the Meer; that very shortly you would be here, when doubtless he would be fully informed of all matter concerning him.

This morning the Meer sent another messenger, the Wukkeel who usually resides with me at Khanghur, to say that he was coming himself to see me, and to beg of me to grant him an interview. I thought it best that the Meer should not come here, wherefore I sent Green to meet him, which he did at the village of Mittree, some five miles on this side of Khyrpoor.

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1st January, 1852. The Meer appeared greatly alarmed and annoyed, but calm and dignified withal. He repeated what his son had said, and with tears declared most earnestly, that he was entirely ours to dispose of as we pleased; that he was prepared to submit to anything—to go to Bombay, Benares, Calcutta, or London, as we pleased, or even to lose his life, as we have already taken his dignity in the eyes of his subjects by this display of force against him; that *nothing* would induce him, or any of his people, to dream of the slightest resistance; that, as to his fort of Deejee, he had emptied it; that it contained now not the slightest means of defence; that Khyrpoor was in a similar state as regards any, even the least, means of resistance, and that he invited us to send some one to take charge of Deejee, &c., and to see if what he said were true.

I have, myself, ascertained that what the Meer says is strictly true as regards the *entire* absence of preparation and of means of defence. The Meer has not altogether 200 men in arms, and no one about him has a shadow of a thought of resistance, though the holy men and synds are at their prayers continually in behalf of the Meer in his apparent extremity.

Green replied to all the Meer said, as I had directed him: namely, that the best course the Meer could follow would be to pursue his usual avocations, and employ himself in his ordinary manner, until he heard from the Commissioner; that I could tell him nothing, for that really I knew nothing; and that it was better not to pay any attention to the absurd reports which were everywhere spread abroad by idle people.

The Meer appeared a little comforted by what Green said to him, and expressed his intention of going out shikaring, and conducting himself as heretofore, until the orders of Government may be communicated to him.

It seems to me a matter of deep regret that the movement of troops was not postponed until there could have been some one on the spot to inform His Highness the Meer of the wishes of Government: this display of force against such utter helplessness, appears to me anything but conducive to the dignity of the British Government; moreover, if any part of his dominions, &c., be left to the Meer, he must seem quite despicable to his subjects after such proceedings as ours—a state of affairs which it appears to me it is not advisable to create with regard to a prince in alliance with us.

Yours, very sincerely,
(Signed) J. JACOB.

1st January, 1852. My dear Major Jacob,

Your letters, two of the 28th, and one of the 29th ultimo, reached me, the former, yesterday, the latter, to-day. I had previously expressed to General Manson my opinion of the propriety of leaving you unfettered and uncontrolled by any other officer subordinate to himself, and again wrote to him yesterday on the subject, so I hope that will be settled to your satisfaction.

I quite concur in what you say of this absurd preparation, but it is no fault of mine. Colonel Hancock wrote to the General, that there was a service to be done in Upper Scinde, of which he would learn details from the Commissioner; and that he was to do his best, if his aid were required, with the force under his command.

Had Colonel Holland done the same, all might have been arranged with little—if any—trouble, fuss, or expense; but instead of that, he sent minute and positive orders for these movements, and also, I believe, but not through the General here, for the movement of the Mooltan Brigade; and I have not that assurance regarding the judgment which will be formed of my acts by those who have the control of affairs, to justify me in endeavouring to impede the execution of an order direct from head-quarters, nor in the absence of information regarding the Mooltan force, would it be prudent to risk the complication which might ensue from countermanding movements which may become necessary in the event of anything untoward befalling the Mooltan Brigade. All I can do is to get the matter settled as soon as possible after I get my instructions, which can hardly reach me for a week to come, and implore Lord Falkland to have a stop put to such mischievous meddling in future, which I have done. I am now moving up as fast as I can, and I hope to be with you as soon after I get my final orders as

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possible. At present, if I met the Meer, I could tell him little more than that he was to be clipped in honor and territory much closer than the Sukkur Commission recommended, but not, I believe, to lose more than he would gladly compound for if Government would let it be done in the least offensive way. 1st January, 1852.

I am very glad that Colonel Wilson has not crossed to Roree. This was what I wished; though, for reasons which I can tell you better when we meet, I abstained from interfering in the only other way which would have induced the General to depart in any degree from the orders he had received * *

* * * * * * * * * *

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE.

SIR, 27th January, 1852.

I have the honor to report that, in compliance with the instructions contained in your letter of the 18th of December last, by direction of Brigadier-General Manson, commanding the Division, requiring me to make the annual inspection of the several corps in Upper Scinde under my orders, I now have the honor to state that I made the annual inspection of the 2nd Regiment Scinde Horse, under the command of Major Jacob, at Roree, on the 13th instant, and beg to offer my remarks thereon, as regards its discipline and efficiency, in the following terms, viz.:—

1st. The 2nd Scinde Horse, after reviewing them, I consider as a body remarkably fine in every respect, and thorough soldiers. Men.

2nd. In the best condition, of the very best and most serviceable description; their swords and carbines particularly so. Arms and Accoutrements,

3rd. First-rate, condition unequalled. Particularly good, well combined, and compact; move with great activity, each man handling his horse in a most masterly manner. A most efficient corps, each individual possessing every requisite to render him a most serviceable and valuable trooper in the field. Their Commander, Major Jacob, possesses their entire confidence and obedience, which he highly merits, from the able, judicious, and fostering qualities which he so eminently possesses in managing and governing this splendid corps. Horses. Qualifications, &c.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) N. WILSON, Brigadier,
Commanding in Upper Scinde.

To the Assistant Adjutant-General,
Sukkur.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SIR, 7th February, 1852.

I have the honor to report that at about one o'clock last night, I received a letter—the original of which is herewith forwarded—on emergent service, from His Highness Meer Ali Morad, begging for protection against certain mutinous Patans in his service, who were threatening him with violence, and stating that he had already complained to the Collector regarding the proceedings and threats of these people; that the Collector had sent him (the Meer) a purwannah, addressed to the Patan Jemadars, by name Foujdar Khan, Uckbar Khan, and Abdoola Khan, ordering them, on pain of punishment, to forbear annoying His Highness Meer Ali Morad, or making any disturbance; that when this purwannah was shown to Abdoola Khan, the only one of the three then present at the camp of the Meer, he (Abdoola Khan) threw the paper from him with an expression of contempt, to the effect that he cared nothing for Collectors.

The original of this purwannah accompanied the Meer's letter to me. On receiving this communication, I immediately despatched Russuldar Shaik Kurreem with the inlying picket of the Scinde Irregular Horse to the camp of Meer Ali Morad, with orders to bring to me, by force, if necessary, such persons as His Highness the Meer might point out as being in mutiny and about to commit violence against him.

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7th February, 1852. I furnished the Russuldar with a letter to Meer Ali Morad, and a written order to the Patan Jemadar to come to me quietly with the Russuldar. On the Russuldar and party arriving at the Meer's camp (about four miles from mine) His Highness the Meer caused Abdoola Khan and his followers—about twenty in all—who were encamped near His Highness, to be pointed out to the Russuldar as the men who were in mutiny and openly opposing his authority by force of arms. On the Russuldar approaching, Abdoola Khan and his men turned out, fully armed, drew up in line, and ordered him to stand. The Russuldar, as well as the officers of His Highness the Meer, explained what my orders were, and gave Abdoola Khan my written order. This he treated with contempt, saying that he did not know who Major Jacob was; that he treated his purwannah as he had done that of the Collector; and that he should take by force what he required from Meer Ali Morad. After some further attempts at persuasion on the part of Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, the latter, finding all remonstrance useless, told Abdoola Khan, that he must take him prisoner, and ordered him to surrender. On this, Abdoola Khan and his men fired a volley of matchlocks at the Russuldar and party of the Scinde Irregular Horse, and then ran at them sword in hand. On this, the Russuldar ordered his men to charge, when two of the Patans were killed and six of them wounded. Three or four escaped in the dark, and the remainder—nine in number—were, with their leader, Abdoola Khan, seized and imprisoned. Abdoola Khan pretended to have been severely wounded, but when he arrived here at day-break this morning and was examined, it appeared that he was unhurt. Four of the prisoners, being badly wounded, I have ordered to be kept in hospital in my camp; the remainder I have sent to the Collector of Shikarpoor, for safe custody in the jail until your pleasure be known regarding them. None of the men of the Scinde Irregular Horse were hurt in this affair.

I have the honor to forward herewith copies of the papers referred to above, as well as the written report of Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, who appears to have executed the duty entrusted to him excellently well.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Field Force.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Oobowra.

7th February, 1852. SIR,

I have the honor to report that at about one o'clock last night I received a letter—copy of which is herewith forwarded—on emergent service, from His Highness Meer Ali Morad, begging for protection against certain mutinous Patans in his service, who were threatening him with violence, and stating that he had already complained to the Collector regarding the proceedings and threats of these people; that the Collector had sent him (the Meer) a purwannah, addressed to the Patan Jemadars, by name Foujdar Khan, Uckbar Khan, and Abdoola Khan, ordering them, on pain of punishment, to forbear annoying His Highness Meer Ali Morad, or making any disturbance; that when this purwannah was shown to Abdoola Khan, the only one of the three then present at the camp of the Meer, he (Abdoola Khan) threw the paper from him with an expression of contempt, to the effect that he cared nothing for Collectors.

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The Russuldar, as well as the officers of His Highness the Meer, explained what my orders were, and gave Abdoola Khan my written order; this he treated with contempt, saying that he did not know who Major Jacob was, that he treated his purwannah as he had done that of the Collector, and that he should take by force what he required from Meer Ali Morad. After some further attempts at persuasion on the part of Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, the latter, finding all remonstrance useless, told Abdoola Khan that he must take him prisoner, and ordered him to surrender. On this, Abdoola Khan and his men fired a volley of matchlocks at the Russuldar and party of the Scinde Irregular Horse, and then ran at them sword in hand. On this, the Russuldar ordered his men to charge, when two of the Patans were killed and six of them wounded. Three or four escaped in the dark, and the remainder, nine in number, were, with their leader, Abdoola Khan, seized and imprisoned. 7th February, 1852.

Abdoola Khan pretended to have been severely wounded, but when he arrived here at daybreak this morning, and was examined, it appeared that he was unhurt. Four of the prisoners, being badly wounded, I have ordered to be kept in hospital, in my camp; the remainder I have sent to the Collector of Shikarpoor for safe custody in the jail until the pleasure of the Commissioner in Scinde be known regarding them. None of the men of the Scinde Irregular Horse were hurt in this affair.

I have the honor to forward herewith copies of the papers referred to above, as well as the written report of Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, who appears to have executed the duty entrusted to him excellently well.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Field Force.

To the Assistant Adjutant-General,
Scinde Division, Kurrachee.

SIR, 7th February, 1852.

I have the honor to forward herewith one Abdoola Khan, with nine of his followers, belonging to a party of Patans in the service of His Highness Meer Ali Morad, who had mutinied, and were about to commit violence on His Highness Meer Ali Morad.

At the request of the latter, who, having disarmed his household, was helpless and in great alarm, I sent during last night a party of the Scinde Irregular Horse to protect him, and to bring the mutineers before me, giving the officer in command, Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, a written order, addressed to the Patan Jemadar Abdoola Khan, directing him to come immediately to me. After an interview with His Highness the Meer, the Russuldar proceeded to execute the orders he had received, when Abdoola Khan and his men turned out, fully armed, and with loud threats forbade all approach; persuasions having in vain been tried, the Russuldar informed the Patans that he must take them prisoners, on which they fired a volley at the Russuldar and his party, and then rushed on them sword in hand. The Russuldar on this ordered his men to charge, when two of the Patans were killed, six wounded (one since dead), and Abdoola Khan with nine of his men taken prisoners unwounded; two or three others escaped in the dark.

Three of the prisoners being badly wounded, I have detained in hospital in my camp; the remainder I have the honor to forward herewith, and request that they be lodged in the jail at Shikarpoor until the pleasure of the Commissioner, to whom all particulars have been reported, be made known.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Collector of Shikarpoor.

SIR, 9th February, 1852.

I am directed by Brigadier Wilson, K.H., commanding the Scinde Division, to request that in the event of any emergent call being made upon you for

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9th February, 1852. assistance on the part of Meer Ali Morad, as reported in your communication, No. 29, of the 7th instant, or on any movement being made by you of any part of the force under your command, you will be pleased to report the same by express to me at Shikarpoor, for the Brigadier's information.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

To Major John Jacob, C.B.,
Commanding Field Force, Roree.

9th February, 1852. SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 28, of the 7th instant, reporting the occurrences of the previous night in the camp of Meer Ali Morad, and in reply to forward a copy of the letter I have addressed on the subject to Government. I beg you will accept my personal thanks for the promptitude with which you acted.

2nd. I request that the wounded men, when sufficiently recovered, may be made over to the magistrate.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major John Jacob, C.B.,
Commanding Field Force, Roree.

No. 51, of 1852.

9th February, 1852. MY LORD,

I have the honor to enclose copies of letters received from the Collector and Magistrate of Shikarpoor and from Major John Jacob, C.B., Commanding Field Force at Roree, with enclosures detailing the circumstances of the arrest of some Patans, against whose threatened violence Meer Ali Morad had begged for assistance.

2.—A copy of my reply to the Collector and Magistrate is also enclosed.

3.—I would beg your Lordship's particular attention to the promptitude with which Major Jacob acted, which probably prevented more disastrous results; and I am respectfully of opinion that the manner in which Russuldar Shaik Kurreem is reported to have performed the duty entrusted to him is deserving of the highest praise. Nothing could better prove the discipline of his men than the fact that after they were, in self defence, compelled to resort to force, the disarming and arrest of their opponents was effected with comparatively so little bloodshed.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Falkland,
Governor and President in Council.

10th February, 1852. SIR,

I have had the honor of submitting to the Brigadier Commanding the Division your letter, No. 29, of the 7th instant, with its several accompaniments, and in reply am directed to inform you, that in the matter of the assistance called for by Meer Ali Morad, and rendered by you, against a small body of the Meer's mutinous followers, you have acted with discretion and firmness; and you are requested to convey to Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, and the party under his command, the thanks of Brigadier Wilson, for the zealous manner in which they carried out your commands, requiring in the performance of this special duty much temper and determination.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

To Major Jacob, C.B.,
Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse.

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SIR, 13th February, 1852.

I have the honor to report that I have received, and placed under a guard on the Bunder, opposite the Fortress of Bukkur, the Artillery of His Highness Meer Ali Morad, forwarded by him voluntarily to my camp.

This Artillery consists of fourteen guns of various natures, with carriages and limbers, of which a detailed description has been forwarded to the Brigadier Commanding in Scinde.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,

To the Commissioner in Scinde. Commanding Field Force.

SIR, 19th February, 1852.

For the information of the Commanding Officer, I have the honor to report that the Artillery of Meer Ali Morad, of Khyrpoor, has been received, and is now parked on the Bunder at Roree. A return of these guns is herewith forwarded. No ammunition or small stores have been received, and the carriages generally are in bad repair.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) R. B. BRETT, Lieut.,

Commanding No. 9, Light Field Battery.

To the Major of Brigade,
Roree Field Force.

SIR, 19th February, 1852.

I have the honor to forward a return of the Artillery of His Highness Meer Ali Morad, required by your letter of the 19th February, 1852, to my address.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,

To the Commissioner in Scinde. Commanding Field Force.

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RETURN OF ORDNANCE received from MEER ALI MORAD, Khan of Khyrpoor, Camp Roree, 19th February, 1852.

No.	Description.	Size.		Weight.			Calibre.	Estimated value.	Remarks.
		Feet.	Ins.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.			
								Rs.	
1	3-Pounder field gun, brass, with limber . . .	4	9	..	..	..	3·05	150	Unserviceable. Inscription on 1st reinforce . .
2	2-Pounder gun, iron, on gun-carriage	3	5	..	..	..	2·5	20	Ditto, ditto, ditto
3	8-Pounder gun, iron (mountain)	2	5	..	..	..	1·8	20	Old. Has some nearly obliterated marks, a "Crown," 1799, W. G.
4	Ditto, Ditto, Ditto	2	5	..	..	..	1·8	20	Ditto, ditto, ditto.
5	3-Pounder gun, iron, on field carriage, with limber	3	5	..	..	..	2·8	20	Unserviceable.
6	3-Pounder field gun, brass, with limber . . .	4	9	..	..	..	3·0	150	Serviceable description. Ornamented 1st reinforce . .
7	6-Pounder gun, iron, on gun-carriage	4	9	..	..	..	..	20	Unserviceable. An English gun. Mark almost obliterated, has following inscription on the chase . . .
8	3-Pounder field brass gun, with limber . . .	6	3	8	3	17	3·1	300	Serviceable.
9	3-Pounder field gun, brass, on gun-carriage . .	4	2	..	..	..	3·1	150	Lined with iron. Has two inscriptions .
10	2-Pounder gun, brass, on gun-carriage . . .	4	1	..	..	..	2·7	120	Unserviceable.
11	6-Pounder gun, iron, with limber	6	2	..	..	..	3·8	20	Ditto.
12	3-Pounder gun, iron, on gun-carriage	3	9	..	..	..	3·0	20	Ditto.
13	2-Pounder gun, ditto, ditto	3	5	..	..	..	2·2	20	Ditto.
14	9-Pounder gun, ditto, ditto	5	2	..	..	..	4·2	20	Ditto. Muzzle cut off.
	Total estimated value	..	..	..	..	..	Rupees	1,050	

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major, Commmanding Field Force.

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SIR, 20th February, 1852.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter noted in the margin, and in reply to request that you will be good enough to inform me how you think the guns alluded to should be disposed of; and if you think they had better be left in the Bukkur Arsenal, pending the receipt of orders from Government, that you will take immediate steps for having them transferred thither.

No. 37, dated the 19th instant.

I have &c., &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major Jacob, Commanding Field Force.

SIR, 20th February, 1852.

I have the honor to request that you will have the goodness to take charge, as soon as you conveniently can, of the guns, as per annexed List, received from Meer Ali Morad, and now on the Roree bank, and remove them into Bukkur Fort, pending instructions from Government as to their final disposal.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Lieut. Finimore, Commissary of Ordnance.

True copy forwarded for the information of Major Jacob, Commanding Field Force.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 21st February, 1852.

For the information of the Commanding Officer, I have the honor to report that the Artillery received from Meer Ali Morad, Khan of Khyrpoor, has been deposited in the Fort of Bukkur, in accordance with the Brigade Orders of yesterday's date.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) R. B. BRETT, Lieut.,
Commanding No. 9 Light Field Battery.

To the Major of Brigade,
Roree Field Force.

SIR, 21st February, 1852.

I have the honor to inform you that the pieces of Artillery received from His Highness Meer Ali Morad have this day been lodged in the Arsenal of Bukkur.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major.
Commanding Field Force.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

EXTRACT from Division Orders by Brigadier N. WILSON, K.H., Commanding Scinde Division, Head Quarters, Shikarpoor, Sunday, 22nd February, 1852. 22nd February, 1852.

1.—In communication with the Commissioner in Scinde, the Brigadier commanding the Division is pleased to direct that the Roree Field Force be broken up from the date of the receipt of this order, and all appointments connected with it cease.

2.—Major Jacob, C.B., will be pleased to give the necessary order, that No. 9 Light Field Battery cross the Indus to-morrow morning; Lieutenant Brett resuming his march on Shikarpoor so soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

3.—The 15th Regiment Native Infantry will follow the Artillery, and march on Shikarpoor, under the orders of its commanding officer, as an escort to Major Le Grand Jacob.

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22nd February, 1852. 4.—The 2nd Regiment Scinde Irregular Horse will cross the river after the Artillery and Infantry shall have completed this operation, and at such time as Major Jacob may direct; but pending further instructions will, on the requisition of Mr. Frere, halt at Sukkur.

5.—A party of 50 Sowars, under a Native Officer, will also remain at Roree, as an escort to Major George Le Grand Jacob.

6.—Boats will be provided by the Naval Department.

(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

3rd March, 1852. SIR,

With reference to Division Orders, No. 2, of this day's date, I am directed by the Brigadier Commanding the Division to forward, for your information, extract paragraph 3 of a letter from the Commissioner in Scinde, No. 447, dated the 1st instant, to the address of Brigadier Wilson, setting forth the sentiments entertained by Mr. Frere as to the manner in which you have carried on the duties entrusted to you, as far as they were connected with the civil authorities.

I am desired to say that in those sentiments the Brigadier most cordially concurs, and begs that you will accept his best thanks for the able manner in which you have conducted the military duties of the Roree Field Force, which he has had great pleasure in notifying, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

EXTRACT paragraph 3 of a letter from the COMMISSIONER in SCINDE, No. 447, dated 1st March, 1852, to the address of Brigadier WILSON, K.H., Commanding Scinde Division.

Para. 3.—I avail myself by this opportunity to beg you will do me the favor to express to Major John Jacob, C.B., my sense of the manner in which the duties entrusted to him, as far as they were connected with the civil authorities, have been performed. That I have not heard a single complaint of any kind on the part of the country people in the neighbourhood of the Field Force, must, in a great measure, be owing to the strict discipline he has enforced, and I have equally little doubt but that the absence of all necessity for active operations in the field, in carrying out the measures directed by the Government of India, is, in a small degree, to be attributed to the character Major Jacob has established among all within reach of Upper Scinde, who may have felt inclined to avail themselves of such an opportunity to disturb the peace of the country.

(True Extract).

(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

11th March, 1852. SIR,

I have submitted to the Commander of the Forces, your letter, No. 161, dated the 23rd ultimo, with accompaniments, and in reply am directed to communicate the Lieutenant-General's satisfaction at the excellent conduct of the troops lately assembled at Roree for field service, as therein reported, which the Lieutenant-General considers highly creditable to them, and to Major Jacob, who was entrusted with the command of the Force.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) P. E. WARBURTON, Captain,
Acting Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army.

To the Officer Commanding Southern Division
Army, Shikarpoor.

(True copy.)

(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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SIR, 25th March, 1852.

I am directed by the Brigadier Commanding the Division to annex, for your information, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Acting Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army, No. 603, of the 11th instant, and to request that you will cause the same to be made known to the troops lately serving under your command at Roree.

I have, &c., &c.,
(Signed) E. GREEN, Lieut.-Col.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

To Major John Jacob, C.B.,
Commanding Scinde Horse, Khanghur.

SIR, 17th March, 1852.

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 51, dated the 9th instant, reporting the arrest of certain Patans in Ali Morad's service.

In reply, I am to desire you to inform Major Jacob that the prompt measures taken by him for the repression of the mutinous conduct of these Patans were judicious, and that the mode in which they were carried out by the Russuldar Shaik Kurreem merits the commendation of Government.

I have, &c., &c.,
(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary.

True copies forwarded for the information of the Political Superintendent on the Frontier in reference to his letter, No. 28, dated the 7th February, 1852.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Camp, Bambee, 17th March, 1852. Commissioner in Scinde.

REGIMENTAL ORDER BY LIEUTENANT MEREWETHER. 1st February, 1852.

Under instructions received from Major Jacob, C.B., Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse, Lieutenant Merewether has much pleasure in publishing the undermentioned order to the regiment, and further adds his congratulations to Russuldar Meer Furzund Ali on the occasion of his having received this decoration from the Government of India for his long and faithful services.

The Commanding Officer was in hopes that General Manson would have been able himself to present to Russuldar Bahadoor Meer Furzund Ali the star of the Order of British India, to which he was some months since admitted by the Most Honorable the Governor-General, but having been disappointed in this hope, owing to the severe illness of the General, the Commanding Officer will detain the star no longer, and requests Lieutenant Merewether to invest Russuldar Bahadoor Meer Furzund Ali with the insignia of the honorable order to which he has been admitted by Government.

The Officer Commanding congratulates Russuldar Meer Furzund Ali on the honorable distinction which his long and excellent services have obtained for him, and expresses a hope that his life and health may be long continued to enjoy this and higher honor.

(By order)
(Signed) M. GREEN, Lieut.,
Adjutant Scinde Irregular Horse.

SIR, 12th January, 1852.

With reference to your letter, No. 159, of the 16th July last, on the subject of the commerce of this province, I have the honor to forward copy of a correspondence, as per margin, and to request that you will favor me with any observations or information you may be able to afford on the points noticed by Government.

Extract, paragraph 6, of a letter to Government, No. 1,466, dated the 20th July last. Letter from Government, No. 4,476, dated 6th ultimo.

I have, &c., &c.,
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major John Jacob,
Political Superintendent, &c.

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EXTRACT PARAGRAPH 6 of a letter, No. 1,466, dated the 20th July, 1851, from the Commissioner in Scinde to the Right Honorable Lord Viscount Falkland, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

Par. 6.—In the rest of Major Jacob's remarks, from paragraph 7 to the end, I entirely concur; and would very earnestly commend them to the attention of your Lordship in Council, as embodying the opinion of an officer of unequalled experience and local knowledge of the countries in question, and an acute observer of all which relates to matters of commerce, as if he made them his exclusive study, and who reasons on what he sees and hears with a severe sobriety of judgment, which is well known to your Lordship in Council in matters relating to his own profession, and is, as far as I can judge, not less remarkable in his opinions on every subject to which he turns his mind.

6th December, 1851

SIR,

I have been directed to communicate the following observations to you with reference to the concluding paragraph of the letter addressed to you from the Revenue Department, under date the 29th August last, No. 8,612.

2. Captain Jacob's proposed road from Shikarpoor by Ghurree, to Larkana, and from Larkana as far as Sehwan, follows the course of the river as far as Tatta, therefore it would seem that you have in the river the *good*, *safe*, and free road which nature has provided for the merchants and their goods; and a road from Tatta to Kurrachee would, apparently, obviate the necessity for the longer road from Sehwan to the latter place.

3. It may, however, be the case, that the camel owners find it to their advantage to resort to Kurrachee, and that the public service may be benefited by the facilities for procuring carriage so afforded. But, if so, this should be more explicitly stated.

4. His Lordship's impression is, that annual fairs at Shikarpoor, Sukkur, with (in the former case) an easy road from Shikarpoor to the river, either at Sukkur, or in a more direct line to the bend of the stream west of it, the accommodation of warehouses, lodgings, and a good bazaar, with provision for cattle of the traders, and reasonable facilities for procuring Doondees to proceed down the river, would more effectually encourage the trade with Central Asia than the roads recommended, and that it is to the improvement of the river communication that our chief efforts should be directed.

5. The merchants would find a ready market at Shikarpoor, already a thriving and wealthy emporium; or if it were necessary to carry their goods to Tatta, the cheapest and least troublesome means would be by boat from hence; the road to Kurrachee, and accommodation, should be as easy and favorable for them as it could be made; and here Government might very usefully, and without attempting to force a trade by a comparatively unfavorable channel. As regards the carriage of merchandise by camels, the nature of the country is supposed to be already favorable for that traffic, and that the only advantage that a road could confer would, perhaps, be during the season of inundation.

6. These are difficulties which at present appear to his Lordship in Council to be opposed to the opinion advanced by Major Jacob. There may, of course, be circumstances not adverted to, which may deprive the Indus of the superiority which water communication maintains over land transit, the rail excepted, all over the world. But it is necessary that Government should be well assured on this point before they can consent to abide by the advice to open a road which is intended to follow the course of the river.

7. I have therefore to request that you will reconsider the subject with reference to the objections above urged; and in again addressing Government, it is expected that you will afford clear and explicit information as to the proposed quality and cost per mile of the roads required, supposing that Government were willing to sanction them.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) J. G. LUMSDEN,

To the Commissioner in Scinde. Secretary to Government.

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SIR, 22nd January, 1852.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 88, of the 12th January, 1852, to my address with accompaniments, and with reference to their subject to offer the following observations.

From the second paragraph of Mr. Lumsden's letter of the 6th of December, it appears that the position of the roads recommended by me as likely to improve the trade in Scinde has not been rightly understood.

I certainly never proposed a road being made "from Shikarpoor viâ Ghurree to Larkana," but, on referring to my letter to your address of the 16th July, 1851, I find that I recommended good roads, with bridges over the canals, being made from Khyra-ke-Ghurree, the most advanced place on the British north-western border, to Shikarpoor, this being the best and most direct route for traders from Afghanistan proceeding to that city. I also advised another road being made from the same place, Khyra-ke-Ghurree, direct to Larkana, which road would be of the greatest advantage to traders wishing to go farther southward, and having no business at Shikarpoor. Government is, doubtless, perfectly correct as to the necessity of a good easy road being constructed from Shikarpoor to Sukkur, this being assuredly the most important piece of road in the whole province of Scinde; while it is at present in the worst condition of any, being always bad and difficult, and for about six months in the year totally impassable.

The other roads mentioned by me in my letter of the 16th July, would also prove of very great advantage to trade, by laying open the approaches from the frontier to Shikarpoor and Larkana. Jungle, and frequent canals, make those routes at present difficult and troublesome.

The advantages of making good roads from Larkana, southward, would, I think, prove immense, notwithstanding the excellent water communication by the river; the value of the river, indeed, would be greatly increased by the existence of the proposed road, and the value of the road by the water communication. Thus, the voyage down the Indus is tolerably rapid and easy, but the return of laden boats up the stream is painful, slow, and laborious.

Three months is by no means an unusual duration for a voyage from Kurrachee to Sukkur, while camels can accomplish the journey by land in eighteen days; and, with the road proposed, would do it in ten days.

The difficulty of this return voyage must tend greatly to stop the commerce which would otherwise flow down the Indus. The proposed roads would remove this difficulty, and an easy route existing by land as well as water must evidently greatly increase the traffic by both.

The proposed roads do not exactly follow the course of the river. Larkana is thirteen miles from the Indus, and a line from that town to Sehwan cuts off innumerable bends of the stream.

Again, from Sehwan to Kotree a straight road would only touch the river at each end, while the road to Kurrachee would, after leaving Sehwan, nowhere again be in the neighbourhood of the Indus. Scinde is undoubtedly a country very favorable for camel carriage where roads exist; but where they do not, the numerous canals, which contain water or mud for about eight months in the year, make it difficult for these animals to get on at all, and render the transport of merchandise by their means troublesome and tedious. Much more, perhaps, might be adduced to show the great advantages of a good land and water communication in conjunction with each other for the up and down journeys: but this will probably suggest itself to your mind, and I am aware that you must be generally much better acquainted with these matters than I can pretend to be.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

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22nd February, 1852. SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that a complaint has been made to me by Islam Khan, chief of the Boogtee tribe, that some of his people living in the hills at Peelaph, near the Murrao Plain, had been plundered about ten days ago by a body of the Muzzaree horsemen, 100 in number, under Imaum Bux, brother of Dost Ali. The Boogtees pursued their assailants, recovered some of their property, and seized two mares from the Muzzarees; but the remainder was carried off by the latter. The Boogtees having entirely submitted to the British Government, have lately been received into favor. I have the honor to request that you will give orders to the Muzzaree Chief to refrain from molesting them in future.

The party of Muzzarees above mentioned had, I am told, proceeded from the neighbourhood of Rojaun, with the intention of plundering from the Murrees, but being unsuccessful, on their way back fell on the Boogtees. I should further feel much obliged by your causing these expeditions of the Muzzarees into the hills for the purpose of plundering to be discontinued altogether, as they are productive of much mischief by keeping up a state of irritation and animosity among the tribes on both sides of the frontier.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. L. MEREWETHER, Lieut.,
Commanding Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To H. C. Van Courtlandt, Esq., Assistant-Commissioner,
Deyra Ghazee Khan.

22nd February, 1852. SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that the Boogtee Chief, Islam Khan, has complained to me of an attack having been made about ten days ago on a portion of his tribe then with his son Goolam Moortuza, at Peelaph, near the Murrao Plain, by a body of 100 Muzzaree horsemen, under Imaum Bux, brother of Dost Ali, the chief of that clan.

This body of Muzzarees left Rojaun some time ago, and entered the hills for the purpose of plundering the Murrees, but being unsuccessful, on their return fell on the Boogtees above mentioned. The latter, following up the marauders, recovered some part of their property, and captured two mares from the Muzzarees, who fled with the remainder of the plunder to Rojaun. At the time of the onslaught, the Muzzarees were perfectly aware that the people they were about to attack were Boogtees, and that they were friends and not foes of the British Government. The Boogtees naturally complain bitterly of their being thus assailed and ill-treated by people residing within our own frontier, when they themselves have given up their lawless practices, and been doing all in their power to prove that they are only anxious to be considered as the dependants on and well-wishers to the Government.

Ever since their release from Scinde and return across the desert, their conduct, as you are aware, has been such as to give every satisfaction; and as a further proof of this, I may mention that, on the late occasion of a robbery taking place near Abad, and the thieves being traced to the Boogtee encampment near Sunree, the chiefs at once found out, seized, and sent in the culprits to me, transmitting, also, the stolen property immediately afterwards. In securing the thieves, who, on finding inquiry for them instituted, tried to fly to the hills, and were followed by Allum Khan, that chief was wounded slightly, and another petty chief, Rojah, severely.

This is not the first time that the Muzzarees have gone into the hills for the purposes of plunder; but hitherto they have abstained from injuring the Boogtees, our friends, confining their attacks to the Murrees, who in return descended on the country of the Muzzarees, in the neighbourhood of Rojaun, to make reprisals, thus keeping up a system of petty warfare which tends much to disorder the other tribes in this frontier, who have been so recently reclaimed from their former predatory habits, and upon whom this cannot but have a very bad effect.

I have the honor, &c., &c.,

(Signed) W. L. MEREWETHER, Lieut.,
Commanding Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To Major Jacob, C.B., Political Superintendent
on the Frontier of Upper Scinde, Roree.

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SIR, 23rd February, 1852.

I have the honor to forward the accompanying report, received this morning from Lieutenant Merewether, and, with reference to its subject, to point out that nothing can be imagined more likely to be seriously injurious to the peace of the frontier than such proceedings as those of Dost Ali Muzzaree and his tribe.

Permitting these people to make private war, or to bear arms at all, appears to me to be in the highest degree objectionable.

We know by former experience the fatal effects which are produced by allowing these border feuds between the various tribes on the frontier, and what terrible injury to the prosperity of the country is caused by such private war being carried on.

In the instance now reported, it is difficult to believe that any British authority can have sanctioned the proceedings of the Muzzarees of Rojaun, whether against the Murrees or Boogtees; and as regards their attack on the latter tribe, their conduct was more than usually outrageous, inasmuch as the Boogtees have for a considerable time past made their peace with His Highness the Khan of Kelat, and with the British authority, and have been behaving exceedingly well.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 25th February, 1852

I have the honor to report that a body of Muzzaree horsemen 100 in number left the neighbourhood of Rojaun under Imaum Bux, brother of the chief Dost Ali, and went into the hills for the purpose of plundering the Murrees. Being unsuccessful, on their way back about the 12th instant, they fell upon a portion of the Boogtee tribe living quietly in the hills near the Murrao plain, under their chief, Islam Khan's son, Goolam Moortuza. The Boogtees collecting together followed up the Muzzarees and recovered the greater part of the property stolen from them, but the remainder was carried off to Rojaun. The Boogtees also managed to capture two mares from the invaders. They complain of this unprovoked assault on them, by people from within our frontier, who at the time were perfectly aware that the Boogtees were no longer enemies of the British Government, but had been received into favour. I have already reported these circumstances at length to Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier.

With the exception of the above, nothing of importance has occurred on the Frontier under my command during the past week.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) W. L. MEREWETHER, Lieut.,
Commanding Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 2nd February, 1852.

In transmitting the accompanying extract noted in the margin, I have the honor to request that you will have the goodness to report on the arrangements now in force with the Khan of Kelat for the apprehension of robbers who took refuge in his country.

Extract, paragraph 14, from a despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors, dated 10th September, No. 22, of 1851.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major Jacob, Political Superintendent
on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

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10th September, 1851. EXTRACT PARAGRAPH 14, from a despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors, dated the 10th September, No. 22, of 1851.

14. The boundary between Scinde and Joudpoor has been settled under the orders of the Government of India; we wait for a report of the arrangements with the Khan of Kelat for the apprehension of robbers who take refuge in his country.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary.

3rd February, 1852. SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 213, of the 2nd February, 1852, to my address, with accompaniments, and with reference thereto to state that the arrangements with the Kelat Government, for the apprehension of robbers who take refuge in its territories, are as follows:—

The Agent of the Khan of Kelat resides with the Political Superintendent of the Frontier, at Khanghur, and through him all the officers of the Khan, throughout his country, are, whenever a robber is known or believed to have taken refuge within their territory, immediately directed to search for, to cause him to be apprehended, and forwarded to the Political Superintendent at Khanghur. In such matters the Khan of Kelat and his officers have always afforded their best aid.

