

ing the roof, which may be easily achieved from the upper story of the portico, it is curious to observe the effect of so many domes, each of them fifty feet in circumference, grouped in a space of about a hundred feet by seventy. They are all richly carved, and add very materially to the beauty and effect of the building. The Mohammedan introduction of an improved knowledge of architecture to Modern India, has spared the Hindu much stone and labour, in rendering a labyrinth of supporting pillars unnecessary, to uphold the massy roofs of their palaces and temples. Picturesque beauty will, however, be the sacrifice of utility from the innovation, and the artist of future times will look in vain for effects, which, amongst the ruins of Hindostan, have rivalled those of ancient Greece.

While yet engaged in admiring the elaborate decorations of the temple, the priest advised us that as he was about to clean and adorn the sanctum, it was a favourable opportunity for obtaining a view of the object of their worship. On either side of the folding-door of the depository, which was abundantly decorated with gold leaf and spots of red ochre, were blocks of marble, carved in *alto relievo*, representing the goddess Devi or Doorga treading on the demon Buffalo. In her hand she holds a trisool and sword; her tiger has fixed upon the buffalo, while in one hand she grasps the hair of a Racush, or monkey demon. Both these marbles had been brought from Mount Aboo, where the Jains in earlier times erected magnificent temples to their favourite saints, built wholly of fine white marble, cut from numerous pits at the foot of the mountain. With the common lack of taste observable in these matters, the good people of Badraseer had covered one of the marbles with the common pigment of red ochre and oil, which tended much to increase the usual hideousness of the holy amazon; its companion had fortunately escaped the anointing process, and the marble is very pure, and well polished. The idols were placed upright in wooden cabinets, somewhat similar to those which frequently contain effigies of the Virgin, in Catholic Churches.

The presence of a divinity of the Hindu Pantheon in a Jain temple seems curious and unintelligible; but, on enquiry, I found that since the decay of the Banyan importance, the people of the neighbouring village had placed their tutelary goddess in these very comfortable quarters, and occasionally made salutation to her in turn with her consort Siva, whose temple adorned their village.<sup>9</sup>

The priest having secured a linen cloth over his mouth, in such a manner as to exclude the entrance of any insect, threw open the folding-door, and revealed to us the mysteries of the adytum; the interior was divided into two apartments, the farthest containing the altar and idol, with its accompaniments, and the outer room the "Bell, book and candle" required in making Pooja.

The altar of white marble, curiously carved, supported a figure of Parswanath, seated on a gadee or cushion, his hands joined and resting on his

<sup>9</sup> One of the legends of the worthy priest affected these idols. He assured us that in olden times a great famine afflicted the people of Badraseer, and they bribed a wealthy merchant, in Kattiwar, on the opposite coast, to freight vessels with corn and oil for their relief; but the goddess Mata Devi, enraged that the heretical Jains should receive succour without her intervention, seated herself on a hill, and as each vessel approached, cast on them the evil eye, and they and their much desired freight sank within sight of the starving population of Badraseer, who, perceiving their ignorance, conciliated the goddess, and were rescued from their misery, but only on the understanding that the image of the victorious Devi, should be received into their temple.

lap; the figure was well sculptured, and in good proportion; the eye-balls were formed of white china, and the pupils of jet, which gave to the face a staring and unpleasant effect. On the forehead, in place of the usual circular mark of sandal powder, a large uncut emerald was clumsily set, and surrounded with a double rim of ochre and sandal dust; the eyebrows of the image had been formed from two large and coarse Sardius stones; but some unholy visitor had robbed the saint of one, and the other was dim and encrusted with sacred dust. On his head was a small cap, curiously worked, to resemble a cluster of thick curls; but the Jains will not allow it is intended for this effect, as they consider hair unclean, and are taught scrupulously to pluck out all the hair of their disciples by the roots. Above the image of Parswanath, was a semicircle of very curious and elaborate sculpture, representing figures of Luximee, or the sacred elephant,<sup>10</sup> and animals somewhat resembling lions. Two figures in niches, seemed to stand guard, resting on what seemed clubs, but may possibly have been intended for folded lotus flowers, on their long and graceful stalk. Whilst I was engaged in sketching the altar, the old priest was sedulously employed in the duties of his calling in the outer apartment, where I retreated to watch his operations. The vestibule, as it might be termed, was of a circular form; and remembering the size of the pagoda which contained it, I was much surprised at its extreme smallness; the mass of stone, both above and around, must have been well calculated to preserve its coolness, and to defend it from all attacks of weather and climate; the furniture of this apartment consisted of a large brass bell, suspended from a cross beam with a silken cord; two brass water-vessels, a circular stone, used to grind "Tila," a wooden stand, and a small boat-shaped vessel, containing oil. A gay, parti-coloured valance, of embroidered silk, screened the top of the door which divided this apartment from the sanctum; but the blue, and purple, and scarlet of its cunning work, proclaimed it a remnant of the glory of other days.

The priest began his labours by sweeping out the accumulated offering of the past day; and then re-trimming the sacred lamp, replaced it before the saint. He then set in order, on the wooden stand appropriated to that purpose, an offering of rice, sandal wood, and separee nuts; after which, with oil, saffron, and water, ground with a block of sandal wood, he prepared "Tila" to anoint the saint; washing the idol, the altar, and the figures around it with pure water, he applied the pigment, which was of a pale yellow colour, in circular spots on the forehead, arms, and neck of Parswanath, and particularly on the figures adjoining. During the whole of these ceremonies, he continued to chaunt, in a low tone, the praises of the saint; and on their conclusion tolled the large bell, and prostrating himself before the altar, made his prayers and salutation to the object of his services; the door of the sanctum was then closed, but the same ceremony is daily performed by the priest.

Similar ceremonies were then repeated in behalf of the black Parswanath of the gallery. Absurdly enough, all the attendants on the temple persisted in assuring me, that this idol was by no means Parswanath, but

<sup>10</sup> Luximee, a Hindoo goddess, considered as a personification of fertility, and sharing similar attributes with the Isis of the Egyptians; according to Mr. Erskine, representations of this goddess are not unfrequently found in the temples of both Boodhists and Jains.

"*Bheir Banyan*;" thus confounding the image with its merchant donor, in a way rather derogatory to the Tirthacar family.

While yet remaining in the porch of the temple, after having investigated the curiosities of the interior, a party of Fakirs arrived to make pooja to the saint, before proceeding on their way to Bhooj. After visiting the sanctum, the party seated themselves in the doorway, then opening their wallets, drew therefrom a cocoa-nut, and a few cakes of coarse grain. The cocoa nut they cut into small pieces; and, before commencing their frugal repast, placed two fragments of it on the threshold of the temple, with a salutation to Parswanath; these men were not Jains; but the poorer and ignorant classes of the Hindoos, of whatever sect, do not distinguish between the niceties of religious doctrine, but revere every image worshipped by their countrymen in general, or bearing in any way the exterior marks of the Hindu religion.

The ascetics of the Jain religion are vowed to celibacy; but the Sachás, or order of priests, are allowed to marry. The wife of the priest at Badraseer, paid me much attention. She was a remarkably pretty woman, with sparkling eyes, and a most animated and intelligent countenance; and I observed that her neck and arms were tattooed with stars and flowers of a pale greenish hue. I had not met with this instance of barbarism before in India, and expressed my surprise. She said her companions considered it very ornamental, but that she had suffered so much during the operation, and also from fever afterwards, that she would not consent to inflict this grace upon her little daughter, a laughing, merry elf, who ran lispng at her side.

In the temples of Aboo, the fair sex had gained admittance as ascetics: this is remarkable in India, where the sacredness of the harem is the only retirement with which Hindu women are acquainted. Two Arjahs, or nuns of Aboo, have, however, dedicated their lives to religious studies and observances, having taken on themselves a vow of chastity; and become, according to the usual acceptation of the term in India, "*Sadoo*," or pure.

My visit to Badraseer afforded me great pleasure; and I only regretted that my good friend, Kuntunjuh, could not be persuaded to remove the sainted Parswanath to a humbler domicile, and convert this extensive and substantial building into a Darraam Sallah or Serai for travellers, rather than to lavish his wealth in supporting the charges of an establishment, dedicated to a false and useless end.

At the distance of about fifty miles from Badraseer, are the ruins of a small Jain temple, surrounded by the crumbling walls of the ancient city of Kotah;—it is remarkable that this city must once have overlooked the desert salt plain of the Runn (which it has been frequently asserted was an inland sea,) and the present tract of the Sindhian Shepherds lies immediately across this salt plain, between Kotah, and the eastern branch of the Indus. I have observed that the Jains, as sons of commerce, were accustomed to erect temples in places most advantageous for the necessities of trade, and the present ruined state of this ancient city, of which the Jain temple only remains, seems to allow the hypothesis, that the receding of the tides may have caused its abandonment, and subsequent destruction; the temple, although small, is very beautiful; and on a first view of its architectural decorations, I mentally agreed in a remark made by one of my servants, who was acting cicerone to his fellow, that "a lac of rupees could not command such work now-a-days." Like the Basti Temple of

Badraser, it is of a pagoda form, with a pyramidal sikra or pinnacle. The exterior is disposed in niches, each niche containing an exquisitely chiselled female figure, having a full-blown lotus flower as its pediment. Above these single figures are groups of a smaller size, eminent for their grace and spirit, interspersed with wreaths, hypogriffs, and every variety of ornamental sculpture; the interior decorations are equally elaborate. The gem of the whole is a circular sculpture, which occupies the centre of the interior roof. This is formed of two large blocks of sandstone, closely united, but without cement; and on them, within a rich scroll border, are sixteen female figures, exquisitely finished in alto relievo. The figures, which represent upsuras, diverge from a small ornamental centre, the arms of each being gracefully linked with those on either side, and supporting a disc or cymbal. Some damp having made its way to the part of the roof supported by these blocks, the red colour of the sandstone has deepened to a dark blue tint; and the shade in which it rests, gives to it the effect of fine black marble. The figures are each about six inches in length, and the unknown sculptor has left on them an evidence of his skill, which I have not seen equalled in Western India. The roof of this beautiful building is supported by square pillars, richly and variously ornamented, the capitals of each being a curious four-armed figure, in a crouching attitude; two of the arms, raised as if to support the roof, and the second pair resting on the knees.<sup>11</sup> The interior of the temple consists only of one apartment, with a small sanctum; at present it is destitute of any image, and is blocked up with fire-wood, left there probably by travel-stained wanderers, who, forgetting the sanctity, of which time has now deprived this beautiful remnant of Hindu deism, have sought it only as a spot promising a cool retreat from the noon-tide heat, and all the necessary means of rest and refreshment.

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## THE CHOLERA.

BY MAJOR CALDER CAMPBELL.

PALE horror reigns, and shrieks of wild despair  
 Floating upon the breeze, each heart appal;  
 Death's angel rides upon the poisonous air,  
 And one by one our gallant soldiers fall!  
 Hark! heard you not that scream, that piercing call,  
 Bursting aloud from yonder palm-tree bower?  
 "He was my husband, father, brother, *all*!  
 And there he lies—cold, dead! oh, dreadful hour!  
 Oh, cruel fate! Oh, Allah! gracious power!"  
 She sinks; her voice in murmurs dies away,  
 For the distemper's venom 'gins its sway  
 O'er all her spasm-racked frame. Death chills her form,  
 Destined so soon to feast the clammy worm!

<sup>11</sup> Colonel Tod's work contains several drawings of similar figures as the capitals of pillars in the Jain temples of Rajasthan.

## CHLORA'S BIRTH-DAY SOLILOQUY.

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" Here's a maiden fain would marry :—  
 Shall she marry, aye, or not ?  
 If she marry, what's her lot ?"   WALTER SCOTT.

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THIS day, of all the days to me  
 So blest, while I was only teening !  
 To find me now at twenty-three,  
 And no one seriously meaning !  
 What *is* the matter with the men ?  
 Three seasons <sup>1</sup> back they came in plenty ;  
 But I was too fastidious then,—  
 Heigh-ho !—deuce take this three-and-twenty !

At sweet eighteen I ne'er could move,  
 But beaux would rush their arms to proffer ;  
 And squeezes, sighs, and looks, would prove  
 Each wanted, though he fear'd to offer.  
 At twenty-three I'm often left,  
 Without a word from aught that's human,  
 To reach the dinner-room, bereft,—  
 In all respects a single woman !<sup>2</sup>

*Then* every dress, or smile, I wore,  
 Had something flattering said upon it ;  
 And would inspire at least a score  
 Of rhyming men, with ode or sonnet.  
*Now* no one cares,—brutes that they are,—  
 Whether I put a frown or sash on ;  
 Or play the flirt, or the guitar,  
 Or fall in love, or in a passion.

I vow I don't *look* twenty-three,  
 My cheeks have still their earlier blooming ;  
 My eyes retain their glance of glee,  
 Though hope deferr'd my heart's consuming :  
 My tread's elastic in the waltz,  
 My waist,—an infant's hands might span it ;  
 I'm *sure* my figure's free from faults,  
 Yet raptur'd eyes no longer scan it !

<sup>1</sup> In Calcutta a young lady's chronology is all reckoned, and as accurately as Sir Isaac Newton's too, by "seasons." The year there is not a year of winter, spring, summer, and autumn, but of the cold season, the hot winds, and the rains, each of which averages a duration of about four months. The cold season is *the* "winter" of London, and Chlora's "three seasons" infer, alas ! three years.

<sup>2</sup> No wonder poor Chlora felt very bitterly this item of neglect ; for in India no woman deems herself properly handed if she has not *two* men, between whom she walks like a spread eagle. A woman not handed at all is emphatically said to be *wrecked*.

Jane Titchfield's skin 's not near so white ;  
 Miss Slender's ankle's ten times thicker ;  
 And I declare I've *seen* Miss Wright  
 Than water sip a stronger liquor :  
 Yet each of these has to her string  
 Two beaux, at least, to laugh or walk with ;  
 But they're in teens yet,—that's the thing,—  
 At twenty-three, whom will they talk with ?<sup>3</sup>

My album used to be admired,  
 And each first rate Calcutta rhymer,  
 (They're all first-rate) by me inspired,  
 Would write sublimer and sublimer ;  
 And some who were not poets born,  
 (How few *are* in this age of iron !)  
 A leaf would with some verse adorn,  
 Applied to *me*, from Moore or Byron.

*That* album was a dandy's gift,  
 I might have had a score, or forty more ;  
 For *this* one I was left to shift,  
 And bought it dear—oh, dear !—from Mortimer.<sup>4</sup>  
 At eighteen, every time we sigh  
 For this or that, lo ! there 's a present ;  
 At twenty-three, we're left to buy,  
 Or want it, neither very pleasant.

One can't be always in their teens,  
 I sigh to think when *I* was in them ;  
 My smiles were sought for like a Queen's,  
 And bless'd was he who chanced to win them :  
 But, *since* !—and yet my smile's as sweet,  
 My teeth are every bit as pearly ;  
 I ride with just that graceful seat—  
 But young men now don't rise so early !<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> The untravelled English young lady may wonder how Chlora should despair, at the extremely marriageable age of twenty-three ; but the fact is that the sex " arrive " in India, at sixteen, or seventeen, and if any of them remain single till the age of three-and-twenty, their having been so long before the public is enough to give them all the merits of superannuation. Even in London, my dears, after the second season, you know a face begins to " pall upon the sense ; " but this is a tender subject, so, as Pierre says, " No more on't."

<sup>4</sup> Whose shop was, at the period, the *dépôt* of all such knick-knackereries, in Calcutta, at two hundred per cent. (like all the shops there) on the trade price of the manufacture in London.

<sup>5</sup> The hour for riding is somewhat different out there, from what obtains in Hyde Park ; day-break being the balmy time for Anglo-Indian equestrians. I dare say the young men rose just as early as ever, at the time in question ; but it was natural that poor Chlora should prefer attributing their non-attendance on herself to their laziness rather than to their penchant for newer faces.

From ten till four our house was cramm'd  
 (Three seasons back) with either "Service ;"  
 And on the Course the buggies<sup>6</sup> jamm'd  
 Our carriage so, they made me nervous ;  
 I stiffly bowed to martial men,  
 Mere pay and batta<sup>7</sup>—la ! how horrid !  
 But if a "Civil" came—oh, *then*  
 My eyes would sparkle in my forehead.

The carriage still goes on the Course,  
 But I no longer fear upsetting ;  
 Adieu, civilians ! my resource  
 Must be, at last, in epauletting ;  
 I think I'd like cantonments, too,  
 And tents, I'm told, are most delightful ;  
 And scarlet's more genteel than blue,  
 And bungalows<sup>8</sup> are not so frightful.

*Here* every season's just the same ;  
 In *camps* it's all *qui vive* and bustle,  
 Reviews, and bivouacs, and fame ;  
 I long to go to the Mofussil !<sup>9</sup>  
 One's card would read, too, vastly well  
 As follows,—“Mrs. Major Daltry,”  
 And if, alas ! the *worst* befel,  
 My pension would be far from paltry.

A few years more, and he *might* leave  
 His loving wife a *Colonel's* widow ;  
 The bare idea makes me grieve,  
 I'll not juwaub him as I did do.  
 True, he is old, and quite as grey  
 As any Major well need be ;  
 He's fifty-two, if he's a day !  
 Well, I'm not less than twenty-three !

<sup>6</sup> All sorts of one-horse chaises, from the cabriolet to the gig, are called by the vulgar nomenclature of Buggy.

<sup>7</sup> *Batta* is one of the principal items of Indian military allowances.

<sup>8</sup> The officers' dwellings in India, where there are no barracks for the Company's troops, are all of the Bungalow species of house, namely, thatched roofs and no upper story. They are unsightly buildings, though Chlora's new humility makes her think them bearable.

<sup>9</sup> The *Mofussil*, means the interior of the country generally, as distinct from Calcutta.

## CAMPAIGNING SKETCHES,

OR

SCENES ON THE RIVER INDUS.

## No. 2.—CAMP AT KURRACHEE.

*(Continued from page 48.)*

IN speaking correctly of Kurrachee, it may be termed the only port of Sindh,\* and certainly a more desolate and miserable-looking place can hardly be imagined. To those who have neither been induced by romance, necessity, or enterprise to visit the glowing shores of India, it would be difficult to convey any adequate idea of the squalid, filthy, and poverty stricken appearance of many of its towns, and even those the most wealthy and important. So apathetic, however, is the native of the East, and so utterly regardless is he of cleanliness or appearance, that whilst personal ablution is performed by reason of the institutes of his religion, some dozen times a day, an individual will yet permit a large pool of stagnant water, banked by filth and mud to occupy the very front of his house, and become as offensive to the passenger, as it must prove detrimental to his own and his family's health. Miasma it would seem, however, possesses no horrors for the Indian townsman; true, the strong hand of fever lays him low, parches his lips, fires his brain, and unstrings his frame—yet when pursued by disease, the victim simply rolls his cumli round his frame, and shivering beneath its folds, satisfies himself 'tis his nuseeb or fate to endure the misery, and consequently has no inducement to remove the cause, from the effect of which he suffers.

Kurrachee, in addition to the disadvantages above hinted at, is certainly one of the most poverty stricken places my roaming experiences have ever enabled me to observe. The houses are low, and built entirely of mud, with flat roofs whose chinks and fissures afford a very correct idea of the extreme dryness of the Sindhian climate; while the town itself is surrounded by the remnant of a low mud fortification, the greater portion forming a pulverized, but not very picturesque ruin. The excessively low situation of Kurrachee, and the numerous creeks with which it is surrounded, admit the spring tides to within a few feet of the walls, while at other times the whole space is left a dark and unsavoury swamp. In addition to this, imagine the desolate and sterile appearance of the surrounding country, (not inaptly termed by one of our party "a howling wilderness.") Picture a few stunted date-trees, with one or two Arab buglahs or pattymars, laid up as it were "in ordinary," a string of meagre-looking, half-starved camels, and the reader may have before him a very tolerable sketch of the external appearance of the principal sea-port town of Sindh.