In case of a robber being closely pursued across the border, by policemen or others, a written order is furnished to the pursuing party by the Political Superintendent on the Frontier, calling on all the village and other authorities within the Kelat territories to aid in the pursuit and capture.

This arrangement was made with the approbation and concurrence of His Highness the Khan, and it is found to work well; in every case cordial and efficient aid has been afforded by the Kelat authorities.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

6th February, 1852 SIR,

I have the honor to request that you will have the goodness to favor me with your opinion, as to the advisability of entertaining, as a part of the permanent establishment, the Khyheeree and Chandia horsemen, who, for a number of years, have been in our pay, under an arrangement which was nominally temporary, and which called for a constant renewal of sanction.

I have the honor to be, &c.,
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major Jacob, Political Superintendent, &c.

7th February, 1852. SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 64, of the 6th February, 1852, to my address, and in reply to state that, in my opinion, the services of the Chandia horsemen referred to may be dispensed with, without any inconvenience or impropriety, but that I think that the Khyheeree horsemen should certainly be retained as a permanent establishment attached to the frontier force, and not as at present attached to the police, although under the orders of the frontier commander.

The new arrangements consequent on the altered position of His Highness Meer Ali Morad will render an increase of the Belooche horsemen attached to the Scinde Irregular Horse necessary for the performance of the frontier duties. About one hundred men (or fifty, deducting the 50 Chandias recommended to be

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discharged), in addition to those now in Government employ, will be required, and these I should propose to select from the Doombkees and Jekranees, with such men of the Chandias as may appear to me to be fit for the work required of them. 7th February, 1852.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR,

20th February, 1852.

As directed in your letter No. 176, of 19th January, 1852, to my address, I have the honor to forward herewith estimates of the cost of making four roads in different parts of Upper Scinde, which will, in my opinion, be in the highest degree useful and advantageous to the country.

The road with bridges over the Ghar, as well as over all the small canals proposed to be made from Larkana to Sehwan, and to the southward, will be of immense value if the Indus be considered the main artery; this road would be the great vein of Scinde, the action of two in co-operation with each other will be perfect. The road from Shikarpoor to Kusmore direct will lay open the jungles of Boordeeka, introduce industrious and productive labor into that wild and deserted, but naturally fertile district.

This road will, however, not be always available, by reason of the inundation, the hollows through which it will pass being too extensive for banking or bridging; wherefore the road *viâ* Meerpoor is also required.

Boordeeka was once a highly populous and productive district, it is now, owing to the inroads of the border robbers in bygone years, nearly deserted, and is extensively covered with forest and dense reed grass.

But its former wealth and prosperity might now, in my opinion, be easily restored; and to effect this, cutting roads through the district appears to me to be one of the most powerful and effective means.

The road from Khyree Ke Ghurree to Larkana will be part of the most direct route from the Bolaun to Lower Scinde, of the completion of which, it is, I presume, unnecessary to point out the advantage.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR,

9th February, 1852.

Under instructions received from you yesterday, I have the honor to report, for your information, the undermentioned circumstances connected with an earthquake that occurred on this frontier lately, and which has been attended with most fatal results to the Murree tribe. On the morning of the 24th ultimo, at 3.45, a slight shock was felt here, but not sufficient to affect in any way the buildings in this neighbourhood. After some days had elapsed, intelligence was received that the same had been felt in other parts of the country, to the northward, to a less or greater degree, but especially in the Murree Hills, where it had been the cause of the death of a large number of people, and of the loss of much cattle and other property.

It was some time before fully authentic particulars were received, of which the following is an abstract:—On the morning of the 2nd day of the Mussulman's month, Rubbeeul Akhir (corresponding to the 24th January of our reckoning), at the time of the appearance of the false dawn, that is about 4 o'clock, a very severe shock of an earthquake was felt at Kahun, the principal Fort in the Murree Hills, and residence of the chief and main portion of that tribe. One side of the Fort wall was thrown down, the remainder much shattered, and the greater number of the houses inside also overthrown, burying beneath the ruins many men, women, and children, with some cattle, and a great deal of property.

Deen Mahomed, the chief of the tribe, himself appears to have had a wonderful escape: the house in which he was living having fallen with the others, and men

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9th February, 1852

being killed on either side of him, he was saved by the portion of the house immediately above him remaining firm until the motion had ceased, when he was found hemmed in by the ruins of the remainder of his dwelling. Most of the private houses, bunyahs, shops, &c., within the fort, either fell to the ground, or were so shaken that it was considered unsafe to remain longer within them. On this, Deen Mahomed, his family, and the usual residents within Kahun, left it, and proceeded to another small fort, called Dost Ali's (the uncle of the chief) Kotela, not far distant, entirely abandoning the place, which they looked upon with superstitious dread, as unlucky, and pregnant with further misfortune to them did they remain there longer; and I believe, that, owing to the strong feeling these people have on these subjects, it will never again be inhabited by them.

At the same time that this disaster occurred at Kahun, another even more fearful calamity overtook a portion of the tribe, living with their cattle in a large cave some little distance to the northward. The hill (in which the cave was) was violently shaken, and fell, burying nearly every living being at that time within it. The road by Nuffoosk to Kahun has been completely closed by the hill falling and filling up the pass through which it formerly went; a considerable increase to the flow of water in the Lharee river has taken place, so much so, that water is now flowing fast where it never even came to before, excepting after heavy rain. According to the last accounts received, 260 Mussulmans, women and children, have been killed, and upwards of eighty Hindoos, with a large quantity of cattle, the amount of the latter yet unknown. As far as I can learn, the disastrous effects from this earthquake have been confined to the Murree Hills, and the consequent effect on the minds of these wild and highly superstitious people is very great.

Their chiefs were assembled to proceed to Gundava, to make their submission to His Highness the Khan of Kelat, and had, indeed, advanced some distance for that purpose, when, hearing of this severe affliction, they returned to learn the loss they had sustained; they now declare that they will abandon the hills, to which a curse seems attached, and apply to the Khan of Kelat for permission to reside in the plains in the neighbourhood of Gundava, Dadur, or Lharee.

The reports as to the whether any persons of note in the tribe are among the killed, are very vague; but a son of Gamin Khan (cousin to Deen Mahomed) is mentioned, and an influential synd, of the name of Lall Shah.

The earthquake appears to have been felt throughout Cutchee, at Gundava, Dadur, Bagh, Lharee, Poolajee, Chuttur, &c., at the same time as it was at Khanghur and at Kahun. About 4 o'clock on the morning of the 24th ultimo, a resident of Chuttur, who was fully awake at the time the earthquake took place, declares that there were three perfectly distinct shocks perceptible, a few seconds intervening between each.

Curiously, no mention has yet been made to me of its being at all felt anywhere to the south; neither have any accounts been received from Kelat, or Western Beloochistan, of its having been the cause of injury to any of the large towns in those hills.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) W. L. MEREWETHER, Lieut.,
Commanding Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To Major Jacob, C.B.,
Commanding Field Force, Roree.

9th March, 1852.

SIR,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,856, dated the 12th September last, submitting a copy of a communication from Major Jacob, Political Superintendent and Commandant on the Frontier of Upper Scinde, relative to his settlement of the boundary of the Kelat frontier.

2. In reply, I am desired to observe that in your letter you have treated two subjects, which, though in a great degree connected, are perfectly distinct questions, and which His Lordship in Council has resolved to treat separately.

3. With reference to the first three paragraphs of your letter, and the first seventeen paragraphs of that from Major Jacob, I am instructed to state that

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His Lordship in Council considers the rule, which is said to be ancient and well known, that Scinde should retain the land watered by the Indus, and Kelat that irrigated from the hills of Cutchee, to be equitable in principle, and accordingly authorizes its being carried out through the whole line. 9th March, 1852.

4. Adverting to the 49th paragraph of your letter, I am directed to request that you will be good enough to obtain and submit to Government, a detailed report on the present state of the colony at Poolajee, and the actual nature of the British relation towards it.

5. On the subject of British relations with the Khan of Kelat, and the suggestions by yourself and Major Jacob with reference to his possessions in Scinde, I am to refer to my separate letter, No. 126, of this date, in reply to yours, No. 2,106, of the 8th October last.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary.

(True copy.)
(Signed) W. ARTHER,
Assistant Commissioner.

SIR, 20th March, 1852.

In forwarding the accompanying copy of letter from Government on the subject of the settlement of the boundary of the Kelat Frontier, I have the honor to request that you will have the goodness to furnish the Report called for in the 4th paragraph thereof.

No. 125, dated 9th instant.

On the present state of the colony at Poolajee, and the actual nature of the British relations towards it.

2. The copy of my letter to Government has already been transmitted to you, under date the 18th September last, No. 1,915.

No. 1,856, dated 12th Sept. 1851.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major Jacob, Political Superintendent
on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

SIR, 29th March, 1852.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 675, of the 23rd March, 1852, to my address, and as therein directed to inform you that, in cases of offences committed by the subjects of foreign states within British territory on the frontier under my charge, I have dealt with the criminal magisterially, either committing them to jail for trial, or, if the crime were of less serious nature, sentencing them to such punishment as might be within my power to inflict, and which appeared adequate to the offence.

In cases where the offenders were subjects of foreign states, and the offence also committed in other than British territory, I have made the offenders over to their own princes to be dealt with, or, in particular cases, have made special reports to the Commissioner in Scinde, and kept the offenders in prison until the instructions of Government regarding them might be received.

In one instance, a man in British pay, but not a British subject, nor residing within British territory, was imprisoned by me for treacherously corresponding with our enemies in the hills, was tried by a military commission, by order of Sir C. Napier, was convicted of the offence, and was hanged at Khanghur under instructions from His Excellency.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

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29th March, 1852.

SIR,

In obedience to instructions contained in your letter, No. 642, of the 20th March, 1852, to my address, I have the honor to report that the present state of the colony at Poolajee, and the actual nature of the British relations towards it, are as follow:—

It appears right, in the first place, to observe, that there is no colony properly so called at Poolajee at all; the Khyheeree Zemeendars, now occupying that part of the country, being the original and rightful owners of these lands, for which they still possess the old sunnuds granted them by the first Nusseer Khan of Kelat.

The Khyheerees remained in possession of these lands until about the end of the year 1828.

At this time the Government of Mehrab Khan of Kelat was weak; the country, consequently, in great disorder; and the predatory tribes of hill and plain, the Murrees, Boogtees, Doombkees, and Jekranees, were becoming more and more bold in their lawless proceedings.

The whole of these predatory Belooche tribes leagued against the Khyheerees, who were, at that time, powerful and warlike, but who never were plunderers; after a long and bloody struggle, the Khyheerees were driven out of the country.

A part settled at Khanpoor, near Shikarpoor; some near Larkana; others at Gotkee; and a number were dispersed through the Deyrajat.

In the year 1839, when the first expedition was undertaken by the British against Beejah Khan and the predatory tribes of Cutchee, the Khyheerees were, by Mr. Ross Bell, Political Agent in Upper Scinde, restored to their lands of Poolajee, Chutter, &c., and two hundred of their horsemen were taken into British pay. But the men, wanting confidence in the arrangements, and not having recovered their courage after the terrible defeats which they had ten years before received from the Belooche tribes, did not bring their families back to Cutchee. They left their wives and children in Scinde, and the fighting men alone occupied the towns and lands which had been restored to them.

It was well for them that they did so, for when the disasters occurred at Kahun, Nuffoosk, &c., the political officers again expelled the Khyheerees from their lands, and allowed the Doombkees and Jekranees to re-occupy them, the Khyheerees retiring to Scinde as before.

Things remained thus, until Sir C. Napier's hill campaign of 1845. That portion of the Doombkee tribe which had occupied Poolajee under Beejah Khan, and Durrya Khan Jekranee, with his people, were transported into Scinde; and to prevent the country being again occupied by robbers, I was directed by Sir C. Napier to place some other friendly people in possession of the vacant district of Poolajee, &c.

I endeavoured, in the first instance, with the consent of the Khan of Kelat, to induce the Chandias to settle there, but without success.

I tried several other tribes, with no better result.

The feeling expressed by all was, the lands belong to the Khyheerees; no one else has a right to occupy them; and we cannot think ourselves firmly possessed of ground that others have a just claim to.

The Khan of Kelat, although willing to agree to anything the British Government proposed, expressed similar sentiments; and, under these circumstances, I recommended that the Khyheerees should be replaced in possession of their old lands.

To this Sir C. Napier agreed, and I was ordered to carry it into effect. I assembled the chief men of the tribe, and, with some difficulty, induced them to bring their wives and children across the desert, and settle for good in their old homes.

The men declared that it would be impossible for them to remain in the country without British protection; but the business was at last arranged by Sir C. Napier's agreeing to retain in British pay eighty of the Khyheeree horsemen (allowing these to reside at home at Poolajee, &c.), and to occupy Shahpoor with a detachment of British troops.

The Khyheerees were thus settled on their hereditary lands, under British protection; their sovereign, the Khan of Kelat, fully consenting to, and approving of, the arrangements entered into.

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The improved arrangements for the protection of this frontier made in the year 1848, enabled me to withdraw the detachment from Shahpoor, and since that time no British troops have been posted beyond the desert. 29th March, 1852.

The 80 Khyheeree horsemen were and are still retained in our pay, and this payment thenceforth formed the only real connection between us. From what has been set forth above, it will be seen that the actual nature of the British relation towards the Khyheerees at Chutter, Poolajee, &c., consists solely in the British Government paying them a sum of Rupees 1,215 monthly for the maintenance of 80 of their horsemen, forming a kind of irregular outpost on the Cutchee side of the desert.

As Zemeendars, and in all other respects, they are exactly on the same footing as any other subjects of His Highness the Khan of Kelat, and I have always impressed this on their minds, and treated them accordingly.

The arrangement has been found to work tolerably well hitherto, and it has enabled me, since the withdrawal of the Shahpoor detachment, still to receive full information regarding everything doing in Cutchee; while, without much interference on my part, it has been found practicable to enable the peaceable Khyheerees to stand their ground as yet against their old enemies in the hills. The arrangement of paying these people can, however, hardly be considered a permanent one, though, for the present, it may be desirable to retain it.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 202, of the 29th March 1852, to my address, with accompaniment, and with reference to their subject to state that I am of opinion that the whole of the police arrangements of the border district in my charge should be in my hands. For the performance of these duties I beg leave to recommend that I be authorized at once to engage 100 Belooche horsemen at Rupees 15, with four Jemadars at Rupees 25 each per mensem. 3rd April, 1852.

The services of these men will be necessary for the peace of the country, and I propose to engage in this body Allim Khan Kulpur, with others of the Boogtee tribe, which arrangement will tend as much as anything to prevent a resumption of their predatory habits by these inveterate marauders; attempts at which, though unsuccessful, still would disturb and prove injurious to the country.

I have the honor also to point out the propriety of correcting the anomalous arrangements regarding the pay of the Khyheerees. This pay is now drawn by the Lieutenant of Police at Shikarpoor, while the men are, and have been from the first, wholly in my charge, and are employed beyond the frontier.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR,

I have the honor to call your attention to the subject of my letter, No. 129, of the 17th June 1851, and several other letters to your address. 8th April, 1852.

I have the honor to request the favor of your bringing to the notice of Government the peculiar circumstances under which I have so long held civil and political charge of this frontier, with a view to matters being placed on a more satisfactory footing.

Since January 1847, up to this time, I have performed the Police, Magisterial, and Political duties of the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

On the 7th February 1848, I was formally appointed by Government, Political Superintendent as well as Commandant on this Frontier.

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8th April, 1852.

The duties of this appointment were, as I believe you are well aware, from the first, of no trifling nature: they have necessarily very greatly increased, and are increasing, as the country becomes more and more inhabited, and peace, quiet, confidence, and security are established among the people.

For the successful carrying out of the measures requisite for establishing the feeling of safety for life and property in this disturbed country, and to create peaceable and industrious habits among such wild and disorderly people, it was necessary that the officers employed should show that they were in earnest in the task they had undertaken, and that permanent measures and a permanent residence in the country were intended. Knowing the importance of this, I have proceeded as if I expected to remain all my life in this spot, and have built here a large house, &c., and expended, with the objects above mentioned, nearly every farthing of pay and prize-money which I have received from the state.

I am certain that this has had as much to do with the peace and quiet which for years past has prevailed on the border, as any other means which I have been able to employ. This is no new idea: the same thing has been done with success by political officers in India on many occasions, as you are well aware, but in every other instance the cost was borne by the state; while here, though the Government, the country, and the people, have had the full benefit of the measure, which has proved perfectly successful, the whole expense has been defrayed from my private means.

I have performed the civil and political duties of the frontier district for more than five years past without any pecuniary remuneration whatever, and without even my necessary office expenses having been allowed me.

I find that during this time the item of stationery alone used in political and civil duties has cost me some 1,800 Rupees, and that a considerable expense has also been incurred for office, carriage, and other incidental expenses, solely of a public nature.

I feel certain that this state of things will not be considered by Government to be fair dealing towards a hard-working servant, and that the circumstances have only to be properly brought to notice to ensure its being remedied.

It is true that I am liberally paid for my regimental command of the Scinde Irregular Horse, but these allowances would be the same wherever the corps might be, and relate to the regiment alone, having no reference to civil and political duties; and not being adequate to meet the extra expenses above mentioned.

When I held political charge of this frontier in 1842, together with the command of the Scinde Irregular Horse, I received, by order of the Government of India, an allowance of Rupees 250 a month for my political duties, in addition to my regimental allowances, though these duties were of a trifling nature when compared with the political charge of this frontier as at present constituted.

Another great hardship attends the present arrangement: it is that my position as regards salary being simply that of a regimental commanding officer, I cannot obtain leave of absence without the forfeiture of the whole of my allowances.

I have served nearly 14 years in Scinde and Beloochistan, and during the whole of this period I have never been absent from my duty from any cause whatever; yet should failing health, or any other cause, compel me to proceed to Kurrachee, or to be otherwise temporarily absent from my post, I should have to pay for the indulgence at the rate of some 1,100 Rupees per mensem.

On the whole view of the question, I am certain that, if the matter be properly represented, Government will at once see fit to allow me for my political duties:—

1st. A proper Establishment and Stationery allowance.

2nd. Such salary as may be thought an adequate remuneration for the duty performed.

3rd. The privilege of obtaining leave occasionally which is enjoyed by all officers similarly situated, retaining a reasonable portion of staff pay during the period of absence.

You are yourself, I am aware, well acquainted with all the circumstances attending the position of the Political Superintendent of this frontier, with the nature and amount of the duties of the appointment, and the manner in which they have been performed, and of the correctness or otherwise of what I have

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set forth on the subject—wherefore, I have the honor to request the favor of your fully representing the matter to Government, so as to have it settled on a permanent footing, and to prevent the necessity of any further reference. 8th April, 1852.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 17th April, 1852.

I have been directed by the Board of Administration to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 499, of the 5th ultimo, regarding the incursions of the Muzzarees under Imaum Bux, brother of Dost Ali, the chief of the clan, against the Boogtees, a tribe represented by Major Jacob "to have been behaving exceedingly well" for some time past.

Political Department, by order of Sir H. M. Lawrence, K.C.B., President, and J. Lawrence, Esq., Member.

2. The Board remark that the records of the office prove that the Boogtees and Murrees have, since the annexation of the Punjaub, made repeated depredations on Rojaun, and there can be little doubt that the foray now complained of was made by the Muzzarees in retaliation for that made by the *Murrees* in December last, and reported at the time.

3. Shawalla is the post which requires guarding. The President of the Board is informed that the head-man of Shawalla is willing to guarantee the safety of his neighbourhood, if he is allowed a small party of horse. The Board have ordered an arrangement upon this plan as the cheapest for the present. They think that the Scinde Horse should be directed to patrol up to the Nullah on their side of Shawalla, and they will direct that the detachment of Punjaub Cavalry posted at Kin, shall move down occasionally on the Punjaub side as far as the village. They will also give instructions for one of the assistants at Deyra Gazee Khan to proceed to the neighbourhood of Shawalla, and make himself acquainted with the localities.

4. They do not think that the measure which you suggest, viz., that Major Jacob should extend his frontier posts so as to meet those of the Punjaub Frontier, would be expedient. One objection to either the Scinde or Punjaub Cavalry doing the work and meeting half way, is, that the pay of the men is so very different.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) P. MELVILLE,
Secretary to the Board of Administration.

To H. B. E. Frere, Esquire,
Commissioner in Scinde.

GENTLEMEN, 6th April, 1852.

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from Major Jacob, C.B., Commanding the Frontier of Upper Scinde, enclosing one from Lieutenant Merewether, and to request the attention of the Board to the statements therein contained, with a view to measures being taken to punish the aggressors, and to prevent such proceedings in future, as well as to call Dost Ali, the Muzzaree Sirdar, to account for the conduct of his people.

No. 44, dated 22nd February, reporting depredations committed by the Muzzarees under Imaum Bux, brother of Dost Ali, the chief of that clan.

2. When I was lately at Kusmore and in its neighbourhood, the people of Ali Morad's late districts were loud in their complaints of the lawless habits of the Muzzarees between Kusmore and Rojaun.

3. At first I believed their assertions to be merely a justification of their wish to carry arms and make reprisals, but further inquiry convinced me that their complaints were well founded, and I learnt that the country between Kusmore, the extreme northern post of the Scinde Frontier, and Kote Dildar, the most southern post of the Punjaub Frontier patrols, was a perfect nest of thieves, principally in consequence of the authority of neither the Punjaub nor Scinde authorities being asserted over the district in question.

4. I referred to Major Jacob, C.B., who is well acquainted with all that part of the country. He informs me that he could, without inconvenience, extend his frontier posts so as to meet those of the Punjaub Frontier, and that

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6th April, 1852.

when he returns to the frontier, on the breaking up of the force at Roree, he could have the boundary laid down at any part of the line convenient to the Punjaub authorities. This would enable the officers, both in the Punjaub and Scinde, more effectually to protect and control all within their respective jurisdictions.

5. Should your Board see no objection to this course, I will request Major Jacob to act on it, if you will give corresponding instructions to the Punjaub authorities, and empower them to communicate direct on the subject to Major Jacob.

6. A sketch of the locality in question is enclosed for facility of reference.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To the President and Members of the Board of
Administration in the Punjaub, Lahore.

30th April, 1852.

SIR,

In transmitting the copies of correspondence on the subject noted in the margin, in reference to the letter from Lieut. Merewether, No. 43, dated the 22nd February last, I have the honor to request that you will favor me with any remarks which may occur to you from a perusal of these enclosures.

To the Board of Administration, No. 499, dated 6th ultimo. From ditto, No. 400, dated 17th instant, regarding the incursions of the Muzzarees under Imaum Bux, brother of Dost Ali, the chief of the clan.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major Jacob, C.B., Political Superintendent
on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

21st April, 1852.

SIR,

With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the trade through Scinde with the countries to the west and north-west, I have the honor to forward copies of a letter from Government, as per margin, and of its enclosed copy of a despatch from the Honorable Court, and of my letter, forwarding it to the Collectors of Kurrachee and Shikarpoor.

No. 2,090, of the 27th March, enclosing copy of a despatch from the Honorable Court of Directors, No. 1, dated 14th January, 1852.
To the Collectors, No. 877 and 878, dated 20th instant.

2. You will observe from paragraph 4 of Government letter, that the observations and suggestions with which you formerly furnished me on the subject of roads are likely to produce useful results. Should you have any further remarks to make on the same or any other subject connected with the matter in hand, I shall be much obliged by your favoring me with them.

3. Also on the subject of paragraph 15 of the Court's despatch.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

To Major Jacob, C.B., Political Superintendent, &c.

14th January, 1852.

SIR,

Par. 1.—The letters noted in the margin supply the information relative to the trade through Scinde with Central Asia, which was called for in our despatch of the 15th November, No. 10, 1850.

Letters dated 25th Nov., No. 43, 1851.
" " 18th June, No. 89, "
" " 4th July, No. 99, "
" " 25th July, No. 116, "
" " 30th Aug., No. 134, "
" " 11th Sept. No. 143, "

2. The subject is one to which we attach much interest, and we need not repeat our earnest desire to encourage the development of the resources, as well as commercial as agricultural, of the Province of Scinde.

3. The Governor-General, in reviewing the proceeding, considers that the suggestions of Mr. Frere for extending the trade of the mother-country, and for pro-

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moting the interests of the Province, are simple and salutary, and has no doubt they will be favorably regarded by the Bombay Government. He offers the assurance that the aid of the Supreme Government will be afforded to effect public objects of so valuable a character. 14th January, 1852.

4. The dislike of Asiatics to travelling by sea, more particularly of those classes who, from their inland position, only learn its wonders and terrors by report, is proverbial, and not easily overcome; accordingly, we find that the merchants of Central Asia complain of the loss of life, time, and property, to which a voyage to Bombay and back subjects them, that they are at the mercy of the Dulahs and native dealers at Bombay, and are obliged to sell their goods at any price, being pressed for time to purchase a return investment; they also complain of the heavy charges of freight by steam, if they are disposed to avail themselves of the more expeditious mode of transport. In recognising this deep-rooted feeling, and in acknowledging the inconvenience to which the Asiatic dealer is subjected in seeking a market so far from home, the Committee of Inquiry have recorded the opinion that this sea voyage is the great drawback to a full development of the trade with "Khorasan" (meaning thereby the interior of Asia).

5. We notice with pleasure that you have authorized Mr. Frere to take measures for the establishment of a fair in Scinde, and we proceed to explain why we consider Kurrachee the most eligible site for its formation. The Commissioner says, as regards the situation for a fair, such meetings are useful whenever two lines of commerce join, or rather where the beats, so to speak, of two different classes of traders meet. Both Kurrachee and Shikarpoor are so situated, and both therefore are well suited for the purpose.

6. It is of importance that the commerce of both parties bringing merchandise to the fair, viz., the traders from Central Asia, and those who come by sea to the port, should be consulted. The Khandahar and Kelat merchants are accustomed when en route to Bombay to visit Kurrachee; no change of practice is therefore called for in their continuing to do so, and this is always an important consideration. The merchants attending the fair by sea, from ports at a greater or less distance, will be pleased to find that their goods may be disposed of at the place of their first landing, and to those classes an inland journey to Shikarpoor, with the additional expense of transport, would entail difficulties which it would be well to avoid, and we therefore concur with Dr. Gibson and Mr. Frere in preferring Kurrachee to Shikarpoor as the site of the fair, leaving, however, the final decision of this part of the subject to your Government, after communication with the Government of India.

7. We think that the offer of the commercial punchayet at Shikarpoor to circulate copies of a proclamation, through all parts of Central Asia, notifying that the fair would be held at a given time, and that all frontier duties would be remitted during the three months for which the fair would be open, should be accepted, and that copies of the said proclamation, in Persian, Arabic, and Hindustanee, should be sent to all the ports of Persia, Arabia, and Africa, in the Persian and Arabian seas, and very generally to the most eastern ports of our Indian possessions.

8. The Commissioner and Dr. Gibson consider that extended means of steam-transport from Bombay to Kurrachee should be available to the public at the opening of the fair, and we trust that you will give every assistance, consistent with the public interests, in affording such accommodation.

9. To afford facilities to the general commerce, immediate attention to the improvement of the port of Kurrachee is imperatively called for, but on this point we have only to observe that our sanction to the completion of the mole was given in the public despatch to Bombay, dated 5th March last, No. 47, provided it should be ascertained that the work can be accomplished for an amount not materially exceeding the original estimate.

10. The Commissioner observes that another obstacle, besides the condition of the harbour, exists to prevent vessels from frequenting the port. The track of vessels to and from Kurrachee lies along the coast of Kattywar and the Delta, and the navigation is difficult, both on account of the lowness of the land and the changeable currents which run strongly. No minute surveys or careful sailing directions, he states, are accessible to the public: complete and admirable surveys exist in manuscript, of which copies are in the hands of the officers of the Indian Navy, but they are guarded by them as official documents with extreme

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14th January, 1852. jealousy. The Commissioner very justly observes, that Government should authorize the publication of the survey of a coast to which it is intended to attract mercantile shipping, and he is of opinion that the expense of printing would be met by a sale of the chart. We desire that this suggestion may be attended to.

11. Both the Committee and the Commissioner are of opinion that, with a view of attracting commerce to the port, facilities should be afforded for the reception of Patan traders. All large towns in Turkey, Persia, and Central Asia have ample caravan serai accommodation for the lodging of travellers and traders, and affording a receptacle for their merchandise; and we observe that the Commissioner has suggested that the old jail may be converted into a serai. A small levy might be made from the occupants to cover the expenses of the maintenance and repairs of the building.

12. It is also suggested by the Commissioner, that a Military Committee should be appointed to attend at the fair, for the purchase of horses to supply the Artillery and Field batteries of Scinde, and the Mounted Corps at Rajcote, Deesa, Neemuch, Nusseerabad, &c.

13. Major Jacob observes, that one of the great obstacles to a thriving trade in that part of the world is the want of good direct roads through Scinde, and points out the different directions where their formation is particularly called for. The Commissioner quite coincides in this opinion, and concludes by remarking, that, considering what natural facilities exist for making roads passable for wheeled carriages throughout Scinde, the present state of the roads is not creditable to a civilized Government.

14. The duties levied on merchandise passing between Khandahar and Kurrachee most seriously interfere with the due development of the trade, and it behoves the more enlightened Government, by the abolition of duties on their own frontier, practically to show the native chiefs that they will best promote their own interests by reducing their transit charges—it is the only appeal likely to prove efficacious. Major Jacob says, all our duties levied on this frontier should be abolished. The amount collected is not of any great importance, while the injury done to the trade by the vexation and annoyance of the impost is great. Let all be free "coming and going." This is a principle which has operated successfully in other portions of our dominions, and the remission of frontier duty on the single article of wool has been followed by so enormous an increase of its import, that we have every encouragement to prosecute the experiment in other branches of commerce. The importation of wool from Khandahar and Kelat in 1843 amounted in value to Rupees 559. The frontier duty on it was abolished in 1844. Its supply has annually increased, and in 1849-50 its value amounted to Rupees 2,34,547.

15. Major Jacob says, the Khan of Kelat cannot be asked to renounce transit duties while we levy similar contributions, and even collect these vexatious dues within the Kelat territories, we having maintained, for some years past, a custom-house establishment at Rojaun; on this point we require information, as we are aware of no reason to justify our maintaining so anomalous a position.

16. Major Jacob thinks we should assist the Khan of Kelat in establishing his authority over the turbulent tribes of his territory; to these suggestions we are decidedly opposed, being of opinion that all interference in the dissensions of the tribes bordering on Scinde should be avoided. He also suggests a small pecuniary assistance to the Khan, which is less objectionable if it tends to produce salutary effects on the trade. The Commissioner, in recommending the extension of this mode of conciliation, does not state in what way it is likely to prove beneficial.

17. The general aspect of our trade with Central India, is more satisfactory than we were led to expect from the vague and insufficient reports heretofore transmitted to us. It is still shown, that Russian piece goods have the preference in the market as regards pattern, colour, and durability, but there is evidence of their being undersold by English commodities, and of their import being on the decline. It is therefore highly probable, that if some of the obstacles which at present depress the trade are removed, and if attention is paid by our manufacturers to the taste of the population of Central Asia, the preponderance of supply may be furnished by Britain, even in the markets of Herat and Meshid.

18. To effect this desired end we should wish you to obtain for us from the bazaars of the two latter cities, further samples of Russian goods in brocades,

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silks, thread, wool, and cotton, and in hardware, and particularly of goods mixed with silk and cotton, which are in very general use with Mahomedans; and also specimens of such fabrics manufactured in Bokhara and Central Asia as may have a chance of being successfully imitated in England. 14th January, 1852.

19. We have reason to suppose that much blue and white glazed paper of Russia, suited for the reed used by Asiatics in writing, is consumed throughout Central Asia, and this article, we are of opinion, might successfully be supplied by England; of such paper we desire to be furnished with specimens.

20. There are many useful suggestions brought to your notice by the several authorities in Scinde which have not been adverted to, but which are all well deserving of attention; among these is Dr. Gibson's, that specimens of Russian chintzes should be sent to the Coromandel Coast, in order that improved patterns may be copied by the native fabricators. We observe that the consideration of these important matters is transferred to the General and Political Departments, for such notice and measures as may appear necessary. If preparatory arrangements are sedulously worked out, we conceive that there is ample time for the due organization of the holding of the fair during the autumnal and winter months of 1852.

21. We anxiously look for further reports of your proceedings, and we direct your continued attention in pursuit of an object to which we attach the utmost importance.

We are, &c., &c.,

(Signed) JOHN SHEPHERD,
And other Directors.

London, 14*th January*, 1852.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,
Secretary to Government.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) W. ARTHER,
Assistant-Commissioner.

SIR, 21st March, 1852.

With reference to former correspondence ending with Government letter, No. 9,020, dated the 9th September, 1851, I have been directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to annex for your information and guidance, copy of a despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors, No. 1, dated the 14th of January last, reviewing the proceedings which have been laid before them relative to the trade through Scinde with Central Asia, and to communicate to you the following observations and instructions.

2. His Lordship in Council has been pleased to authorize you to give effect to the instructions contained in paragraph 7 of the despatch, in such manner as you may deem most effectual.

3. The contingency referred to in paragraph 8 will to some extent be met by means of the private steamers now regularly plying between Bombay and Kurrachee, in the fair season, but Government are most desirous of affording every assistance they can, and are prepared to receive any suggestions you may have to make as to the mode in which such assistance can be rendered.

4. The subject of paragraph 13 is under separate consideration with reference to your letter, No. 76, of 27th ultimo.

5. You will have the goodness to furnish the information required in paragraph 15.

6. You are further requested to procure in triplicate or quadruplicate, as already requested to you in a separate letter, the samples referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19, placing yourself in communication with any of our authorities whose aid it may be necessary to solicit to meet the Honorable Court's wishes. I am to remind you of the observations of the Chamber of Commerce in paragraph 3 of their letter, No. 59, dated the 26th August, 1851, relative to some of the specimens before sent being supposed to be of British manufacture; the specimens accompanying your letter of the 27th ultimo, are now with the Chamber of Commerce.

7. Your attention is requested to paragraph 20 of the despatch, and to the

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21st March, 1852. proceedings on your record, and you will be good enough to point out all that you think can be done, and furnish the necessary samples.

8. Your attention is also particularly requested to paragraph 21.

9. The subjects of the paragraphs below specified have been transferred to other departments.

Para. 9. To General Department, for early attention.
Para. 10. Marine Department, for early attention, and issue of such early orders as may be necessary.
Para. 11. Judicial Department.
Paras. 14 and 16. To the Political Department for special notice as regards paragraph 16.

10. The further proceedings of Government on communications received from you since the Government letter, No. 9,022, dated the 9th September, 1851, was written, have been duly reported to the Honorable the Court of Directors.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,
Secretary to Government.

To H. B. E. Frere, Esq.,
Commissioner in Scinde.

20th April, 1852.

SIR,

With reference to the correspondence on the subject of the trade through Scinde with Central Asia, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from Government, and of the enclosed despatch from the Honorable Court of Directors, and to request your early and particular attention to those portions which relate to your charge.

No. 2,090, of the 27th March, enclosing copy of a despatch from the Hon. Court of Directors, No. 1, dated 14th January, 1852.

2. The notification forwarded with my letter, No. 2,375, of the 8th of November, should be republished with the additions noted in the enclosed draft. Translations should be made in the languages noted in the margin, and distributed to all the traders within your reach, with a request that they may be circulated as widely as possible, at all ports and marts with which they have any communication. You should send copies in whatever language may be most appropriate to the British agents and officers whose charges border on our own, and request them to give them all the publicity in their power, both at their own stations, and at marts with which their traders may have correspondence.

Persian.
Hindustanee.
Scinde.
Marwarree.
Punjabee—Shikarpoor only.
Arabic. } Kurrachee only.
Mahratta. }
Guzerattee. }

To Kurrachee only. 3. Copies of each translation should be submitted to me, and to the Collector of Hydrabad.

To Kurrachee only. You should consult the mercantile community on the subject of paragraph 3rd of the Government letter, and favor me with any suggestions which may occur to you.

I request you will take any steps in your power to obtain, through merchants in your neighbourhood, samples of the kind described in paragraphs 6 of the Government letter, and 18 and 19 of letter of the Honorable Court. Any advances which you may require to make for the purpose of effecting such purchases, should be made at once, and reported.

I take the opportunity of reminding you that I have not yet received the samples called for in my letter, No. 307, of the 18th February last. They should be separately forwarded in triplicate or quadruplicate, with as little delay as possible.

A separate set of samples of chintzes, also in quadruplicate, should be sent for transmission to the Madras Government, for the purpose indicated in paragraph 20 of the Court's despatch.