The site of the British camp at Kurrachee was soon fixed upon, and the tents were pitched in an extensive plain situated at a distance of about a mile from the town, and two miles from the sea; the view of the latter,

\* The mouths of the Indus admitting of communication by sea for only four months in the year.

being shut out by intervening sand hills. Our force consisted of Her Majesty's 40th, two regiments of native infantry, and two companies of artillery; each of the latter carrying a battery of six guns, with followers, pioneers, &c. as is usual in Indian armies, *ad libitum*. The tented field presented a front of about a mile, and with its deep array of snowy canvasses, and busy hum of countless voices, gave animation to the surrounding desert, whilst the fine band of Her Majesty's 40th, formed a connecting link as it were between ourselves and civilized society, making the sterile waste resound with a melody, which had never before awaked its echoes. Here were we at length on classic ground, occupying it might be, the very same locality on which the immortal Alexander some 2000 years since marshalled the remnant of his gallant troops before leading them across the neighbouring mountains to Persia and Persepolis. Succeeding, after much labour, in reducing my followers, kit, &c. to something like order, my first anxiety was to visit the town of Kurrachee, and gain such information as might be afforded on the trade and productions of a place, calculated from its position to become eminently valuable to the British Government, as connected with our commercial views in Upper Asia; and more immediately at the present juncture of affairs, with our protection and assistance to the advanced army. Statistics are usually dull matters to the general reader; but as many, like myself, may be curious to learn what are the products of a place so little known as Kurrachee, I will risk the chance of being tedious on the occasion. The town is said to contain about 8,000 inhabitants, the majority being Mooltanee Hindoos, employed as merchants and weavers. The streets are even dirtier than native streets in common, and so unsociably narrow, as to compel a party of horsemen to advance in single rotation, groups having in no way been prepared for by the master-builders of Kurrachee. The town contains, moreover, but one bazaar, which occupies the whole of the main street, and is miserably supplied. The grand staple of the trade consists of curious fabrics of silk and cotton, intended as cummerbunds and turbans. Some are pretty in their colours and designs, more particularly the *Loonghie*,\* a manufacture peculiar to the country, and much prized. Some of the cloths manufactured here are fine in texture, and in material very strong, ornamented with silk borders of pretty patterns. Embroidery in coloured silks after Cashmerian shawl patterns on a coarse cotton ground is much practised, and although not bearing close inspection, these articles have a very admirable distant effect. One of the most curious fabrics shewn me on my visit to the town, was that of a chuddur, or sheet, to be worn by the women. A composition of tin and gum, formed into a certain consistency, is stamped on deeply dyed crimson cloth, the patterns evidently borrowed from the richest Cashmerian looms. The effect is precisely that of rich silver tissue, but as may be supposed from the character of the materials used, the fabric soon loses its original beauty. The chuddur is charged at two rupees, and is sufficiently large to enfold the person. Other productions worthy of note, are those of the woollen kind, more particularly a thick description of cumli (or blanket) made from goats' hair, thick and strong enough to serve as an abundant protection against all changes and inclemency of seasons.

\* The loonghie is a fabric of rich coloured silks interwoven with cotton, all of the brightest colours, its ordinary length about four yards and about two feet wide: it is worn usually round the waist, and has a very rich effect.

From the opportunities I have had during my stay at Kurrachee for observing the Sindhian character, I should class them as an eminently ingenious people, notwithstanding that extreme poverty, the result of misrule and an oppressive government, is stamped on all the features of Kurrachee, and the place bears, both locally and in its inhabitants, an appearance of unusual squalor and wretchedness. A fat Mooltanee Sowcar, with ponderous and neatly twisted turban, occasionally attracts the eye in strolling through the close bazaar, and he does so from the strange incongruity his sleek appearance presents, to that of the figures around him. These men are in fact the only flourishing members of the community, and it speaks much for the perseverance and energy of the Hindoo people, that in defiance and despite of intolerance and exaction, they have thus been able to hold a position of wealth and consideration in a country, where they are regarded as a degraded race, the objects of cruelty, infliction, and pillage, to the most bigotted and ignorant people in the world.

About two hundred boats belong to Kurrachee, most of them of small burden, and used for trading with the neighbouring ports of Nickraw, the Persian Gulf, Guzerat, and Cutch. Some quantity of opium and indigo is brought down in transit from the great mart of Shikarpoor, and the revenues of the place are farmed annually for about 80,000Rs. (800L.) The whole of the trade is carried on by the Mooltanees, under a rapacious government, influenced by a system of extreme intolerance towards the Hindoo population; the haughty and bigotted Moslem endeavouring to exercise his power in every way by which the commercial energy of the poor Pagan can be damped, and his interests feel the mastery of oppression. The simple fact of such of their people as are in the government employ being obliged to adopt the beard and dress of the Mohammedans,\* will convey some idea of the position a Hindoo holds under the iron rule of the bigotted and imperious lords of Sindh.

The bazaar of Kurrachee is sheltered from the heat of the burning sun by mats, stretched from the roofs of the houses. This plan, which can only be adopted where the streets are narrow, is a very excellent one, and has the effect of giving to the place a cool, and somewhat pleasant appearance. Yet would I recommend those who have formed their visions of an oriental bazaar from the bright colourings of the "Arabian Nights," or the emblazoned pages of more modern oriental tale-tellers, to dismiss such gaudy pictures from the imagination. To know India as she is,—not glowing in brilliance, as in the days of her power and riches,—but degraded and abased by her sufferings and taskmasters,—let him, who, having revelled in all the fascination of fiction, burns to enjoy the attar-scented breeze of a tropical clime, thread his way through an Indian bazaar, redolent of ghee and tobacco, steaming with garlic, and half choked by dust and rubbish; let him be jostled by unsavoury crowds, and nauseated by unsavoury stench, and he will, at least, confess that Johnson spoke but advisedly when he said, "To travel is but to regulate imagination by reality."—Instead of the "sweeping and majestic tread of the turbaned Moslem," he will find the follower of the prophet dirty in apparel, and slovenly in his gait; in lieu of shops, where the "rich shawls of Cashmere vie with the glowing and velvet carpets of Persia," he will see

\* There is only one method of discovering the religions of men thus apparelled, which is by the Hindoos tying the angrika on the *left* and the Mohammedan on the *right*.

gaudy-coloured, and coarsely-woven cloths; a flaming red-and-yellow mouchoir, from Manchester, being prized above its fellows, in the exact proportion to the bad taste with which it has been coloured. In place of "mailed shirts and shining blades from Damascus, or Khorassan," he will find the wretched lohar, or armourer, with difficulty wielding the commonest iron implement, whilst his son or daughter, as the case may be, keeps the dying embers of his *furnace* from expiring, by blowing (sad bathos!) through a hollowed bamboo!—For the "veiled beauties," comprising the earthly paradise of the Mohammedan, or the jingling anklets of the "cypress-waisted and dark-eyed Hindooanee," he will see squalid and wretched women, bearing some half-a-dozen water-pots on their heads, who salute the European passenger with the exquisitely-modest, and touchingly-graceful gesture of turning their backs immediately upon him, with their noses to the wall; or, when unincumbered, betake themselves most violently to the act of scampering, hiding themselves in the first friendly alley which may be at hand to receive them. Woe be to the uninitiated traveller, who, thinking perhaps of poor Mungo Park, and his eulogy on the softer sex, ventures, in his difficulties, to apply to one of these for information or assistance. His questions will be replied to probably by a scream, as shrilling, and certainly as dismal, as if he were about to murder or commit violence upon the poor creature before him; who, after this uncomplimentary salute, betakes herself, in an agony of fear, to her *scrapers*, and leaves the astonished and mortified wight to wonder what the deuce there can be in his appearance to produce an effect which Mokanna, of old, reserved as the *chef-d'œuvre* of his horrifying capabilities. If he adds to this charming address of the native damsels, the yelping and barking of some scores of Pariah dogs, long, lean, and, dentally, most well provided; who, even in their tenderest puppyhood, appear, in common with the women, to have an inherent dislike even to the *smell* of a European,—the reader will, I think, agree with me, that romance is a sad loser, when placed in juxta-position with the reality. The most interesting of the inhabitants of Kurrachee are the few Beloochees, who act as guards at its gates; the appearance of these mercenaries is very picturesque and wild. The face is decidedly Jewish in expression, the nose aquiline, with small sharp eyes, and a large beard; and, in many instances, contrary to the Mohammedan custom, the back hair is suffered to grow, and descend to some length upon the shoulders. The costume consists of the peculiarly straight Sindhee cap, of various and gaudy colours; a large, full shirt, reaching below the knees, of coarse blue cotton cloth, tied in at the waist with a roll of silk or party-coloured cloth; to this is appended a sword and dagger, while loose trowsers, drawn in tightly at the ankles, and a shield and matchlock, complete the *tout ensemble* of a Sindhian mercenary. These men are large-boned, and of considerable stature, for Asiatics; they have dark complexion, and are of a bold and martial bearing. The treaty which has been lately concluded between the Ameers of Sindh and the British Government, provided for the dismemberment of the Beloochee army, supposed to amount to about 20,000 men, horse and foot, and for a subsidy of 5000 British troops, being kept up in their stead. The Beloochee chiefs owe a sort of feudal service to the Ameers, and hold, in return for military service, to be rendered as occasion may require, certain grants of lands or jahgirs. As the only enemy whom we were led to believe our forces would have to encounter in Sindh, I naturally regarded with great

interest these lawless-looking personages, and made a point of seeing as much of them as possible; and, although our presence in Sindh was death to the ambitious hopes of men who had all to gain by the ascendancy they maintained as mercenaries in the services of the unpopular rulers of the country, I ever found them courteous and communicative. In consequence of the admirable management of the authorities, civil and military, and the studied respect paid by the British troops to the lives and property of all classes of the inhabitants, it soon became apparent that the dread with which we were at first looked upon as conquerors, vanished before our treatment of these people in our character of protectors. The Sindhians, from my brief experience of them, I should pronounce an abject race; low cunning and deceit being their prevailing characteristics. They are lax in their morals, and both Hindoo and Mohammedans (at least at Kurrachee), indulge freely in ardent spirits, extracted from dates or goor (coarse sugar); the latter is a clear, fiery liquor, in flavour resembling whiskey. I was not a little astonished at a request made me by a Mohammedan of considerable rank, for *brandy*; and the head Mooltanee of the place, and agent of the British Government, was always prepared to proffer a glass of *daroo* (spirits) on our paying him a visit. To prevent the possibility of our European troops being supplied with this pernicious stuff (their failing in India, as elsewhere, being on the side of intemperance), it was deemed necessary to station guards at the gates, who permitted none to pass without an order from the commanding-officer. Sindh is said to be noted by Asiatics for its beggars and peers' tombs; and in both of these, Kurrachee certainly abounds. As an ignorant people, the Mohammedans are superstitious to an almost unrivalled degree; and any vagabond who may dub himself a Syud, meets with every consideration and respect. In thus concluding my sketch of Kurrachee, I must not omit to mention that the women, both Hindoo and Mohammedan (such, at least, as were visible, for the better classes locked up all of the feminine gender on our arrival), have a singular fashion of drawing a portion of their back hair over the left eyebrow, and fastening the end to the *nutti*, or nose-ring. The effect is probably intended to be dangerously charming, and equal to that of the noted *zuluf*, or lock, so continually extolled by the Persian poets, as "entangling the hearts of all beholders;" but, sooth to say, in the Kurrachee belles, it is far from *killing*. So prevalent is this fashion, that when women become old, or happen to be hushhees,\* with short, curly hair, a piece of black tape is substituted for the natural braid.