To Kurrachee only. With reference to paragraph 14 of the Court's despatch, I would beg for an early answer to my last reference on the subject of the amount of black mail levied on the road to Jungara.

To Kurrachee only. I have addressed the Collector of Shikarpoor separately on the subjects above noticed.

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I shall be obliged by any observations or suggestions which may occur to you on other branches of the subject of these letters. 20th April, 1852.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Note.—The paragraphs opposite which is remarked, "To Kurrachee only," were not inserted in the letter to the Collector of Shikarpoor.

(True copy.)

(Signed) W. ARTHER,
Assistant-Commissioner.

After recapitulating the previous notice forwarded with the Commissioner's letter, No. 2,375, of 8th November, 1851, substituting as follows, for paragraphs 3 and 4:—

"3. One at Kurrachee, to be held every year, from the 1st December, for sixty days."

"4. The other fair is to be held at Sukkur, in Upper Scinde, commencing every year on the 1st of January, and is intended to last for the space of forty-five days."

The revised notice will then run:—

"To the above effect, a notice was previously issued, and the Government have now further directed, that with a view to give increased facilities to traders, all frontier duties which are now levied on the frontier of Scinde be remitted for the three months in which the fair will take place, that is to say, from the 15th November to the 15th February.

"Government has further directed that shelter be forwarded for traders attending the fair.

"Large and commodious buildings are now ready for the purpose at Sukkur, and due provision will be made for the same purpose at Kurrachee.

"If there are any other facilities which traders wish to be afforded to them, or obstacles which they desire should be removed, they are hereby invited to make their wishes known to the Collector of Kurrachee or Shikarpoor, or to the Commissioner in Scinde."

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

(True copy.)

(Signed) W. ARTHER,
Assistant-Commissioner.

Sir, 24th April, 1852.

I have the honor to enclose copy of a report received from the Thanadar of Rojaun, relative to robberies said to have been committed by men of the Boogtee tribe.

I have to request the favor of your inquiring into the circumstances of the case therein mentioned with a view to a stop being put to these depredations in future, and I shall feel much obliged if you will endeavour, through Islam Boogtee, to apprehend the man Dreehun, who is accused of highway robbery.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) J. C. FITZ-MAURICE,
Assistant-Commissioner.

To Major Jacob, C.B., Political Superintendent
on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

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27th April, 1852.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 894, of the 21st April 1852, to my address, with accompaniments. I have little to add to my observations contained in former correspondence on the subject of the trade through Scinde, roads of communication, &c.

But I beg again to call your attention to the greatest advantages which would accrue from the abolition of the vexatious import and export duties collected on this frontier.

The annoyance to the poorer classes of inhabitants of the country near the border by the impost of these petty customs is almost incredible, while the injurious effect produced on the trade is, and must be, out of all proportion to the value of the dues collected.

I beg therefore strongly to recommend the immediate and total abolition of import and export dues on this frontier.

I observe that the Honorable the Court of Directors appear to agree in opinion with me as to the propriety of this measure; wherefore there can be, I should think, little difficulty in carrying it into effect.

This being done, I doubt not but that I may be able to induce His Highness the Khan of Kelat, greatly to reduce the duties on merchandise passing through his territory.

In any case, the influence of the abolition of these duties will be great and extensive.

With regard to the grant of assistance to the Khan of Kelat, to enable him to control his turbulent subjects, my opinions are unchanged.

If the fire consuming our neighbour's house did not and would not spread to ours, we might, perhaps, let it burn unnoticed and unheeded; but as matters are, it might be prudent, in my opinion, to assist in extinguishing it.

At present, however, such assistance appears not to be much required.

The countenance which I have been able quietly to afford to the Kelat authorities, the general effect of the measures and arrangements in operation on the border, the successful maintenance of the Khyheerees at Poolajee, &c., the return lately of the Boogtees to their country, with feelings far more friendly to us than to the Murrees, the release of the Doombkees (who were in the charge of Meer Ali Morad), which has secured the town and neighbourhood of Lharee from the predatory inroads of the mountaineers—these causes, with some others, have altogether had the effect of completely humbling and reducing the Murree tribe.

Their principal chiefs have lately waited on the Khan of Kelat at Gundawa, where also were assembled the chief of the Boogtee, Doombkee, Khyheeree, and other tribes of Cutchee.

His Highness the Khan reports to me that he has settled all the old blood feuds between these people, and established friendly relations between them; that a principal chief of the Murrees is to remain with him at Kelat, and that there is every reason to believe that the arrangements for the permanent establishment of peace and quiet in hill and plain will be successful.

By order of His Highness the Khan of Kelat, the Murree chief Ghannur Khan has waited on me to-day at Khanghur, and in my presence expressed the most solemn assurances, that in future he and his tribe would be obedient to their lord, the Khan of Kelat, and be at peace with all his subjects.

On the whole review of the circumstances, I am of opinion that these arrangements will prove to be good and successful, and that their beneficial effects will be felt on the Scinde side of the border, as well as through Cutchee.

On the subject of roads through Scinde, you are already in full possession of my opinion.

The happiest effects would undoubtedly follow the making of the road and bridges recommended, from Larkana to Sehwan, over the Lukkee Hills to Kotree and to Kurrachee.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

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SIR, 1st May, 1852.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 102, of the 24th April, 1852, to my address, with accompaniment.

With reference to the subject thereof, I have the honor to inform you that the man Dreehun has no sort of connection with Islam Khan, chief. Dreehun is an outlaw, who has been for a long time past living with the Murrees at Kahun.

I will endeavour to have the man apprehended by the means of the Kelat authorities.

But I have the honor to point out that the Muzzarees of Rojaun and its neighbourhood are the most impudent and incorrigible marauders in the whole country, and that so long as they are allowed to bear arms and to plunder their neighbours, the hill men, &c., the latter will assuredly commit reprisals.

No man, not being a soldier in Government employ, is allowed, without a written purwannah from me, on any account to bear arms throughout the frontier under my control; and it would be well, with a view to put a stop to these depredations, if the same rule were enforced on Dost Ali and the Muzzarees of Rojaun, &c.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To Lieut. Fitz-Maurice, Assistant-Commissioner,
Deyra Gazee Khan.

SIR, 5th May, 1852.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 985, of the 30th April, 1852, to my address, with accompaniments, and with reference to their subject to observe, that it appears, from the second paragraph of the letter from the Secretary to the Board of Administration, which accompanies your letter under reply, that the Muzzarees of Rojaun, &c., are really permitted by the British authorities not only to bear arms, but to make war, on their own private account, on their neighbours.

The evils attending such a course of proceeding you must be as well aware of as I am. They were sufficiently exemplified by the state of affairs existing on this frontier before January, 1847.

The benefits accruing from totally putting a stop to the practice of bearing arms, and of private warfare, are also tolerably apparent from the state of affairs on this frontier at present.

From the same paragraph of the letter above mentioned, it would seem that the Board not only think the practice of private war allowable, but think that an attack on the Boogtees by private individuals is justifiable in retaliation of an inroad by the Murrees. But the policy which permits of such proceedings cannot but be attended with the most disastrous effects. It must tend directly to encourage and perpetuate murder, robbery, and all manner of violence and crime.

Such proceedings are in exact accordance with the ideas of Belooche plunderers, but appear to me to be most unworthy of imitation by British officers.

With regard to the third paragraph of the letter from the Board of Administration, I beg leave to observe that long experience on this frontier and elsewhere, shows that allowing such persons as "the head man of Shawalla" to employ armed men, on pretence of his undertaking to guarantee the safety of his neighbourhood, will always be attended with the most lamentable consequences.

Such proceedings must and always do appear to the people of the country, and to the marauders, to imply weakness and inability to protect the country on our part.

The soldiers of the state alone must be allowed to bear and to use arms, or there will assuredly be no peace, quiet, nor safety in the country.

The remark in the same paragraph regarding the patrols of the Scinde Irregular Horse proceeding as far as Shawalla, shows that the Board of Administration knows but little of the manner of conducting the duties on this frontier.

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5th May, 1852.

Shawalla is about eleven miles from Kusmore only, while parties from Kusmore and my other outposts have been in the habit, for years past, continually of proceeding to five times this distance into the Boogtee Hills, and all over the country between them and our line of posts. Every fresh footstep to a distance of more than fifty miles from our border is observed and reported.

No men can leave the hills with the intention of plundering in Scinde without its being speedily known at the outposts, when parties immediately, as a matter of course, move out in every likely direction to watch for them; and be the party of marauders few or numerous, it is never successful in carrying off plunder, and is, indeed, very seldom able to return in safety to the hills.

The detachments on this frontier are always moving about, and are never posted in villages or within walls. While my Belooche guides, not easily to be distinguished from the hill men themselves, keep the officers in command of the posts, as well as myself, always in possession of full and trustworthy information.

With respect to the fourth paragraph of the letter in question, regarding the extension of the posts on this frontier to meet those of the Punjaub, I have the honor to remark that they already approach very near to each other; and the proceedings of the troops employed on the two frontiers appear to be governed by principles so different from each other, that I imagine the parties could not act together with advantage; the efforts of the one might be neutralized by the proceedings of the other, while no number of parties walking along and meeting each other on the frontier road would do anything towards preserving peace in a district where the country folk are allowed to bear arms, and to make war on their neighbours, on any account whatsoever, or on any pretence, however plausible.

I have the honor to forward herewith copies of letters, and accompaniment, lately received from Mr. Fitz-Maurice, Assistant-Commissioner at Deyra Gazee Khan, with my reply.

The contents of the Persian document are, I think, quite sufficient to show that there is little likelihood of the posts on this frontier being able to act efficiently, at present, in association with the troops at Kin.

It appears from this document, that not only do the peasantry of the country obtain information concerning border raids before the native officers and men of the outposts, but that when the latter have received information, they decline acting on it, or even leaving their lines.

I have, of course, nothing to do with these proceedings, save as they tend to affect, and really do affect, the peace of the frontier entrusted to my charge.

But the Muzzarees of Rojaun, &c., are the most inveterate plunderers in the whole country, and their robbing and murdering the Boogtees is likely to compel that mountain tribe again to engage in a predatory life, from which they have been reclaimed.

The man Dreehun, mentioned by Mr. Fitz-Maurice, has no sort of connection with Islam Khan, the Boogtee chief: he has not been with that tribe for a very long time, but has for many years past resided with the Murrees of Kahun, and lived the life of an outlawed robber, at enmity with the Boogtees and every one else from whom he could obtain plunder.

My reports will have made you aware that, since this alleged plundering incursion of the robber Dreehun, the Murree chief has waited on me at Khanghur, and that His Highness the Khan of Kelat has established peace between the Murrees, Boogtees, Khyheerees, and the other tribes of hill and plain in his territories.

This peace appeared to me likely to be lasting; but if our own subjects, the Muzzarees, be allowed to plunder the hill men, on pretence of retaliation, all our measures on this side will prove abortive, for the mountaineers will, of course, plunder in return.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

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MY LORD, 19th June, 1852.

I have the honor to submit a copy of a letter from Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier, and respectfully but very earnestly to beg that it may receive, at your Lordship's hands, an early and favorable consideration of its prayer: that your Lordship in Council would be pleased to grant him—

No. 76, of the 8th April, regarding his pay and establishment.

1st. A proper office establishment and stationery allowance.

2nd. An adequate remuneration for the civil duties performed by him.

3rd. The privilege of obtaining leave of absence occasionally, on the same terms as other officers similarly situated, retaining a reasonable portion of his staff pay during the period of absence.

2. As regards the first request, I can add nothing to what I have already submitted to your Lordship, in my letters noted in the margin, except that nearly a year's observation and experience have strengthened my conviction that the present profoundly peaceful state of the North West Frontier of Scinde is mainly owing to Major Jacob's excellent arrangements and unwearied personal exertions, and that the establishment recommended in my letters above quoted is essentially necessary to maintain and carry on the system to which such beneficial results are attributable.

Office Establishment and Stationery Allowance:—No. 1,387, of the 18th July, 1851, Secret Department. No. 30, of the 26th January, 1852.

3. I can do little more than repeat the same words as regards the 2nd point, in referring to the suggestions contained in my letter noted in the margin. The laborer is worthy of his hire, and I can only express my conviction that, should your Lordship concur in my suggestion, the salary will be as well earned as that of any officer on similar political employ under your Lordship's Government.

Civil Salary.

Paragraphs 14 and 19 of my letter, No. 139, of the 22nd April, 1852, Revenue Department, and the statement annexed to it.

4. Government has, in general, little to do with the way in which a salary is spent, but it is only just that I should state to your Lordship in Council the powerful effect produced on the country in his neighbourhood by the mode in which Major Jacob has expended the greater part of his pay and allowances during many years past. Totally regardless of comfort, as far as he is personally concerned, he has spared no pains to make Khanghur, probably one of the least favored spots in British India, a comfortable residence for his officers and men; and it is mainly owing to his liberality in this respect, that, in spite of all drawbacks, and of a fiery climate, to which, for six months in the year, I know no parallel, he has rendered it a spot where all serve cheerfully, and which many would not quit for the best climate in India.

5. As far, therefore, as a public-spirited and patriotic devotion of his own private means to advance the good of the public service, without regard to his own private aggrandizement, can establish a claim to the liberal consideration of Government, Major Jacob has, I am respectfully of opinion, established it.

6. The last point is one of more difficulty than the other two, because it involves general rules. I can, therefore, only state my conviction that such indulgence as Major Jacob seeks will tend greatly to prolong the period during which he may hope to serve the Government of India in his present situation, and that so highly do I estimate the value of those services, that, were your Lordship in Council to require to withdraw men from this frontier for service elsewhere, I should consider the province safer were the three Brigades reduced to two, Major Jacob retaining his present position, influence, and efficiency, than I should with three Brigades if he were absent, and his place filled by an officer of but ordinary influence and abilities.

Power of obtaining temporary leave of absence, retaining a reasonable portion of staff pay.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

No. 1,788 of 1852.

True copies forwarded to Major Jacob in reference to his letter, No. 76, of the 8th April last.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Kurrachee, 20th April, 1852.

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21st May, 1852.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 408, of the 17th May, 1852, to my address, and with reference to its subject to inform you—

1st. That my predecessor in command of the Scinde Irregular Horse had no magisterial authority.

2nd. That I was appointed a magistrate in Scinde by warrant of Sir C. Napier, G.C.B., dated 5th May, 1843, and that since that time I have exercised magisterial powers in various parts of the province, to the extent authorized by the regulations, over the Sepoys and followers of the Scinde Irregular Horse, as well as over the country folk.

3rd. On the 7th August, 1846, I was informed, by order of His Excellency the Governor of Scinde, that my warrant of magistrate gave me no power over the soldiers under my command. Against this I remonstrated, and His Excellency the Governor then formally confirmed me in the power of exercising magisterial authority over the men of the Scinde Irregular Horse, and conferred similar authority on my seconds in command.

4th. Since that time these officers have also exercised magisterial authority in various parts of Scinde whenever the public service required the use of such powers.

5th. I am of opinion that it is advisable and necessary that the full powers of magistrate, throughout the Bombay Presidency, should be formally granted and confirmed to myself, and to my two seconds in command under my control.

I have the honor to annex copies of letters on this subject.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

29th June, 1852.

SIR,

With reference to your communication, No. 1,493, of the 18th June, 1852, I have the honor to inform you that none of the frontier customs within my range are at present farmed out.

But were it otherwise, I am of opinion that there would be nothing whatever to prevent immediate effect being given to the orders of Government abolishing these customs; for whatever period the farmer's time had to run, a proportionate part of the sum paid by him might be refunded, and this would, doubtless, prove a satisfactory arrangement to all parties.

While on the subject of these frontier duties, I beg leave to point out that little good will accrue from the abolition of export duties on the border, while the import duties remain as before. The great evil of these taxes is the exceedingly vexatious nature of their collection; the annoyance caused by them is out of all proportion more injurious to the trade than profitable to Government, nay, I am convinced that these collections are positively injurious to our revenue, by checking the flow of wealth into, and through, the country, of which a part by a hundred indirect channels must always find its way into the coffers of the state, without inflicting the slightest injury or vexation on any one else.

At present the inconvenience caused by these customs to the people of the country, as well as to the merchants, is excessive: even a poor Belooche entering Scinde with two or three seers of flour in his possession, is seized and made to pay import duty; any man who may have crossed the border and passed on into Scinde, and who may be suspected by the Customs' Moonshee to have goods in his possession, is seized by the peon, brought back, perhaps, eight or ten miles, and searched; if nothing be found on him liable to pay import duty, the man has no satisfaction for the delay, disgrace, and annoyance which he has suffered.

These are not imaginary cases, they are of daily occurrence at, and in the neighbourhood of, Khanghur, Rojaun, &c.

The whole system appears to me to be unworthy of a great and liberal Government, while at the same time it is certainly totally unprofitable as a fiscal measure.

I beg leave, therefore, again, strongly to urge the advantage of abolishing all customs whatever on the North-Western Frontier of Scinde, and allowing perfect freedom for everything coming and going.

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With regard to the measures to be adopted to prevent our neighbours from increasing their exactions beyond our frontier as our own are reduced, I see no difficulty in this matter, and have no doubt but that it might easily be arranged with the Kelat authorities that no such proceedings should be allowed. 29th June, 1852.

Indeed, I have little doubt but that if the British Government were at once totally to remit all these import and export dues, the Khan of Kelat might be induced greatly to reduce those in his territory also.

Many conversations with the Kelat officers on these subjects, have convinced me that they are quite aware of the immense advantages accruing from the encouragement and protection of the trade through their country.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 29th June, 1852.

With reference to Major Turner's letter, No. 1,111, of the 5th June, 1852, to your address, and your endorsement thereon to mine, I have the honor to point out that with deference, and under submission, I have a strong opinion that the mode of executing the work of enlarging the Begaree Canal, recommended by Major Turner, by numerous separate contracts, is by no means the best.

This method would require much superintendence, more indeed than I could give to the work; it would also cause considerable delay, and would not afford good security for the whole being properly executed.

I should propose, if the work be placed in my hands, to execute it by entering into one contract for the whole, with some trustworthy and respectable man of the country, taking, of course, ample security for its due and proper performance; when I should only have to examine the work minutely when finished, and we should have the value of the whole work as security for every part of it.

I think, therefore, that it will be better to allow me to manage the business as I find best.

I propose to begin the work at once, as much may be done even while the present canal is full of water.

If you approve of my views in this matter, I request the favor of your directing the Collector of Shikarpoor to make advances of cash, to my order, as may from time to time be required.

I have also the honor to bring to your notice, that the chief and most important canal flowing from Begaree, the Noorwah, belonged, at the time when the enlargement of the former canal was proposed by me, wholly to His Highness Meer Ali Morad—it now belongs wholly to the British.

This canal must of course now be enlarged by us, as it would otherwise have been by His Highness the Meer, or a great portion of the advantage of the enlargement of the Begaree will be thrown away.

The Noorwah formerly went more than half across the desert, and was much broader than it is at present, the annual excavation not having been properly performed. It is, as a glance at the map will show, the most important of the secondary canals along the course of the Begaree. It is now of about the average breadth of 12 feet, and 8 feet in depth, where it leaves the Begaree. It requires to be enlarged to 25 feet wide where it leaves the Begaree, and 15 feet at its other extremity, giving an average of 20 feet.

The spoil banks are now excessively high, and are heaped up on the very edges of the canal; these must be removed, and a good slope given to the banks of the canal with a berm of 6 feet along their top. The length of the canal to be excavated is 15 miles, the area of the section of the earth to be excavated averages 160 feet, giving a total of cubic feet 12,672,000, to excavate which will cost, at 500 cubic feet per rupee, Rupees 25,344.

Delay in the execution of this work will cause great loss of revenue, and I have therefore the honor to request that the necessary outlay may be immediately sanctioned.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

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8th July, 1852.

SIR,

In compliance with instructions received from you, I have the honor to forward herewith an estimate for the cost of making a carriage-road over the Lukkee range of hills near Sehwan.

I have not entered much into detail in this estimate, as this did not appear to be required; considering the extent and nature of the work, the estimate appears low, but I have ascertained that a wealthy contractor is willing to undertake its execution, giving ample security for its proper performance.

The advantages of the work depend on the broadest possible principles: a glance at a map of the province will show them at once.

At present the Lukkee range of hills forms an impassable barrier between Upper and Lower Scinde, completely dividing the province in two.

Were the advantages of removing this barrier confined only to Scinde itself, it would well be worth while, at any reasonable cost, to cause it to be removed; but the obstruction lies right across the direct road from Central Asia to the sea, completely shutting it up, as no loaded animals can now pass over, while from the Bolaun to Kurrachee, a distance of more than 400 miles, there is no other serious natural obstacle whatever, save these six miles of hill.

To avoid this obstacle it is necessary to cross the Indus twice, and proceed by a circuitous route on the *left* bank of the river, in order to reach the seaport, which is at a considerable distance to the *right*.

In direct distance between Shikarpoor and Kurrachee, a road over the Lukkee hills will effect a saving of 40 miles, while the Indus will not have to be crossed at all, whereby an additional saving will be effected, equivalent at least to an ordinary journey of 50 miles more.

The importance of a good and direct road from the Scinde frontier to the sea with respect to traffic is immense, and such a road cannot exist unless these six miles of hill be made easily passable.

As respects the transport of troops, the advantages are not less. The passage of Artillery and Cavalry across the Indus is at least equivalent to a march of 40 miles; two such passages are avoided by the proposed cut, and while by the route of the left bank of the Indus 36 or 38 days are necessary to enable any considerable body of troops to reach Shikarpoor from Kurrachee, with a good direct road from the sea to the frontier, an army with all its apparatus and heavy train might perform the distance in 24 days.

It appears needless to enlarge on this subject, the importance of the work to the people of the country, to commerce, and to the state, being self-evident.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

27th July, 1852.

SIR,

With reference to your endorsement, No. 281, of the 21st July, 1852, on my contingent bill for clearing the tank at Khanghur, herewith returned, I have the honor to inform you that the advantages of this tank, and the necessity of clearing it annually, are set forth in the letter quoted in the margin.

No. 285, dated 21st December, 1849.

The sum of Rupees 500 annually is required to keep the tank in an efficient state, that is, to make it contain a supply of water all the year round, and this sum is, I have the honor to submit, a very trifling outlay, when it assures to two Cavalry Regiments, and to about ten thousand human beings in the desert, a good supply of fresh water, which by no other arrangement would be procurable.

This tank has proved such a blessing to the troops and to the country folk, that its advantages would be very cheaply purchased at ten times the cost which is now found necessary, and which has been granted by Government for keeping it in order.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Collector of Shikarpoor.

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No. 285 of 1849.

Khanghur, 21st December, 1849.

SIR, 8th July, 1852.

With reference to the subject of your letter, No. 2,378, of the 18th December, 1849, to my address, I have the honor to state that the tank in question at Khanghur was excavated by me in 1847-48, partly by causing the bricks and mud required for building to be taken from that spot, and partly at my own cost.

The object contemplated by me in digging the tank was to try whether a considerable body of fresh water could not be made to penetrate into the ground during the inundation of the Indus, and whether thereby it might not be possible to render the sub-soil sweet, and to make the wells in the neighbourhood of the tank supply a sufficiency of fresh water all the year round.

It was also expected that eventually the tank itself might be made to contain water throughout the year.

The experiment, as far as it has gone, has been perfectly successful, and the tank has proved a very great blessing to the people. One of the wells in its neighbourhood into which the Indus water was not turned, purposely to try the effect of the percolation from the tank, has been rendered perfectly sweet, whereas before its water was very brackish. The tank contained water up to the 15th December this year, two months after the subsiding of the inundation, and it is now certain that, were it excavated somewhat deeper, it would never become altogether dry. It is now nine feet deep, and should be increased to twelve. I find that the deposit from the water in one season amounts to about three feet in depth, so that this much must be excavated annually to keep the tank at its original depth.

The tank is of a somewhat irregular figure, of an area about equal to that of a circle of 200 feet in diameter; the cost of excavating it one foot in depth is Rupees 140. The amount hitherto annually expended on the clearance of the Boodwah Canal, for the supply of water to Khanghur (which will no longer be a charge to the British Government, in consequence of my having induced His Highness Meer Ali Morad to order his people to execute the work), will be about sufficient to keep the tank in order; and I trust that the money will be placed at my disposal for that purpose.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

SIR, 27th August, 1852.

With reference to the extracts from letters concerning the overflowing of the Indus at Kusmore, with your endorsement, No. 2,093, of the 25th August, 1852, received yesterday, I have the honor to point out that there appears to be some misapprehension in the mind of the Collector of Shikarpoor with respect to the Sind, its bunds, &c.

The existence, or total non-existence of the bunds in the Sind, near Kusmore, could not possibly have had the smallest influence on the overflow of water this season near Shikarpoor.

The Indus has lately risen to a height unprecedented, I believe, for nearly half a century, and the water was, and is, I believe, still standing several feet higher than the tops of any of the bunds in question. It is, therefore, evident that, had not only the Sind been completely bunded across, but even had the hollow been quite filled up everywhere to the level of the country around, the inundation would still have extended exactly as it has done now.

The admitting water into the hollow of the Sind can never, under any circumstances, add to the chance of the Indus inundating Shikarpoor; for this effect to take place the Indus water must rise to a height considerably above the level of the country around this hollow, in which case the water would flow over everything, even were the hollow filled with earth instead of water.

Major Turner is undoubtedly correct in stating that the enlarging of the

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27th August, 1852. Begaree Canal must tend to diminish the danger of inundation near Shikarpoor, by the great addition to the height and substance of the bank which must ensue from this operation. But in my opinion the city of Shikarpoor can only be effectually protected from *such inundation* as the present one (which flows over the tops of bunds, banks, and everything else), by a good strong embankment, thrown up *not far from* the town itself.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

28th September, 1852. SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 720, of the 21st September, 1852, to my address, with accompaniments, and with reference to their subject to state that I have little further to urge, in support of Major Turner's opinion, that the lines lately built at Khanghur were emergently required, than is already set forth in the correspondence which accompanied your letter under reply.

But without entering into the technical meaning of the word "emergent" in this instance, it is certain that the work in question was so necessary to good order and regularity—to those arrangements, in fact, by which the border is protected—and was so highly conducive to the convenience, comfort, and health of the troops stationed, and at all times working hard on this frontier, that there cannot be a doubt that had Government fully understood the actual circumstances of the case, the execution of the work would have met with full approbation.

The Sowars of the Scinde Irregular Horse cannot be treated as if each were one individual man only; there is the horse, the Syce, grass-cutter, and a pony, or a camel; and it can well be imagined that, unless every man has his proper place in the lines, endless confusion and annoyance must arise; there can be no repose or comfort for man or beast.

The unfortunate soldier returning, perhaps horse and man tired, from the pursuit of robbers, or other distant and fatiguing duty, instead of finding ready a comfortable place to rest in, would have to wander all about the camp to discover where his place and his followers' might be in the lines.

Again, the men are not all one-horse silidars, and, unless each troop has its own lines complete, a man with five or six horses must often find these separated and dispersed all about the lines of different troops.

The inconvenience, trouble, and annoyance to the whole corps thereby caused, is beyond expression.

Before applying for these new lines, I tried by all manner of arrangements which I could think of, to obviate, or, at least, to palliate, the inconveniences above mentioned, caused by having to accommodate sixteen troops in the lines adapted for fourteen only; but I tried in vain. Confusion could not be avoided: all the troops were broken to pieces, and every man inconvenienced.

The injury to discipline, order, and regularity, caused by not having each troop complete in its own lines, under its own officers and non-commissioned officers, is also very great, and must, I think, be obvious. The delay and trouble caused by not knowing exactly where to find each man when wanted, is alone a serious matter, and engenders unsoldierlike habits in all concerned. On the other hand, when every man, horse, and follower have their own proper places in the lines, and each troop is distinct and complete in itself, everything becomes orderly and regular as regards discipline, while all annoyance and injury to individuals is avoided. Even when a man proceeds on furlough, his place does not necessarily become vacant in the lines of his troop, for many men do not take with them their horses or their followers, and when the lines are complete, the place remains occupied by these, and ready for the man on his return. The same remark applies to men detached on duty, or, in fact, who may be absent from any cause. At the same time, every man, soldier, or follower, and every beast, whether horse or baggage-animal, are all continually under the eyes of the commander of the troop; a strict and proper responsibility can be enforced; and all neglects and irregularities at once observed and corrected.

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It is needless, perhaps, to enlarge further on these matters; the truth and soundness of the above remarks must, I think, be evident, on consideration, to all. 28th September, 1852.

My observations are made after actual trial and practice, which leaves no room for uncertainty.

I feel convinced, that under the explanation now afforded, Government will see fit not only to withdraw its censure, but highly to approve of the execution of a work which is so necessary to the efficiency of the troops, and which, at a cost so comparatively trifling, proves of such great advantage to the comfort and convenience of the native soldiers, who are serving with cheerfulness and zeal in this fearful climate.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent and Commanding
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To Captain Haig,
Assistant-Quartermaster-General,
Kurrachee.

SIR, 17th November, 1852.

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on the frontier under my command during the past week.

Certain men, calling themselves Wukkeels from Koondil Khan, of Candahar, arrived here to-day, giving out that they were proceeding to visit the Collector of Shikarpoor; the men have been arrested by me, and further particulars will be reported hereafter.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 18th November, 1852.

In continuation of my report of yesterday's date, I have the honor to inform you that the accompanying paper was received from Goolam Mohideen Khan, the Wukkeel of Koondil Khan.

I declined holding any further communication with Goolam Mohideen Khan, or any of his people, but forwarded them all prisoners to the Khan of Kelat, requesting him to have them sent back to their country.

I gave Goolam Mohideen Khan a purwanah, of which I have the honor to forward a copy herewith.

The Wukkeel's party consisted of fourteen persons in all, well mounted and armed. They appear to have passed through Cutchee without obtaining any permission from, or holding any communication with, the Kelat authorities.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 27th November, 1852.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2,978, of the 24th November, 1852, to my address, and with reference to its subject to state, that I know not to what the expressions in the paper sealed by Koondil Khan, and received from his Wukkeel, Goolam Mohideen Khan, can refer, unless, perhaps, to a communication from me to the Candahar chief made, as reported in my letter, No. 157, of the 18th September, 1850, to the Commissioner in Scinde (Mr. Pringle).

My proceedings on that occasion were approved of by the Commissioner, as per his letter to me, No. 1,546, dated 26th September, 1850, but afterwards disapproved of by the Secret Committee, as per extract forwarded to me with your endorsement, No. 133, of the 23rd January, 1851.

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27th November, 1852. I have no doubt but that this man, Goolam Mohideen Khan, is really what he represents himself to be, a messenger despatched from Koondil Khan, of Candahar. The purpose of his mission is doubtless the same as that on the former occasion in 1850, to establish friendly relations with the British Government.

From inquiries which I made, I had and have reason to believe that this Goolam Mohideen is the same man who was formerly in the service of Meer Ali Morad. The man may have gone to Candahar, and there falsely imposed himself on Koondil Khan as a messenger from the British authorities, as was done by one Abdoola Khan, who forged the signature of Sir H. Lawrence, as formerly reported by me in 1849.

I have sent to the Kelat authorities to have Goolam Mohideen and his attendants detained, if still within reach.

With reference to the fourth paragraph of your letter, I much regret that I should have acted in a manner at variance with your wishes in this matter; and under the instructions now received, no such mistakes can occur in future; but it appeared to me that the course I pursued was in exact accordance with the wishes and intentions of Government, as communicated for my information and guidance on former similar occasions.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

11th December, 1852. SIR,

With reference to the subject of my letter, No. 168, of the 27th November last, I have the honor to inform you that Goolam Mohideen, the Wukkeel from Candahar, was, at my request, as instructed by you, detained by the Kelat authorities, who report to me that the man is now at Bhaugh, *en route* to Jacobabad.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

13th December, 1852. SIR,

I have the honor to report that on the 11th instant a large body of Murrees, said to be the whole assembled tribe, horse and foot, suddenly issued from the hills and attacked the town of Polajee. The Khyheerees made some resistance, but the Murrees killed forty of their men, and wounded many more, without apparently suffering any loss themselves. No information of this intended inroad had been received by any one, and this is to be accounted for by the fact that the thing was arranged *with the connivance and assistance of Mahomed Hussan, Wuzzeer of His Highness the Khan of Kelat.*

I have for some time past been aware that traitors existed among the Khan's councillors, and have lately repeatedly warned him of this. The Wuzzeer, Mahomed Hussan, has been endeavouring to establish his own power, independent of the authority of the Khan, and I have had good reason to suspect that he has been secretly supporting the Murrees in their rebellion and predatory incursions into Cutchee.

Mahomed Hussan has twice lately released and sent back to the hills Murree chiefs who had been sent to reside as hostages with the Khan of Kelat, to be security for their clan, and on both occasions predatory inroads instantly followed their release.

In these and in other proceedings he has acted directly contrary to my advice, and of course the acts of the minister cannot easily be separated from those of the Khan.

About three months ago some men, subjects of Kelat, well known persons, entered the British territory in the Chandia Jaghire, and there, without any provocation, murdered two men. I applied to the Khan of Kelat to have the murderers delivered up to me. To this application the Khan at first replied by

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forwarding to me a letter from the murderers themselves, in which they justified their deed by reason that some of the Chandias had, a great many years ago, killed some of their people, and stating that they, the murderers, intended to kill three more of the Chandias, to make the number even. I again insisted on the murderers being given up, but though nearly a month has elapsed the men have not been sent, neither have I received any reply. 13th December, 1852.

At the time of this attack on Poolajee, some of the principal Kelat Sirdars (Khyr Mahomed, Mengul, and others) were actually at the place with a considerable body of followers. These chiefs threw the Khyheerees off their guard by assuring them that there was not the least danger from the Murrees, and that there would be none in future, as the minister, Mahomed Hussan, had arranged matters, and entered into friendly relations with them.

When the attack was made by the Murrees, these chiefs and their followers not only did not offer the least resistance to the robbers, or afford any assistance to the Khyheerees, but appeared to be on most friendly terms with the mountaineers, who returned with all their plunder through the very camp of these Brahooee Sirdars. Two days before this inroad took place, Wukkeels had proceeded from the Murrees to the minister, Mahomed Hussan, and were with him at the very time the attack was made, and are, I have reason to believe, with him still.

It appears to me, as I have long ago repeatedly brought to the notice of superior authority, that it is essential to the permanent peace and safety even of our own side of the border that this predatory tribe, the Murrees, should be reduced. But as it appears that this course is not to be adopted, I request that you will favor me with instructions regarding our future relations with the Kelat authorities, whose late conduct appears the reverse of friendly.

It would, I think, be an excellent arrangement if you could admit the Khan to a personal interview with you, when something might be determined on to place our relations on a more satisfactory footing than they are at present. The Khan is himself personally, there is no doubt, very well disposed towards us, but he has little power, and that little is gradually becoming less, while the acts of his subjects are now those of enemies to the British.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

DRAFT OF LETTER to the KHAN of Kelat, sent through his Wukkeel, MOLLAH AHMED, after compliments. 14th December, 1852.

I have received no reply to my last letter to your Highness, neither have the murderers therein mentioned been given up to me.

But though your Highness has not written, the actions of your officers are more expressive than words. Within the last few days a large body of robbers of the Murree tribe, with the connivance and assistance of your people then present at Poolajee, have attacked and plundered that town, killing a great number of Khyheerees.

These Khyheerees have been killed and plundered because they were the humble friends of the British; there can, therefore, be no longer any doubt as to the intentions of your Highness towards that Government.

In spite of repeated warning from me, your Highness has thought proper to follow the counsels of traitors, and now to commit, or allow to be committed, open acts of hostility against the British Government, to whom I shall now report the matter.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB.

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15th December, 1852. SIR,

With the exception of the attack on Poolajee by the Murrees, reported in my letter to you of the 13th instant, nothing of importance has occurred on the frontier under my command during the past week.

It appears that the forty men killed by the Murree robbers, on the occasion above mentioned, were unarmed cultivators and herdsmen. The plunderers are said to have been in great force, about 2,000 in number; they did not succeed in entering either of the two walled places of which Poolajee consists, and appear to have made no serious attempt to do so, but they swept off all the cattle from the country about.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

20th December, 1852. SIR,

In compliance with instructions received from Brigadier Wilson, Commanding in Upper Scinde, I have the honor to forward the accompanying correspondence, with my opinions and remarks on its subjects, which are as follow:—

With regard to the whole question of Ordnance Depôts, Magazines, or Arsenals, in Scinde, it appears to me that there are only two places where these can be established with advantage.

These places are Kurrachee and Sukkur; at Kurrachee, as the sea-port where all stores and supplies must be received and stored in the first instance.

This appears to be admitted on all hands, so that no argument is required in its favor.

The other point appears to me equally clear, but as it seems not to have appeared so to higher authorities, I will concisely state my reasons for thinking Sukkur, and Sukkur alone, the other proper place for an Ordnance Depôt in Scinde.

Magazines of Artillery and Ordnance stores in Scinde can only be required in case of warlike operations becoming necessary.

The line of these operations must commence on or beyond our Northern or North-Western Frontier; there is no possibility of war in any other direction. The place then already indicated as that proper for the second Arsenal in Scinde is that point on the river Indus nearest to, and most convenient for, this line of operations, and from which point land-carriage must necessarily commence.

Such a point is evidently found at Sukkur. This spot, where the river runs between rocky shores, is one of the only three permanent points on the course of the Indus through Scinde; the other two being Sehwan and Jerruck. This consideration is of some considerable importance, as any other point on the banks of the river in Scinde is liable to be left, or be carried away by the stream. Sukkur is secure in this respect, while with a good road to Shikarpoor, which, strange to say, after fourteen years' occupation of the country we have not yet made, the whole country beyond is readily accessible from it. Sukkur, then, by natural position and advantages, is determined as the proper place for the Arsenal.

In other respects it also presents advantages. There is there already built a magnificent range of barracks, which, with some trifling additions and alterations, would be admirably adapted for housing the Artillery and Ordnance stores, for workshops, and for all the purposes required for an Arsenal.

The establishing of the Ordnance Depôt in the fortress of Bukkur appears, and always did appear, to me to be a very grave error.

The labor, loss, injury and expense incurred by its insular position in the middle of a wide and rapid river, are almost inexpressible. Having had to form Ordnance Depôt there originally, in 1839, I know well, by experience, what the disadvantages of this locality are; they are overwhelming. Yet in 1839 they were even less then than they have ever been since that time, for I then constructed and maintained a good flying bridge, connecting Bukkur with the mainland of Sukkur, which was found of immense convenience and advantage, but which was not kept up in after years.

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In case of a permanent bridge being made across the Indus at Bukkur, it might be well to maintain the fortress and the arsenal therein. But this is not likely ever to be the case, and, under all other conditions, the position is undoubtedly improper. The fortress itself is worthless. Even if in good repair it would be contemptible in war; but it is a decayed crumbling ruin. 20th December, 1852.

In 1839, the fire of a six-pounder, with blank cartridge, as the mid-day gun, caused one of the towers to fall bodily down.

The place is in no better state at present: the whole interior of the fortress is covered to a depth of some fifteen feet, with the debris of old buildings and other decayed substances; so that the erection of any building there is costly, difficult, and, after all, unsafe. The same reason makes the island, perhaps, less healthy than other spots in the neighbourhood. On the whole view of the subject, I have a strong opinion that the fortress of Bukkur should be totally abandoned.

It never could be of any use, except as a jail, and it is an objectionable place even for such purpose, as being unsafe, and perhaps unhealthy. There is a massive and costly powder-magazine in the fortress, which was built in 1845, but the site for this magazine was strangely chosen. It is placed on the highest and most exposed point of the whole fortress, and is the most conspicuous object from the outside, being visible, high over the walls of the fort, from all the country in every direction. This magazine must have cost an enormous sum of money, as it is a massive bomb-proof building, of pucka masonry, but it has been built on the top of a mound formed by the remains of what was once an interior fort or ancient citadel, and the foundations have, in consequence, I am informed, given way, and the building thus been somewhat injured.

For a *bomb-proof* magazine, its position is ridiculous: it is placed so as to form the fairest possible mark for every stray shot and shell. It is also liable to be struck by lightning; while, notwithstanding its massive construction, it can hardly, in its present state (unless it has been repaired since I last saw it), be considered altogether weather-proof.

A powder-magazine should be constructed at Sukkur. No costly bomb-proof building is necessary or desirable. A well built wall of two feet thick is as good a protection against the weather, and against ordinary accidents, as one of twenty feet. One of the common vaulted buildings of the country would form as good a powder-magazine as could be wished for, and such a building of sufficient size could be erected for a mere fraction of the cost of a regular bomb-proof magazine. Bukkur might, perhaps, answer well for a naval arsenal or station, but I would, under no circumstances, retain an Ordnance Depôt on the island. I have been informed that Sukkur is also objected to as an unhealthy locality. This is, in my opinion, wholly erroneous. A residence in Scinde, for a period of more than fourteen years, and considerable attention to the subject, have quite convinced me that Sukkur is in no degree more unhealthy than any other part of the province.

It was doubtless injudicious to place the cantonment in the middle of an immense burial-ground, where there was not a square yard of earth without one or more graves in it, and this objection was remarked on by me to Brigadier Gordon, in 1839, but over-ruled by him. However, Sukkur and its neighbourhood generally is certainly by no means an unhealthy spot. Sukkur may, doubtless, have its periodical visitations of sickness, as have most other places in Scinde, Guzzerat, and other countries. But if the Military Board have been led to believe it specially unhealthy, it must have been misled by the reports of persons who judged hastily, without due consideration, or without the necessary experience.

As shown above, Sukkur must, it seems, on the clearest principles of economy and common sense, necessarily be the proper place for the second Arsenal in Scinde; but whether an Ordnance Depôt be established there or not, it appears to me highly injudicious to form one at any intermediate point between Sukkur and Kurrachee, as at Hydrabad.

Ordnance stores required for Upper Scinde, or beyond it, could, with as great ease, be supplied from the grand depôt at Kurrachee as from Hydrabad. When once packed and embarked, little more expense is requisite for the one journey than the other. While, if everything be supplied at once from Kurrachee, the great cost of the double establishment, double packing and unpacking, and embarking, is entirely avoided.

In case of war, also, it should be borne in mind that the secondary depôt at

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20th December, 1852. Hydrabad becomes entirely useless, as it would be absolutely necessary then to have another depôt and establishment at Sukkur, where water-carriage ceased to be available. It would be impossible to take the stores from the boats and steamers and place them at once on the backs of camels, &c.; there must necessarily be a depôt where the stores are to quit the Indus.

Hydrabad is also, from local circumstances, peculiarly ill adapted as a station for an Ordnance Depôt on the Indus.

The fort of Hydrabad is indeed not on the Indus, but at a distance of four miles from the river, so that, in addition to the inconveniences and objections pointed out above, a land-carriage of eight miles is necessarily incurred by establishing the Arsenal in that place, without any corresponding advantage whatever.

As regards the ordinary supply of small arm ammunition for the troops in Upper Scinde, if there be no Ordnance Depôt at Sukkur, it seems to me, that the troops could be supplied equally well from Kurrachee as from Hydrabad. In the former case there would only be four days more time required for a steamer than in the latter.

As regards the field artillery at Shikarpoor, it appears to me, that there is no necessity whatever for keeping a field battery at Shikarpoor, or anywhere in Upper Scinde.

As regards any protection to the country, or any support to the troops on this frontier, the battery, and even the Shikarpoor Brigade, might as well be at Kurrachee.

In case of war, the presence or absence of this weak brigade would be not of the slightest importance: nothing could be undertaken till other troops should be assembled. While as regards the protection of the frontier under ordinary circumstances, the infantry and artillery posted thirty miles within our border, are not, and cannot be, of the slightest use or influence. Whatever had to be done, must invariably be accomplished long before such ponderous machinery could be put in motion.

In the protection of the country no troops are employed, nor any required, beyond the two regiments of Scinde Horse, and, to which should be added, a good and very complete mountain battery.

If an Arsenal were established at Sukkur, two companies, or at most a wing of a regiment, might be stationed there to guard it. No other troops whatever are, in my opinion, necessary for Upper Scinde.

The infantry regiments are said, I believe, to be required to guard the jails, but it can hardly be seriously maintained, that such a costly establishment can be really necessary for this purpose. The infantry of the police in Upper Scinde (the rural police) might, in my opinion, be most properly and economically employed on all such duties, while the men of the rural police now posted in small detached parties about the districts, might most advantageously be replaced by mounted policemen, who would prove far more efficient in the performance of the duties required of them than can be men on foot armed, accoutred, and drilled like regular infantry soldiers, as are the rural police in Scinde.

The mountain train, with full equipment as regards ammunition, stores, intrenching and other tools for artificers and lascars, should be placed on the frontier; camels might be kept up for its transport, and a detail of native artillery attached if thought necessary. This would, I think, be a better arrangement than keeping the mountain battery in the Ordnance Depôt; as, if required at all, it must be for use on or beyond the frontier.

No other field battery is, or can be, under ordinary circumstances, required for Upper Scinde.

The above appears to be all that it is requisite for me to state regarding the subjects in question, but should I have omitted to remark on any points on which my opinion is required, I shall be obliged by your pointing these out to me.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Assistant Quarter-Master-General,
Scinde Division Army.

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SIR, 24th December, 1852.

I have the honor to report that I have now returned from a minute inspection of the whole course of the Begaree Canal, and from visiting the other parts of the frontier districts under my charge.

I find that the work of excavating the Begaree is progressing very favorably, notwithstanding that some delay has been caused by the late prevailing sickness.

I have been taking measures to secure all the outlets from the Begaree Canal to the southward, where the water at high flood broke out from the canal and injuriously overflowed the country towards Shikarpoor. At all such spots strong permanent bunds are being made, while I have directed all the earth of the new excavation to be thrown up on the southern bank of the canal.

By these means there is every reason to expect, that in future the water from the Sind hollow and other extensive swamps between Kusmore and the Begaree Canal, will be caused to flow solely along the channel of the latter, to the great advantage of the irrigation of the districts to the westward, instead of, as heretofore, breaking injuriously across the Begaree to the southward.

The Indus water will, of course, be freely admitted into the Sind, the bunds near Kusmore, which were swept away last year, not being reconstructed. As the water in the Sind dries, its bed will be covered with wheat cultivation, while, during the inundation, numerous canals will lead from it in every direction through the country around.

I find that all the canals leading from the Begaree on both sides, without any exception, have had their mouths constructed with dams projecting far into the channel of the main feeder. In some instances, these dams have been made to extend more than half way across the whole bed of the Begaree. This practice is most injurious under any circumstances, is liable to the greatest abuse, and has been the cause of much unfairness in the supply of water to the Zemeendars, without corresponding benefit to any party.

While these dams greatly impeded the onward flow of the water in the main channel, they really added very little, if anything, to the quantity flowing into the smaller canals, which (the main channel being sufficiently full) must be regulated by the quantity drawn off from them for irrigation.

I have, therefore, prohibited this practice for the future, and ordered that no dams whatever be henceforth allowed to be made at the mouths of the canals leaving the Begaree, and that no projections of any kind be permitted to be made into the main channel so as to impede the flow of the water through it.

I have requested the Collector of Shikarpoor to have this order enforced also on his side.

The work on the various roads in the course of construction through the district is progressing well, and these roads must prove of the greatest permanent benefit to the country and to the revenue. They are laying open large tracts of dense and almost impenetrable jungle, much of which will, in consequence, be immediately reclaimed and brought under cultivation.

One more little piece of road is required to connect the whole series: it is a road from Moobarickpoor to Ummow. A large bridge over the Begaree, and ten more bridges over small canals, will be required, making the total cost of this piece of road about three thousand rupees.

The channel of the Begaree being enlarged, will be available for the purposes of inland navigation, which will also prove of considerable advantage.

Boats of large size will be able easily to come along it as far as the mouth of the Noorwah, while the Noorwah itself will, when enlarged the extent sanctioned, be navigable for somewhat smaller boats as far as Surkey-ke-koo. As the country becomes more populated, this inland navigation will become more and more valuable, and it may ultimately prove of great importance. The bridges across the Begaree will be constructed with arches of such a size as not to impede the passage of the largest boats.

A great number of applicants for lands at present uncultivated in Boordicka have appeared before me, and to these I have granted lands now lying waste and covered with jungle, on terms which appear to be most willingly accepted by the Zemeendars, and which, at the same time, will ultimately prove very advantageous to the revenue.

These terms are—the first year free; the second year one-fourth of the produce to be paid to the state; in all future years one-third.

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24th December, 1852. I have endeavoured as often as possible to establish money payment of the revenue instead of Battaie; but this is not liked by the Zemeendars, and cannot be carried out generally as yet.

In settling the rate of revenue to be paid in future, I have incorporated all separate petty dues, such as "ungumwah," &c., in the share of the produce allotted to Government. Thus, finding after due inquiry that these petty dues amounted to about one-twelfth of the produce, and that the cultivated lands in this frontier district heretofore have paid to His Highness Meer Ali Morad one-fourth of their produce, I fixed the collection in future at one-third, no further dues of any kind to be demanded. The Zemeendars readily agreed to this arrangement, which is calculated to be convenient to all parties.

The lands of Jummal Khan Doombkee, at Koomree, were, at my request, granted to him by Mr. Inverarity for three years free; this arrangement has, of course, not been disturbed. I have appended to this report a list of the waste lands granted by me to cultivators up to this date.

But the movement among the people has as yet only commenced. There is every reason to believe that, under the present arrangements, the greater part of the whole district will speedily be brought under cultivation, and, in the third year, yield a full amount of revenue.

It is curious that there has been less fever during the last most sickly season in this swampy tract of Boordicka than in the districts to the westward and about Shikarpoor.

It is at present very thinly inhabited, but many of the old Zemeendars are returning to the country, and people are commencing to leave the Bhawulpoor territory to come and settle here; while the appearance of content and satisfaction with the change in the state of the district, and of hope for the future, among all classes of the inhabitants, is most striking. All appear eager to possess land, and to commence the work of clearing and cultivating.

Some will be supplied with the means of doing this by the money earned in working at the roads and canals now in progress; and thus, I feel certain, a large proportion of the amount expended on these works will be at once indirectly repaid to the state, and this in addition to, and independently of, all direct advantage.

I visited the lands about Koomree, which have been reclaimed and brought under cultivation by the Doombkees and Jekranees, the followers of Durryah Khan.

The change in the neighbourhood of Koomree is quite astonishing. Two years ago the country around was covered with impenetrable jungle, through which there was hardly a path, except the roads of communication cut by me.

These men, formerly the terror of the country, and who, up to April 1847 (when I first set 500 of them to work at the annual excavation of the Noorwah), had never touched a hoe or axe, nor even handled any but weapons of war, have now cleared in the jungle, round Koomree, a space altogether equal to some four square miles of surface; this they have ploughed, and sowed, and it is now one immense wheat-field, of great beauty and promise.

Not a hand, save those of the reformed Belooche robbers, has been put to the work, which presents an example alike encouraging to us and to them.

I trust that you will approve of my proceedings in the matters above reported.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

14th December, 1852. TO THE KHAN OF KELAT.

Out of friendship and good-will alone I wrote to your Highness regarding there being treachery in your councils, and some secret influence at work which counteracted all that I had been for years past endeavouring to effect for the benefit of the territory of your Highness, bordering on the British provinces. The letter which I have received in reply, is not such a one as was proper or becoming in you to write to me; this letter is a further proof that your Highness is under the guidance of evil councillors, neither friendly to you nor to the

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British. As to the plundering Murrees, they do not cause any injury to British territory or subjects; if they should rashly attempt an inroad into Scinde, they will be killed, as were the Boogtees. 14th December, 1852.

But it is well known to me, that it is solely owing to connivance and secret encouragement on the part of your advisers, that these plunderers are still able to disturb and waste your country, and injure the peaceable people.

Some influential persons about you do not wish the robbers to be subdued and reduced to order, and this is well known to me.

Since you or your officers think proper not only not to put a stop to, but secretly to encourage the disorderly proceedings of these marauding tribes, it is not likely that the British Government will be disposed to grant you the assistance which you have so frequently demanded, and which, under a different conduct on your part, I would strongly have recommended to be granted to you; but your late proceedings and writings regarding these mountain robbers, convince me that it would be useless to attempt to aid a Government which rejects good advice, despises good order, secretly encourages rapine and bloodshed, and which opposes instead of assisting the British officers in their endeavours to restore peace and safety, plenty and prosperity to the country and the people.

If your Highness prefers the advice of self-interested traitors to that of the British officers, and the friendship of robber tribes to that of the British Government, the road is open to you—you can please yourself. But I shall certainly not recommend that any friendly aid be afforded you until I perceive that your Highness is independent of evil advisers, that you are inclined to exert yourself in establishing a good and strong government in your dominions, and that measures for the good of your country, and likely to strengthen and benefit the Kelat Government generally, be really intended.

In reply to a complaint made to you by Lieutenant Merewether, regarding the murder of some men of the Chandia tribe about four months ago, by certain men, your subjects, your Highness has sent me a letter from the murderers confessing the crime, justifying it on pretence of retaliation, and insolently proclaiming their intention to commit more murder.

Where such proceedings are allowed in a country, there can be no government whatever, and they certainly will not be permitted within the British territory.

I therefore write to your Highness to require you to have these murderers immediately imprisoned, and forwarded to me to be tried for the crime they have committed.

Any British subjects committing such crimes in the territory of your Highness would be certainly hanged, while the British officers are always ready to listen to any complaints made by the subjects of your Highness, and to bring offenders to justice.

But to permit your subjects to murder British subjects on any pretence whatever, with impunity, is the act of an enemy, and not of a friend.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

SIR, 26th December, 1852.

With reference to your letter, No. 3,166, of the 26th December, 1852, to my address, with acompaniments, I have the honor to inform you, that having caused Goolam Mohideen Khan to be sent to Jacobabad, I have this day personally examined him. The man states, that when at Candahar, he did strongly advise Koondil Khan to make friends with the British Government, and that he offered his services to Koondil Khan as ambassador; the offer was accepted, and thus he became the bearer of Koondil Khan's letter.

He has nothing to say beyond what is perfectly well known to all the world, and merely repeats what Koondil Khan has himself often communicated, namely, that the Candahar chiefs would gladly enter into close and subordinate alliance with the British. Goolam Mohideen was lately in the service of Meer Ali Morad, and, after receiving his arrears of pay, and the amounts of some other claims, making, in all, a large sum of money, he proceeded, with a party of men, in the month of June last, to Candahar. There, it is evident to me, that, to add

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26th December, 1852. to his own importance, and for other private reasons, he persuaded Koondil Khan that he was a trusted servant of the British Government; and when he found it convenient to leave Candahar to return to his native country, which it seems is Mooltan, he thought it to be good arrangement to proceed as Koondil Khan's ambassador to the British.

This is, I am certain, the whole story. Goolam Mohideen, at first, pretended to understand none but the Persian and Punjabee languages, and persevered in this for several days; but in my conversation with him to-day, I find that he speaks and understands Hindustanee perfectly well.

It appears to me totally useless to detain the man and his people any longer, and I request the favor of your further instructions on this point.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

29th December, 1852. SIR,

I have the honor to report that the Murree mountaineers have again assembled in force in the hills, for evil purposes.

I have made every necessary arrangement to repel any inroad which these marauders may attempt on the British territory, but none will, in all probability, take place.

In their predatory attack on Poolajee, lately reported, these Murrees killed ten little children, and seven women, besides some twenty-five men, unarmed peasants, whom they found about in the fields.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

6th January, 1853. SIR,

With reference to the subject of your letter, No. 3,271, of the 30th December, 1852, to my address, this day received, I have the honor to report the difficulties which you anticipate with regard to the settlement of the claims of ancient Zemeendars on lands in the district of Boordicka, have, I think, been entirely avoided by the proceedings which I have followed.

It would be, perhaps, more correct to state, that in this district, the difficulties met with elsewhere do not, owing to peculiar circumstances, exist.

The following are the circumstances I allude to. When the district of Boordicka, and that watered by the Noorwah, belonged to His Highness Meer Ali Morad, so early as the beginning of the year 1848, when I was charged with the defence and political management of the whole of this frontier, including that part in the territory of the Meer, with a view to the improvement of the country, I commenced endeavouring to cause the return of the old Zemeendars to their long-deserted lands. His Highness the Meer gave me full powers and cordial co-operation, and, at my recommendation, ordered all the Zemeendars, and other persons who had ancient claims on the lands in the district (but who had long since left the country to reside elsewhere), to return, re-occupy, and again to cultivate the lands on which they had claims, on pain of having those claims totally and for ever disallowed. A period of one year was allowed them to come forward, after which no claim was to be admitted. Most of the waste lands in the district had been (owing to the incursions of the border robbers, and the total absence of security for life and property) abandoned for half a century or more, and had become either desert or jungle; but few of the old Zemeendars were forthcoming, and still fewer were willing to re-occupy the lands which their ancestors had cultivated.

Several tracts of land watered from the Noorwah, and some spots in Boordicka, were granted to new Zemeendars.

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By far the greater portion of the district still remained uncultivated and waste, but henceforth freed from the claims of all the former Zemeendars or their heirs, &c., which was one step towards the re-peopling of the district, and recultivating its lands. 6th January, 1853.

Peace and safety were established, and have continued in the country; confidence in the protection of Government was restored to the people; but the district was very thinly inhabited, and was mostly covered with jungle; the cost of clearing the lands for cultivation was great; the revenue system of the Meer was very unfavorable both to the Zemeendar and to the ryot, and the Government canals were grievously neglected.

Owing to these causes, I was not able to make much progress towards the improvement of the district, though by nature it is certainly one of the most fertile in the province. Still, something was done, and though the progress was slow, yet, as the good effects of our proceedings became practically evident in the increase of revenue and of profit to the Zemeendars, the improvement must have proceeded in an accelerated ratio.

This was the state of affairs when the district came last year under British rule.

Far more rapid improvement may now be confidently expected, and has, indeed, actually taken place; but the claims of the old Zemeendars, their heirs, &c., having been some years previously disallowed by the then existing Government, ought not, it appears to me, either in justice or policy, to be now revived or acknowledged in any way.

Those of the old Zemeendars found in possession of lands at the time when they became a portion of British territory, have, of course, been confirmed in them.

Waste, unoccupied and uncultivated lands have been granted to other persons willing and able to cultivate them, on the terms already reported in my former letter on this subject. Letter dated 24th December, 1852.

I have caused it to be proclaimed that one rule will be established throughout the district, that these waste lands will be granted, on the terms mentioned, to all who may be willing to reclaim them from the jungle, and bring them under cultivation. At the same time, whenever any of the old Zemeendars, &c., may be willing to resume lands not already granted to others, they will be allowed to do so, and confirmed in their possession.

Under the peculiar circumstances of the case, the rule of acknowledging no claims on the part of Jaghiredars, Zemeendars, &c., to lands which were not in their possession or occupancy at the time when the district became British territory, appears to me to be most just and salutary.

No lands have been granted free in perpetuity, except those assigned to the reformed Belooches. To these, lands have now been given in the Boordicka jungle in place of others which they held free, and which were granted to them for wheat cultivation in the Shikarpoor district formerly, at my request, under sanction of Mr. Pringle and yourself.

It was lately suggested by the Collector of Shikarpoor that, as the men were living in my district, it would be better that lands should be assigned to them in it; and as this appeared evidently judicious, I did so, and the lands formerly held by them in the Shikarpoor district have been resumed.

I have the honor to annex an amended return, containing the information called for in your letter under reply.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 25th January, 1853.

With reference to your letter, No. 139, of the 19th January, 1853, to my address, with accompaniment, I have the honor to state that, in my opinion, the police establishment sanctioned for the frontier district under my charge must be considered as a permanent arrangement, and always be maintained.

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25th January, 1853. I do not see how the police duties of the district are to be carried on with less than the establishment in question.

Some misunderstanding appears to exist regarding this matter. In reality the number of policemen now employed under me is much less than formerly.

Before I received charge of the frontier district, a party of sixty mounted police was posted at Kusmore; other parties of the Scinde police were posted at Khyra-ke-Ghurree, Rojaun, Mowladad, Moobarickpoor, and various other places in this district, amounting in all to more than forty men.

In addition to these were fifty Chandia horse police, making in all upwards of 150 policemen of sorts, in British pay, employed in the frontier district. While a considerable number of men, horse and foot, was also employed by His Highness Meer Ali Morad, in that part of the frontier district which then belonged to him, but which has lately become British territory.

Under the present arrangement, four Jemadars, and one hundred men only are employed in the performance of the whole of the police duties, for which formerly at least twice that number was allowed.

Some policemen must, I think, always be maintained in the district, and I see no immediate prospect of beneficial reduction in the number now sanctioned.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

2nd February, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to report that, on the 30th January last, a party of about 200 Murree footmen left the hills and attacked some Boogtee herdsmen on the Muzzerdaun plain (beyond Ooch), of whom they killed five men, carrying off a large number of sheep and goats.

I am confirmed in my belief, before reported, that the Murree plunderers are countenanced and supported in their misdeeds by Mahomed Hussan, the minister of the Khan of Kelat, by information received from the Kujjuck chiefs, a letter from whom, received to-day, I have the honor to forward herewith.

Numerous reports are rife amongst the natives as to proceedings and preparation of the Wuzzeer at Kelat, of which I have taken measures to ascertain the truth or otherwise, and on which I will report hereafter.

The murderers of the Chandia mentioned by me in former letters, have not yet been sent here by the Kelat Government, though the Khan's Wukkeel has repeatedly assured me, I know not with what truth, that they are on their way here from Kelat in proper custody.

Within my command the frontier has been undisturbed during the past week.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

REPORT of General ROBERTSON after Reviewing the Scinde Irregular Horse.
To the ADJUTANT-GENERAL of the Army, Bombay.

2nd February, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that I inspected the two regiments of Scinde Horse at Jacobabad, on the morning of the 9th ultimo, in complete marching order.

The whole of the baggage was packed and laden on the reverse flank of the column, ready for a march, and everything was in that state of preparation, with only a day's warning, that the whole body on parade, numbering 796 sabres, could have moved on the sounding of the trumpet in any direction where their services might be required for any period.

His Excellency will be aware, from the returns, that this year these fine regiments have suffered most severely from the prevailing fever; and though it

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has much abated since the cold weather fairly set in, still upwards of 200 men were absent from the parade, mostly from this cause. But still those on parade looked well and healthy, and their peculiar dress adds much to their soldierlike bearing. Reviewing General's Report, February, 1853.

In marching order, and indeed on every duty in the cold season, all ranks *wear* over the dark green Alkullick a dressed sheep-skin coat reaching to the knees, but only covering the arms half way between the shoulder and elbow; the woolly side is worn next the body, and proves a most admirable substitute for a great-coat, well protecting the men from the severe cold experienced in Upper Scinde from December till March.

The arms in these regiments are first-rate, being an English sabre, like the dragoon sword of former days, and a single-barrelled percussion carbine slung by a hook to the waist sword-belt on the right side, and easily handled. The accoutrements, sword and pouch belt are of black English leather, and though they have been in use since 1844, are in good serviceable order.

The whole of these appointments, as well as the horse furniture, are perfect and complete, even to the small leather water-mussucks for the use of the men carried under the belly of the horse, attached to the girths. In short, the marching order parade proved what I had long heard, that the Scinde Horse were ready and able to march at the shortest notice, complete in every respect, and quite independent of the people of the country in respect of carriage. Nothing can, I conceive, be more soldierlike and complete than the marching order of the Scinde Horse. On the morning of the 11th ultimo I reviewed these two regiments, commanded in brigade by Major Jacob. The horses are of a good size, and in excellent condition, a little too fresh perhaps, in consequence of the sickness in the regiment not permitting parades. They marched past in column of squadrons, trotted past in column of troops, and filed past in most compact order, and every subsequent manœuvre was performed with much exactness and exceeding rapidity. The formation of lines on distant points by echellon, and by the flank march of threes was excellent, and it affords me extreme pleasure to report, that nothing can be more perfect than the parade duty of these remarkably fine regiments, who work even in a cloud of dust with a precision that is quite astonishing.

The vigilance exercised by Major Jacob in watching this frontier, may be estimated when I state, that during the time the Scinde Horse has been on the frontier, since January, 1847, not a head of cattle or a single camel has been carried away from within our frontier, by the robber tribes, that has not been recovered and restored to the owners, by the unceasing activity of the outposts.

To effect results like this, an undeviating system of patrolling is kept up between the posts, and the celerity of communication has been perfected by excellent bridges and roads all along the frontier, so that by night as well as by day intelligence is carried from one post to another, and to head-quarters at Jacobabad, which has rendered nugatory the efforts of the robbers, and caused a profound quiet to exist where formerly all was fear and distrust.

On separate mornings I caused the regiments to parade singly, under the personal command of the senior native officers, Russuldars Shaik Abdool Nubbee and Mohbut Khan Bahadoor. The words of command were given in excellent English, and repeated by squadron officers and troop commanders in the most perfect manner. Both regiments worked under these native officers in a most creditable style, and all praise is due to Major Jacob and his officers, for the manner in which they have taught those under their command to conduct themselves in every situation. I beg especially to call the attention of His Excellency to the admirable manner in which the two named Russuldars commanded their respective regiments, to the latter of whom I had the satisfaction of presenting, on a special parade, the order of British India, to which he has been lately admitted, in testimony of his long and faithful services.

The town of Jacobabad, situated close to the lines of the regiments, is rapidly increasing in size, and contains about ten thousand (10,000) souls, and this has been formed by Major Jacob (where but a few years since was nothing but a small ruined fort in a desert) by the protection afforded to all who reside under British rule, and owing to the efforts of one who strives continually to resist the baneful effects of a most wretched climate, by devoting himself for the good of the public service. I can conceive nothing more painful than an existence at

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Reviewing General's Report, February, 1853.

Jacobabad during the hot season, when the extreme heat tends to the prostration of all active exertion; but still Major Jacob perseveres under all difficulties, and, aided by the exertions of Lieutenant Merewether, Lieutenants Henry and Malcolm Green, and Lieutenant Briggs, has succeeded in keeping in admirable order two perfect regiments, and in making an oasis in the desert, which will as certainly extend itself all around, so sure as the services of the former mentioned officer are spared to Government.

In conclusion, I can only add, that all I saw at Jacobabad convinced me that a master mind had taken matters in hand which he was not inclined to leave half done, and that, whether as regards appearance on horseback or on foot, in equipment, dress, arms, horses, courage and fidelity, Government does not possess a more valuable body of soldiers than the Scinde Horse.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. D. ROBERTSON, Brigadier-General,
Commanding Scinde Division.

River Indus, 2nd February, 1853.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. FOLLETT, Captain,
Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General.

(COPY.)

No. 60 of 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

25th February, 1853. From the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE, to the Right Honble. Lord Viscount FALKLAND, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

MY LORD,

With reference to my letter, as per margin, I have the honor to submit for the consideration of your Lordship, a copy of a letter from Major Jacob, C.B., Political Superintendent on the Frontier, on the subject of his having neither salary nor allowances for the very extensive and responsible civil charge entrusted to him.

No. 207, dated 19th June, 1852, regarding salary and establishment to Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

2. I can add little to what I have already had the honor of submitting to your Lordship in Council as my own opinions on this subject, except that every day I have spent in this part of the country has confirmed my belief that Major Jacob's management of the civil duties entrusted to him has done more than even the admirable organization of the military force under his command, to produce the present state of perfect quiet within this frontier, and complete immunity from the inroads of plunderers, which inroads had continued up to the day the frontier was first placed under his charge. I have conversed with numbers of men once the terror of all the honest cultivators of these districts; men who could not deny that, up to the period in question, they had followed no calling but robbery and violence, and their statements are always to the same effect, that Major Jacob's arrangements had made the calling of a freebooter, on which they once prided themselves, first dangerous and then contemptible and unfashionable. Their remarks always left on my mind the strong impression that the moral agencies Major Jacob had brought to bear on their reformation had been far more effectual than the physical force he had wielded with such good effect, and that he is employing such moral agency in a manner which cannot fail to make the reformation permanent, provided it can be continued till the lawless deeds of the present generation cease to become subjects of living memory.

3. But it was, I am sure, never contemplated by Government that such labors should be rendered gratuitously. That Major Jacob should manage a district larger than many Collectorates, conduct all political intercourse with the barbarous tribes and semi-barbarous states along his frontier, superintend the police, dispense justice, dig canals at a cost of a lac and a half of rupees, open

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and bridge roads, many of them through dense jungle,* and perform all other functions of an energetic civil administrator of a large district, in a manner to win the approbation of his Government and the respect and affection of its subjects, and yet that he should receive for such an execution of such duties, in the worst climate in the Presidency, no other emoluments than he would have drawn had he been commanding his regiment in the quietest and most healthy camp in the best settled province in India. 25th February, 1853.

4. I feel convinced the anomaly has only to attract the notice of Government to ensure its being corrected, and will therefore only respectfully commend the question, as one of justice no less than of true economy, to the liberal consideration of your Lordship in Council.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Commissioner's Office, Hybut, 25th February, 1853.

(True copy.)

(Signed) H. ELLIS,
Assistant-Commissioner.

EXTRACT PARAGRAPHS 7 to 11 of Letter No. 95, dated 19th March, 1853, from the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE. 19th March, 1853.

Para. 7.—*Frontier Districts.*—Within the frontier there is little to add to what has been stated in former reports. Under the admirable arrangements made by Major Jacob, the frontier districts are rapidly recovering the state of high prosperity which they appear, ages ago, to have enjoyed.

8.—This result has, I think, been most materially promoted, by transferring to the Political Superintendent the revenue and magisterial duties of the strip of country within the frontier line, and I shall be much mistaken if, in a few years, the districts in question are not among the most flourishing and best managed in the province.

9.—The resumption of Boordicka from Meer Ali Morad has facilitated all Major Jacob's measures for the improvement of his charge. It was formerly a dense jungle, and, beyond harbouring game, was of little value; the few inhabitants being notorious thieves and cattle-lifters by profession, as some of the principal of them were not ashamed to admit, in answer to inquiries as to how they lived.

10.—The clearance of the roads sanctioned by Government has been of the greatest use in opening up the country. Major Jacob had completed them when I visited the district with him, in February, and nothing could be better than the manner in which the work had been executed, of which I have furnished a separate detailed report. I will, therefore, only here add, that valuable as the roads are in promoting agriculture, they are still more useful in a military and political point of view, as making pervious what was before an almost impenetrable jungle, and rendering an efficient police possible.

Vide Government letter, No. 2,325, of the 25th June, 1852.

11.—At one place, (Koomree, near Kusmore,) Major Jacob took me over strips of fine land, certainly not less in aggregate length than six miles, and with a breadth varying from 200 or 300 yards to half a mile. These fields had been cleared of heavy jungle, and sown with wheat, entirely by Doombkees and Jekranees, whose hands, till they were settled in Scinde, had never touched any implement of honest industry. This place, Koomree, when Major Jacob first took up his post on the frontier, was a secret rendezvous of these tribes, who used, preparatory to their inroads into the cultivated country, to halt at some temporary wells, known only to their own people, in the midst of a very dense jungle, where there is no other water within many miles. The discovery and occupation of the spot

* Up to the present time I find the extent of roads of 40 feet wide cleared by Major Jacob, and bridged with masonry bridges where necessary, so as to be passable for wheeled carriages all the year round, is upwards of 320 miles; the cleared roads of the same width, and equally passable in the dry season, but not bridged, so as to be passable during the inundation, is 120 miles: all of these have some bearing in the military relations of the frontier, many are of considerable general commercial importance. All are so locally, and many open up tracts of jungle previously inaccessible, and hardly inhabited except by thieves.

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19th March, 1853. as a frontier post, led to the building of the first house, five years ago, and about three years back, Jummal Khan Doombkee having seen its capabilities, and being straitened for good land near his own settlement close to Jacobabad, begged a lease of the land, which Major Jacob obtained for him. He has now, entirely by the hands of his own and other border tribes brought from Cutchee in 1847, cleared the land and sown it to the extent above stated. To say nothing of the difficulty of overcoming the previous habits of himself and his people, the work done by this veteran border *rider* would do no discredit, either in extent or style, to any English yeoman settling in the backwoods of America.

EXTRACT PARAGRAPH 1, of letter No. 1,755, dated 21st April, 1853, from Government to the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE.

Paragraph 1. I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 95, dated the 19th ultimo, submitting your annual report relative to the political relations of the province of Scinde, during the year 1852, and to inform you that the state of the country within the frontier appears to be most satisfactory.

No. 1,179 of 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

True extracts forwarded for the information of Major Jacob, C.B., Political Superintendent on the frontier of Upper Scinde, Jacobabad.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Commissioner's Office,
Kurrachee, 3rd May, 1853.

12th February, 1853. DRAFT OF LETTER to MAHOMED HUSSAN, Wuzzeer of Kelat. Dated 12th February 1853.

Moollah Nusseeroola has come to me with letters from you, and from the Khan, and has brought me two men prisoners who committed a murder within the British territory. It is well that these prisoners have at last been sent to me, but it would have been better, and more becoming, had they been sent sooner.