A life in camp is to most men one of dull monotony; few young soldiers in India seek to employ their time either profitably or seriously, and when the neighbouring country has been denuded of its game, and all the places of resort for pic-nics exhausted, the time is passed in listless anxiety for some new source of excitement. I do not mean to say that the rule is general; there are exceptions, but with the majority I think I shall not be far out. It is utterly impossible to convey to the inexperienced any idea of the hardships and trials the common soldier is doomed to undergo, whilst employed in the field in India, under the influence of its trying climate, and it is equally astonishing to behold the philosophy with which he bears it. On the present occasion, the men of Her Majesty's 40th were,

\* African slaves, many of whom are brought from Zanzibar, and usually form a considerable portion of the establishment, in a Mohammedan family.

for five days and nights without tents or shelter of any kind ; and although, as compared with parts of the history of our Peninsular campaigns, such a circumstance may appear trivial, it must be remembered, that the burning sun and heavy dews of India are far more fatal and trying to the European constitution than the rain, cold, or snows of Europe. Fortunately, however, this fine regiment had lately been inured to great exposure, during a march of 200 miles, and they suffered but little in consequence. When things had become a little settled, and the various messes had been established, our society improved, and all past annoyances and troubles were forgotten at the social evening board. The men betook themselves to their sports ; and an occasional order for the brigade to appear under arms kept us in mind of our military duties : Kurrachee, in short, after the first disgust had worn off, was rated a *tolerable* place. The climate was certainly delightful ; at the end of the month of February, the thermometer was down to 45° ! blankets and cloaks being in great request. Open as this place is, to the whole influence of the south-west monsoon, it is reputed to be invariably cool and salubrious. We had been told, that water was not procurable ; but we found this information incorrect, as our supply was plentiful, and that of a very pure and excellent quality. In addition to this, an inexhaustible supply of fish and oysters was always at command ; it will be seen, therefore, that we might have been less highly favoured. The force thus encamped formed "the reserve" to the Corps d'Armée of the Indus, advancing towards Candahar under Sir John Keane ; we were therefore doomed to await with feverish anxiety the summons which should call us into action, the chances of our being required, except to keep the peace in Sindh, being very distant.

For some few days after the arrival of the troops and settlement of our camp, the worthy admiral remained in the harbour, and daily visits were made to us by the officers of the "Wellesley," who, sailor-like, ambitious of becoming equestrian, afforded infinite subject for jest and raillery in the recital of their numerous accidents and falls from vicious tattoos and fiery steeds, especial care being taken on all occasions to select the most unmanageable brutes in camp, for the especial use of these gallant sons of Neptune. The admiral came on shore to pay a visit of ceremony to an influential Mooltanee, of the town, Seth\* Prutumdass, who, in consideration of valuable services performed for the British Government, had been appointed agent at Kurrachee. This man is a possessor of considerable wealth, and a warm seconder of our objects, on the usual principle of such being his best interest—the one all-sufficient motive with a native, of whatever rank or influence he may happen to possess. Determined to do all honour upon the occasion, our worthy commandant, attended by his staff, proceeded to the beach to attend his Excellency and party, where also a guard of honour was drawn up to receive him. Thence the whole cortege proceeded to the Seth's house, situated in the centre of the town, and like that of all natives, however wealthy, we found it only one remove from a mere hovel, with the simple advantage of the rooms being somewhat higher. To the largest of these we were duly ushered, where we found a table hospitably spread for the repast (the camp furnishing the table, furniture, knives, forks, plates, &c.) His Excellency was of course seated in the highest place, supported by our brigadier, and it was curious to see the

\* Seth is a title given to Hindoos of importance in Sindh, the word signifies "master."

veteran, whose cheek had evidently been furrowed by the winds of many winters, in so novel a situation ; for myself, I could but contemplate him with extreme interest, as the courteous receiver of the great Napoleon, who when constrained for a brief period to forego his ambitious projects, sought the protection of the British flag, and surrendered his person to Sir Frederick (then Captain) Maitland, on board the "Bellerophon." After the interchange of the usual compliments, and after audiences had been given to various deputations from the town, we were invited to the feast, without freely partaking which a native never imagines that full honour has been done his efforts of entertainment. The whole of the cookery was after the style of an eastern cuisine, and consisted principally of kabobs, curries, aps (unleavened cakes), pickles, &c. : whether the appetite furnished the sauce or not, I will not pretend to say, but certainly all justice was done to our worthy host's refectory, and the party broke up well pleased with the whole affair. The Seth, as a parting gift to his Excellency, presented him with a handsome Sindhee cap and loonghie, as specimens of the manufactures and looms of Sindh. The admiral and his officers then returned to the "Wellesley," and after a few hours, sailed for Bombay.

The daily arrival of ships with stores, &c., added to the occasional visits paid by parties to the hot springs in the neighbourhood, tended to furnish sources of amusement to our camp. A description of these springs will afford subject for the following paper.

T. P.

(*To be continued.*)

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## LINES

### FROM THE PERSIAN OF SAIB.

LET not thy lips, oh Saib, use  
Disgraceful words or low abuse ;  
For each, to whom a coin so base  
Thou offerest, flings it in thy face.

### FROM THE SAME.

My kind physician, bent to cure me,  
Cries, "See the maid no more, and fly !"  
A cure, indeed, this would ensure me,  
And bid me, at the same time, die !

### FROM THE SAME.

Monarchs can pity though they frown ;  
A dark sky says, "Rain's coming down."

## OUTLETS TO BRITISH CAPITAL IN THE EAST.

### No. I.—THE INDIAN ARCHIPELAGO.

It were a truism to assume that the power and prosperity of Great Britain rest, at the present day, on the basis of commercial interchange. None is so dull, as not to have perceived this truth ; none so conspicuously wanting in candour, as to disclaim it. It is universally acknowledged that the comparative greatness of England, is only truly expressed in the fact of the comparative extensiveness of her commerce.

Again, the commerce of Great Britain is valuable, not only from its extent, but its nature. It is in proportion that her commerce consists in an exchange of manufactures for raw products, that it rises to its culminating point of importance. Hence proceeds that surplus amount of wealth, which, in excess of natural profits, is known under the appellation of capital—that description of wealth, which, in short, is the absolute standard of the relative affluence of countries.

Capital, in fine, is developed in contradistinction to latent wealth ; and that country is, of course, in advance of others, whose resources are at a higher stage of development. The question which then presents is, the *application* of those developed faculties—the channels into which the *new* principle of wealth should be made to flow.

As long as Great Britain shall remain the first capitalist, it is easily assumable that she is independent of commercial rivals ; but it is equally undisguisable, that to perpetuate a power over capital, she must control its sources ; in more direct terms, must continue to derive from commerce its final result. That final result, in a financial view, is, as we have before intimated, capital ; and the greater comparative capital of England is beyond a doubt attributable to her exclusive faculty of stamping commodities with their highest value in sale ; in other words, of bestowing upon them that value which is the consequence of her machinery. Reasoning from these premises, it is abundantly evident that the commercial axiom of Great Britain should be to resolve herself into the work-shop of the world ; and in attracting to her bosom the raw produce and crude material of every country of the globe, to be unremitting in her exertions—that she hold unlimited sway over the domain of manufactures. It is by her commerce in manufactures, that England can alone now hope to prolong her national supremacy ; and her sale of manufactures will, in addition to the advantages ensuing from superiority in machinery, be best ensured by a control over the raw material, at lowest cost. Hence, the sagacious statesman will perceive that, to obtain this latter advantage, it is to her own territory England should look for the *pabulum* of her looms : and next to her own territory, to those regions where nature, pouring forth her bounties with lavish and prodigal generosity, the cost of purchase is at its minimum.

In touching the topic of British commerce at large, there are still observations to be advanced, which seem scarcely as yet to have attracted sufficient attention. And, in the first place, it were salutary to remark, that

although comparatively of enlarged bounds, yet that it is by no means at its fullest extent ; or that having outstripped that of other countries, it is not secure from future competition. Something more than a superficial glance, will inform us that only at the present era is commerce stepping forth in its true capacity, or natural strength. Only to-day, and it is free from manacles. Yesterday monopoly weighed upon its every limb ; restriction restrained its every movement. Instead of advancing in the direct course to prosperity, it was the solicitude of legislators to cause a retrogressive march ; instead of encouraging the natural results of commerce, it was their object to prevent them, by every insane endeavour of extravagant tariffs, and partial enactments. Commerce at large, and also British commerce, is not at more than its first developments. In proof of this are the countries of the world unvisited by commerce. Keeping out of view the expanse of Africa, with which our pages have less in reference, or the superb tracts of the American continent, with the Southern portions of which, only with Mr. Huskisson was it that British commercial relations had rise ; yet recurrence to the Eastern hemisphere is sufficient to show how little is commenced, and how much remains to be prosecuted of a commercial character. In reference to the East, it were well posterity should ponder upon the effect which one fatal error has entailed upon the whole train of British interests ; and how, from a single principle of monopoly, a grievance of so leviathan an extent grew up, as to the present day to have reduced the countries of the Oriental world to an obscure idea, and of allowing, as in the instance of Russia, the legitimate channels of British mercantile enterprise to have devolved to the keeping of foreigners.\* But if along the northern chain of countries which bound Asia from the Don to the Caspian—from the Caspian to the central part of the wild Toorkmuns, through Persia, Tartary, and on to the very wall of Pekin, we find the Russians in possession of that vast traffic, it will not excite surprise that on the southern extremities of that continent, along the luxuriant, picturesque, and exquisite regions forming its tropical girdle—the merchants nearly in exclusive possession of the profits of trade—are the Chinese. “The most extensive, intimate—and probably the most ancient—of the foreign commercial relations of the Indian Islands,” says the perfectly-informed Crawford, “is that with China ;” and after many elaborate calculations, it is also shown in the pages of the same author, that there is engaged in this commerce 30,000 tons of shipping, upon which the remark is annexed “*nine thousand tons more than that usually engaged in the direct intercourse between Great Britain and China!*”

Unless in the instance of the Chinese, the remark is applicable, that in all foreign connection with the Indian Archipelago, it has been to the effect of ravage and plunder. The Portuguese, who preceded,† and the Dutch,

\* “A stranger,” writes an eminent authority, “examining our policy in regard to our commercial intercourse with the East, would be extremely apt, at first view, and without being aware of the almost insuperable obstacles which the growth of great abuses, influencing our practice and opinions, have created, to pronounce, that our great object was to embarrass it, to confer a monopoly of it upon our poorer rivals, less capable than ourselves of conducting it, and in short to proscribe it as a commerce detrimental to the national interests, and rather to be tolerated as an unavoidable nuisance than fostered as a national benefit.”