With regard to other matters of which you write, you yourself know best in your own heart what your intentions towards me and the British Government are: I can only judge of them by your actions, which have not appeared to be friendly.

I have labored continually for the benefit of the Kelat Government; you appear to have been laboring to thwart my endeavours. You have been treating with favor the disturbers of the country, and aiding the Murrees in plundering and murdering. Your near relations were lately actually assisting these robbers in their attack on Poolajee. All this I wrote to His Highness the Khan long ago, but received no satisfactory replies, and while your letters express friendship, your proceedings still appear hostile. What am I to understand by this?

Nusseeroola assures me that you are my friend; if so, let your actions be friendly towards the British, and not towards its enemies.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

12th February, 1853. DRAFT OF LETTER to the KHAN OF KELAT.

Your Highness' messenger, Moollah Nusseeroola, has brought to me prisoners, the men accused of murder, for whom I wrote to your Highness some five months ago. It is well that these men have arrived, but it would have been better had your Highness been good enough to have sent them sooner. They will be tried for their offence by a British court of justice, and if found guilty, be punished accordingly.

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I have hitherto abstained from replying to your letter of Rubeel Oolaowl, pending the arrival of these prisoners. 12th February, 1853.

In that letter you demand from me the names of the traitors who assist the Murree robbers, and who give you evil counsel, whom I alluded to in my letter to you of the 31st October last. They are known to all the world, and I have no difficulty in naming them. THE CHIEF OF THESE IS MAHOMED HUSSAN, YOUR HIGHNESS' WUZZEER.

The Sirdars who were present and aiding the Murree robbers in their attack on Poolajee are Khyr Mahomed and Meer Rehmut Menguls, the near relations of the Wuzzeer, Mahomed Hussan.

Your Highness doubtless is well acquainted with the proceedings of these people.

Out of friendship, and out of regard to your honor and good name, I wrote to you concerning them. By your reply, your Highness appeared not to be pleased at my having done so; but I had, and have no object in view but your good, and the safety, peace, and good government of your dominions. You are, of course, free to choose your own course; but if your officers assist these robbers, and thwart my measures, you have no right to call yourself friendly; and if the consequences be evil, you have only to blame yourself. I have done my duty in warning you, and have always been your friend.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

SIR, 17th February, 1853.

I have the honor to request that you will have the kindness to inform me whether any reply has yet been received from Government on the subject of my letter, No. 76, of the 8th April 1852, to your address. If not, I beg most respectfully to request that you will again call the attention of Government to the fact of my having held political charge of this frontier for six years past at heavy cost to myself, but without any allowance or salary whatever beyond my regimental pay, and to request that my claim to such allowance, with arrears from the date of my appointment, may be taken into favorable consideration, also that a proper permanent office establishment may be at once, and for the future, granted to me.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

SIR, 24th February, 1853.

I have the honor to bring to your notice, that it will be necessary to build a bridge over the Begaree Canal where the road from Shikarpoor to Kusmore crosses that channel. This is requisite, not only in place of a ferry to preserve the communication, but to prevent the banks of the canal being cut through by the road, which would allow the water to escape into the hollows towards Shikarpoor, and thus defeat the objects obtained by enlarging the canal.

Another bridge is also much required across the Begaree, near Moobarickpoor, so as to connect the roads at that place with the Shikarpoor road at Ummow. It is of the greatest importance that these bridges should be built before the next inundation, and I have ascertained that if commenced immediately, they can be completed in time.

I have therefore the honor to request that I may be at once authorized to construct them at a cost of Rupees 3,000 for the two.

I propose that they should be similar to the bridge over the Begaree on the Meerpoor road, namely, of three arches, the centre arch of 24 feet, and the side arches of 8 feet each, giving a clear water way of 40 feet; the centre being made high enough to allow the largest boats to pass.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

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6th March, 1853. EXTRACT from Division Orders by Brigadier N. WILSON, K.H., Commanding in Upper Scinde, Shikarpoor, 6th March, 1853.

No. 1.—The following Extract from Division Orders by Brigadier-General W. D. ROBERTSON, Commanding Scinde Division, is published:—

Head Quarters, Kurrachee, 2nd March, 1853.

2.—On the requisition of the Commissioner in Scinde, the Brigadier Commanding in Upper Scinde will be pleased to direct that the undermentioned troops be held in readiness to move on service as speedily as possible, under instructions which will be communicated to him by the Acting Assistant-Quarter-Master-General.

No. 7 Light Field Battery, 6-4 Artillery attached.

Four squadrons Scinde Irregular Horse, under the command of Major John Jacob, C.B.

Second Grenadier Regiment Native Infantry.

The whole under the command of the senior officer.

The ammunition for these troops to be completed to the full field proportion for the artillery and cavalry, and the infantry to 200 rounds per man, inclusive of 40 rounds in pouch.

(True extract.)

(Signed) EDWARD GREEN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

6th March, 1853. DISTRICT ORDERS.

Shikarpoor, 6th March, 1853.

In obedience with the above Division Orders,—

1.—No. 7 Light Field Battery, with 6-4 Artillery attached,
Four squadrons Scinde Irregular Horse,
Second Grenadier Regiment Native Infantry,
will hold themselves in readiness to move at the shortest notice.

2.—The ammunition for the above troops to be completed to the full field proportion for the artillery and cavalry, and the infantry 200 rounds per man, inclusive of 40 rounds in pouch.

3.—Indents for carriage and camp equipage for the above troops to be sent in to the Brigade-Major's office without delay, so as to be in readiness for an immediate move.

This force to be under the command of Major Jacob, C.B., Scinde Irregular Horse.

4.—In the event of the troops being called upon, they will cross the river at Sukkur.

The 2nd Grenadier Regiment taking up its detachment at that station (the same being relieved by a similar detail from the 2nd Belooche Battalion).

5.—The Brigadier calls upon the commanding officers of the corps above-mentioned to send in to the Brigade-Major's office a report when they are ready and prepared to move, with as little delay as possible.

(True extract.)

(Signed) F. HARVEY, Lieut.,
Brigade-Major, Upper Scinde.

7th March, 1853. SIR,

With reference to District Orders of the 6th March, 1853, this day received, I have the honor to report that the four squadrons of the Scinde Irregular Horse, therein mentioned, are ready to move whenever required.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse.

To the Major of Brigade,
Upper Scinde, Shikarpoor.

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No. 279 of 1853. 16th March, 1853.

Assistant-Adjutant-General's Office, Kurrachee, 16th March, 1853.

To Major JACOB, C.B., Commandant of the Scinde Horse, Jacobabad.

SIR,

I am directed by the Brigadier-General Commanding the Division to annex paragraphs 2 and 6 of his report to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, on the regiments under your command, after his late inspection of them, and to request that you will favor him, for the information of Lord Frederick Fitz-Clarence, with full information as to the description and quantity of baggage and animals required by each of the regiments under your command, when on field service, under the system established by you.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWARD GREEN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Assistant Adjutant-General,
Scinde Division Army.

EXTRACT PARAGRAPHS 2 and 6 of a letter from Brigadier-General ROBERTSON, Commanding Scinde Division, No. 113, dated 2nd February, 1853, to the address of the Adjutant-General of the Army, Bombay.

Para. 2. The whole of the baggage was packed and laden on the reverse flank of the column, ready for a march, and everything was in that state of preparation, with only a day's warning, that the whole body on parade, numbering 796 sabres, could have moved, on the sounding of the trumpet, in any direction where their services might be required.

Para. 6. The whole of these appointments, as well as the horse furniture, are perfectly uniform and complete, even to the small leather water-mussucks for the use of the men, carried under the belly of the horse, attached to the girths. In short, the marching order parade proved, what I had long heard, that the Scinde Irregular Horse were ready and able to march at the shortest notice, complete in every respect, and quite independent of the people of the country, in respect of carriage. Nothing can, I conceive, be more soldierlike and complete than the marching order of the Scinde Irregular Horse.

(True extract.)
(Signed) EDWARD GREEN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Assistant Adjutant-General,
Scinde Division Army.

SIR, 19th March, 1853.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 279, of the 16th March, 1853, to my address, and with reference to its subject to report, that I have never attempted to restrict the amount of baggage carried by the officers and men of the Scinde Irregular Horse, in the field, or elsewhere.

Reason and experience have convinced me that the very best, or rather, the only good check on excess of baggage, is compelling officers and soldiers, at all times, and in all places, to be provided with carriage; their means being limited, they cannot carry too much.

It is only necessary to insist on a sufficiency of baggage animals being maintained by each and all, and these animals being private property, the men never injure them by overloading or ill-treatment.

No wheel-carriages are ever allowed in the Scinde Irregular Horse; in other respects no restriction is placed on the nature of carriage. The soldiers keep camels, ponies, or mules, as they please.

No carriage is ever allowed to be *hired*, under any circumstances. All men are made to keep their own baggage animals.

These rules are enforced by heavy fines on those who break them, but for many years past everything in the Scinde Irregular Horse has worked perfectly smoothly, and the last instance of a soldier having been fined for being unprovided with proper carriage occurred more than five years ago, the offender on that occasion being an officer lately received from the regular cavalry.

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19th March, 1853.

Carriage is always ready, sufficient in quantity and quality to carry the men's bedding, cooking apparatus, tents for such as choose to carry them, and three days' food for man and horse, when necessary. No more preparation is required for a march of any distance than for a parade.

The only delay beyond the time occupied in saddling and loading, is the few hours necessary for bringing in the baggage animals from the jungle or country, where they go daily for forage.

I have never found more than twelve hours' warning necessary to enable the whole corps of Scinde Irregular Horse to commence a march of any length.

For instance, in December, 1845, when General Simpson received orders to move a Brigade from Hydrabad to Bawulpoor with all possible despatch, I was in the act of mounting my horse for parade when the Assistant-Quartermaster-General rode up and asked me from the General when I should be ready to march. I replied that we were always ready; and we actually did march the same day, reaching Roree with the whole Regiment in perfect order, and fully equipped, before a man of the "Regular" troops could be moved from Hydrabad (fifteen days after our departure), although they were aided by a "Baggage Corps," by the Commissariat Department, the Collector, and the police authorities, while the Scinde Irregular Horse was wholly independent of all external aid.

As bearing on this subject, which appears to me to be one of considerable interest and importance to the army generally, I beg leave to call your attention to my letter, No. 188, of the 22nd October, 1850, to your address; also to a letter of mine to the Chief Secretary to Government, No. 138, dated 23rd August, 1850, on the subject of silidar cavalry, written in reply to one asking my opinion, &c., on the construction, rules, &c., which would be best for the new corps of the Southern Mahratta Irregular Horse, which may be found to contain information regarding silidar cavalry in general.

The whole essence of the strength of the silidar system with reference to carriage, as to all else, consists in the men being made to provide for themselves in all respects, and the commanding officer being left to make his own rules and arrangements untrammelled by the forms and regulations of the regular army. Thus, the regiment is rendered at all times complete in itself, and independent of all other departments.

I have the honor to forward a return, showing the number of baggage animals now actually present with, and belonging to the men of the Scinde Irregular Horse; but it should be borne in mind that there is no fixed proportion established, and that the more carriage the men have in their possession, and the more baggage they can carry, the more efficient is the regiment in the field, and the more independent of daily supplies from the country through which it may be marching.

The syces, grass-cutters, &c., generally travel mounted on the baggage animals, which is a very great advantage; and I have always found all to keep up with the regiment, even on long marches, such as forty miles a day.

The success of these arrangements has been caused especially by the absence of any but regimental regulations, and by the absence of everything not found to be useful; by the commanding officer being left to manage matters as he finds best, the men not being made to be mere machines, but intelligent *individuals*, not controlled by fear of punishment, but each one exerting himself to be at all times ready, able, and willing to do his duty as a soldier, and proud of being and appearing to be so.

Our strength is not so much in our array as in the personal character and habits of the individuals engendered by such a system as exists in the Scinde Irregular Horse.

The discipline is perfect, for all wish to obey and to do their best; none look to higher authorities than the commander of the corps, while the possession of full powers by the commanding officer almost prevents the necessity of ever using these powers, dismissal from the service being a severe punishment even to a private sowar.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed)
JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse.

To Colonel Green, C.B.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Kurrachee.

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RETURN, showing numbers and nature of baggage animals belonging to the Silidars of the Scinde Irregular Horse, and now present on the Scinde Frontier. 19th March, 1853.

Camp, Jacobabad, 19th March, 1853.

	Camels.	Ponies.	Mules.	Puckall Bullocks.	Remarks.
At Jacobabad and the Frontier Outposts ..	407	581	14	107	Present of all ranks, 1,440. On Furlough, and whose carriage is not included in this return.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse.

Lieutenant H. Green proceeded *en route* to Bombay, for the purpose of obtaining leave to England on sick certificate. 6th March, 1853.

REGIMENTAL ORDER by Major JOHN JACOB, C.B., Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse, Dated 6th March, 1853.

Lieutenant Malcolm Green will act as second in command to the 2nd Regiment Scinde Irregular Horse, during the absence of Lieutenant Henry Green on sick certificate, or until further orders, and the above officer will also continue to perform the duties of Adjutant of the 1st Regiment Scinde Irregular Horse, until further orders.

By order,
(Signed) W. L. BRIGGS, Lieutenant,
Adjutant 2nd Regiment Scinde Irregular Horse.

GENERAL ORDER by the Right Honorable the GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL, Dated Bombay Castle, 3rd May, 1853.

No. 308 of 1853.

The following orders are confirmed.

By Major Jacob, C.B., dated Jacobabad, the 6th March, 1853, appointing Lieutenant M. S. Green, Adjutant of the 1st Regiment, to act as second in command of the 2nd Regiment Scinde Irregular Horse, in addition to his own duties, during the absence on leave of Lieutenant W. H. R. Green, or until further orders.

By order of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council,
(Signed) J. G. LUMSDEN,
Secretary to Government.

SIR, 21st March, 1853.

I have the honor to inform you that, as reported in my letter of the 20th instant, I proceeded yesterday, at 7.30 A.M., from Jacobabad, with a detachment of 400 men of the Scinde Irregular Horse, across the desert, for the purpose of repelling a threatened invasion of the Murree robbers, who were said to be assembled in great force near the "Zeen" mountain for hostile purposes.

I have ascertained that the mountaineers really are assembled as reported, and have made arrangements for attacking them immediately on their attempting to leave the hills to waste the plain country.

Meanwhile, I am myself in person disabled, having been this morning shot through the thigh by the accidental discharge of a pistol.

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21st March, 1853. I am, however, perfectly able to direct our proceedings, and under any circumstances my excellent Lieutenants will amply supply my place. On the return of my spies from the Murree Camp, further particulars will be reported.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent and Commandant
on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

23rd March, 1853. SIR,

In continuation of the subject of my letter, No. 61, of the 21st instant, I have the honor to report that the Murree force therein mentioned, abandoning attempt to leave the hills in this neighbourhood or anywhere within our reach, moved westward, and, debouching by the Lharee river, fell yesterday on the village of Treehur, whence the robbers carried off a very great number of camels and other cattle, and, after killing several men of the Doombkees, immediately returned within the hills.

The assembly of the mountaineers has now dispersed, and I purpose returning to Jacobabad with the detachment here to-morrow night.

The heat has been, as already reported, very severe, and we have suffered heavily in horses, not less than one hundred and sixteen of those of the party with me having died of sun-stroke since we left Jacobabad on the forenoon of the 20th instant.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

25th March, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to report that our presence being no longer required on the other side of the desert, I this morning returned to Jacobabad, with the detachment of the Scinde Irregular Horse mentioned in former letters.

The Murrees, after returning to the hills from their predatory incursion near Lharee, have now sent their horsemen, only about 200 strong, *viâ* Kateychee-Ke-Ghurree, &c., towards Mittenkote, with the intention of plundering the Muzzarees between that place and Rojaun.

I have the honor, &c.
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

5th April, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to report that about 2 P.M., on the 3rd instant, information was received by the officer commanding at Kusmore, Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, of a party of plunderers having carried off a number of cattle from a place between Kusmore and the hills.

Russuldar Shaik Kurreem immediately proceeded in pursuit of the robbers, taking with him Naib Russuldar Gunga Deen and Jemadar Hafeezoolla Khan, with a party of forty men of the Scinde Irregular Horse, and some Belooche guides. The Russuldar came on the tracks of the robbers, and followed them up till nightfall, when he came on the enemy—about eighty horsemen, with about an equal number of footmen, on a hill close by.

During the pursuit, several horses had been left behind, exhausted; and the Russuldar had now with him a Naib Russuldar, a Jemadar, a trumpeter, and twenty-nine men. When he came near the enemy he sounded the gallop, on which the robbers turned and rode at him. The Russuldar immediately charged them with his party, and a hand-to-hand combat ensued. It was now quite dark, and the men on both sides were mingled together. However, after a hard fight,

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the enemy fled, and joined their friends on foot, not far off. The Russuldar could do no more. In the dark, in the hills, and being thirty miles distant from Kusmore, with a small party of tired men and horses, it was useless to attempt further attack on numerous and strongly posted foes. 5th April, 1853.

In the fight were killed on our side—

Naib Russuldar Gunga Deen,
Naigue Mahomed Raza Khan,
„ Hoossein Bux,
„ Shaik Zoohooroodeen,
Sowar Seedee Yacoob,
„ Mookteear Khan,
„ Dumber Sing,
Belooche guide, Khyrah,
And nine horses.

Wounded.

Sowar Mahomed Afzool,
„ Saaduck Ali.

A great many of the enemy were killed, but in the dark the number could not be correctly ascertained. After halting a little while at some water near where the fight took place, Russuldar Shaik Kurreem returned towards Kusmore, which place he reached at three in the morning, bringing with him the dead bodies of Naib Russuldar Gunga Deen and the Sowars who had been killed, and some mares taken from the enemy. The marauders did not succeed in carrying off any of the plundered cattle, which they abandoned during the pursuit.

I have the honor to bring to your notice the excellent conduct on this occasion of Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, Jemadar Hafeezoolla Khan, and Duffedar Kallie Khan, who behaved most gallantly during the fight and throughout the affair; and I request the favor of your bringing their behaviour to the notice of His Lordship the Governor in Council.

Shortly after Russuldar Shaik Kurreem had left the hills, parties from the post of Koomree and Kundkote, &c., had arrived in the neighbourhood, but did not fall in with the enemy.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

P.S.—The Jemadar Yarroo Kosah, of Belooche guides, was with Russuldar Shaik Kurreem throughout this business, and behaved excellently well as to conduct and courage. This man's son was killed last year, while accompanying his father in pursuit of border robbers; and I beg leave to recommend him, also, to the notice of Government.

Sir, 11th April, 1853.

I have the honor to forward the enclosed letter, with accompaniments, from Assistant-Surgeon Cruickshank; and with reference to their subject, I beg leave strongly to recommend that the civil dispensary and establishment applied for, may be allowed.

I cannot imagine a more grateful boon to the people of this country, suffering as they do from the severity of the climate and the frequently-recurring unhealthy seasons. At the same time, the measure is undoubtedly one of good policy, and is calculated to be in a high degree profitable to the state as well as beneficial to the people.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

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12th April, 1853. SIR,

With reference to the subject of your letter, No. 865, of the 7th April, to my address, this day received, I have the honor to inform you that your wishes have been anticipated; and you will by this time, I hope, have received returns of traffic taken at several points in the Frontier District.

The bridges over the Begaree Canal will, in my opinion, be the best possible points for ascertaining the amount of traffic passing to and fro at all seasons; and I have ordered small chokees to be erected, and trees to be planted at each of these bridges, to facilitate the recording of the numbers of passengers, &c.

A similar account will also be taken regularly at Jacobabad and Kusmore.

With reference to former correspondence on the subject of roads constructed by me, I beg to observe that, on further inquiry and consideration of the matter, I am of opinion that the iron rollers I was authorized to procure will not be required, and that the roads will be best and most economically kept in repair by contracting with respectable parties for a series of years, leaving them to execute the work by any means they find best.

I trust that the necessary arrangement and outlay for repairs to these roads, as applied for in my letter, will be soon sanctioned.

Much injury will be done to the roads, and greater expense ultimately incurred, by delay in making some effectual arrangement for keeping these roads in repair; while it will be a pity to allow such useful works, after having been successfully executed, to be destroyed or injured by neglect.

The frontier road along the posts now, and those from the posts into the desert, require considerable repair, and I have the honor to request the necessary outlay, as stated in the return which accompanied my letter, No. 46, of the 4th March, 1853 (Rupees 2,800), may be at once sanctioned, and that I may be authorized to commence the work without delay.

As bearing on the subject of the use and value of roads in Scinde, I beg leave to mention one fact among many which appears to me interesting.

The supplies of clothing, boots, &c., for the Scinde Irregular Horse, are received biennially viâ Kurrachee; the goods are valuable and considerable in quantity, about 120 camel loads. The cost of their transport is matter of some consideration.

In 1849-50 I caused the goods to be sent by boats, on the Indus, in the usual way: these boats were nearly three months on the passage to Sukkur, and the damage incurred to the clothing, &c., while on the river, amounted to 1,400 Rupees. There was nothing unusual in this.

By the river route, also, it is necessary to employ an agent at Sukkur to receive and forward the goods. With freight, land-carriage from Sukkur to Jacobabad, damage to goods, &c., the whole cost of transport amounted to 1,860 Rupees.

On the next occasion, 1852-53, a good road had been meanwhile made from Larkana to Jacobabad (only a fraction of the distance from Kurrachee, it is true, but still of some importance), and this tempted me to try the land route.

From old prejudices, having reference to the state of things which existed up to 1847, when the hill route was unsafe, by reason of plunderers, the camel-men objected to come by the direct road from Kurrachee; however, with some difficulty, I persuaded them to do so, and thus the whole of our regimental clothing, &c., reached Jacobabad from Kurrachee in 20 days, without the least damage, trouble, or inconvenience.

The total cost of transport, &c., amounted to 1,560 Rupees, showing an advantage over the river route of more than two months in time, and 300 Rupees in cost.

Were a good bridged road in existence from the frontier to the sea, the journey would be performed by loaded camels in fifteen, instead of twenty days, and when the road became frequented and the route customary, the hire of a camel would certainly be reduced from 13 Rupees, the present rate, to about 8 Rupees for the trip, in which case, the land route would present as great advantages over even the river steamers as it does now over the country boats.

Being fully impressed with this fact, I have directed everything for me and my regiments to be forwarded by camel, by the direct road through the hills from

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Kurrachee, whenever the rise of the river and the absence of bridges south of Larkana do not render the country impassable. 12th April, 1853.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 13th April, 1853.

I have ascertained that the robbers who invaded the Kusmore district, and were engaged with Russuldar Shaik Kurreem and a party of the Scinde Irregular Horse, on the night of the 3rd instant, as before reported, were Murrees, with some associated outlaws of other tribes.

Two hundred horse, as mentioned in my letter of the 25th March last, together with (as I now learn) an equal number of foot, proceeded from Kahun to plunder in the British territory, about Mittenkote and Rojaun.

On their return from this predatory expedition, they halted at a place in the hills, known by the name of "Hurpooree," not far from Lotee, and nearly forty miles north-north-west from Kusmore. Thence they detached sixty picked best mounted horsemen, to carry off camels from the Kusmore district.

These sixty horsemen were those pursued by Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, who came on them after they had reached and joined the whole body of the robbers above mentioned, at night, in the hills near Hurpooree. The robbers appear to have lost only four men in the party, but from what I now know of their numbers, nothing but the most excellent conduct on the part of Russuldar Shaik Kurreem and his men could have saved the detachment of the Scinde Irregular Horse from entire destruction.

The Bijaranee Murrees have again assembled in force, at Surtoff, whence they have been detaching spies and small plundering parties to Chuttur and that neighbourhood, but as yet I am not fully informed as to their real object or intentions.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 16th April, 1853.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of copies of the letters noted in the margin, with your endorsement, No. 898, of the 9th April, 1853, and with reference to their subject I beg leave to point out that considerable misunderstanding appears to exist with regard to the position of the Murree robbers on this frontier, and their relation to the Khan of Kelat. It is doubtless true that the attack made by the predatory tribe, in December last, on Poolajee, was made with a secret understanding with Mahomed Hussan, the traitorous minister of Kelat. In his late proceedings, Mahomed Hussan appears to have been influenced by the wish to injure his master with the British Government, but it is certain that these Murrees are the worst enemies of the Khan of Kelat, that they have, for many years past, laid waste the best part of his country, and plundered the whole province of Cutchee.

No. 449, 20th December, 1852. From the Commissioner in Scinde to Lord Viscount Falkland, Governor, &c., Bombay. No. 29th March, 1853. From Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Commissioner in Scinde. No. 1,246, 11th March, 1853. From the Secretary to Government of India to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

For many years past, the Khan has repeatedly and urgently begged for assistance from the British Government, to enable him to reduce this rebellious tribe, and to put a stop to its predatory inroads.

Without assistance from us, it is totally out of his power to control these robbers, as he has so often represented, and it is useless to call upon him to do so.

The British territory has already been violated by the Murrees, in the instance of the attack on Kusmore, in April 1839, and the inroad into the Kusmore district on the 3rd April, 1853.

While in innumerable instances, mentioned in my former letters, the Murrees

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16th April, 1853. have assembled in arms for hostile purposes, near the British border, and on all these occasions have only been prevented invading the British territory by finding the troops on the frontier moving against them. All is disorder, rapine, and bloodshed on the Cutchee side of the desert.

It is true that there is peace, quiet, and protection, on the British side, but there is still a constant pressure from without, which is only counteracted by continual exertion and vigilance within. The least relaxation on our part, either of labor or watchfulness, and, as formerly, the one side of the desert would speedily be in the same bad state as the other.

This state of things, doubtless, has its advantages, though the evils may (and do in my opinion) far outweigh them. The continual necessity for the exercise of intelligence and active exertion makes the duty of guarding the frontier an excellent school for soldiers; and men, leaving their work on the border, in time of peace, to go on war service elsewhere, find the latter by far the easier labor of the two. Go where they will, they cannot find a more trying climate nor a more watchful enemy.

The use of such a school, especially for the training of native Indian soldiers, is assuredly very great, and I am far from undervaluing it.

The great contrast between the just and orderly Government of the British territory, and the misery and violence prevailing in that of the foreign state, is also not without its beneficial effects on our strength, and reputation, &c.

On the other hand, the absence of a really peaceful state of the border tribes has these grave disadvantages. Any want of readiness, boldness, or active exertion, on the part of the troops on the frontier, might at any time be attended with terrible injury; and this might be the consequence of general and long continued sickness, which not unfrequently occurs in this country, or it might be caused by other accidental circumstances. A successful predatory inroad, such as took place in December 1846, must prove, it should be remembered, a more serious business in proportion as the country becomes more rich and more populous.

Many lives were lost, and some fifteen thousand head of cattle and sheep were, on the occasion above mentioned, carried off by the Boogtees to the hills from the Shikarpoor district.

The injury done on that occasion was great, but it appears positively trifling when compared to what would *now* be the effect of such successful invasion of the district along our border.

The existence of a powerful tribe of professed and active freebooters, immediately on our frontier, offering an asylum and safe refuge for every outlaw in the country, continually pursuing their lawless calling, carrying on extensive depredations, and committing the most revolting cruelties almost under the eyes of British officers, certainly must, in some degree, alarm the well-disposed people even within our territory, while it certainly excites the envy of great numbers of our subjects who wish to practise the like enormities. For it should not be forgotten that a very numerous class of people exists within our own border, composed of men who, by tradition, inclination, and former habits, are strongly impelled to like evil courses.

The Muzzarees, Boordees, Doombkees, Kosahs, Jekranees, and others in this neighbourhood, were, till lately, all plunderers. Their greatest pride was revengeful murder, or successful robbery.

A new state of mind is gradually being created among these people, and the change, even so far as it has proceeded, is most gratifying to witness. But the ultimate and permanent success of all that has been done among the wild people on this frontier during the last six years, depends on our being able to repress the practice of, and as far as possible remove the wish, to resort to their former mode of life on the part of the Belooche tribes, until those habituated to such practices, and experienced in the dangers, joys, and excitement of predatory warfare, shall have grown old or have passed away; while, meantime, there has existed no school in which their youth can be so educated. This appears to me to indicate a very serious evil consequence of permitting the Murrees still to carry on their predatory excursions unchecked close to our border, when all the other, even more powerful, border tribes have been completely reduced to order.

Were these Murrees, the last of the organized robber tribes, compelled to adopt peaceful pursuits, the change in the people of this country would, there is

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every reason to hope, become really permanent, and peace, plenty, comfort, and wealth prevail through the land, to the immense advantage both of the Government and the people. 16th April, 1853.

Again, though we may, by the continual exertion of active force, protect our own territory from actual inroad, the existence of a powerful tribe of plunderers infesting the country immediately beyond us still must do incalculable injury to us as respects commerce.

One of the greatest obstacles now existing to the establishment of an extensive and most valuable trade between Central Asia and the sea, is the total want of protection for life and property on the journey through the Bolan and the plain of Cutchee.

No goods can be brought through that country save by the traders congregating in considerable numbers for mutual protection, and hiring parties of armed men to protect them. Even so, they are not safe, for the Murrees plunder in such strong parties that they hesitate not to attack the largest Kafilas, frequently overpowering the guards, even when they remain faithful, and not seldom murdering as well as robbing the merchants.

The weak and disreputable state of the Kelat Government, also, as shown by its total inability to crush these robbers, enables all manner of petty marauders to rob with impunity, and enables every contemptible chief of a village to demand and extort payment from all traders, under the name of transit duties, of which not a farthing reaches the coffers of the state.

These appear to me to be some of the evils caused by allowing the Murrees to plunder at their will, with impunity. It is certain, also, that these mountaineers think that the British Government is afraid of them. This was the case, as I informed Sir C. Napier, at Poolajee, in March, 1845, when the Murree Wukkeels were with him, and the belief has certainly not since been removed.

I need, I think, add no more on this head, as I feel convinced that you are at least as well acquainted with these subjects as I am; but I fear that the Most Noble the Governor-General must have misunderstood us both, judging from the expressions used in the sixth paragraph of the letter of the Secretary to Government above referred to.

Assuredly I never had any intention of proposing to exercise main force habitually beyond our frontier, or anywhere else. No one was ever more impressed than I am with the immense advantage of moral power over main force. I never have and never would exercise, or propose to exercise, the latter, save when it became necessary to enable me to apply the former.

On this point I beg leave to request you to refer to my letter, No. 19, of the 17th January, 1849, to the Commissioner in Scinde, wherein particular stress is laid on this point: the same has been repeated in numerous former letters on the subject of the border tribes.

I proposed to use force against the Murrees—the only troublesome tribe remaining on this frontier—not habitually, but once for all, in order to compel them to forego their lawless pursuits, and take to a peaceful and quiet life, and thus to prevent the necessity for recurring to forcible measures in future. I pointed out that a comparatively small detachment of British troops would suffice for the performance of this duty; and in case of there being valid objections to such troops being so employed, I recommended that sufficient pecuniary assistance should be afforded to the Khan of Kelat, to enable him to assemble an adequate force of his own people to remove the scourge which is desolating his country. The more experience I gain, and the more I think over these matters, the more I am convinced that such would have been our wisest policy when the proposal was first made; and that every year that the measure has been, or may be deferred, adds to the evils pointed out, and to the cost of remedying them.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

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21st April, 1853.

SIR,

As directed in your letter, No. 394, dated 18th April, 1853, to my address, I have the honor to forward the accompanying copy of a letter to the Chief Secretary to Government.

The Record Book of the Scinde Irregular Horse contains much matter on similar subjects, which might possibly be interesting to his Lordship the Commander-in-Chief, and, if he wish it, I shall be happy to forward the book for perusal.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To Captain Follett,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Scinde
Division Army, Kurrachee.

22nd April, 1853.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 443, of the 21st April, 1853, to my address, with accompanying copy of a letter from the Assistant Adjutant-General in Scinde, and, with reference to their subject, to state that I have nothing to add to my former reports regarding the death of a number of our horses in the desert, on the 20th and 21st March last.

I commenced the march from Jacobabad at 7h. 30m., in the morning of the 20th March. The day proved unusually hot for the season, and before we reached Shahpoor, at 3h. 30m., P.M., sixty horses had dropped dead.

Fifty-six more died during the following night and day at Shahpoor. There is nothing very extraordinary in this mortality, except that the heat is not usually deadly so early as the month of March.

But in the hot weather the desert is always dangerous in the day-time, both to man and beast, and I have known as great a proportion of deaths to occur to horses and men of a party of Belooche marauders as has lately occurred to us.

Our horses had perhaps a little too much flesh on them, and the heat was not only great but came on suddenly.

At Jacobabad, on the 9th March, the maximum height of the thermometer was 90°; on the following day, that of our march across the desert, it stood in a good house at 106°.

These circumstances may possibly have had some effect in causing the death of the horses. But I do not lay any stress on them, for long experience of this desert convinces me that these sudden strokes are neither to be foretold nor accounted for in the present state of our scientific knowledge. I have been out frequently on horseback in this desert from sunrise to sunset, in the very hottest part of the hottest seasons, without losing a horse or man, while at other times a sudden puff of air, apparently, has instantly struck both man and beast dead, even in the middle of the night.

Once, many years ago, in marching from Shahpoor to Jacobabad at night, four men out of a party of about twenty which I had with me suddenly dropped dead, without any apparent reason, or any warning whatever.

There is no remedy for these things, and it would be better to sustain a far heavier loss than to allow the plunderers to suppose that we cannot take the field at any time or season against them.

Our dead horses have all been replaced, without costing the state one farthing.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Major of Brigade,
Shikarpoor.

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SIR, 16th May, 1853.

I have the honor to return the accompanying papers, and, with reference to their subject, to state that the only field-pieces in the possession of His Highness the Khan of Kelat are the two old iron guns, about one or one-and-a-half pounders, these not being mounted properly.

The Khan has several times during the last four or five years applied to me to have them equipped with carriages, &c., for him.

This I declined doing, and he has now, it seems, applied to Morad Khan to get the thing done for him at Kurrachee.

The articles in the accompanying list which I have marked with a cross would be totally useless to the Brahooees under any circumstances; while the carriages, as well as the sponges and such like articles, of sizes adapted for six-pounders, will be also useless for the guns which the Khan now has.

It would be well, I think, to decline having anything to do with the supply of the stores required.

But if it should hereafter be thought proper to afford His Highness the Khan of Kelat the assistance he asks for, the present of a couple of field-pieces, with carriages and ammunition, and harness, would doubtless form a very proper and acceptable portion of such aid. But no ammunition should be supplied but round and grape; shells, with all the apparatus belonging to them, would be quite useless to these people.

I think that it might have a good effect if His Highness the Khan were informed that Morad Khan is not the proper channel of communication with you, but that such applications had better be made through me.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 21st May, 1853.

I have the honor to forward the accompanying copies of letters received from the Commissioner in Scinde, and to request that application may be made to His Lordship the Commander-in-Chief, and to Government, for some mark of approbation to the parties therein mentioned.

As respects the Belooche Guide, Yarroo, I beg leave to recommend that he receive a life-pension of Rupees 5 per mensem, to be enjoyed by him in addition to any other pay which he may be receiving.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Major of Brigade, Upper Scinde,
Shikarpoor.

SIR, 28th May, 1853.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 463, of the 27th May, 1853, to my address, with accompaniments; and in reply to state, for the information of His Lordship the Commander-in-Chief, that the system of remount in the Scinde Irregular Horse is as follows:—

All horses dying, from whatever cause, in quarters or in the field are replaced by the owners themselves, who buy them as they can, or as suits their convenience, at any price, and from whomsoever they can obtain them, receiving for each horse, when approved of and passed by me, one hundred Rupees (100) in aid of the purchase; this sum of Rupees 100 being raised by equal contributions from each assamee in the corps.

Thus, there being 1,600 horses in the Scinde Irregular Horse, each casualty among them costs each assamee one anna, and so on for any number.

The horses lost in March last by sun-stroke were so replaced, the fund-money paid to the owners in aid of the remount on that occasion, Rupees 11,600, costing each assamee Rupees 7, and annas 4.

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28th May, 1853.

This system I find to work well, and to be better than if the whole value of the remount were paid to the silidars from a general fund, which would render individuals careless.

None but ready-money transactions being allowed, there is never any difficulty in our remounts, neither do I interfere in the matter, except to examine the horses when brought before me.

All being in a healthy, natural state, the men looking after their own interests, and the horse-dealers receiving prompt payment, there is no trouble to any one; and the dealers always have ready in their stables at the head-quarters of the corps, for sale on their own private account, a sufficiency of horses to keep our ranks constantly full, under ordinary circumstances; while their connections all over the country enable them most readily to meet any extraordinary demand.

The average of our horses is, by means of open competition, free market, and ready-money, only about Rupees 200 each, while the horses generally are equal to those of any cavalry in India.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse.

To the Major of Brigade in Upper Scinde,
Shikarpoor.

4th June, 1853.

SIR,

With reference to the subject of your letter, No. 441, of the 25th February, 1853, to my address, and of much previous correspondence during the last six years, I have the honor to request that it may be represented to Government that I am no longer able to carry on the political duties of this frontier, without pay, and without proper establishment. My letters, No. 32, of the 17th February, 1853, and No. 76, of the 8th April, 1852, will have laid the facts of the case with sufficient clearness before Government. But no notice having been taken of these, or of numerous former letters from me, as well as from yourself, on the same subject, I am compelled with all submission and respect again earnestly to request that I may be placed in a position to perform the public duties of this frontier charge in a proper manner, without pecuniary ruin to myself.

The civil or political duties of this charge, as you are well aware, are quite equal to those of any secondary political appointment under the Bombay Presidency, and these cannot possibly be performed without establishment, without public buildings, and without expenditure.

For six years past, I have performed these duties, not only gratuitously, but at heavy cost. I have been compelled to pay numerous private servants to perform all manner of public duties, usually performed by Government peons and others.

The temporary establishment of one English and one Persian writer allowed me is not sufficient for my office. I have hitherto maintained others at my own cost.

Stationery, carriage, office tents, buildings, &c., have all been furnished and maintained solely at my private cost.

I have, during the last six years, saved Government, by gratuitous superintendence of public works alone, a sum amounting, at a fair estimate, to not less than (20,000) twenty thousand rupees.

My actual *bonâ fide* expenditure on these accounts, and connected with public matters totally independent of my military command, has amounted to more than ten thousand rupees, exclusive of all claims to personal salary during six years of hard and successful labor.

The subject having once been brought to the notice of Government, I never doubted but that I should speedily be furnished with the means, as to establishment and allowances, of carrying on my duties satisfactorily, and I therefore unhesitatingly continued expending my private means in doing all that it seemed to be expected that I should perform.

I have thus expended, not only every farthing of my pay, but a large sum received as prize-money, together with the whole of my little patrimony.

I can, therefore, continue no longer to serve gratuitously, without incurring

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debt—a course which I consider dishonorable, and which neither public nor private necessities will ever induce me to follow. 4th June, 1853.

On the whole view of the question, I am convinced that Government will think proper at once to grant me proper establishment and office allowance, and an adequate personal salary, with arrears since January, 1848, when I was formally appointed Political Superintendent of this frontier.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir, 9th June, 1853.

With reference to your letter, No. 549, of the 6th June, 1853, to my address, I have the honor to inform you, that I have to-day forwarded to you the Record Book of the Scinde Irregular Horse.

This is the original copy, and is much worn and soiled, but it is the only one I now have.

A fair copy was made and forwarded by me to England twelve months ago, to be printed for the private and confidential official use of the officers of the corps. I have not yet received any printed copies; but when they arrive, perhaps His Lordship the Commander-in-Chief will do me the favor to accept one, and to allow another to be placed in the office of the Adjutant-General of the Army.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse.

To Captain Follett,
Assistant Adjutant-General in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

Sir, 12th June, 1853

I have the honor to forward the accompanying statement, with reference to which I beg to explain that the lands in the district under my charge, lately assumed from His Highness Meer Ali Morad, are not on separate establishments for the ceded lands; so that the cost of collection of revenue, police, &c., incurred on account of the new territory, can only be shown by the difference between the present and formerly existing charges.

With regard to the police of the district, there is a positive gain under the new arrangement, as respects that part of the country under my charge, the cost of the policemen now employed in the frontier districts being somewhat less than that of the police under the old arrangement, serving in the portion of the territory which then belonged to the British.

The services of the old policemen having become available for, and been transferred to, other districts, the charge of those now employed in Boordicka should be debited to those districts, and not to that of Boordicka.

Again, the pay of European Deputy Collector of the Frontier District is not justly chargeable wholly to the ceded lands, part of the districts being old British territory, the European superintendence formerly exercised in which has necessarily become available for employment elsewhere.

The cost, also, of the clearance of canals in the frontier district must appear to be much heavier in proportion to the revenue yielded at present than it is in reality.

The Begaree and Noorwah Canals have lately been enlarged to double their former sizes: the clearance is necessarily set down as required for these increased dimensions, while the revenue shown is merely that due to the old dimensions of these canals.

Under the circumstances, it appears to me not to be possible to make with correctness the statement required with reference to this little district alone.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

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12th June, 1853.

STATEMENT showing the value of the territory, situated to the north of the Begaree Canal, taken from His Highness MEER ALI MORAD.

The territory lately assumed from Meer Ali Morad, situated to the north of the Begaree Canal, placed under the charge of the Political Superintendent on the Frontier, was so mixed up with lands before belonging to the British Government, which lands are also now included in the district under the Political Superintendent, that some difficulty occurs in giving a correct and fair statement of the nett revenue of the newly acquired portion; and a short explanation of their respective positions is necessary, to show clearly the mode in which the result shown in the accompanying abstract is arrived at.

2. The Frontier Districts extend from Mittree, eleven miles above Kusmore on the Indus, to the extreme western point to which the waters of the Begaree Canal flow in the direction of Khyra-ke-Ghurree; bounded on the south by the Begaree Canal; and on the north by the desert, the territory of the Khan of Kelat. Part of the present frontier districts, viz., Moobarickpoor, Meerpoor, a small piece of Roopar, the lands on the Meerwah, Mooradwah, and Rindwah, on which the Belooche Colonies were located, and Kusmore, were formerly under the Collector of Shikarpoor; but, being now placed under the Political Superintendent, a portion of the charges of his establishment, &c., must be borne by them.

3. The lands received from Meer Ali Morad consist of a portion of the Roopar Purgunnah, being west of the Noorwah, and watered by that canal, including the town of Jacobabad, and village of Ábad, Chunder-ke-Ghurree, Hussan Khan Soobaya-ke-Ghurree, Ahmedpoor, &c.; and that portion of Boordicka lying to the north of the Begaree Canal, between Meerpoor and Kusmore, including the towns of Thool, Shereghur, Ghowspoor, Dhurree, Bhunnur, Gobla, Budanee, Kundkote, Hassan-ke-Ghurree, &c.

4. The gross amount of revenue collected last year from the new lands in Roopar and Boordicka was Rupees 38,805, annas 14; from the old, in Moobarickpoor, Meerpoor, and Kusmore, was Rupees 19,805, 8 ans. 5 pice. In calculating the charges to be placed to the debit of the new districts, therefore, 7-11ths have been taken as about the fair proportion to be borne by them, the remaining 4-11ths being chargeable on the old ones: this rule has been followed in showing the charges in the accompanying abstract.

5. The amount of revenue mentioned in the last paragraph was the total collected last year, but does not nearly convey a correct idea of what will be ultimately obtained.

6. Every year will show a great increase, as the lands which had been abandoned, owing to the disordered state of the country, general insecurity of property, and want of water, under the former rulers, are again brought under cultivation. Since the accounts for the past year were taken, fresh grants of land, to the extent of 20,646 beegahs, have been given to various Zemeendars, which will yield a return of about Rupees 29,565 in excess of that abovementioned, without at the same time involving a fraction of additional expense. The enlargement of the grand feeder, the Begaree Canal, will ultimately probably more than double the revenue of the whole district; and that of the Noorwah Canal, sanctioned by Government, and which will be carried out during the ensuing dry season, will also add greatly to the revenue, from its water being available for the old lands lying to the eastward, which before could not be the case, owing, first, to the Noorwah belonging to Meer Ali Morad, while the land on its eastern bank belonged to the British Government, and, next, to the insufficiency of the supply of water. Again, three new canals have been dug by Zemeendars (subjects of the Kelat Government) from the Noorwah, which carry water to the lands belonging to His Highness the Khan near Mamool and Rojaun, bringing under cultivation about 900 beegahs of land, which will produce yearly about Rupees 900, half of which boundary, according to the settlement made in 1849, comes to the British Government, for the use of the water.

7. The lands held in jaghire in the new districts are very few, and of small value; these, however, will all lapse to Government on the death of the present incumbents, and will be so much in addition to the present revenue.

8. The charges for European agency are 7-11ths of the yearly pay (Rs. 8,400)

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of one Deputy Collector, amounting to Rupees 5,345, 7 ans., as his services are engaged for the whole districts of Moobarickpoor, &c., as well as for the new ones; the same applies both to his establishment and the District Revenue, Magisterial, &c., establishments. 12th June, 1853.

9. No extra police whatever have in reality been entertained for the new districts; indeed, the number of men employed, and charged under the head, is less now for the whole Frontier District than was formerly required for the old portion. The police force then (now employed elsewhere) consisted of—

30 Rural Police	Rs. 300
30 Mounted ditto	600
50 Chandia Horse	750
Total per mensem . .	Rs. 1,650
Per annum . . .	Rs. 19,800

The present police force for the whole is as follows:—

4 Jemadars, at Rupees 25 each . .	Rs. 100
100 Sowars, at Rupees 15 each . . .	1,500
Total per mensem . .	Rs. 1,600
Total per annum . .	Rs. 19,200

Showing an actual decrease of Rupees 600 per annum in the charges on this account. Had there been no police force at all before, the proportional charge for the new districts would have been Rupees 12,218, 2 ans. 11 pice; but this has not been included in the accompanying Abstract, for the reason above stated.

10. The charges in No. 12 of the Abstract are for the establishment in the town of Jacobabad, kotewal, peons, &c., amounting to Rupees 792 per annum; and extra charges, or grain collections in the districts, about Rupees 100 more.

11. The yearly expenditure required, but not yet sanctioned, for canal clearance is—

For the Sonewald	Rs. 2,500
For the Noorwah	3,000
For the Begaree Canal	7,000

The two first convey water to the new lands only, but the third supplies water equally to the Frontier Districts, and to the Shikarpoor Collectorate to the south; wherefore the annual expenditure should be equally divided, and from the half, or Rupees 3,500, debited to the Frontier Districts, 4-11ths has to be deducted for the share taken for the old lands of Meerpoor and Moobarickpoor. This will leave 2,227 Rupees, 4 ans. 4 pice for the Begaree, to be added to the 5,500 for the clearance of the two first-mentioned canals on a total of 7,727 Rupees, 4 ans. 4 pice.

12. The gross revenue of the past year from the new districts will be seen to have been 32,805 Rupees, 14 ans., and the charges 22,736 Rupees, 9 ans. 9 pice, leaving a balance over the expenditure of 10,069 Rupees, 4 ans. 3 pice.

13. This constitutes the real value of the portion of the district assumed from His Highness Meer Ali Morad. As shown in paragraph 6, the revenue will be immediately increased by about Rupees 30,017, when there will be an actual annual augmentation of revenue to the British Government, from the newly received districts, of Rupees 40,000.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

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ABSTRACT.

Name of District.	GROSS REVENUE.				DEDUCT CHARGES.		
	Land Revenue, Cash.	Land Revenue, Grain.		Revenue from other sources exclusive of Land.	Total of Columns 2, 4, and 5.	Jaghire and other alienations.	Charges of European Agency.
		Kurwars.	Value of Grain.				
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Boordicka, &c.	11,098 13 0	1,950 0 0	19,891 7 0	1,815 10 0	32,805 14 0	2,365 0 0	5,345 7 0

DEDUCT CHARGES.						Nett Revenue, being the difference between Columns 6 and 14.	Remarks.
Establishment of Officers entered in Column 8.	District Establishment, Revenue and Monthly, including Kardars, &c.	Police Establishment actually employed in the Revenue Districts.	Other Charges of Establishment, if any.	Canal Clearance and charges.	Total Charges and Deduction.		
9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.
RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
1,252 5 9	5,158 8 8	.....	892 0 0	7,727 4 4	22,736 9 9	10,069 4 3	There is no charge made under the head of Police, because the cost of the police now entertained in the Frontier District is less than that of the police formerly employed in the old British territory alone.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major, Political Superintendent on the Frontier of Upper Scinde.

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SIR, 17th June, 1853.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by express, of your letter, No. 186, of the 15th June, 1853, to my address, and with reference to its subject to inform you that there is nothing very unusual going on in the hills in your neighbourhood.

Instead of a gathering of marauders to the number of 5,000, as has been reported to you to have taken place, only some 300 or 400 men, horse and foot, Murrees, Boogtees, &c., have assembled, and a few days ago proceeded from Kahun, on a predatory excursion, to the eastward.

The whole of the frontier under my command is quite as much threatened by the mountain marauders, as is the country about Asnee. But the robbers have no real force, save in the terror which they manage to spread among the people of the plains by means of false reports as to their strength, &c.

Defensive measures are totally useless against these robbers, and, as experience shows, are even positively injurious.

According to your wish, however, I have ordered a squadron to proceed to Kin, to remain there a few days, with orders to patrol towards the hills, and to attack the enemy wherever they may find him.

The officer in command of the detachment has orders to communicate with you.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To Major Prendergast, Commanding
3rd Punjaub Cavalry, Asnee.

No. 139 of 1853.

SIR, 22nd June, 1853.

I have the honor to report that on the 17th instant I received an application from Major Prendergast, Commanding 3rd Regiment Punjaub Cavalry at Asnee, for aid in "repulsing" an expected attack on his posts by a body of five thousand men of various tribes, said to have assembled in the hills in his neighbourhood.

I was well aware that there was no serious danger, and that the assembly of the mountaineers consisted only of three or four hundred Murrees, horse and foot, who proceeded some days ago from Kahun to the eastward, on a plundering expedition; but, with a view of giving confidence to Major Prendergast's posts, I sent, as he requested, a squadron to Kin.

I have the honor to annex copies of the correspondence which took place on this subject.

The squadron sent to Kin returned to-day, by my order, to Kusmore.

No inroad, whether in force or otherwise, appears to have been made in the direction of Asnee by the marauders.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

No. 186 of 1853.

Asnee, 15th June, 1853.

SIR, 15th June, 1853.

Having this morning received intimation from the Assistant Commissioner at Mithun-Kote that a gathering of 5,000 men of various tribes (hitherto at enmity with each other) has taken place within the hills opposite Rojhan, and that it is their intention to overrun this district, I think it my duty to report the circumstance to you, and I shall feel obliged by your informing me if, in the event of the hill men descending in strength, you can detach a squadron to Kin, to aid in repulsing them.

2. I have not sufficient men at head-quarters for a relief of guards, and am unable to strengthen my southern detachments; but if you can render the assist-

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15th June, 1853. ance I desire in the neighbourhood of Rojhan, I would recall my detachments at once, to strengthen the force here. I should then be in condition to move out with 200 men and two guns, leaving the cantonment in charge of infantry.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) W. G. PRENDERGAST, Major,
Commanding 3d Punjaub. Cavalry.

To Major Jacob, Commanding Scinde
Irregular Horse, Jacobabad.

No. 195.

Asnee, 19th June, 1853.

19th June, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 136, of the 17th instant, informing me of the real state of affairs with regard to the gathering of certain hill tribes opposite Rojhan.

2. I am much obliged to you for sending a re-inforcement to Kin, and as there appears to be no prospect now of any large body of marauders making a descent in that neighbourhood, I have directed the officer in command of your detachment to return on the 21st (Tuesday) to Kusmore.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) W. G. PRENDERGAST, Major,
Commanding 3rd Punjaub Cavalry.

To Major John Jacob,
Political Superintendent, &c., Jacobabad.

29th June, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to report that, on the 23rd instant, a body of some 300 or 400 Murrees made a sudden descent on the town of Kujjuck (in Seebee), from the neighbourhood of which place they carried off a large quantity of cattle, killing four and wounding several more of the Kujjucks who resisted.

These marauders appear to have been the same who were reported by the Assistant-Commissioner at Mithun-Kote to be about to attack that country in formidable strength. A few days ago, a party of Murrees attacked the Boogtees temporarily residing about Ooch, and carried off a large number of cattle.

The Boogtees got together, followed up the robbers to near Surtoff, where they came on them. A fight took place, in which the Murrees were worsted, with the loss of seven men killed.

The Boogtees had one man killed, with several others wounded, and recovered all their property.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

No. 698 of 1853.

Assistant Adjutant-General's Office, Kurrachee, 19th July, 1853.

19th July, 1853. SIR,

I am directed by Major-General Somerset to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 54, of the 9th ultimo, and to acquaint you that His Lordship the Commander-in-Chief will have much pleasure in accepting the printed copy of the Record Book of the Scinde Horse, which you propose to present to him, and in allowing another copy to be placed in the office of the Adjutant-General of the Army.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) F. FOLLETT, Captain,
Acting Assistant-Adjutant-General,
Scinde Division, Army.

To Major Jacob, C.B., Commanding Scinde
Irregular Horse, Jacobabad.

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No. 118 of 1853.

From H. G. GOLDSMID, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to H. B. E. FRERE, Esq., Commissioner in Scinde. Dated 25th April, 1853. 25th April, 1853.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with enclosure, dated the 10th instant, No. 122, and to inform you that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council regrets that the gallant affair between the small party of Scinde Horse, under the command of Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, and a band of Belooche plunderers, therein reported, has been attended with a heavy loss on the side of the Scinde Horse.

2. His Lordship in Council considers the officers named by you worthy of much praise; and I am to intimate that, on your recommendation of any special mark of approbation, through the usual channel, Government will be prepared to consider it.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 25th April, 1853.

No. 122 of 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE to the Right Hon. Lord Viscount FALKLAND, Governor and President in Council, Bombay. Dated 10th April, 1853. 10th April, 1853.

MY LORD,

I have the honor to forward a copy of a report from the Political Superintendent on the Frontier, giving an account of a very gallant affair between a body of the Scinde Horse, strength as per margin, under the command of Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, and a body of about 80 Belooche mounted plunderers, supported by about an equal number of footmen, who had carried off a number of cattle from between Kusmore and the hills.

Naib Russuldar Gunga Deen, Jemadar Hafeezoolla Khan, a trumpeter and 29 Sowars, and some Belooche guides.

2. The Russuldar, after a rapid pursuit of about 30 miles, during which 11 horses were left behind exhausted, came up with the plunderers about nightfall, just as they had gained the edge of the hills. He instantly charged the horsemen, who turned to ride at his diminished party, while their footmen occupied a spur of the low hills. After a hand-to-hand fight, in which the Naib Russuldar Gunga Deen, a Naique and five Sowars of the Scinde Irregular Horse, a Belooche guide, and nine horses were slain, and two Sowars wounded, the enemy were defeated, and fled.

3. As it was impossible, under such circumstances, after nightfall to follow the enemy up among the hills, the Russuldar halted at the nearest water, and then returned, bringing back to Kusmore the bodies of his slain comrades, and some mares taken from the enemy, who had been forced to abandon all their plunder during the pursuit.

4. I would beg to bring to the particular notice of your Lordship in Council the conduct of Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, to whose promptitude, perseverance, and daring, the success of the blow is, in Major Jacob's opinion, attributable. He is the same officer who last year won the approbation of your Lordship in Council for his temper and courage in putting down a mutiny of Meer Ali Morad's Affghan mercenaries, who were endeavouring to force His Highness to settle their demands for pay.

Vide Commissioner's letter, No. 51, of 19th Feb., and Government reply, No. 98, of the 28th February.

5. Major Jacob also commends to the approval of your Lordship in Council the conduct of Jemadar Hafeezoolla Khan, Duffedar Kallie Khan, and Yarroo Kosah, Jemadar of the Belooche Guides, whose son was last year killed by his father's

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10th April, 1853. side, while in pursuit of border plunderers. Much depends on the courage and fidelity of these men, and I would beg to recommend him, along with the other men named by Major Jacob, for some special mark of your lordship's approbation.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Commissioner's Office, 10th April, 1853.

No. 1,210 of 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

True copies forwarded for the information of Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier, with reference to his letter, No. 75, dated 5th April, 1853.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Kurrachee, Commissioner's Office, 5th May, 1853.

6th July, 1853.

SIR,

With reference to the subject of the letters received with your endorsement, No. 1,709, of the 20th June, 1853, I have the honor to point out that, on perusing the letter from the Medical Board to Government, which it seems has caused the rejection of my recommendation of the establishment of a small civil hospital or dispensary at Jacobabad, I found that it was evident that some gross error existed in the calculation of the number of patients treated.

On referring the matter to Doctor Cruickshank, and examining the returns, I find that the numbers mentioned by the Medical Board, which are, however, correctly quoted from the returns forwarded from this place, are only about one-fifth of the real number.

This alone will, I hope, suffice to induce Government to reconsider its decision, and to grant the boon asked for.

But there are other circumstances which appear not to be correctly understood.

The Medical Board correctly describes the history of this proposed dispensary, but the inferences which it seems to draw from it appear not altogether just.

When I first entered on the command on this frontier, the country was deserted: there were not ten human beings where now there is a large town at Jacobabad, while the country about has become proportionally peopled.

As the inhabitants began to increase, the want of medicine, &c., became apparent, and permission was requested to supply it.

Since then the demand has of course gone on increasing in accelerated ratio, and now a building and some little establishment are required.

The number of patients now relieved with the imperfect means at the disposal of my medical officers is considerable; but this is by no means the measure of the relief which would be afforded were the arrangements of supply better adapted to meet the demand for medicine and medical treatment.

The question is one at first sight of pure benevolence; but there are no isolated facts in nature, and that which is really good in one sense is good in all.

There is land and water about this neighbourhood sufficient to occupy the labor of ten times the number of the present inhabitants. About one-fourth of the value of the labor of each man employed on agriculture finds its way into the Government treasury. Restoration to, or preservation of, health among the people, is a direct addition to the fund of labor, and thereby to the revenue. Directly, then, as well as indirectly, all such measures as that now proposed must be beneficial to the state generally, to the Government as to the people.

I trust, on reviewing the question, that you will agree with me in the propriety of again moving Government to allow the building and the establishment applied for by Doctor Cruickshank.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

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RETURN showing the number of Patients treated at the Dispensary, Jacobabad, for the last six months. 6th July, 1853.

Jacobabad, 1st July, 1853.

Months.	Admitted.	Cured and Relieved.	Dead.	Average daily number of Sick.
January, 1853	62	45	1	15.56
February „	58	41	2	15.67
March „	46	36	..	9.00
April „	35	23	2	12.06
May „	49	40	2	9.32
June „	46	39	..	9.80

(Signed) M. CRUICKSHANK,
Assistant-Surgeon in charge of Dispensary,
Jacobabad.

Sir, 11th July, 1853.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,873, of the 5th July, 1853, to my address, with accompaniments, and, with reference to their subject, to point out that it appears to me that some little error, or confusion of ideas, exists with regard to the operations of the Grand Trigonometrical Survey as connected with a proposed survey and settlement of the boundary between the British and Kelat territories. The two works are of such different natures, and so absolutely distinct from each other, that they could not, it seems to me, be carried on together without injury to both.

The determining the frontier line and laying it down by land-marks may, in some places, require a considerable period of time, while, perhaps, the trigonometrical operations in the neighbourhood may be performed with rapidity.

In such cases, the work of the one must be greatly impeded, or that of the other be imperfectly performed.

At the same time there is but one possible advantage derived from attempting to combine the two works, or rather from carrying them on simultaneously: it is the taking of the angles to the stations of the minor survey with the great theodolite.

But all requisite accuracy can be ensured without this, and the details of the boundary line survey can at any time be perfectly connected with the great trigonometrical stations, if those stations be marked so as to admit of being again observed when required, and a memorandum of their position, bearing, and distances from each other be furnished by the officers of the Grand Trigonometrical Survey.

I am, therefore, of opinion that the best mode of proceeding will be to appoint an officer, with proper assistants and establishment, to determine and to lay down the frontier line from the sea to the Indus.

This officer to be accompanied by proper officers of the Kelat Government, and entrusted with power to make a final settlement of the boundary.

His operations to be carried on quite independently of those of the Grand Trigonometrical Survey as regards time, but to be connected with them by observations to and from every one of the trigonometrical points which may come within view.

To enable this to be done, the officers of the Trigonometrical Survey might be requested to leave permanent marks at all their stations near the frontier line, and to supply the information required as to angles, distances.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

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15th July, 1853.

SIR,

I have the honor to return the papers received with your letter, No. 566, of the 13th July, 1853, to my address, and, with reference to their subject, to state that the circumstances of the case of Jan Beg Jekranee are as follows:—

According to the original settlement with the Doombkees, Jekranees, &c., made in 1845 by Sir C. Napier, these men were granted certain lands for their support near Janadeyra, &c.; these lands were given them free for three years, after which period the revenue from them to be collected as usual.

When the three years had expired, the lands were claimed by His Highness Meer Ali Morad.

The claim of the Meer appeared to be unjust both to Major Goldney and myself; however, our opinions and arguments were overruled by Mr. Pringle, then Commissioner, and the claim of the Khyrpore Government was allowed.

The revenue to be paid by the Belooche settlers to Ali Morad was then fixed at one-eighth of the produce, and this was paid for one year, when the Commissioner, at my recommendation, and under some new arrangements with the Meer, granted the lands free in perpetuity.

Thus, then, even at that time, the advantages enjoyed by these Belooche settlers were much greater than those to which they were entitled by the terms of their capitulation at Truckee.

But in 1850, after a partial failure of the jowaree crop, Durrya Khan Toork Ali, and the other chief Belooche settlers, petitioned to be allowed wheat lands also.

This petition I strongly backed with the Commissioner; he agreed to its prayer, and wheat lands were accordingly granted them south of the Begaree Canal. It was at first intended to assess the lands in the usual amount of revenue, but after some discussion and correspondence on the subject, these lands were, at my recommendation, also granted free. This was a matter of pure favor, the men having already been granted more than they had any right to claim. Among others the present petitioner, Jan Beg, received, I presume, the grant of land which now forms the subject of his complaint. I do not exactly understand the arrangement by which this man was allowed to occupy, under free grant from Government, the lands of another Zemeendar, Abdoola Khan.

But whatever sums Jan Beg may have at various times agreed to pay to Abdoola Khan, he appears never actually to have paid the man a farthing, and the debt, which the petitioner says he has incurred, has, I am informed by the Collector of Shikarpoor, been wholly remitted.

When the district north of the Begaree Canal was placed in my charge, in 1852, it was thought advisable that the Belooche settlers should all be provided for in that district only; accordingly they were all distinctly informed that after the termination of the current season they would not be allowed any longer to hold lands south of the Begaree, but that others equivalent to those would be granted to them in the Boordicka district.

I repeatedly personally explained this to Jan Beg, and directed him, as well as all the other parties concerned, to proceed at once to choose lands for themselves from the waste or unclaimed land in Boordicka.

Every man, with the sole exception of Jan Beg, acted accordingly, and lands equivalent to those held by them south of the Begaree were granted to them in this district, which they have cleared, and are cheerfully and profitably cultivating. Jan Beg did nothing; but while the other Belooches were choosing and obtaining lands in this district he, in spite of the orders he had received, persisted in retaining the lands south of the Begaree. This, by some mistake of the Kardar, in whose district the lands lie, he was allowed to do for one season longer, when the Collector peremptorily ordered him to vacate the lands, and to proceed, as his brethren had done, to the northern district—still the man did nothing but come to me daily for several months to whine, until the season became advanced, while all the other Belooches were cheerfully at work in the fields. He refused to choose lands for himself, or to do anything in fact but complain, and in this state he still remains.

In my opinion the best mode of proceeding with the man would be to leave him to make any private arrangement he pleases with Abdoola Khan, or other Zemeendars, but to levy the full revenue from the lands he may cultivate south of the Begaree, just as it would be levied if cultivated by the Zemeendar himself.

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It will be seen, from what I have stated above, that the greatest indulgence has been shown to these Belooche cultivators, and that every one of them, with the exception of Jan Beg and his immediate followers, has availed himself of this indulgence, and is working cheerfully, vigorously, and profitably. Those who act thus cannot be too much encouraged, but the idle and lazy, and the discontented, should, I think, be left to feel the inconveniences of their misconduct, and to find themselves in an inferior position to their industrious brethren. 15th July, 1853.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Officiating Collector, Shikarpoor.

SIR, 16th July, 1853.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 507, of the 15th July, 1853, to my address, with accompaniments, and, as therein directed, to report that Jemadar Hafeezoolla Khan and Duffedar Kallie Khan were brought to my notice by Russuldar Shaik Kurreem, as having been conspicuous for good conduct on the occasion in question.

During the long and exhausting march in the pursuit of the enemy, these officers exerted themselves in exciting the spirits of the wearied men, and keeping the detachment together in the most soldier-like manner. When engaged with the enemy, every officer and man had to fight stoutly for his life, but the services of these officers were then also of the greatest value to the Russuldar, their steadiness and presence of mind enabling him, in the midst of a desperate melée, to preserve some order, which alone enabled him to beat off the overwhelming numbers opposed to him.

At the same time, the Jemadar and Duffedar were conspicuous as personal combatants, and each struck down several of their opponents in hand to hand encounter, and are, I think, every way worthy of the distinction of the Order of Merit.

The Jemadar of Belooche Guides, Yarroo Kosah, was, I find, mentioned in my report to the Commissioner, No. 75, of the 5th April, 1853; but, by some error, this was omitted in my report to the military authorities, of the same date.

The report alluded to is as follows:—

"The Jemadar, Yarroo Kosah, of Belooche Guides, was with Russuldar Shaik "Kurreem throughout this business, and behaved exceedingly well as to conduct "and courage. This man's son was killed last year, while accompanying his "father in pursuit of border robbers, and I beg to recommend him also to the "notice of Government."

The work of the guide, on these occasions, is the most important and arduous of all; not only the success of the party, but its existence, depends on the fidelity, skill, and courage, of the guide.

This man, Yarroo Kosah, has done much good service on this frontier. On this occasion, he not only performed all the duties of a first-rate guide, but also fought gallantly and conspicuously in the melée, one of his men was killed by his side, and his own mare killed under him.

The opportunity appears to me to be a good one for rewarding him for his conduct generally in our service, and thereby encouraging activity and fidelity among these wild people.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Major of Brigade, Shikarpoor.

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21st July, 1853.

SIR,

With reference to your letter, No. 3,154, of the 7th July, 1853, to my address, with accompaniment, I have the honor to state that, in my opinion, the train mentioned by you

3	3-Pounder guns . . .	with carriages.
3	4⅘ Howitzers	
4	5⅘ inch Mortars . . .	on beds.
4	4⅘ „ „ . . .	
4	4⅘ Howitzers	

will answer exceedingly well for the mountain battery to be placed under my command, on this frontier.

With regard to shrapnell shells, this species of ammunition is, of course, not of the slightest use for vertical fire, wherefore none of it is required for the mortars or howitzers on beds, but it is a most valuable ammunition for the howitzers on carriages, and, in my opinion, the 3-pounder shrapnell is also very useful occasionally in the hills. I would, therefore, if it be procurable, add 24 rounds of shrapnell per gun to the 3-pounder ammunition. With this addition, the proportion of ammunition mentioned in the list accompanying your letter for the 3-pounders and howitzers on carriages, appears good and sufficient.

With each mortar and howitzer on bed I would recommend 100 rounds of common shell, and 20 carcasses, with the usual small stores, &c., in proportion.

There should also be, with the stores belonging to the mountain battery, a good set of intrenching tools, which are indispensably necessary for work in the hills.

I should therefore recommend that the undermentioned articles be added to the list.

Axes, felling, with handles . . .	24
„ pick „ „	48
Crows, Iron	24
Hoes, Europe, with handles . . .	48
Hatchets, hand	24

The artificers' tools also should be very complete and good.

There should be two sets each of smiths' and carpenters' tools, with small Europe bellows and anvils of the best quality.

There should be a double set of drag ropes to each carriage gun.

The undermentioned articles are also very necessary.

Rope, Europe, 2-inch coils . . .	2
Blocks, single and double, with sheeves, &c., of proper size for the two-inch ropes . prs.	2

As regards the means of transport proposed for the battery, I think that the pieces on beds, and all the ammunition not in the limber-boxes, had better always be carried on camels, which should be entertained for the purpose.

The guns and howitzers on carriages might also be carried on camels occasionally, but should be fully equipped for horse draught, four horses to each.

The usual artificers and lascars should be allowed, and to make the thing perfect for any service, a troop of Irregular Horse might be raised and attached to the battery, the whole being organized and formed as a troop of Silidar Horse Artillery, such as it was proposed by Lord Ellenborough to add to the Scinde Irregular Horse in 1843.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Secretary to the
Military Board, Bombay.

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No. 3,154 of 1853.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT—ORDNANCE.

7th July, 1853.

To Major JOHN JACOB, Commanding Scinde Irregular Horse, Jacobabad, Upper Scinde.

SIR,

Government having directed that the mountain train in Upper Scinde, properly equipped, should be attached to your command on the Frontier, I am directed by the Military Board to request that you will have the goodness to intimate what ordnance and material equipment you would wish the train to be composed of.

2. The authorized strength of a mountain train, as you are probably aware, is that laid down at page 536 of Jameson's code, viz.:—

3	3-Pounder guns . . .	with carriages.
3	4⅖ inch Howitzers . . .	
4	5⅕ „ Mortars . . .	with beds.
4	4⅖ „ „ . . .	
4	4⅖ „ Howitzers . . .	

But Government would, doubtless, sanction any modification of the above which you might deem desirable.

3. The mountain batteries forwarded to Scinde in the year 1842, I am desired to state, were equipped with ammunition and small stores, agreeably to the statement hereunto appended, and no revision of that equipment has yet been made by authority. The Board request to be favored with your opinion and wishes regarding this table, and referring to the ammunition therein exhibited, they would be glad to be informed whether you consider that shrapnell shells can be effectively used with the mortars and howitzers, or with guns of so low a calibre as 3-pounders. For the latter, the shrapnell shell has long been disused in the royal service.

4. The Board would further request the favor of being informed what draught you design for the train in question.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) C. D. MYLNE, Captain,
Secretary to the Military Board.

Bombay, 7th July, 1853.

LIST OF ORDNANCE STORES, AMMUNITION, &c., for one Battery of (3) three-pounder guns, and the 4⅖ inch Howitzer Mountain Train.

Military Board Office, 22nd February, 1842.

NAMES OF STORES.	Three-pounders	Four and two-fifths inch Howitzers.	Remarks.
Apron, gun	3	3	
Augers, fuze hand	...	3	
Axes, felling, with helves	1	1	
Axes, pick	2	2	
Bags, fuze	...	3	
Bits, gun	3	3	
Boxes, tin fuze	...	3	
„ kit	...	6	2 lbs. in each box.
„ shot and shell, to contain 6 case shot and 15 rounds shot	90	...	Two-thirds of these boxes to be filled up with copper magazine, and one-third with canvas cannon pouches and leather, bottoms to contain filled cartridges.
„ shot and shell, to contain 2 case shot, 2 common shells, and 4 shrapnell shells	...	162	

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7th July, 1853.

Names of Stores.	Three-pounders	Four and two-fifths inch Howitzers.	Remarks.
Buckets, gun leather	3	3	
Caps, sponge	3	3	
Carriages, mountain ord., with limbers	3	3	
„ „ with limber, spare	1	1	
Cartridges, empty serge, to contain 12 ounces of powder, spare	186	...	2 in each ammunition and limber box.
„ empty serge, to contain 8 ditto, ditto	...	165	1 in each ammunition and limber box.
„ filled serge, to contain 12 ditto, ditto	1,962	...	
„ filled serge, to contain 8 ditto, ditto	...	1,320	2 in each 3-pounder ammunition and limber box, and one in each 4 and 2-5ths inch box.
„ priming, 1 lb. powder in each	186	165	
Cases, portfire, with slings	3	3	
Compasses, plain brass	...	3	
Cartridges, bursters empty, for common shell, 4 and 2-5ths inch	...	220	
„ bursters, empty, for shrapnell shell, 4 and 2-5ths inch	...	440	
„ bursters, filled, for common shell, 4 and 2-5ths inch	...	110	
„ bursters, filled, for shrapnell shell, 4 and 2-5ths inch	...	220	
Cork-screws	...	3	
Drag ropes, gun, light ordnance	3	3	
Drifts, gun	3	3	
Esses, iron	...	...	
Funnels, copper, small	...	3	
Fuzes, filled, common, 5½ inch	...	990	990 ½ mile range.
„ spherical	...	1,980	990 ¾ ditto. 990 ¼ ditto.
Glasses, spying, 2 feet, folding	1	1	
Hammers, claw	3	3	
Handspikes, purchasing	6	6	
Hatches, hand	3	3	
Hemp ..... lbs.	...	3	
Hoes, Europe, with helves	2	2	
Kegs, grease filled	3	3	
Kit ..... lbs.	...	12	
Knives, laboratory	3	3	
Ladles, copper, with worms	3	...	
Linch-pins, spare	8	8	
Line seizing, skeins	6	12	
Linstocks	3	3	
Locks, pad, brass, single	4	4	1 to each limber box.
Mallets, fuze	...	3	
„ large	3	3	
Match cotton, in pieces of 10 yds....pieces	50	40	
Measures, copper, 12 oz.	3	...	
„ „ 8 oz.	...	3	
Needles, sewing	100	100	
Oakum ..... lbs.	15	15	
Ordnance, brass	3	3	
Paper, cartridge cannon, or portfire, quires	...	3	
Portfires	700	500	
Powder, gun, fine (in 50 lb. barrels) lbs.	..	200	
Pouches, cannon	30	54	
„ priming	4	4	
Rasps	...	3	
Saws, Fuze	...	3	
Scales, tangent	3	...	
„ gunner	...	3	
Scissors, laboratory	3	3	
Shells, common, prepared for service, 4 and 2-5ths inch	...	330	2 rounds in each limber box.
„ shrapnell	...	660	4 rounds in each limber box.