† Exception in some degree is to be taken to the mention of the Portuguese, of whom it is remarked that, like their successors, they never attempted to limit or regulate the growth of any of the favourite articles of commerce ; it happening, therefore, from the

Spaniards, and English who subsequently entered into relations with these beautiful regions, were severally animated, either by a spirit of unprincipled political aggression, or commercial exaction carried to its utmost pitch. Where the European came, he abstracted, but he did nothing to enrich; he violently rescued to his own aggrandisement the natural wealth of the soil, and even laying a tax upon industry, produced a state of things which, denying to the earth its required demands of culture, operated also to the impoverishment of the land itself. The most fertile, populous, and industrious countries of the Archipelago, are Java, Bali, some parts of Celebes, and certain tracts of Sumatra, and of the Malay Peninsula; and we imagine their names will be sufficient to recal but too impressively, the malignant influences to which, through the successive traders of Europe, they were victims, to require more explicit detail.

As to the resources of those lovely isles, we may quote the language of the celebrated historian, Dr. Robertson, who, in his *Disquisition on Ancient India*, says, "they are so various, as to suit the taste of mankind in every climate; and in different stages of improvement, so abounding, that while some of their productions are deemed necessary, not only to the comfort, but to the preservation of life; others contribute to its elegance and pleasure; and that as well as being in request among the more luxurious inhabitants of Asia, they are sought even by the rude nations of Africa." It will, in fact, be remembered by every one, that in their agricultural products alone they were sufficient to supply the sources of a commerce which formerly raised many of the first States of Europe to the highest points of affluence; while the loss of which commerce, on the other hand, is enumerated among the causes of the downfall of Venice.

It may, indeed, strike the world with astonishment, that the amazing celebrity to which, in the sixteenth and following century, they had arrived in the annals of European commerce, should have ever suffered eclipse; or that speculators in trade—above all, the British merchant—should have failed to direct their attention to their resources, as constituting the most costly channels of commerce that exist. The vegetable, animal, and mineral riches of the Indian Archipelago are equally various, peculiar, and of the most extraordinary value. Under the first class are to be enumerated rice, all descriptions of minor grains, sago, vegetable oils, for instance, those of the ground pistachio and cocoa-nut, as edible oil, and that of the *Palma Christi*,\* for burning; also cotton-wool, indigo, black pepper, and coffee, besides sugar, tobacco, and innumerable varieties of timber, from the light and perfumed sandal-wood, to the solid, massive, and incomparable for the purposes of ship-building—teak. To dilate, however, on all, or any thing approaching complete specification, as the agricultural items of wealth, exhibited on a review of the Eastern isles, would be very far from possible in our present limits, and without absorbing space by even the barest mention of those spices,—those sumptuous, costly, aromatic productions of the soil, which, from the days of ancient Rome, have been endowed with a species of almost poetic fame; it will be discovered, that

degree of freedom which prevailed, that their commercial establishments prospered in proportion. Their reign in the Archipelago lasted a century, and has been suppressed for two; yet more monuments of their arts, their religion, and their language exist in the country than of those who succeeded them, whose authority has been twice as long established, and who are at this moment in the actual exercise of it.

\* Is it not time our merchants should resort to this in lieu of the tallow of Russia?

in adding to our list the minor evidences of the bountifulness of nature; viz., those of the celebrated catechu, gambir, camphor, frankincense, aloes, damar or rosin, dragon's blood, we adduce sufficient to proclaim the value and variety of their botanic possessions. But not only are the spices, the drugs, the perfumes, or the other features enumerated, the only sources of wealth in those regions; the *zoological products*, affording materials of commercial export, if less valuable than the vegetable, are important and eminently interesting; land animals, furnishing hides, horns, ivory, feathers, birds'-nests: stick and shell-lac, bees'-wax, &c. &c., abound; and fisheries, supplying some of the most rare, in other instances, many of the most remarkable articles of export, equally claim emphatic attention. The great size of the buffalos, and of the oxen, render their hides and horns of peculiar value. Bali and Lombok are the portions of the Archipelago yielding the greater number of ox-hides, the cost of which, says a writer, may be inferred from the price of the whole animal, which seldom exceeds ten or twelve shillings. Beckman, in his "Voyage to Borneo," alluding to Bali, says, "The country affords plenty of oxen, the largest and best I ever saw out of England." This branch of our subject must be allowed to possess a striking interest in the present aspect of public affairs; and the question very easily recoils,—many branches of British commerce, should they not be transferred from their present to other directions? For example, are not the hides, purchaseable at so low a cost, of the Indian Archipelago, a claim upon the attention of our merchants, before those of Russia? It would, of course, be unpardonably digressive, to indulge in the many apposite observations springing from the question; but the coldest patriotism, or most obtuse discernment, will not fail to allow, that it is *commercially* we shall best confront Russia, and doing so commercially, we mean the fact of seeking in other countries those supplies for which our trade is now dependent on Russian sources. The immense horns of the Java buffalo have been long sent to Europe, and the hides, both of the ox and buffalo, are sent to China always in the hair, and not tanned. In Java, where there is the greatest abundance of cattle, the exportation is diminished by a singular practice. Among the inhabitants of that island, the fresh hide is used as an article of food;—"nay," observes our authority, "is esteemed a dainty, beyond any other part of the animal." The countries of the Archipelago, where the elephant is found,—the Malay peninsula and Sumatra,—from these countries, and from the neighbouring kingdom of Siam, the export of ivory is considerable; principally to China, where its manufacture is an art brought to unrivalled perfection. But of all the living and organic productions of the Oriental isles, perhaps the birds are the most remarkable. As in other warm countries, they are more noticeable for their brilliant tints and gorgeous plumage, than for the softness or abundance of their down. The celebrated bird of paradise, and the argus-pheasant, are natives of these regions, of which it is to be observed, that while the former exists no where but in the regions of the eastern, the latter inhabits no where but in those of the western extremity of the Archipelago; the one being found only in New Guinea and the adjacent isles, and the other no where but in Sumatra and the Malayan peninsula. But, in expatiating on the topic of the bird-varieties in the Indian Archipelago, it would be impossible to overlook the well-known branch of commerce pursued by the Chinese, in reference to the much talked-of birds'-nests. This article of exchange with the Chinese is the most pecu-

liar of any that exists in the records of traffic, and not to allude merely to the unexampled taste of selecting so strange an object in itself, yet, the history of the product is so curious, and, we venture to add, so little known, that the following description of the circumstances connected with it, will, we presume, be regarded with interest. The commodity in itself, which forms the export, is the *nest* of a species of swallow,—the *hirundo esculenta*,—peculiar to the Indian islands. In shape it resembles the ordinary swallow's nest; and, in external features, as well as real consistence, assimilates to a fibrous, ill-concocted isinglass. "The esculent nest, unlike the nests of other birds, is always the produce of the swallow that builds in the caves of rocks, at a distance from the habitation of man. The caves, where these nests are found, are frequently, but not always, on the sea-side. In Java, very productive caves are found in the interior of the country, and at least fifty miles from the sea." "Hence," concludes the same distinguished writer, "it seems probable, that they are more abundant on the sea-shore only, because caverns are there most frequent, and least liable to disturbance;—a circumstance which seems to prove, that sea-foam, another marine production, has no share in the formation of the nest, the most probable hypothesis being, that the nest is a material elaborated from the food of the bird,—a conjecture which would be proved, if, on a skilful dissection, it were discovered, that the bird has any peculiar organs destined to perform such a process." The natives make no distinction between the variety of swallow which affords the esculent nest and any other, nor is it supposed that naturalists have perceived any. The Chinese, who are the sole purchasers of the nest, determine its quality by several circumstances. They are inquisitive about the nature and situation of the cave, its extent, but more particularly at the time in which the nest is taken. The best nests are those obtained in deep, damp caves, and such as are taken before the birds have laid their eggs. The most remarkable and productive caves in Java, of which, Mr. Crawford says, he superintended a moiety of the collections for several years, are those of *Karang-bolang*, in the province of *Baglen*, on the south coast of the island. The description of the recesses where the bird builds its nest, and the hazard and difficulty of procuring it, is too striking to be omitted. Our readers, therefore, will thank us for the following brief extract, in the author's own words. "Here," says Mr. Crawford, "the caves are only to be approached by a perpendicular descent of many hundred feet, by ladders of bamboo and rattan, over a sea rolling violently against the rocks. When the mouth of the cavern is attained, the perilous office of taking the nests must often be performed with torch-light, by penetrating into the recesses of the rock, when the slightest trip would be instantly fatal to the adventurers, who see nothing below them but the turbulent surf, making its way into the chasms of the rock." In China, the bird's-nest is regarded as the greatest luxury. It is consumed only by the most opulent, and the larger part of the import is sent to the capital, for the consumption of the Court. It is used, by the more voluptuous of the empire, under the imagination that it supplies a tonic and a stimulus to the digestive organs; but it is supposed, by Europeans, that, as an article of diet, its chief value is in its being perfectly harmless. It is scarcely less to our purpose to add, that the value of the labour in bringing this commodity to market is but a trifling portion of their price; in fact, that there is no production upon which human industry is exerted of which the cost of production bears so small a propor-

tion to the market price. "The luxurious Chinese," observes the writer before quoted, "will afford to pay for them the highest price,—a price which is literally a tax paid by them to the inhabitants of the Indian islands." Is not here, then, an opening, as in the case of the transmission of opium from the Indian continent, for the carrying trade by British merchant-ships? Certainly, if a competition of the sort were tried, it would be in favour of the British merchant-man over a Chinese junk. We have selected the present instance, in adverting to a subject of so great importance, as the inter-colonial commerce of the East, from the length we have been led into, in our description of the particular article in question. But, in alluding to the mercantile interest of Great Britain, as involved in the subject of India and the East at large, it cannot escape attention, that if there be a field any where for the introduction and play of British capital, it is in that of conducting the traffic between the several Oriental nations. An immense arena, we conceive, is at this point open for the transactions of our merchants. Wide in its prospects of profit from the first, yet, is it one which is continually widening; and the ramifications into which such a commerce would be sure to run, present one of the most capacious probabilities of advancing the prosperity of our mercantile interests that could be named.

In taking a review of the several other resources for which the Eastern Islands are conspicuous, their fisheries may be adverted to, as affording a highly important characteristic. Both sea and river fish abound; "the waters," says an artist-like writer, "which surround these islands, are so tranquil, and the numerous banks which exist, afford the living animals which inhabit them such abundance of food, that no part of the world abounds more in fine fish."