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7th July, 1853.

Names of Stores.	Three-pounders	Four and two-fifths inch Howitzers.	Remarks.
Shot, case	567	330	9 rounds in each 3-pounder limber box, and 2 rounds in each 4 and 2-5ths inch limber box.
„ round, fixed to bottoms	1,395	...	15 rounds in each limber box.
Slings, bamboo, with ropes complete, for ordnance	3	3	
„ „ „ for carriages	3	3	
„ „ „ for wheels	6	6	
„ „ „ for ammunition boxes	90	162	
Spikes, gun, jagged	3	3	
„ spring	3	3	
Sponges, with rammers	6	6	
Sticks, portfire	3	3	
Tarpaulins, ammunition	...	...	as required
„ gun and limber			
Tampions, with collars	3	3	
Tools, carpenters' country chests	1	...	
„ smiths' „	1	...	
Twine, Europe, fine skeins	3	3	
Vices, fuze, block	...	4	Fixed on carriage.
„ hand	...	3	
Washers, axletree, spare	4	4	
Wax cloth yds.	36	72	
Wires, priming	6	6	
Wrenches, fuze, brass	...	3	
„ nut	3	3	
Yokes, pole, including spare	4	4	

N. B.—Two-thirds of the ammunition above to be *in reserve* in the park, and packed in boxes.

Three-pounder Gun Ammunition packed in boxes :—

	Case shot.	Round shot.	Total.
Per box	6	15	21
For ten boxes	60	150	210
In reserve in 20 boxes	120	300	420
Total to be prepared per gun, in thirty boxes	180	450	630
For six guns in 180 boxes	1,080	2,700	3,780

4⅘ inch Howitzer Ammunition, packed in boxes :—

	Case shot.	Common shell.	Shrapnell shell.	Total.
Per box	2	2	4	8
For 18 boxes	36	36	72	144
In reserve in 36 boxes	72	72	144	288
Total to be prepared per howitzer, in 54 boxes	108	108	216	432
For 6 howitzers in 324 boxes	648	648	1,296	2,592

The limber boxes for the 3-pounder will contain 24 rounds each, viz.—

15 of round shot, and 9 of case shot.

The limber boxes for the 4⅘ inch Howitzer will each contain 8 rounds, viz.—

2 case shot,
2 common shell,
4 spherical shell.

Contents of each Box Ammunition, Gun :—

	lbs.	oz.
6 case shot, weighing 3 lbs. 6 oz. each	20	4
15 rounds of shot fixed to the bottoms	53	8
21 cartridges, 2 priming, and 2 spare	15	0
Weight of box complete	15	0
Portfires, slow match	9	4
Total lbs.	112	0

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7th July, 1853.

Contents of each 4⅘-inch Howitzer Box, Ammunition:—

	lbs.	oz.
2 case shot of 10 lbs. 8 oz.	21	0
2 shells at 8 lbs. 7 oz.	16	14
4 shrapnell shells at 9 lbs. 14 oz.	39	8
8 cartridges, 1 spare, 1 priming	13	2
Weight of box complete	14	0
Portfires, fuzes, &c.	7	8
Total lbs.	112	0

(True Copy)
(Signed) C. D. MYLNE,
Secretary Military Board.

MEMORANDUM.

Proportion of ammunition which should be packed with Mountain Battery:—

Three-Pounder: each gun—

Round shot	100
Common case	50

4⅘ inch Howitzer: each piece—

Common shell	80
Shrapnell	50
Common case	20

No. 948.

Assistant-Quartermaster-General's Office,
Kurrachee, 21st July, 1853.

21st July, 1853.

SIR,

The Major-General commanding the Division has directed me to call upon you to state your own views and proposals with regard to the establishment and equipment for the mountain train, in view to his submitting the same for the consideration of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, agreeably to instructions received through the Quartermaster-General of the Army.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) J. G. CRAIG, Lieutenant,
Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General.

To the Officer Commanding Scinde Frontier,
Jacobabad.

MY DEAR JACOB,

I have just received a communication informing me of the wish of Government to place at your disposal a train of mountain Artillery. My report on the subject is requested. Before framing any, I should be glad to have your opinions on the subject, if you are inclined to favor me with them. You know what service is likely to be rendered from the train much better than I can do; and as to the prepossessional question, I have as much confidence in your opinion as in my own.

I do not understand whether it is proposed that you raise a corps of gunners to work this train from your own men, or whether you depend on the Shikarpoor battery for assistance. Please let me know your views as far as may be convenient to you to reveal them.

I find that Finnimore has a great lot of small ordnance either at Bukkur or Hydrabad —4⅘ howitzers and 3-pounders—the exact number I do not recollect.

Believe me yours truly,
(Signed) J. SINCLAIR.

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From Colonel SINCLAIR, Commandant of Artillery in Scinde. 11th July, 1853.

Cliften, Kurrachee, 11th July, 1853.

MY DEAR JACOB,

Many thanks for your reply about the mountain train. It is quite clear that the Bombay authorities are somewhat "dark" about the matter. You write for an arsenal; they offer you the mountain train in lieu. In the matter of the arsenal, I am sorry I cannot assist you, as I consider that Hydrabad, if not the best position in Scinde for the principal arsenal, is at all events the best available, notwithstanding all its inconveniences. The fact is, Hydrabad ought never to have been selected as a site for a permanent cantonment, nor Kotree for the flotilla. Jerruck was the proper place for both, and the arsenal also, for many reasons, conclusive to me, at all events, if not to others; but to attempt now to move the camp from Hydrabad, or the flotilla from Kotree, would be futile; and having the troops and establishment thus fixed at this spot, no better place offers for the arsenal. To re-establish the department at Sukkur or Bukkur, would, to my mind, be an unadvised move; for, notwithstanding all you say—and there is no man in the service more willing than I am to assent to any say of yours—I cannot believe either the one or the other a fitting place for any large establishment, the periodical sickness to which parties residing in the locality are subject, altogether unfitting it for the purpose. Shot, shell, and heavy ordnance may, indeed, be deposited here, under lock and key, with advantage: they require no establishment to take care of them, and are not themselves liable to deterioration from climate. The magazine at Bukkur is all you say of it, and should be abandoned; in fact no powder should be kept in advance, lest, when required, it be found bad in quality and untrustworthy, as all powder in Scinde* becomes after a few years. Were it not for the difficulty of communicating with Bombay during certain months of the year, I would recommend that the service stock of powder should, on this account, be lodged at the Presidency, whence it could be brought up long long before any force to use it could be collected.

It is, I think, a pity that, if you are to have the mountain train, you should not have it efficient; I have, consequently, recommended that the train to be made over to you consist only of 4⅝ howitzers, with ammunition as you recommend, equipped with carriages for camel transport. These now in Scinde are principally fitted up for mule draught: even if mules were available, I would recommend them being employed in pad, not in draught; but they are not to be had, and camels are the next best beasts of burden available. *If the roads are good for wheel carriages* at all, you have the light field battery at hand, well equipped; and no man knows better than yourself how well such battery can get along. I have omitted 3-pounders altogether in my recommendation, believing such pop-guns to be quite useless. Instead of mortars, I have recommended that one or two howitzer-beds—available for use with the howitzer when used as a mortar—be supplied. A light howitzer used in this manner is far superior to a mortar of the same calibre, throwing its shell with much greater precision and to a greater distance. I have, as regards artillerymen, simply asked how Government intends to man the train, suggesting that a mere transfer of the material to you from the Deputy Commissary will only burden, not strengthen, your position.

In *your* hands the train, or indeed any description of gun, could be made to speak fluently and pertinently to a stranger; but I should be sorry to see the principle established that a train of artillery is to be placed at the disposal of every man commanding a corps of either cavalry or infantry on the frontier, without having attached to it a trained band of artillerymen, properly commanded. Without the attendance of such band, the guns would soon prove themselves dumb dogs, or at least snarling curs, and the prestige now attached to the artillery service be lost.

A report has spread in camp that *we* are to have another battalion. I do not myself credit the rumour, although hoping it may prove true. To you the augmentation of the regiment would, at present, make no difference, but after a few years' further service, advancement in the regiment might benefit you.

Believe me, yours very truly,

(Signed) J. SINCLAIR.

* Yet it is certain that there is no climate on earth so favorable to the good preservation of gunpowder as that of Upper Scinde.—J. J.

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No. 2,017 of 1853.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

15th July, 1853. From the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE to Major JACOB, Political Superintendent on the Frontier, Jacobabad. Dated 15th July, 1853.

SIR,

With reference to your letter, No. 81, of the 12th April last, I have the honor to transmit, for your information and guidance, copies of correspondence, as per margin.

To Government, No. 149, of 28th April, 1853. From ditto, No. 2,151, dated 30th June, on the subject of roads on the frontier and in different parts of Upper Scinde.

2. In conveying the sentiments of Government, as expressed in paragraph 3 of the letter from Mr. Secretary Lumsden, it would be superfluous in me to express my own obligations. You will, I am confident, feel that you have your highest reward in the sense of the benefit you have conferred on the country around you.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Kurrachee, 15th July, 1853.

(COPIES.)

No. 149 of 1853.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

From the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE to the Right Honble. Lord Viscount FALKLAND, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

MY LORD,

With reference to the letters from Government, as per margin, sanctioning the formation of roads on the frontier, and in different parts of Upper Scinde, I have the honor to submit the following report, after having traversed many of the lines to which it relates.

No.	1,657,	dated 19th April,	1851.
„	1,689,	„ „ „	1851.
„	2,197,	„ 26th May,	1851.
„	3,362,	„ 19th August,	1851.
„	1,275,	„ 6th April,	1852.
„	1,640,	„ 4th May,	1852.
„	2,325,	„ 25th June,	1852.
„	3,659,	„ 30th September,	1852.

2. The frontier patrol roads had been cleared and finished, at various times, from the date when Major Jacob first took charge of the frontier, in 1846, up to last year. Their object was purely military.

3. The roads sanctioned in 1851, the length of which was 126 miles, and cost Rupees 18,525, including 5 bridges on the frontier road, were all completed last season. Those sanctioned last year, 207 miles in length, and costing Rupees 28,298, have just been finished.

4. The total length of roads now in existence is as follows:—

	Miles.
I. Road bridged whenever canals cross it, and passable by wheeled carriages of every description, at all seasons:—	
1. Frontier road, including lines cut through the jungle into the desert	184
2. Other lines, made to improve the general communication of the country	160
Total	—344
II. Road intended to open up the country, and to improve its communications, but merely cleared through the jungle on low land, and passable only during the dry season (November to June)	135
Total miles	479

5. The enclosed plan will show, better than any description, the direction of the various lines, and show the lines from Shikarpoor to Larkana, and from Shikarpoor to Sukkur, still in progress, the former under the Collector, the

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latter under the Executive Engineer. These roads, when complete, will add 60 miles to the total length of cleared road in Upper Scinde. 15th July, 1853.

6. The roads are 45 feet in width, and all of those constructed within the last two years generally run in perfectly straight lines from village to village.

7. None are metalled: they are merely levelled and cleared of the trees and bushes, which, in many parts, formed an almost impenetrable jungle. A trench at the side prevents carts and cattle getting off the road, and furnishes soil for filling up small inequalities. With the exception of a few localities, when great traffic renders a harder surface desirable, such roads are as good and durable as the present traffic requires.

8. The bridges, of which there are 159 in all, are built of burnt bricks, with mud cement, and semi-circular arches. The largest I saw was a 3-arch bridge, the centre arch of 24 feet, and 2 side arches of 8 feet each, and cost about Rupees 1,200.

9. The mode of construction may appear less substantial than is desirable in a masonry bridge, but those which were properly built were found to stand the last inundation admirably, and chunam is so costly as greatly to restrict its use where it would be otherwise well to have it. I have found bridges built in the manner described, and merely pointed with chunam, perfectly sound, though they were known to have been built more than 80 years ago.

10. All these roads and bridges have been made by such artificers and workmen as could be found in Upper Scinde, without aid from any European, except Major Jacob, or any native trained in an European office.

11. Major Jacob was, of course, not able to do much in the way of personally laying out the work for them.

12. In the case of the roads, he merely gave the names of the villages the roads were to skirt.

13. The country is a dead level; in parts the view is much impeded by heavy jungle and sand hills, and no really correct survey of it exists.

14. In order to get the right line, the contractor, on a calm day, had a large fire lit at the spot to be reached, and keeping his eye fixed on the column of smoke, made his way through the densest jungle, marking trees as he went; he thus got a straight path marked and then cleared, which he afterwards widened to the necessary extent, and lined out with boles and cords, and the result is a road almost as direct as could be laid out by the best surveyor.

15. The bridges were drawn on paper in a manner intelligible to the workmen, and the dimensions were given. The contractors had never seen large bridges with semi-circular arches, and at first doubted whether such arches would stand, and even now that they have built several of large span, in excellent style, they are only beginning to feel sure of the stability of that kind of arch as compared with their own pointed arches. No particular pains were found necessary to teach the workmen, except showing them how, with a line to the centre, to lay the bricks of the arch true—a matter to which they attend but little in building their own pointed arches.

16. All the work, both of bridges and roads, is done by contract, and the estimates are framed by putting up the work to competition. Major Jacob sends round a notice and assembles persons willing to contract; he then thoroughly explains the work required, showing, when necessary, a written description or drawing of the work; when satisfied it is understood, he invites offers—the lowest offer from a good workman gives the estimate, and when such estimate has been sanctioned by Government, the contractor is then ready to take it up.

17. No failure has yet occurred, though some of the works are very heavy. The work has, as far as I have seen, been well, cheaply, and quickly done—some of the largest and best contractors cannot read or write. I, of course, do not mention this as a recommendation, but to show the disadvantages under which the work was undertaken, and also to show how a trustworthy and competent officer, who has been allowed a given sum to do a given work, can, in spite of many drawbacks, make shift to get that work well done, if permitted to use, as he best can, the appliances he finds at hand, when he would be unable to do anything, if obliged to send in voluminous returns, and furnish all the usual paper checks on such expenditure.

18. A glance at the map will show the importance of these roads, both in a commercial and military point of view.

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15th July, 1853.

19. To the villages and small towns there can, of course, be but one opinion as to the value of good uninterrupted cart communication with places like Shikarpoor, Sukkur, Jacobabad, and Larkana, to which marts the benefit of easy access from the principal sources of supply for agricultural produce is, of course, reciprocal.

20. To more extended commerce the lines are, as far as they go, equally useful. Even on the frontier road, which was cleared for purely military purposes, I met droves of bullocks from the famous breeding land on the Narra, near Bagh, in Cutchee, bound to Mooltan and Lahore—the more direct road through the Murree Hills being too insecure for commercial traffic. There were also caffilas, from Kurrachee, carrying piece goods, and from Candahar, with Affghan produce, going to Assnee, Mittenkote, Dherajat, and Mooltan. The bullocks from Cutchee come annually in large droves, and used, I am told, till these roads were opened, to take the very circuitous route *viâ* Shikarpoor, across the river at Sukkur, and through Bhawulpoor to Mooltan and Lahore.

21. The uses of the roads in a military point of view need not be described in detail. The frontier road and its offsets is, of course, an integral and essential part of the arrangements to which this frontier owes the first six years of perfect security from plunder which it has enjoyed within the memory of man.

22. Troops and the heaviest guns can now move from Shikarpoor at all seasons, and without previous preparation on the line towards the frontier road, by which they may, as required, reach Kurrachee or the Bolan, or go towards Kusmore and Mittenkote.

23. Of the effects of these roads in promoting cart traffic there has been hardly time to judge, and there is only one place at which there exist the materials for making a comparison; this is at Sultan-ke-Gote, on the road from Shikarpoor to Jacobabad, where, since April, 1851, traffic returns have been kept by the police, and give the following result:—

NUMBER OF CARTS PASSING.

Months.	When the road was not cleared nor Bridged.	With the road Bridged.	
	1851.	1852.	1853.
	Carts.	Carts.	Carts.
January	..	342	798
February	..	309	624
March	..	346	565
April	458	466	..
May	234	365	..
June	33	359	..
July	174	303	..
August	115	353	..
September	244	350	..
October	233	436	..
November	330	311	..
December	345	556	..
Total	2,766	4,496	1,987
Average per month	307	374	662

Remarks.—The road was finished about the end of 1851.

24. It will be observed, that the first perceptible effect of making the road passable at all seasons, was to prevent the partial cessation of cart traffic during the inundation months (May to September).

25. The steady increase in the use of carts generally about Shikarpoor is apparent, also, from the following statement of the number of carts passing the eight gates of that city:—

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Months.	1851.	1852.
	Carts.	Carts.
January	..	11,237
February	..	11,302
March	..	13,902
April	..	11,599
May	5,840	10,659
June	3,424	9,905
July	4,032	9,583
August	5,604	7,427
September	6,595	8,119
October	8,038	8,426
November	6,739	9,267
December	10,443	Not received.
Total	50,714	111,426
Average	6,339	10,129

26. The return kept on the road between Shikarpoor and Sukkur gives similar results:—

Months	1851.	1852.	1853.
	Carts.	Carts.	Carts.
January	..	2,189	1,714
February	..	1,187	2,158
March	..	1,260	1,555
April	1,484	1,342	..
May	1,119	1,370	..
June	205	996	..
July	319	1,233	..
August	4	465	..
September	119	560	..
October	610	1,858	..
November	616	1,462	..
December	1,541	1,466	..
Total	6,097	15,386	5,427
Average	677	1,198	1,809

The falling off in the months of June and September is caused by the inundation, when much of this road is under water, and may serve to exemplify the effects of the want of bridges in Scinde. In the hot weather of last year this road was cleared to the same extent as Major Jacob's unbridged roads, and temporary bridges of jungle wood were put up, and measures are in progress, under the Engineer Department, to have it properly bridged.

27. It is very necessary that a permanent provision should be made for the repair of these lines. Major Jacob has ascertained that this can be done for the sums shown in his letter, of which a copy is annexed; and I should respectfully recommend that an annual expenditure not exceeding Rupees 18½ per mile, including bridges, be sanctioned, for the purpose of repairing all such roads in Upper Scinde.

No 46, dated 4th March, 1851.

28. By the system of statute labor universal throughout Upper Scinde, much of the labor required for this purpose might be got from the cultivators. But the system of statute labor is liable to great abuse, and is condemned as most oppressive by many of those best qualified to judge of its operation. As regards the canals, it is necessarily maintained for the present as an effectual though

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15th July, 1853.

rude expedient for getting what is absolutely necessary executed in due time; but it is not desirable to employ it on comparatively new works, like these roads; for though the cultivators are now bound annually to clear the roads through their own lands, when called on, the work is less extensive and systematic than it would be in the case of these new roads, and the labor falls very heavy on those portions of the country where the population is thin, and tends to keep people who would otherwise settle, from coming to a spot where they would be liable to such service.

29. To Government and its revenue the roads would be annually worth more than Rupees 18½ per mile; and it is, therefore, I think, a profitable application of money for Government to take the expense on itself.

30. If necessary, however, a portion of the whole amount of actual annual expense might be assessed on the districts at large which benefit by the road, and such sum might be collected along with the ordinary revenue demands as a commutation of statute labor on roads.

31. Since writing the above, I have received a letter from Major Jacob, of which an extract is enclosed. It contains some very striking facts relative to the value of roads in Scinde generally, and especially of good land communication between Upper Scinde and Kurrachee.

Paras. 3 to 9 of No. 81, dated 12th April.

32. The road from Shikarpoor to Larkana, sanctioned by Government letter as per margin, will, I hope, be completed by the time the canals fill; and I would suggest that, for the year 1853-54, the Collector of Upper Scinde be authorized to spend a further sum of Rupees 10,000 in extending that road from Larkana southwards towards Sehwan, along a line which has been selected and estimated for by Major Jacob.

No. 3,659, of the 30th September, 1852.

33. I would recommend that on the principle recognised in the same letter, the Collector of Kurrachee be authorized to expend Rupees 10,000 in opening a road from Sehwan northwards along the same line, to meet that from Larkana. The sum will, of course, suffice for only a portion of the distance (from Larkana to Sehwan, 94 miles), and the intervening space may be connected by similar grants in future years.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Commissioner's Office, Kurrachee, 28th April, 1853.

No. 2,151 of 1853.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

30th June, 1853.

To H. B. E. FRERE, Esq., Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge your letter, No. 149, dated 28th April last, reporting the formation of roads on the Frontier, and in different parts of Upper Scinde.

2. It is a clear and valuable report, as showing the length, direction, cost, and method of construction of the roads, which have been completed in the year 1851 and 1852.

3. Government are under deep obligations to Major Jacob for the untiring energy and judgment with which he has prosecuted these improvements, without professional assistance of any kind, and at a very moderate cost.

4. The roads which have been finished under the superintendence of this officer would seem well suited to the nature of the country through which they pass, and to the present state of the province; the greater part of which can be traversed by carts at any period of the year, provided bridges be made where required, and the lines cleared and raised if necessary.

5. The Governor in Council sanctions for the repair of the bridges and roads already completed the sum of Rupees (8,830) eight thousand eight hundred and thirty, applied for by Major Jacob. His Lordship, at the same time, fully approves of that officer's suggestion, to execute the repairs on the contract

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system, which, under his vigilant supervision, has been so advantageously applied to the construction of bridges and roads in the first instance. 15th July, 1853.

6. Government do not, however, consider it necessary to make the above grant an annual charge, both because the practice is nowhere else in force, and because it is impossible to foresee what may be the cost of these repairs in future years.

7. Estimates for repairs should be submitted annually, as is done elsewhere.

8. The Governor in Council concurs with you in your condemnation of the system of statute labor, and in your desire to see it abolished. His Lordship would, however, wish for a more full exposition of your views on the alternative referred to in your 30th paragraph, before coming to a decision.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) J. G. LUMSDEN,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 30th June, 1853.

(True copies.)

(Signed) W. ELLIS,
Assistant-Commissioner.

[COPY.]

No. 267 of 1853.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

From the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE to the Right Hon. Lord Viscount FALKLAND, Governor and President in Council, Bombay. Dated 19th July, 1853. 19th July, 1853.

MY LORD,

With reference to Mr. Secretary Lumsden's letter, as per margin, I have the honor to submit extracts from communications received from Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier, with the expression of a hope that your Lordship in Council will reconsider the decision conveyed in Government letter above referred to, and allow the degree of assistance recommended by the Medical Board in the last paragraph of their letter therein enclosed.

No. 1,884, of 6th June, 1853, declining to sanction any additional expense or increase to the Medical Establishment at Jacobabad.

No. 149, dated 6th July, 1853, from the Political Superintendent; and No. 3, dated the 6th July, 1853, from the Medical Officer in charge of the Dispensary, Jacobabad.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner.

Commissioner's Office, Kurrachee, 19th July, 1853.

No. 2,964 of 1853.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To H. B. E. FRERE, Esquire, Commissioner in Scinde. 8th September, 1853.

SIR,

In reply to your letter, No. 267, dated 19th July last, the Right Hon. the Governor in Council has desired me to transmit to you an Extract (paragraphs 1 and 2) of a Report by the Medical Board, dated the 18th ultimo, and to refer you to the decision communicated to you under date the 6th June last.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) A. RICHARDSON,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 8th September, 1853.

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8th September, 1853. EXTRACT PARAGRAPHS 1 and 2 of a Report by the Medical Board, dated the 18th August, 1853.

1st. The Medical Board, even with the explanation of the almost inconceivable blunder into which Assistant-Surgeon Cruickshank has fallen, as to the numbers in daily attendance at the Dispensary, Jacobabad, and with the correct returns now given, do not consider that more is required than they have already recommended.

2nd. In reviewing and reporting on all such matters the Board may state, that they use their best endeavours to be just; and a re-examination and re-consideration of the correspondence connected with the Dispensary at Jacobabad, *ab origine*, have failed to indicate to them that, with the information before them, any of their inferences have not been altogether just, although the contrary has been stated in paragraph 4 of Major Jacob's letter, No. 149, of which extracts have been transmitted.

(True extract.)

(Signed) A. RICHARDSON,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 2,712 of 1853.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

True copies forwarded to the Political Superintendent on the Frontier, Jacobabad, in reference to his letter, No. 149, dated 6th July last.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Commissioner's Office, Kurrachee, 21st September, 1853.

[COPIES.]

No. 1,825 of 1853.

25th April, 1853. From H. E. GOLDSMID, Esquire, Secretary to Government, Bombay, to H. B. E. FRERE, Esquire, Commissioner in Scinde. Dated 25th April, 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed by the Right Hon. the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, Nos. 72 and 78, dated the 2nd and 10th ultimo.

2. From these letters it appears that a larger body of police was formerly employed than now, under Major Jacob, Political Superintendent and Commandant on the Frontier of Upper Scinde, and that the employment of the horse in Boordicka has rendered many of the former police available for duty elsewhere.

3. Before coming to a decision on the subject of your application, his Lordship in Council is desirous of being furnished with a report, showing the number of police thus rendered available, their former duty, and present employment, and cost, accompanied by all further particulars requisite to enable Government to decide, whether they could with advantage have been retained for frontier duties in lieu of some of the newly employed horse; or, if unfit for that duty, whether, or no, their discharge might have been a set off against the new expenditure.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 25th April, 1853.

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No. 230 of 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE to the Right Hon. Lord Viscount FALKLAND, Governor and President in Council, Bombay. Dated 29th June, 1853. 29th June, 1853.

MY LORD,

In reply to Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter, as per margin, I have the honor to submit the following remarks, on the subject of the police on the frontier districts of Upper Scinde, especially those recently resumed from Ali Morad.

No. 1,825, of the 25th April, 1853, requesting information relative to the B. Police, before deciding whether they can, with advantage, be retained.

2. To make my remarks clearer, I have annexed a rough sketch, showing the position and extent of the resumed and frontier districts.

3. Major Jacob has pointed out that the number of policemen now employed* under him is less than formerly. To explain this, it is necessary to bear in mind that a large force of police was formerly employed on the North-West Frontier line from Kumber to Kusmore. I find that, at the beginning of 1847, the police so employed (exclusive of Khyheerees employed altogether beyond the frontier) was as shown in the margin; and 30 rural police, and 30 mounted, and 50 Chandia sowars, costing in all Rupees 1,650 per mensem, seem to have been the usual strength of the police on that frontier, to a much later period. All these men have been gradually withdrawn, and there are now none of them on the frontier, or in the Boordicka district.

	Rs.	ans.
MOUNTED REGULARS. *Police Sowars.*		
1 Jemadar	30	0
4 Duffedars	100	0
3 Naiks	67	8
54 Sowars Irregulars	1,080	0
15 Jekranees Sowars, at Rs. 15	225	0
Chandia Sowars.		
2 Jemadars at Rs. 20	40	0
16 Sowars at Rs. 20	320	0
FOOT POLICE. *Rurals.*		
1 Jemadar	20	0
6 Havildars at Rs. 12	72	0
1 Naique	10	0
80 Privates at Rs. 8	640	0
Total Rupees	2,604	8

4. They were not all withdrawn at once, and consequently it is not possible to say exactly how they have been disposed of. The distribution of the police is, necessarily, subject to continual variation, as occasion requires, and as the number of men at head quarters admits of weak posts being strengthened.

5. Some of the Shikarpoor police have, for some time past, been employed in guarding Tannas which properly belong to the Kurrachee police, but of which the Kurrachee corps were too weak to take charge.

6. On the late resumption of territory from His Highness Meer Ali Morad, it became necessary to provide for the protection of the resumed districts. The posts in Boordicka—the district more immediately in question—were at first occupied by men of the Shikarpoor police; but, as they were wanted elsewhere, and I proposed to entrust the charge of the district to Major Jacob, the Shikarpoor police were withdrawn, and I concurred in a suggestion of Major Jacob's to entrust the police duties of the district to a body of 100 Belooche Horse, similar to the Jekranee Horse, who have been found for many duties quite as efficient and less costly than the regular sowars of the mounted police.†

7. This body now forms the police force of the districts under Major Jacob's charge. It is most efficient, and not, I think, by any means too large, when it is considered that the country is a most wild and lawless one, and of great extent; that there is no such thing as a village police, and that the kardars and district officers have no police peons. These 100 men, in fact, do the work which in India would employ a small army of village chowkeedars and havildars, with a large number of police peons, sebundees, &c.

8. The police duties in the other resumed districts, which were not placed under Major Jacob's charge, were entrusted to the men of the Shikarpoor

* 4 Jemadars, at Rupees 25 each . . . . . Rupees 100
100 Sowars, at Rupees 15 each 1,500
Total, 104 men . . . . . Rs. 1,600

† The pay of a Jekranee Sowar is Rupees 15 per mensem; that of a regular Police Sowar, Rupees 20.

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29th June, 1853.

New Levy Shikarpoor Police.	Rs.
1 Jemadar	25
2 Duffedars, at Rs. 20 each	40
51 Sowars, at Rs. 15 each	765
Camel Sowars.	
2 Jemadars, at Rs. 25 each	50
2 Duffedars, at Rs. 20 each	40
27 Sowars, at Rs. 15 each	405
Rural Police.	
61 Privates, at Rs. 8 each	488
14 City Police Peons, at Rs. 7 each	98
50 Mounted Regular Police, at Rs. 20 each	1,000
Total.....	Rs. 2,911

police. It was, of course, impossible that such an extent of country should have been occupied by the same force which had been before considered as no more than sufficient for the old districts of Shikarpoor: consequently, additional men were entertained to the extent shown in the margin. Their number and pay was fixed at the lowest amount which Captain Marston, Captain of Police, and Captain Stanley, his Lieutenant, considered safe, and on the express understanding that no detachments or outposts of regular troops were to be required.

9. Had not this been done, there must of necessity have been several such outposts, which would have harassed the troops, and been in many ways expensive; and it would have been impossible to have withdrawn the Regiment of Native Infantry from Sukkur, as was done immediately afterwards.

10. I trust I have now shown the reasonableness of the apparent large increase in the police force in Upper Scinde. I have no doubt but that, if peace continues in the neighbouring states, I shall be able to make considerable reductions in the expenditure under this head; but they must be made cautiously, and on full consideration of the probable demands on a force which ought never to be reduced so low as to make the speedy assemblage of a respectable body of well-trained men a matter of difficulty.

11. It is not possible now to go into much detail as to the mode in which reduction may be effected. I think much may be done by reducing the number of posts, and perhaps more by employing camel sowars and Belooche horsemen on Rupees 15, instead of the more expensive Hindustanee sowars. But I must beg your Lordship in Council to leave me some discretion as to the time and mode of making reductions, which, if precipitately ordered on insufficient information, may be productive of much mischief in a country heretofore so little known to the officers who have lived longest in Upper Scinde, and containing many elements of disquiet.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Kurrachee, 29th June, 1853.

No. 3,663 of 1853.

17th August, 1853. From A. Malet, Esquire, Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to H. B. E. Frere, Esquire, Commissioner in Scinde. Dated 17th August, 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honble. the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 230, of the 29th June last, reporting on the police of the frontier districts of Upper Scinde, and especially of those recently resumed from Meer Ali Morad.

2. In reply, I am desired to state, that this report will be submitted to the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council, to enable that authority to come to a decision regarding the police establishments for the frontier districts; meanwhile, His Lordship in Council, in leaving to your discretion the time and mode of reducing the large expenditure incurred on this account, relies on your neglecting no favourable opportunity to effect reductions.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 17th August, 1853.

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No. 2,497 of 1853. 1st September, 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

True Copies forwarded for the information and guidance of Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier, in reference to my endorsement, No. 585, of the 10th March last.

From Government, No. 1,825, of 15th April, 1853.
To ditto No. 230, of 29th June, 1853.
From ditto No. 3,663, of 17th Aug., 1853.
Regarding the Police of the Frontier Districts.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Commissioner's Office, Kurrachee, 1st September, 1853.

No. 169 of 1853.

SIR, 22nd July, 1853.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2,017, of the 16th July, 1853, to my address, with accompanying copies of correspondence.

For the expressions therein regarding myself, I beg leave to return my grateful thanks to yourself and to Government.

There is one point regarding the roads referred to, to which I most respectfully beg leave again to call attention.

It is the question of their annual repairs. If the contract for repairing these roads be made for one year only, it evidently becomes the advantage of the contractor to execute the work as cheaply, that is, as badly as possible, just keeping within the terms of his contract. In fact, the worse the work may be done, the more the man will profit by it.

There must be a continual endeavour on the part of the contractor to *conceal* defects instead of remedying them. In such extended works as these roads and bridges, the means at our disposal do not admit of the continual and minute surveillance necessary to guard against this, and the evil becomes most serious. Besides this, even where the contractor behaves with perfect honesty, he cannot, to advantage, lay out capital on the work for one year, as he could do were his contract extended over a longer period.

On the other hand, where the contract has been entered into for a series of years, it becomes the *interest of the contractor* to execute the repairs in the strongest and most durable manner possible. This positively insures the work being well done.

While not only will the work (quality being equal) be executed at considerably less cost, but repairs must be *much less frequently required*, and the nuisance of continually breaking up bridges, &c., avoided.

My estimate of the cost of keeping the roads in repair was made with the understanding that the contract would be granted for not less than three years, and it would be, I am of opinion, better to grant it for five years.

I have no doubt about the matter—it appears to me as clear as the day; and if I could only explain it properly, I am certain that it would appear so to Government.

I shall have no confidence in being able to get the work really well done with a contract for one year only, and I therefore earnestly request that I may be allowed to make the contract for five, or, at least, three years certain, at the rate now sanctioned.

The contractor will, of course, give good security, so that there will be no risk of failure.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 9th August, 1853.

I have the honor to report that, in consequence of the repairs required to the roads and bridges having greatly increased since the date of my former letter on the subject (4th March, 1853), and also a rise in the price of labor, I find that I am unable to obtain a contractor to undertake the repairs to the roads

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9th August, 1853. mentioned in the return which accompanied my letter above-mentioned, and since sanctioned by Government, namely Rupees 8,830.

The lowest bid offered for the contract is Rupees (4010) four thousand and ten for the frontier road from Kumber to Kusmore, and (8800) eight thousand eight hundred for the others, or Rupees (12,810) twelve thousand eight hundred and ten for the whole. Further delay will, of course, only cause an increase of cost, and as the work is of such an important and necessary nature, perhaps you will think it advisable to authorize me to enter into a contract at once, at the rate above mentioned.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

10th August, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to report that the Indus has carried away the whole town of Kusmore.

No lives were lost.

The main stream of the river now runs over the site of the town, and its bank is within 300 yards of the lines of the detachment of Scinde Irregular Horse, which it is still gradually approaching.

These lines also may be expected to be carried away.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

27th August, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that import and export duties are still levied, by order of the Collector of Shikarpoor, on all goods passing in and out of the country lately ceded from His Highness Meer Ali Morad.

This proceeding is attended with much inconvenience, and its effects are most injurious; while it appears to be directly contrary to the instructions contained in your notification of the 7th August, 1852, and your letter, No. 1,944, of the same date, to my address, which, in accordance with your instructions, I caused to be published at the time as widely as possible throughout the British and foreign territory within my reach.

I have the honor to forward herewith a letter, received from the Officiating Collector of Shikarpoor, on this subject.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
To the Commissioner in Scinde, Political Superintendent on the
Kurrachee. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

31st August, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that no reply has been received to my letter, No. 97, of the 7th May, 1853, to your address, applying for the grant by Government of the usual allowance of head money for the medical charge of the Belooche Guides attached to the Scinde Irregular Horse.

These men require and receive the same medical attendance as any other soldiers when sick or wounded, and the grant of the allowance appears just.