Hamilton, too, in his *Account of the East Indies*, says, "Their seas produce the finest fish I ever saw or tasted." Among those of an edible character, are the pomfret, the calcap, and the sole, which are spoken of by innumerable writers as possessing the most exquisite flavour possibly conceived. In Sumatra, the dried roe, of enormous size, constitutes an article of commerce. In general dried fish forms no portion of the foreign exports; but three singular modifications of it do, *fish-maws*, *sharks'-fins* and *tri-pang*, or sea-slug, all of which are sent in large quantities to China. In several of the seas of the Archipelago, *ambergris* is found, and constitutes an article of the return cargoes to China. But the grandest feature in the fisheries of the Archipelago, is the *Whale-fishery*. The value of this fishery was calculated, a few years since, at 1,070,000*l.*; and the seamen engaged in it were rated at the number of 3,210. It is in the seas which surround the Spice Islands, and particularly towards Timur, and that part of the Pacific Ocean which lies between the Archipelago and New Holland, that whales abound. It is the *Cachelot* or *Spermaceti* species, the most valuable, as is well known of any.

But remarkable as are the countries of the Archipelago for their vegetable and organic productions, they are yet hardly less distinguished for their mineral wealth. In tin, they are supposed to exceed in productiveness any others on the earth; and in gold, they are by many stated not inferior to America. Banca is most noted for its tin mines; although the truth is, that as yet very little is known about the subterranean riches of the islands. The discovery of the mines, even in Banca, is an event of only recent occurrence; and as in so much else in reference to the East

generally, so in this respect it is the future enterprise and energies of Europeans by which its full importance is destined to be brought to light. Besides tin and gold, also iron and copper are found in the Indian Archipelago, in considerable abundance. Copper ores exist in Sumatra; and iron in several parts of the Malayan Peninsula. But a yet more glowing subject of remark, exists in the fact of the *Diamond* mines, which confer a lustre upon the otherwise wild and sterile region of Borneo. But on this subject, upon which a vast number of important observations remain to be made, we have merely left ourselves room to say that this is the only instance, in reference to the resources of the Archipelago, upon which the ingenuity and industry of the Chinese are not brought to bear. In China diamonds are held in no repute; and from that circumstance, the mines in the Island of Borneo are still, to a great extent, unwrought; and to a far greater, probably quite unknown.

Here, too, then is a channel for the operations of British enterprise, only too splendid in its prospects, to require more than the merest mention.

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### MR. CRAWFURD'S "APPEAL."

(*From a Correspondent.*)

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In advocating the discussion of subjects connected with the government of the British possessions in India, it has been our purpose to hold a middle course; avoiding the extremes of party, and endeavouring to discriminate between such matters of complaint as are established by undoubted facts, and such as are wanting in that sufficient proof which alone can entitle them to be received or acted upon. The experience of every day demonstrates the necessity of increased caution, for already may be found embarked in the cause a zeal which lacks discretion, and the remark is as applicable to those who advocate as to those who deprecate the present system of rule in India; and if this be manifested thus early in the discussion, what may we not expect when the subject becomes more popular? It is for these reasons we have considered it necessary to conduct our inquiries upon grounds somewhat apart from those persons who are more immediately engaged in the conflict; and if, by so doing, we fail to conciliate either party, and render ourselves liable to much obloquy from both, we shall at least be in a situation to judge between opposite opinions and to promote the cause of truth.

When the British India Society was formed, we took occasion to commend the declared objects for which it was established, being satisfied that investigation was needed, and that as it was the right of the people of India to demand, so it was the bounden duty of the people of England to afford it. Since then all that has transpired confirms this, by showing how obnoxious certain parties are to investigation, and how they would stifle all inquiry. But the means used must defeat the ends they purpose to serve, for they are wanting in the very elements of persuasiveness,—in judgment, temper, and discretion. Mr. O'Connell may be a demagogue, Lord Brougham a political profligate, and Mr. G. Thompson and others, to whom allusions have been made, persons of questionable repute—

but what of that? Is the cause of complaint against our government of India less real? Such remarks may prejudice the ignorant, but they will not mislead the inquiring. Admitting that it may not have been wise to commit the interests of the natives of India in any degree to the keeping of Mr. O'Connell—how does this meet the fact that from over-taxation India has been impoverished, and that, as a consequence, famines have multiplied and millions have perished from want? Admitting that my Lord Brougham was in error respecting the nature and extent of the Zemindary settlement—does his error justify the attempted seizure of rent-free lands, if such an attempt be unjust? Suppose it was not discreet to employ the philanthropic and excellent men who devoted their services to the destruction of Negro slavery—will the admission qualify the alleged cruelty of the salt or the iniquity of the opium monopoly? No, no! Our Indian rulers had needs get rid of such questionable advocacy, for all this may be true and still the record of the amiable and lamented Mr. Shore may remain uncontradicted. Such arguments may serve a temporary purpose by diverting public attention from the real merits of the case, but they cannot vindicate the government of the East India Company, if justly liable to the charges brought against it, nor can they stand for one moment when opposed to such a work as that now under consideration.

"An Appeal from the Inhabitants of British India to the Justice of the People of England," as everything else from the pen of Mr. John Crawford, is entitled to undoubted respect; his intimate acquaintance with the subjects of which he treats, and his general acquirements, demand this, though we may not adopt all his views, and think the terms in which his strictures are conveyed, might be moderated with considerable advantage. This book is termed "A Popular Inquiry into the Operation of the System of Taxation in British India."—It is probable, that had the comments been somewhat less diffuse, and the subject differently arranged, it would have been a much more popular, and a much more useful work, to the general reader; but, be that as it may, it exhibits talent and research, and will amply repay the pains of a careful perusal.

Passing by the preliminary remarks upon the nature of landed tenures, and of the land-tax in India, we come to the question of *resumption*, which Mr. Crawford designates an invasion of the sacred rights of private property—an inquisition into titles, with the view of assessing such lands as, by the custom and law of India, have been immemorially held tenure-free, and been absolutely untaxed beyond the memory of any living man; and this to an impost of eighteen shillings in the pound of the rack-rent value, or to seize upon nine-tenths of every man's estate for the Exchequer. Such a proceeding appears naturally enough to have alarmed the native landholders of Bengal, 20,000 of whom memorialized the Government against the attempt; but to this an unfavourable answer was returned. This memorial was agreed to at a public meeting, which was addressed by an intelligent native gentleman, Dwarkanauth Tagore, from whose speech the following is extracted:—

"We talk of the tyranny of the Mohammedan Government; but what the English doing?—they are taking away from us all that the benevolence of the Mohammedans had given us. The just, the liberal, the enlightened English are depriving us of all that a tyrannical, bigotted, semi-barbarous government bestowed. Is this the boasted justice and liberality of

our rulers? Seventy years have now elapsed since the people have had their tax-free lands in their possession under the British rule; and now, after the lapse of so long a period, they are to be deprived of their possessions. It is not that we alone are of this opinion; even among the most experienced and able advisers of government, I could mention a Prinsep, a Maddock, a Blunt, a Bird, and several others, who do not approve of the resumption operations. But who are those that have advised these operations?—a few young men come out to India but the other day. These are the people who have been the cause of all this disgrace to the government, who are, in fact, doing all they can to alienate the affections of the people from their rulers."

This may be taken as expressing the opinion of the natives in general as to the resumption question, which affects, in Bengal alone, at least 2,164,554 acres of rent-free lands, according to the computation made in 1777; which lands were originally given in waste, but they have since been reclaimed by the capital and labour of the first proprietors, their heirs, and successors. By whom and for what service originally granted, is now a question of small consequence, provided they are held by some grant, or by prescriptive right, which supposes a previous grant; for such a tenure has been respected during the two dynasties of the Mohammedan sovereigns, and at one time by the English, their successors. But be that as it may, the settlement of Lord Cornwallis gave the rent-free lands to be holden untaxed, upon the same perpetual tenure as the taxed-lands; and it was even enacted that with or without grant they should be judged tax-free for ever, from the mere fact of long possession, if held prior to the year 1765. It is not upon slight grounds that vested rights so originating, so subsisting, and so confirmed, should now be assailed, however urgent the demands of the exchequer. For though, under the settlement of 1793, before alluded to, the validity of such tenures was left open for enquiry, it is very questionable if, after a lapse of nearly half a century, such an investigation could now with safety be instituted, especially if the country be over taxed, and if, as is alleged, many of the poorer classes possess no other means of livelihood than are derived from small portions of these very lands, yielding a profit scarcely sufficient to supply food and raiment.

There are various other grounds upon which prudence alone would suggest the danger of such an enquiry; but whether these are or are not sufficient, it will be found that law and justice have interposed an effectual barrier, pleading a valid title by prescription, and an undisturbed possession for more than seventy years, reaching back to the period when Lord Clive obtained the public revenues from the Mogul; and if such a title be not held good, neither is the title good by which the East India Company hold the revenues of Bengal.

The strongest grounds which have been taken by the advocates of resumption are these,—that by the act of 1793, it was declared, that the Government had a right to, and would resume such tenures, unless the owners registered them as rent-free tenures, with the grants and titles upon which they rested, and brought in and submitted these latter to the examination and verification of duly-appointed officials. The act of 1793 did undoubtedly declare this, and we have no wish to question the power of so enacting; but had the investigation been then commenced, comparatively little injustice would have been done. Forty-six years ago, many original grants and title-deeds were in existence, which have since been lost or destroyed;—forty-six years ago there would have been little difficulty

in showing an undisturbed possession for the twenty-nine years preceding, or from a period antecedent to 1765, though it may be impossible now to do this, after a lapse of seventy-five years; especially when it is considered, through how many hands these lands have passed, during four generations. It is not pretended that the investigation into these titles has ever taken place, or that the registry has been made by Government, which it was required to make by the act of 1793.—At what rate, then, are these lands to be taxed, or is the Government to take advantage of its own laches? The value of all lands having increased four-fold since the permanent settlement, the estate which would have been worth 100*l.* a-year in 1793, and would therefore have been taxed at 90*l.* per annum *for ever*, is now, under a different state of things, and the expenditure of capital, labour, and skill, worth 400*l.* a-year, and may therefore be taxed at 360*l.* per annum for ever. Is Government to be benefited in this way by its own wrong? It is here worthy of remark that not only has the Government recognized the purchase and sale of these lands as rent-free, but it has accepted them as security, at the current value, or a value eight times greater than that of rateable land; not only has government sold these lands requiring this increased value, but it has been obliged to purchase and hire them, giving the owners the value and rent according to the usual rates. Surely it is fair to presume from this, that when occasion required, the Government has recognized lands as rent-free, even though not registered according to law.

But if we must abandon mere equity, and are driven to the consideration of this question upon strictly legal grounds, it will be found to turn upon the provisions of the enactment of 1793; and this not only required registration of title on the part of the landowner, but it bound the public officer of Government to frame and keep the necessary registry. The provisions of this act were never complied with by either party, though a more stringent measure for the same purpose was passed in 1819, which remained a dead letter up to 1828, when the present law was enacted, though allowed to remain dormant till 1836, when Lord Auckland assumed the Government of India. Under such circumstances, is it now competent for either party to take advantage of the registration provisions of the original act? Those who framed the law must have been well aware of what the law required, but not so others; especially if it be true, as is alleged on behalf of the land-owners, that this enactment was never duly promulgated according to the terms of the act itself. On the part of the government there is no explanation, and nothing is known beyond the fact that no registry was prepared and kept, and no steps were taken to enforce the law. Such neglect on the part of Government must, to all intents and purposes, be taken as amounting to a virtual abandonment of the act, at least as full and complete as that of any obsolete act which may remain unrepealed upon the statute book of England.