I have, therefore, the honor to request that the attention of Government may be again called to the matter.

The allowance for the medical charge of the policemen has been sanctioned as a civil charge, but the Military Auditor-General has, as already reported, refused that for the Guides, who are paid in the Military Department.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
To the Assistant Adjutant-General, Political Superintendent on the
Scinde Division Army, Kurrachee. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

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SIR, 10th September, 1853.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,091, of the 7th September, 1853, to my address, with accompaniments.

With reference to their subject, I beg leave respectfully to point out that some misunderstanding appears to exist as to my opinion of the necessity, or great advantage of having a train of Mountain Artillery attached to the force serving on this frontier.

In my opinion no Artillery at all is required here under ordinary circumstances. We can do everything that is required perfectly well without it.

But the Military Board having determined that a Mountain Battery should be kept in Upper Scinde, and posted at Shikarpoor, I recommended, when the matter was referred to me among other things for opinion, that, if the Mountain Train were to form part of the force in Upper Scinde at all, it should be posted at Jacobabad; as, if ever required at all, it must be for service in the hills beyond the border.

My opinion was afterwards called for as to the best organization and establishment for such a battery to be attached to the border force; I accordingly detailed what I thought on this subject, with reference to the ordnance which I was informed was available for service already in the arsenals in Scinde, in my letter to the Secretary of the Military Board, referred to in the Quartermaster-General's letter.

I am still of opinion that the nature of ordnance, equipment, &c., &c., therein mentioned, would be found to be the best for the purpose—that is, for full efficiency in every way for service in this country, under a great variety of circumstances, independent of all other artillery. For instance, a round-shot from a 3-pounder is a formidable missile even at a range of 2,000 yards, and I have seen many men and horses killed at such distances by such shot; while a very respectable vertical fire can be maintained from 5½-inch mortars, of which a man can carry one on his shoulder.

Supposing the battery to be kept complete with men, cattle, &c., ready for use, the cost saved by the silidar system, proposed by me, would be enormous, and would far more than cover all the extra expenses of the proposed establishment.

The objections mentioned in the letter from the Quartermaster-General's letter above referred to, were considered by me; but I think that they would be found wholly to disappear in practice, or that they would be more than met by superior advantages. The advantage of being entirely independent of Commissariat arrangements, and all the endless troubles regarding supplies, carriage, &c., which appear inseparable from the Regular troops—that is, from the troops armed, clothed, fed, supplied with the tents, &c., directly by the state, is *overpowering* in anything resembling partisan warfare, with which alone we are at present concerned.

But whatever my opinion as to the best organization, &c., of a battery for this frontier service (the only service on which artillery in time of general peace can be required at all in Upper Scinde), it is certain that the battery proposed by His Lordship the Commander-in-Chief, as mentioned by the Quartermaster-General (six 4⅘ howitzers), would be a very excellent and efficient one, and would prove more than equal, in all probability, to all that could ever be required of it.

In the remarks as to draught, cattle, &c., &c., in the Quartermaster-General's letter, I do entirely concur.

I have a strong opinion that such a battery, so equipped, would be the only artillery required in Upper Scinde, and (unless it were to be formed as a silidar troop of Horse Artillery) it might as well be posted at Shikarpoor as at Jacobabad, thereby saving the cost of new lines, gun-sheds, &c. I would not, therefore, recommend such a battery being *added* to the force in Upper Scinde, but that the field battery now at Shikarpoor be replaced by the one proposed, whether this be posted at Shikarpoor or immediately on the frontier. The ordinary establishment allowed for a field battery, with a company of artillery attached, would suffice for this. The guns, of course, as also the ammunition, to be mounted on the ordinary light field carriages of such pieces, with wheels 4½ feet in diameter. The number of horses in draught to be four for each carriage, with one-fourth spare.

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10th September, 1853.

One hundred and fifteen camels (inclusive of spare animals), with pack saddles, and one driver to two camels, also to be attached for the conveyance of the whole battery when required.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Assistant Quartermaster-General,
Scinde Division Army, Kurrachee.

ESTABLISHMENT recommended for Mountain Battery, to be posted in Upper Scinde, in place of the Field Battery now serving in that district.

Battery, &c.	Horses, Draught.	Harness, leading sets.	Harness, wheel sets.	Drivers.			Syces.	Grass cutters.	Native Farriers.	Motcheers.	Bheesteers.	Camels, with pack-saddles and ropes complete.	Camel drivers.		Remarks.
				Havildars.	Naiques.	Syce Drivers.							Naiques.	Drivers.	
Six $4\frac{2}{5}$ inch howitzers, mounted on light field carriages, with wheels four and a half feet in diameter, with limber . .	24	12	12	1	1	12	12	24	1	1	1	30	1	15	Riding saddles, &c., &c., as allowed for ordinary field batteries. Full establishment of artificers, and lascars as allowed for horse batteries on field service. Good sets of Europe tools for three forges complete, for smiths and carpenters, with good small Europe bellows, &c., very complete. A double set of drag-ropes for each carriage. Company of Artillery, &c., &c., as usual.
Six light field ammunition carriages, wheels, &c., as above .	24	12	12	1	1	12	12	24	1	1	1	36	1	18	
Three store carriages, with &c., as above	12	6	6	..	..	6	6	12	..	..	..	18	1	19	
Howitzer beds, laboratory chests, intrenching tools, and ropes, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	4	
Spare	12	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	..	11	
Total	72	36	36	2	2	30	30	60	2	2	2	115	3	57	

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major, Commanding Frontier of Upper Scinde.

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ENTRENCHING TOOLS, &c., TO BE CARRIED WITH THE BATTERY.

	Number.
Axes, felling, with handles	24
Axes, pick	48
Blocks, single of size, for 2 inch rope	2
Ditto, double	2
Crows, iron, of sizes	24
Hatchets, hand	24
Hoes, Europe, with handles	48
Rope, best 2-inch, coils	2

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

SIR,

14th September, 1853.

I have the honor to report that the Murrees have lately been plundering about Hurrund, and, on the 10th instant, a large party of them made a descent on the village of Treehur, near Lharee, whence they carried off a large number of cattle, killing some eight or ten of the villagers. A few days previously another party of the same tribe fell on Mull (20 miles north of Lharee), where they killed twenty-three men, and whence they carried off a considerable booty.

Nothing of importance has occurred within our frontier during the past week.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

SIR,

21st September, 1853.

I have the honor to report that, on the 17th instant, a large party of Murrees attacked the villages of Tahar-Ke-Gote and Kooneree (near Poolajee), killing four unarmed men, and carrying off much cattle.

The Khyheerees and other country people assembled, pursued the robbers, and, as they report, killed seven of them, taking five of their mares, and recovering nearly all the stolen cattle.

Nothing of importance has occurred within the frontier under my command during the past week.

I have the honor, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
To the Commissioner in Scinde. Frontier of Upper Scinde.

SIR,

24th September, 1853.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 2,683, of the 20th September, 1853, and to the subject of the letter therein alluded to, I have the honor to report that no definite reply has been yet received from the Khan of Kelat regarding the transit duties levied in his territory.

The province of Cutchee is in such a state of anarchy and disorder, that no satisfactory arrangement can be reasonably expected until this be remedied.

My letter, No. 86, of the 16th April, 1853, explains the present state of affairs, there having been no improvement since that date,

The proceedings of the traitorous Wuzzeer, Mahomed Hussan, I have already reported, and it is certain that this man has been, and is, the sole cause of the unsettled state of the territories of the Khan of Kelat, as regards commercial and all other arrangements. A few days ago, the Wukkeel of the Khan of Kelat, resident at Jacobabad, showed me an intercepted letter from the patron Peer (saint, or spiritual adviser) of the Murree chiefs, and, indeed, of the whole tribe

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24th September, 1853. at Kahun, written to Mahomed Ameen, brother of the Wuzzeer, Mahomed Hussan, and Governor of Cutchee.

In this letter, the Peer writes that the Murrees had plundered Treehur, Mull, &c., &c., according to Mahomed Hussan's wishes, but that they feared matters were going too far, and becoming dangerous; they wished to know what arrangements Mahomed Hussan was making with the Sircar; that the Sircar was getting angry, &c.

You will perceive that this positively confirms, and exactly agrees with that which was formerly reported regarding the attack on Poolajee, &c., and, in my opinion, it is absolutely necessary that such an anomalous state of things be put a stop to, before any commercial arrangements likely to be permanently beneficial can be effected.

I am convinced that satisfactory arrangements with the Khan of Kelat, and the chiefs subordinate to his rule, will be best effected by a personal conference between yourself and the Khan, or by your directing me to meet His Highness, to arrange matters personally.

This interview is, in my opinion, necessary to give the Khan confidence to enable him to free himself from the counsels of traitors, and to confirm his authority over his subordinate chiefs.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

29th September, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to point out that it appears desirable that the Commissioner in the Punjaub be requested to direct that all native policemen, Belooche horse, or other armed men of the country, employed at Rojaun, and elsewhere near this frontier, be provided, each man, with a note, describing the individual by name, and stating that he is permitted to bear arms.

Men without such notes will be liable to be apprehended by my patrols.

All men of the descriptions above mentioned, employed by me on this frontier, are provided with notes signed by me, and the arrangement is found to be essential to good order.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

1st October, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2,790, of the 27th September, 1853, to my address, with accompaniments, and with reference to their subject to state that I shall be happy to undertake the construction and repair of the undermentioned roads, in addition to those now under my charge.

From Khyree Ke Ghurree to Larkana.
" " " " Shikarpoor.

I think that the estimate of the road from Kotree to Sehwan had better be prepared by some one in that part of the country, whose calculations would be more likely to prove correct than mine, made at a distance; otherwise I need not, I am sure, say that you may command my poor services to the utmost of my ability.

The construction and repair of the roads north of Larkana will, I think, be as much as I can well undertake to perform efficiently, in addition to the works of canals, &c., in progress, under my charge.

With regard to the bridges, those built without lime cement stand tolerably well when the arch joints are correctly drawn to a centre, and where the bricks are rubbed and carefully laid so as to fit with very little mud between them. But whenever lime may be procurable at a reasonable cost, it would be far better to

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build the bridges with lime mortar throughout, and this would ultimately prove the more economical plan of construction. 1st October, 1853.

I am convinced that the best method of constructing and maintaining all the roads, &c., would be to enter into contracts (with good security) for their construction and maintenance in good repair for a period of, say, (5) five years.

The interest of the contractor would then be to make the work as perfect as possible in the first instance; and labor, and cost of efficient superintendence, would be reduced to its lowest possible amount.

I would, if you wished me to do so, undertake the construction of the road from Larkana to Sehwan, in the manner above mentioned; but I should like to have the great works of the Begaree and Noorwah Canals finished before undertaking any new one south of Larkana.

The establishment of two Mistries and two Peons, mentioned as having been entertained by me in my letter, No. 196, of the 18th August last, is absolutely necessary, to enable me to superintend works now on hand; and I shall be obliged by your obtaining this as a regular monthly charge.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir, 3rd October, 1853.

I have the honor to bring to your notice that a portion of the road between Jacobabad and Shikarpoor is flooded during high inundations of the Indus, so as to be impassable for wheel carriages.

The low piece of road liable to be thus submerged lies between Sooltan-ke-Gote and Shikarpoor, and is 3,400 yards, or about two miles, in length.

In the lowest part, to keep it above the highest flood, it would be required to be raised five feet.

The average height of the embankment throughout would be three feet. Its average breadth, if made with a slope equal to the height, will be 51 feet, giving the cubic contents of the whole 1,560,600 feet, which, at 500 feet per rupee, can be thrown up at a cost of 3,121 rupees.

Through the embankment it will be necessary to construct 15 brick arches, of 12 feet span each. These must be built with lime mortar, and will cost 440 rupees each, making a total for the bridges of Rupees 6,600. Total cost of the proposed embankment, 9,721 rupees.

I have ascertained that I can get a contractor to undertake the work for the amount thus estimated, and if you approve of the undertaking, I have the honor to request that it may be sanctioned.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER from Lord Melville, dated Jullunder, 28th November, 1853. 28th November, 1853.

My Dear Jacob,

I yesterday received the copy of the Record of the Services of the Scinde Horse, which you have been so good as to send me. It is an honorable testimony to the good services your Regiments have rendered; and in skimming over the book, which is all that I have had time to do as yet, I find my name introduced in connection with the services of the Regiment, which recalls circumstances of a congratulatory nature, from the confidence I felt in your Regiments, and the admirable manner in which they always performed their duty.

The organization and equipment of the Scinde Horse may be said to have introduced a new era in the organization of Irregular Cavalry; for, in imitation of your system, the grotesque appearance which the Irregular Regiments

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28th November, 1853. presented in this Presidency, armed with their spears and matchlocks, is gradually yielding to the new armament and system which you were the first to introduce.

The officers, however, still wear the native dress, instead of the European uniform, which your officers wear. How time passes on! Think of its being six years since I was at Khanghur. * * * * *

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) MELVILLE.

12th October, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2,934, of the 8th October, 1853, to my address, and with reference to its subject to inform you that I estimated the cost of the proposed work of raising a portion of the road between Jacobabad and Shikarpoor in the same manner as I have estimated (as I formerly informed you) the cost of the other works proposed by me in this district.

I caused the nature and extent of the proposed work to be explained by proclamation all over the country, and then invited tenders for its execution by contract.

Having thus ascertained that the work could be executed for a certain sum, and that no one giving good security would undertake it for a less amount, I calculated the rates in my estimate forwarded for sanction, so as to meet the sum required.

This I find to be the very best mode of obtaining fair work at fair cost, and I have never yet been disappointed in the result.

The rates thus calculated cannot, it appears to me, be higher than is necessary.

With regard to the slope, the earth in this neighbourhood stands pretty well at a slope whose base is equal to the height. But as regards the work in question, the total average height being only 3 feet, while the proposed breadth of the embankment at top is 45 feet, the slope might be made as great as thought proper or found necessary, without much affecting the estimate. The average breadth of 51 feet, proposed in my former letter, gives a slope whose base is twice its height, and not equal to the height as there erroneously mentioned.

In authorizing me to execute such works as these, it is necessary that something be left to my discretion. I will be responsible that the works proposed be executed for the amount mentioned, that full value be received for the public money expended, that the means allowed be not wasted, and that the work answer the purpose intended. I will answer, in short, for the general result, but I do not pretend to be able to conform always to the rates of the Engineer Department, or to make estimates correct in minute detail.

The arches proposed to be constructed through the embankment are not to form one bridge; five of them will be over canals. The others it is intended to construct in the spots where the water naturally runs with the greatest force across the road, so that the flow may not be checked in its course to the westward, where it will advantageously irrigate waste lands, instead of being turned southward, to the injury of the country towards Shikarpoor.

It is intended that the bridges through the embankment be carried through its whole breadth of 45 feet. Each arch will thus be a semicylindrical vault, 45 feet long and 12 feet wide.

The side walls to the spring of the vault being 6 feet high, the arches would be 2 feet, and the side walls 4 feet thick.

I have the honor to annex a rough sketch of the proposed bridges through the embankment.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

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SIR, 15th October, 1853.

I have the honor to return the accompanying original letter from the Quartermaster-General, and, as directed, to forward a proposed establishment, &c., for a Silidar troop of Horse Artillery, with a battery of six $4\frac{2}{5}$ Howitzers.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Assistant Quartermaster-General,
Scinde Division Army, Kurrachee.

[COPY].

No. 1,339 of 1853. 3rd October, 1853.

Head Quarters, Poonah, 3rd October, 1853.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of the 21st ultimo, No. 1,155, with enclosures, I am instructed by the Commander-in-Chief to request you will have the goodness to call on Major Jacob to furnish a statement in detail of the establishment and equipment he would recommend for a battery of $6\frac{4}{5}$* Howitzers, formed, as he suggests, as a "Silidar troop," with the estimated cost of pay for men and followers.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) HOLLAND, Lieut.-Colonel,
Quartermaster-General.

To the General Officer
Commanding Scinde Division Army,
Kurrachee.

ESTABLISHMENT, &c., for a troop of Silidar Horse Artillery, proposed to be added to, and to form part of, the Scinde Irregular Horse. The battery to consist of six $4\frac{2}{5}$ Howitzers.

	Rank or Designation.	Pay to Each per month.	Total.
		Rupees.	Rupees.
With one horse each.	1 Russuldar	240	240
	2 Naib Russuldars	90	180
	2 Jemadars	75	150
	1 Kote Duffedar	50	50
	1 Pay Duffedar	45	45
	6 Duffedars	40	240
	6 Naiques	35	210
	2 Trumpeters	35	70
	2 Farriers	35	70
	120 Sowars	32	3,840
	2 Bheestees, puckal	15	30
	ARTIFICERS.		
Number.			
1	Under Mistry Carpenter	20	20
1	„ „ Smith	20	20
3	Carpenters	15	45
3	Smiths	15	45
3	Hammermen	10	30
3	Bellows-boys	6	18
3	Mochees	15	45
6	Lascars	7	42
1	Bheestees, hand	7	7

* So in original.

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3rd October, 1853.

	Harness, leading single sets, including riding and pad-saddles.	Harness, wheel single sets, including riding and pad-saddles.	Remarks.
6 Howitzers	12	12	6 other ammunition carriages complete with ammunition, &c., to be kept in Regimental Store, but not horsed, or provided with harness.
6 Ammunition carriages ...	12	12	
3 Store carts	6	6	
Spare	6	6	
Total	36	36	

ALLOWANCES.

Gun Contingent Allowance.

	Rupees.
6 Guns and waggons	90
6 Spare waggons	30
3 Store carts	15
	135
72 Sets of harness, 2 rupees per set	144
Command and Stationery Allowance...	50
English Writer	50

Note.—It is intended that this troop form part of the Scinde Irregular Horse, and that the officers and men be transferable backwards and forwards to and from this troop and any other part of the corps, at the discretion of the Commandant.

LIST OF ORDNANCE STORES, AMMUNITION, &c., for the battery of the Silidar Troop, consisting of six $4\frac{2}{5}$ Howitzers.

Names of Stores.	No.	Remarks.
Aprons, gun	6	
Anvils, Europe, best, about 80 lbs.	3	
Axes, felling, with helves	15	
Axes, pick	30	
Bags, fuze	12	
Bellows, Europe, smiths' small..... pairs	3	
Beak, iron, smiths'	3	
Bits, gun	12	
Blocks, with single and double brass sheeves, of size for 2-inch rope, sets	3	
Boress, fuze	12	
Boxes, tin fuze	12	
„ kit	12	2 lbs. in each box.
„ ammunition, each to contain 2 case shot, 4 shrapnell, 6 common shells, 12 gun-cartridges, 10 bursters ditto, priming ditto, &c.	84	
Buckets, gun leather	6	
Caps, sponge	18	
Carriages, $4\frac{2}{5}$ths Howitzer, with wheels, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, complete for horse draught, with limber	6	
„ ammunition, ditto ditto	12	
„ store, ditto, with limber	3	
Cases, portfire, with slings	12	

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Names of Stores.	No.	Remarks.
Compasses, plain brass ..... pairs	12	
Cartridges, filled, serge gun, 4⅘ths Howitzer (8 oz.).....	1,008	
„ priming, 1 lb. each	84	
„ burster, 4⅘ths common shell	504	
„ shrapnell, 12 ..... pairs	336	
Cork-screws	12	
Crows, iron	21	
Drag-ropes, gun, light ordnance ... pairs	21	
Drifts, gun	6	
Funnels, copper, small	12	
Fuzes, filled, common, 4⅘ths	1,008	
„ shrapnell	504	
Glasses, spying, 3 feet	3	
Hammers, claw, strong	15	
„ wrench	15	
„ sledge	6	
Handspikes, purchasing	24	
Hatchets, hand	30	
Hoes, Europe, with helves	30	
Kegs, grease filled	21	
Kit ..... lbs.	24	
Knives, laboratory	12	
Linch-pins, spare	24	
Line, seizing, skeins	48	
Linstocks.....	6	
Locks, pad, brass	84	
Mallets, fuze	12	
„ large	15	
Match cotton, pieces of 10 yds.	192	
Measures, copper ..... 8 oz.	12	
Needles, sewing	144	
Oakum ..... lbs.	56	
Ordnance, brass, 4⅘ths Howitzer	6	
Paper, cartridge, cannon or portfire, quires	6	
Powder, gun, fine, 50 lbs., packed in cartridges of 8 oz. each	3	
Pouches, cannon.....	84	
„ priming	8	
Rasps	12	
Rope, Europe, 2-inch ..... coils	3	
„ „ ratline, for lashing ... „	1	
Scales, tangent	6	
„ gunner	12	
„ weighing, with weights up to 4 lbs. ..... sets	3	
Scissors, laboratory ..... pairs	12	
Shells, common, prepared for service, 4⅘ths	504	
„ shrapnell, 12 pounder, ditto, ditto	336	
Shot, case	168	
Spikes, gun, jagged	12	
„ „ spring	12	
Sponges, complete, 4⅘ths Howitzer	18	
Sticks, portfire	12	
Tarpaulins, ammunition	15	
„ „ gun and limber	6	
Tompions, with collars	6	
Tools, carpenters', Europe, very complete sets, in chests	3	
„ smiths', ditto, ditto, ditto	3	
Twine, Europe, balls	6	
Vices, fuze	12	
„ hand	12	
Washers, axletree, spare	15	
Wax cloth ..... yds.	144	
Wires, priming	18	
Wrenches, fuze, brass.....	12	

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3rd October, 1853. AMMUNITION allowed annually for exercise and practice.

EXERCISE.

400 rounds per gun, or

Cartridges, serge gun, filled 4⅝ths Howitzer (8 oz. each)		2,400
Cartridges, priming, 1 lb.		300
Match cotton	lbs.	30
Portfires		240

FOR PRACTICE.

240 rounds per gun, or

Cartridges, serge gun, filled (8 oz.)		1,440
„ „ priming, 1 lb.		144
„ burster, filled 4⅝ths common shell		800
„ „ „ „ shrapnell		400
Fuze, common 4⅝ths.		2,400
„ shrapnell 12-pounder		1,200
Match cotton	lbs.	20
Portfires		144
Shot case		360
Shells, common, fixed to bottoms		720
Shells, shrapnell		360

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Commanding Frontier of Upper Scinde.

19th October, 1853. SIR,

I have the honor to report that, having information of the assembly at Tooba (a spot in the hills near Tullar) of a large body of the Murree tribe, for the purpose of plundering in the Mitten-kote district, I sent a squadron of the Scinde Irregular Horse to Ooch, and put other parties in motion, in various directions, to endeavour to fall in with the marauders on their march; hearing of which proceedings, the Murrees broke up and returned to Kahun.

Nothing of importance has occurred during the past week.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde,
Kurrachee.

27th October, 1853. SIR,

With reference to your memorandum, No. 1,220, of the 22nd October, 1853, with accompaniments, I have the honor to report that the statements contained in the petition of Ramzan Fukkeer appear to be totally false in almost every particular.

The truth of the matter is as follows:—

The late Russuldar Alladad Khan, when Sowar, accompanied Major Eldred Pottinger to Herat, and, on his return, brought a wife with him whom he had married at Candahar.

In the year 1846, a quarrel took place in the Russuldar's household, caused by the present petitioner Ramzan, who had married a sister of the Russuldar's wife, who then was living with the latter.

The matter ended by the petitioner Ramzan regularly divorcing the woman, and receiving a considerable sum of money from the Russuldar.

The parties, on that occasion, appeared before me, as magistrate at Hydrabad, and the petitioner Ramzan stated that he had renounced all claim on the woman, who was no longer his wife.

Some years after this, in 1847, the man Ramzan again renewed his claims on the woman, and demanded money from the Russuldar. This being refused, he

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became violent, and committed an assault on the woman and other persons in the Russuldar's house at Jacobabad. 27th October, 1853.

For this the man was tried by me, convicted, and sentenced to imprisonment.

The Russuldar was afterwards pensioned, and resided with his family at Raneepoor, in the territory of Meer Ali Morad. The man Ramzan again renewed his claims on the Russuldar to His Highness the Meer.

Meer Ali Morad referred to me for information as to the circumstances of the case, when I informed him that the man's claims were totally unfounded.

Some time ago, the pensioned Russuldar died, when the petitioner renewed his claims on the estate before me. These claims were totally unfounded, but the deceased not having, for some years past, resided in British territory, having no property therein, and no connection with the service in any way, I had nothing to do with the matter.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

SIR, 28th October, 1853.

With reference to your letter, No. 3,090, of the 24th instant, I have the honor to inform you that there seems little reason to doubt the authenticity of the letter in question.

A copy of it was sent at once to the Khan of Kelat.

The Khan has now written to request that his Wukkeel, Moolah Ahmed, may come to him with the original. I have given him leave accordingly, and he to-day departed from Jacobabad *en route* to Kelat, to wait on His Highness the Khan.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

[COPY.]

No. 317.

From P. MELVILL, Esquire, Secretary to the Chief Commissioner for the Punjaub, to the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE. Dated Lahore, 14th October, 1853. 29th October, 1853.

JUDICIAL.

SIR,

I am directed by the Chief Commissioner to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,152, of the 4th instant, with enclosure, and in reply to inform you that orders have this day been issued to the Commissioner of Leia to grant licenses, for carrying arms, to the Native Punjaub Police at Rojaun, and elsewhere near the Scinde Frontier.

2. The Commissioner of Leia has been requested to inform Major Jacob when the licenses have been granted.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) P. MELVILL, Secretary to the
Chief Commissioner for the Punjaub.

Lahore, 14th October, 1853.

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29th October, 1853.

No. 1,261 of 1853.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

True Copy forwarded to Major Jacob, C.B., with reference to his letter, No. 232, of the 29th September last.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Kurrachee, 29th October, 1853.

P.S.—If the orders issued by the Chief Commissioner are not what the Political Superintendent thinks required, I shall be glad to make further reference on the subject to the Punjaub authorities.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE.

2nd November, 1853.

SIR,

I have the honor to report that, on the 28th October, a party of Murree plunderers, about 300 in number, assembled behind the "Zeen" hill, with the intention of making a border raid, but finding parties of the Scinde Irregular Horse patrolling to Ooch and other places, they did not venture to leave the hills, but falling suddenly on the Boogtees living peaceably at Sooree Kooshtuck, they killed ten of their herdsmen, and carried off a considerable number of cattle, returning immediately to Kahun with their plunder.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

November, 1853.

SIR,

I have the honor to report that, during the past season, in this frontier district, the inundation has been of full average height, or something above it.

The river, which for many years past has threatened to destroy the town of Kusmore, lately threw its whole force against its right bank, in the neighbourhood of that place. The town, with the ground on which it stood, has been completely removed, and the site is now part of the main channel of the Indus.

No lives were lost, and a new town has been commenced at a distance of a mile from the present bank of the river, westward.

The flow of water into the "Sind" hollow has been, this season, somewhat less than it was last year. The minor canals north of the Begaree have received a full average and seasonable supply, but a good deal of cotton land was overflowed late in the season, and the plants were thereby so much injured that they will, I fear, yield nothing.

All the canals leading from the Begaree have received an unusually large supply of water this season, owing to the enlargement of that great feeder, and the removal from its bed of all the "morees" or dams near the mouths of the minor canals.

The Noorwah, Soonewah, and Meerzawah, received last season the usual annual clearing only, I not having been able to commence the enlargement of the Noorwah before the past inundation commenced, or even to complete the grand work of the Begaree Canal.

There is still great want of laborers, but both these works will, I trust, be fully completed before the next inundation, while the effects which have already followed the enlargement of the Begaree are most satisfactory and encouraging to all parties.

A full report of these works I purpose making separately, and I think that the report had better be postponed till the completion of the excavation, &c.

But I may mention here two instances in which the advantages of enlarging the Begaree have even exceeded my expectations.

In former years, the water from the great "Sind," and other hollows north of the Begaree, at high flood, broke completely across the channel of the canal,

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swept away its banks, and injuriously overflowed an extensive tract of low country towards Shikarpoor. November, 1853.

In order to prevent this, I was, in making the new excavation, endeavouring to strengthen the southern bank of the Begaree in that neighbourhood by every means in my power; but any provision of this kind appears to be now unnecessary; for the enlargement, and, above all, the clearance, by removing the dams of the Begaree, has caused such an increased capacity for drainage in that channel that the water was found to flow strongly into it both ways, from the south as well as from the north side, and to be rapidly carried off to the westward.

The capacity of the Begaree Canal has been about doubled by the new excavation, but it has been again at least doubled by the removal of the "morees" erected by the Zemeendars at the mouth of the private canals leading from the main channel.

The prejudice regarding these "morees," and the difficulties I met with therefrom in their removal, will be explained in my report on the work of the canal. It will suffice to mention here that these prejudices were not confined to the natives, and that they were so inveterate, that when they knew that I had positively determined wholly to remove every particle of dam, several of the chief Zemeendars on the south side of the Begaree refused or neglected to make the usual annual clearance of their canals, leaving them totally untouched, and giving out that as the removal of the "morees" would prevent their getting a drop of water, they would do nothing to the canals, for every rupee expended on them would be wasted.

Such, however, proved to be the increased supply, owing to the free clearing and opening of the main channel, that the water, even in these uncleared canals leading from it, stood two feet higher than usual, and, in many instances, had to be banked out of the fields.

Several of the most violently prejudiced Zemeendars, not holding land in the district under my charge, or in any way subject to my authority, have voluntarily come to me to confess their error, and their unreasonable opposition, and to return thanks for the work accomplished.

The complete exposure of the fallacy of their strong prejudices in this instance must, I think, be of great benefit generally among the country folk.

The effect, solely due to the greater *height* to which the water rose this year, by reason of flowing freely in the main channel, has been surprisingly great. Thus, the land supplied with water from the Begaree, cultivated last season in *excess* of that of former years, amounts to more than eight thousand Beegahs, while the *decrease* in the number of wheels employed amounts to three hundred and thirty. Each wheel kept at work costs about one hundred and thirty rupees per season, so that the saving to the cultivators on wheels alone has already amounted to more than forty thousand rupees, leaving the increased cultivation wholly out of consideration.

The completion of the work on the main feeder, from tail to mouth, the enlargement of its chief branch, the Noorwah, and its prolongation far into the desert, all of which will be, I trust, finished before next April, cannot but be attended with the most happy effects on the revenue, and the people of the country.

The return to Government for its outlay is certain, and must be very great, but from the very nature of such works, time is absolutely necessary fully to develope their beneficial effects.

It is especially so in this country, where, up to the year 1848, the few inhabitants walked in fear and trembling, and were too much occupied with their own personal danger to pay much attention to the tilling of the ground.

The great want in the country now is population. The district is comparatively but very thinly peopled, while the inhabitants suffer much from fever in the eastern part of it; and I take this opportunity of observing that it would be an undoubtedly profitable proceeding, as well as most humane, if Government would sanction an arrangement whereby some trifling medical aid could be afforded to the sufferers.

On the 3rd of July last, one and a quarter inches of rain fell at Jacobabad; the total fall since the 1st January, 1853, having been 1.66 inches.

The absence of rain in this district is a decided advantage, as regards the health of the inhabitants, while it is certainly not injurious to the cultivation or revenue.

Certain Zemeendars on the border, subjects of the Khan of Kelat, are, with

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November, 1853. my permission, making canals from both the Begaree and Noorwah, the former to supply the lands near Rojaun, and the other leading into the heart of the desert, ten miles north of Jacobabad. One half of the revenue of all lands so cultivated beyond our frontier boundary comes to the British Government.

But to what extent these operations may affect the revenue cannot yet be determined.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

7th November, 1853. SIR,

With reference to your memorandum, No. 1,261, of the 29th October, 1853, I have the honor to point out that it would be well if orders were issued on the Punjaub side, that no one bear arms anywhere near the Scinde Frontier, without permission to do so, in writing, from the Commissioner or Deputy of the District.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN JACOB, Major,
Political Superintendent on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

To the Commissioner in Scinde.

[COPIES.]

No. 4,001 of 1853.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the COMMISSIONER IN SCINDE.

30th November, 1853. SIR,

With reference to former proceedings, I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, to transmit the accompanying extract paragraphs 18 and 21 of a despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors, on the subject of the construction and improvement of various roads in Scinde, and to request that you will have the goodness to favor Government with any observations or suggestions which may occur to you on the remarks of the Honorable Court.

No. 28, dated 27th July last.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) C. J. ERSKINE,
Bombay Castle, 30th November, 1853. Acting Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT PARAGRAPHS 18 and 21 of a Despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors (No. 28), dated the 27th July, 1853.

18. In our despatch referred to in the margin, we alluded to the obstacles to trade presented by the want of good direct roads through Scinde, and to the opinion of Major Jacob as to the works particularly required for remedying this defect.

42; also paras. 34 and 35 of letters dated 27th Jan., No. 51, and letters dated 12th May, No. 48, and 25th August, No. 85, 1852.
Replying to paras. 9 and 13 of Court's Revenue Despatch, dated 14th Jan., No. 1, 1852, respecting the encouragement of trade through Scinde with central Asia, and reporting the sanction given to the construction and improvement of various roads in Scinde.

19. We now learn that, of the various works pointed out by Major Jacob, sanction has been given to the formation of roads from Khanghur—a frontier town of great and increasing importance,—to Shikarpoor, and to Larkana, at an expense of Rupees 4,555 and Rupees 6,400 respectively; and that you have sanctioned, in addition to the road from Kurrachee to Tatta—of which we have already expressed our approval—the clearance of a line branching off from the above to Kotree, which will connect that place with both the above-mentioned towns. You seemed also, after receiving the report of the Military Board on the subject, disposed to entertain favorably the recommendation for forming a road reaching from Khyree Ke Ghurree, on the extreme verge of the province on the Khandahar road, through Larkana and Sehwan to Kurrachee; but you postponed your decision until you should have been placed in possession

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of the opinion of the Commissioner. This line is of far more importance than any of the others pointed out by Major Jacob, with the object of promoting commercial traffic through the province, and we hope to hear shortly that you have seen fit to authorize the construction of the proposed road. 30th November, 1853.

20. The formation of a tramway along the road from the camp to the mole of Kurrachee, at an additional expense of Rupees 23,262, is likely greatly to facilitate the conveyance of heavy goods. There seems reason to think that the metalling of this road was unnecessary, as all the officers whose opinions have been given, appear to agree in opinion that metalling the roads in Scinde is undesirable, not only as being very expensive in the first instance in consequence of the scarcity of material, but also from the difficulty of keeping the metal in good order, on account of the want of rain to bind it. On this ground, the suggestion that the roads generally should remain unmetalled, and be furnished only with bridges and with stone trams for the wheels of the carts to run on, seems judicious, at least as an experiment.

21. The construction of a made road to connect Sukkur and Shikarpoor seems to have been a work of urgent necessity, and we approve of the sanction you gave to the formation of a line on the plan above referred to. The clearance of a road between Khyree Ke Ghurree to Kumbur, at an estimated cost of Rupees 4,850, and the construction of bridges on the line Dilmorad to Meerpoor, at an expense of Rupees 1,970, are stated to have been necessary for completing the communication between the different posts on the frontier; and it is with much satisfaction that we notice the following remarks recorded by Major Jacob in connection with them:—"The frontier lines are daily traversed throughout by the patrols of Scinde Irregular Horse, and the efficiency of these roads is, consequently, a most important part of the admirable system which has, since its institution on its present footing, secured absolute peace and security to all within this previously distracted and almost desert frontier. The consequent increase of population and extension of cultivation is so great, that they repay manifold such expenses as those now passed; and I have, therefore, no scruple to recommend them as part of a system which directly tends to the improvement of the resources of Government." With all the evidence before us as to the varied benefits to be expected from the improvement of the communications in Scinde, we shall cordially approve of your sanctioning any well-considered plans which may be submitted to you for effecting that desirable object.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. J. ERSKINE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 3,618 of 1853.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

True copies forwarded for the information of Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier, with a request that he will favor the Commissioner with any remarks which he may have to offer.

(Signed) H. ELLIS,
Assistant-Commissioner, in charge Scinde.

Kurrachee, Commissioner's Office, 8th December, 1853.

SIR, 24th November, 1853.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 3,443, of the 21st November, 1853, to my address, with accompanying copies of papers from the Collector of Customs relative to which my opinions and observations are required.

In reply, I have the honor to observe that, in my opinion, it is highly injudicious to meddle or interfere with the political or social state of the inhabitants of Mekran at all.

1stly: Because we have no sort of right or title to justify such interference.

And 2ndly: Because in respect to the benefiting of the trade, our best course is evidently to endeavour to draw the commerce as much as possible to our own port, Kurrachee, so that it would be a positive advantage if the port of Guadir did not exist at all.

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