What legal claims then has the government of India upon the rent-free lands which have been so held for a period of nearly forty years, during which, no effectual step was taken to maintain the claims of the State, and which for more than seventy years, or the period of British sovereignty in Bengal, have never been taxed? It has by its own neglect abandoned the act of 1793, and it cannot therefore be pleaded to bar a possession by prescriptive right; so that, taking all circumstances into consideration, it is doubtful if a legal any more than an equitable right to the resumption of these lands now exists; and it is doubtful whether, in the words of Mr.

Dickens, there is not an end at once to all pretence for saying, that the lapse of time, which constitutes a title by prescription, has been broken by an intermediate assertion of adverse claims on the part of Government.

We have now stated, though very briefly, a few of those reasons which compel us to adopt Mr. Crawford's views on this important subject, and which force us to the conclusion that there are no grounds, either in law or equity, upon which the government in India can maintain a claim to the rent-free lands in Bengal. Did space afford we might notice the very reprehensible manner in which the claims made have been prosecuted, and the gross wrong which might be expected to result from such a mode of proceeding. In this respect the government in India has much to answer for to the people of India and of England; and if any confidence in British justice still remains, it is solely to be referred to the upright manner in which a most painful duty has been discharged by the civil servants of the East India Company, than whom a more honourable and intelligent body of gentlemen does not exist.

We shall probably have occasion again to refer to this subject.

T. E.

## OBSERVATIONS UPON THE EXPEDIENCY OF EXTENDING THE BRITISH TERRITORY, AND OF PROTECTING THE SHIPPING INTERESTS.

BY CAPTAIN ROSS, OF THE COCO ISLANDS.

If the Canadas were the only British possessions in North America, the immediate abandonment of them by the British Government would certainly be an advisable measure; in respect at least to the balance of mere profit and loss account. But as it is no less certain that such an abandonment would involve also that of the Hudson's Bay trade, and the Nova Scotian and Newfoundland resources for the supply of the West India settlements, and thereby become injurious to the national interests, the alternative which prudence dictates, is, that of extending the Canadian communication across the Continent, by means of settling the at present nominally British territory on the western side, and fixing the capital on the Oregon River—at once assuming into possession the entirety of the country lying between the frontiers of the Mexican and Russian territories.

From that settlement, the line of British circumglobular communication would be completed onwards to Eastern and Austral-Asia, by the Sandwich and Loochoo, Mulgraves and Friendly Isles, and by also settling the Falkland Isles with the best adapted description of settlers, namely, the people of the Orkneys, that line would be connected by a maritime route round Cape Horn.

Under the actually existing circumstances of British interests in the Eastern hemisphere, true policy surely requires that no delay should be allowed to have place in the course of rendering the connexion of the different departments as convenient and complete as their respective capacities will permit.

The actual state of British interests in regard to China, urgently requires the possession of an independent, convenient, and commanding position in the neighbourhood of that Empire; all which, and all besides that is needful, is to be obtained by the occupation of the Loochoo Isles. The supremacy over them is indeed assumed by the Chinese government; but it is evident enough that no effective opposition could be made by that Government to a British occupation of them; and as to the violation of any law of nations, or of natural rights, none such could be committed by that measure under the existing state of national relations with China, relations which merely permit British traders to come into one port of its territory, upon a footing precisely similar to that in which vessels, specially licensed by hostile powers, are admitted to entry into each other's dominions.

With respect to the difficulties which, to persons of very confined intellect, may seem to stand in the way of forming the settlement of the country of New Albion, &c. and conducting it to advantageous results, we may observe, that the power which is governing the populous Empire of Hindoostan, and colonizing the continent of Australia, is surely able to establish the proposed settlement, and is also greatly interested to do so; and it may be said, with very little, if any exaggeration, that such have been the improvements made in the science and practice of navigation in the course of the last eighty years, as to render the communication as safe, and hardly more tedious at this time between the British isles and the west side of America, than it was between them and the East side in the age when that side was begun to be settled and colonized; while it is certain, that even at this time the voyage between England and the Cape of Good Hope is made with more comfort and safety, and very little more time than is that to Quebec during the season wherein the communication with the latter is practicable; and as for voyaging to the latter, either early or late in the season, I believe that all who have had adequate experience would give the preference, in all respects, to the voyaging all the way to Australia.

From Sydney to the coast of New Albion, as also to the island groups above mentioned, the voyaging is pleasant, safe, and expeditious; and when it is considered that the latter country possesses a fertile soil, and that its coasts swarm with whales, the materials for intercourse cannot be considered as being at all of difficult attainment; and it is absolutely shameful to us that the Americans should be reaping the resources of the Pacific, which were explored at British cost whilst they were waging war against the British Government. Shameful indeed it is that they should be left to supply the markets of the European Continent with train oil, whale-bone, &c. the produce of the Pacific, and be clothing and furnishing the Polynesians with the produce of their manufactures, whilst we can hardly provide enough of the former for our own wants, nor consequently supply those people with the necessaries which they require. True it is, that those supplies are chiefly furnished for refreshments of food, &c. required by the whalers, &c. but whether the oil, &c. be procured directly by money, or indirectly by meat, no difference is effected in the ultimate result of profits obtained.

The British people are loaded with a burden (the National Debt), which can only be lightened by extending the basis of its support, i. e. by the increase of capital and labour within the Empire. It is therefore not the expatriation of these that is to be encouraged, but the reverse; and instead of looking to emigration to foreign countries, or, simply as such, to the

abandonment of colonial and territorial dependencies, for the relief that is required, it is from the increase of population, and consequent extension and improvement, of the Empire, both at home and abroad, that such relief is alone to be obtained; the national burden being, meanwhile, divided as fairly as possible upon every department of internal industry and property, both colonial and metropolitan, and these effectually protected from foreign competition,—whilst all of such industry, which is externally employed on theatres open to foreign competition should be entirely freed from bearing any part of it. Thus the British shipping and crews engaged in carrying on commerce with foreign countries—not only with countries having no shipping of their own, as with those who have—on what has been ignorantly denominated “the reciprocity system,” and in prosecuting the Oceanic fisheries of every description, should be entirely freed therefrom; the ship-builders and equippers receiving a drawback to the amount of the taxation on the materials used up, and also on the expenditure of the wages of the labour employed thereon, and the crews (officers inclusive) receiving the same from the public treasury, on the amount of pay due to them at the completion of every voyage into any port of Great Britain. This being established, and completely carried into effect, would enable British shipping and mariners to re-occupy their naturally superior position on that element which has hitherto been their peculiar theatre of profit and glory, but from which their unburdened rivals will otherwise infallibly oust them to a very great extent, if not altogether.

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### LITERARY NOTICES.

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*Tea; its effects Medicinal and Moral.* By G. G. Sigmond, M.D.

A well written work, exhibiting the advantages and disadvantages which result from the use and abuse of this necessary luxury, accompanied by interesting details respecting the general history of the tea-plant, and the results which promise to ensue from its discovery in our territories in Asia. The medical man will find much to engage his attention in perusing the professional portion of the remarks; while those which relate to the growing substitution of tea in lieu of fermented and spirituous liquors, but not to the utter exclusion of the latter as promoted by some amiable enthusiasts, are deserving of special notice by the general reader.

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*Capital Punishment: the Importance of its Abolition.* By the Rev. J. Peggs, late Missionary in India.

This is a very opportune treatise on a subject, to which public attention both in England and on the Continent is at this moment seriously directed. The impolicy, the impiety, which it really is, of taking away human life for crime other than that of deliberate murder, however apparently pal-

liated by the artificial state of society in which we exist, cannot be defended when brought to the test of reason and Christianity. As well observed by Blackstone, and quoted in the work before us, laws to be binding must be in accordance with the precepts of the latter.

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*Dr. Burnes' Narrative of a Visit to the Court of Sindh.* Edinburgh ; Bell and Bradfute. London ; Longman and Co.

At the present juncture of political affairs in the East, all information is useful and of value which throws light on the social character, the commercial capabilities, or the general condition of the countries, in which the power of British influence has been so lately displayed. Political necessity has compelled a measure, wise in its plan, effectual in its results, and eminently calculated to induce commercial enterprize, and consequent civilization among the people of a country hitherto immersed in barbarism, yet possessing local advantages of high and uncommon value. That the details of the system, now in immediate process of adoption, will work well, there is little doubt ; and when the clash of arms has ceased, and the spirit of peace smiles again upon the rich plains of Caubul, it may be reasonably hoped that the newly restored monarch will, under the guidance of British influence, labour for the civilization of his people, and that from Caubul to Carrachee, commercial and agricultural industry may flourish under the auspices of a peaceful, wise, and liberal government.

The great natural boundary of our territorial possessions in Western India has been now passed. The waters of the noble Indus no longer form a barrier between ourselves and the wily chiefs of Sindh. Our cantonments will soon, like the altars of Alexander, mark the scene of triumphant advance, and our interest is consequently vividly excited both on the past history and the present condition of the people with whom we are about to become thus intimately associated. It matters little whether the information offered is of a date coeval with or prior to our present operations : the aspect of a barbarous people alters little, until the first dawn of civilization beams forth, and then, indeed, as prejudices crumble, and the oppressions of ages totter at their base, is every step worthy to be noted, every symptom of change to be chronicled afresh.

Nine years have elapsed since the original publication of "Dr. Burnes' visit to the Court of Sindh," but little has during this wide interval occurred to change the characteristics of either the country or its rulers. In a great measure therefore the work retains its early interest, and the public are indebted to its talented author for affording them a renewal of such authentic information as his position at the Sindhian Court enabled him to acquire. Dr. Burnes, as Residency Surgeon in the neighbouring province of Cutch, was solicited and permitted to render medical service to Meer Mourad Ali Khan, one of the princes of Sindh, then labouring under a dangerous and painful disease. The successful treatment of the disorder gained for the skilful practitioner the full and grateful confidence of his patient, and served to cement the good feeling which existed between the lords of Sindh and the British Government. The narrative is perhaps more calculated to inform than to amuse, yet the scene of the author's introduction to the Hyderabad Durbar is very graphically sketched, and the

work as a whole highly deserves the attention of all interested in the subject. The Appendix contains some valuable statistical papers on the commerce of Caubul and Sindh, by Colonel Pottinger, Sir Alexander Burnes, and Mr. Masson, and a very beautiful and correct map of the Delta of the Indus serves to illustrate the geographical observations. Dr. Burnes supposes our subjugation of Sindh, and he considers the event would prove highly advantageous to the condition of its oppressed people. In concluding some philosophical remarks on this subject, the author says, "Agriculture and commerce, which are now languid from ignorance and taxation, would gradually revive and flourish under the new order of things; and the local advantages of the province, combined with the security to property and impartial justice, would invite settlers from other countries whose families would recruit the lost population, and whose energies, unfettered by religious bigotry or military despotism, would have full scope, encouragement, and reward. Then the river Indus might once more become the channel of communication and of wealth between the interior of Asia and the Peninsula of India; while Sindh herself, equally interesting to us from classical association, and from sympathy with her present sufferings, would rise renewed to claim a due importance in the scale of nations, and to profit by the benefits which nature has bestowed upon her." We trust, indeed, that ere long the words of Dr. Burnes may, by the influence of passing events, receive all the authority of fulfilled prophecy.

In concluding our remarks on Dr. Burnes' work, we cannot but express our regret that its illustrations are not of a better order. Both Captains Harris and Del Hoste wield the pencils of highly accomplished artists, but the drawings in questions are meagre and badly executed; and, not possessing even the merit of characteristic sketches, we are wholly at a loss to recognize the object of their introduction.

*The Lion; a Tale of the Coteries.* 3 Vols. Colburn. London.

THE history of a genius struggling with adversity,—the brief, and it may be said, meretricious triumphs obtained by needy aspirants for fame,—the bitterness of their disappointments—and the melancholy condition into which they fall when their ephemeral career has ended—furnish mournful subject for contemplation. A work delineating the literary character, although its execution may not be quite equal to its design, must, in the hands of a man of talent, prove deeply interesting. There are many striking scenes in the adventures of the Lion, and some skilful delineations of character; while the sketches of society in London are hit off with considerable spirit. The work, therefore, bids fair to be a favourite with the circulating libraries; but whilst there are so many talented (that is the fashionable word) young men anxious to be lionized, and so many pretenders to literary taste, anxious to lionize every popular writer who may appear, there can be no expectation that the keenest satire will put an end to the system.

*Temptation ; or a Wife's Perils.* 3 Vols. Colburn. London.

THIS is a new and clever version of an old story. Although disapproving the tendency of works which delineate the struggles of passion warring against the principles which can alone secure conjugal fidelity intact in marriages of convenience, the story is so well told, and the intention of the writer so good, that it is impossible to dismiss it without many words of commendation. We sincerely hope that the author may be induced to exercise her talent upon a more agreeable subject. She has evidently much of the most sterling material for the construction of domestic novels at command ; but for our own part we cannot take any interest in the love affairs of married heroines ; or think that the exhibition of an ill-regulated mind can be otherwise than injurious to inexperienced persons, who are but too apt to furnish themselves with excuses for giving way to every impulse.

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*Confessions of a Thug.* By Capt. Meadows Taylor. 3 Vols. Bentley. London.

THE system of Thuggee, as it has been pursued in India during a long series of years, has been extensively made known to the reading public of England, through the pages of the Edinburgh Review, in a notice of Colonel Sleeman's able exposition of the practices of a fraternity, secretly linked together for the commission of crime. The Ramooreana of Col. Sleeman has been republished in London without, however, attracting so much attention as the extraordinary nature of the subject deserved. The work, therefore, of Capt. Meadows, which embodies the most exciting incidents recorded in that collection of facts, is one which, being better adapted to the prevailing taste, is likely to become far more popular.

Capt. Meadows Taylor has very judiciously interwoven with his narrative descriptions of the mode and manner of living of the people of Hindostan, which will enable those persons who know nothing whatever of the country, to understand the methods by which bands of murderers contrived to commit wholesale slaughter, with scarcely any risk of detection.

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## SYNOPSIS OF INDIAN INTELLIGENCE.

### Calcutta.

By an overland mail arrived since our last, *viâ* the Persian gulf, Bagdad, Damascus, Beyrout, and Alexandria, we have letters and papers from Calcutta to the 20th of May. The following epitome of the most important intelligence is from a correspondent of acknowledged intelligence.

"Calcutta, May 20, 1839.

"The mail which is to be conveyed to England by way of the Persian gulf, Brassora, and Beyrout, leaves us this day in a state of anxiety and apprehension. The last intelligence from China, announcing that the whole of the opium then in the hands of the British merchants (about 20,000 chests!) had been handed over to the Chinese authorities, in obedience to their commands, or in fear of the fulfilment of their menaces,\* has had the most injurious effects upon our markets and prospects. The next arrivals are expected to seal the fate of many commercial men here and at Bombay. If the opium is not restored, and the British government refuses to recognise the act of Captain Elliott, in surrendering it, as he did, not less a sum than two millions sterling will be lost to our capitalists and traders, and, in its *future* effects, the loss may be estimated at eight millions. Our manufacturers at home must suffer, in a corresponding degree, for the great burthen of the loss will fall upon the *consumers* in this country. But we cannot trust ourselves to speculate on the disaster: we 'tremble intensely,' and look for *the clippers*, which are daily expected, to ease our minds.

"Intelligence from the army of the Indus assures us that all goes well in that quarter. Excepting the annoyance from the Beloochees, who cut off stragglers and steal camels, the army has experienced no inconvenience as yet. Provisions are dear, and almost all parties are on short allowance; but this is mainly owing to the officers having taken with them immense establishments, and numerous strings of camels, who have drank dry the wells, and eaten all the forage. If the troops had travelled *light*, they would, to this moment, have been in the midst of plenty. It is expected that Shah Soojah will mount his throne without our wasting a single ball-cartridge, excepting to repel the outrages of the *Kuzzacks*, who hover on our rear and flanks. In the mean time, thousands of camels, laden with provisions, under proper guards, are proceeding to join and supply the army; and a civil officer, Mr. Ross Bell, has been deputed to Shikarpore, to organise levies of Beloochees. Like the Bhuls of Western and Central India, these fellows are capital checks upon their own tribes,—"*set a thief,*" &c. A very few days must inform us of the fall of Candahar.

"Accounts from Assam and Arracan are interesting. From the extreme watchfulness, both of the Burmese and our own government—the mutual arming of passes and strong holds—the building of boats (by our political officers) on the Arracan coast—the assembly at Calcutta of all the commissioners and envoys (Colonel Benson, Dr. Bayfield, and Captain Bagle)—it is evident that hostile measures are anticipated by both parties, though not desired by either. By all accounts we are well prepared. In addition to the *usual* strength at Calcutta and Madras, we have now the Scotch Fusiliers, just arrived from Sydney, and the 94th foot hourly expected from Ceylon. These, with the two European corps at Moulmein, and our ordinary force, are ample for all purposes. On the former occasion of an expedition to Burmah, we were ignorant of the country: *we now know our way to the capital.*

"Calcutta has been very healthy this year. It is unusually cool for this season of the year; in fact, the rains may be said to have fairly set in. We had a slight shock of earthquake lately, but it has not been followed by any mischievous effects, though there are not wanting people who predict fever, cholera, &c. For the state of the money market you are referred to the 'Englishman' of this day, and for a just view of the China question, to the same paper of the 14th instant.

\* Full accounts of the matter are given in the "Singapore Free Press," and the "Englishman," of the 14th and 15th of May, sent by this opportunity.

"Lord Auckland remains at Simla. Sir Henry Fane rusticates in the neighbourhood of Bombay. No shipping news. The 'Robarts,' 'Coromandel,' and 'Lady Kennaway,' sail on Sunday next."

**FUND FOR BUYING OUT LIEUTENANT-COLONELS OF CAVALRY.**—By a letter from Bareilly, we learn that the fund proposed to be established for buying out Lieutenant-Colonels of cavalry, had been agreed to, at least it was believed that the proposition had been approved of by every one of the ten regiments, although our correspondent writes it is not known positively that such was the case. The measure, however, is so beneficial to that branch of the army that we should suppose it must be carried.—*Calcutta Courier*, May 14.

Lieutenants Rennie and Waugh of the Trigonometrical Survey arrived this morning. The 46th Regiment continued their route to Delhi on the 10th.

Lieutenant Loveday, of the 37th N.I., has been appointed assistant to Captain Bean at Kwettah.

A report is current of the death of Major-General Harriott.

Lieutenant St. George is to be appointed second in command to the cavalry regiment of Scindiah's Contingent, the Governor-General having marked with great satisfaction the well-deserved encomium passed upon him as Adjutant of the Infantry regiment, by the Gwallior Resident, Colonel Sutherland.

A late letter from the Army of the Indus says, the Lancers had been obliged to shoot fifty horses, unable to move. The *advance* of the victorious in all its leading features, it has been said, resembled Napoleon's broken flight from Moscow!—*Agra Ukhbar*, May 11.

**MOVEMENTS.**—A letter from the Upper Provinces mentions that two companies of the 1st Bengal N.I., reached Baitool on the 30th April, and two companies of the 42d Madras N.I., on the 3d May.

**ARRACAN BATTALION.**—We understand that Government has, at the recommendation of Lieut.-Col. Hervey, commanding in Arracan, attached an additional brigade of six-pounder guns, with ammunition and stores, to the Arracan local battalion.

**KURNAUL.**—General Duncan gave over command of the division to Lieut.-Col. G. Hunter, and of the station to Col. Shelton on the 4th.—*Englishman*, May 20.

**MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.**—Mr. William Kerr Ewart, of the firm of Gillanders, Arbuthnot, and Co., was flung from his horse yesterday morning while riding on the course, against the distance-post, and died on the spot.

We regret to record a most melancholy accident which occurred this morning to a gentleman of a respectable firm in this city, while taking his usual morning ride on the course. From some cause or other his horse took fright, ran away with him, and in his course came in contact with one of the bamboos placed across the course; the shock precipitated the rider over his horse's head, and he must, we suppose, have fallen on his head, for the unfortunate gentleman was killed on the spot. We forbear to mention names.—*Calcutta Courier*, May 15.

**A TIGER.**—We have been told, by a person just arrived from Bistoopore, that a few days ago a tiger of tremendous size was killed by the civil surgeon of Dum Dum at a place not far from the second number Thannah Pather Ghaut Zillah Twenty-four Pergunahs.—*Gyananveshan*, May 15.

**AGRA.**—A circular has been addressed to the officers of the Bengal Commissariat, directing them to purchase elephants, at whatever price and in whatever quantity. This indicates that we have some work to the eastward.

Captain Bean, 23rd Regiment, has been appointed Political Agent at Kwettah, where he has been instructed to raise an escort of 800 men.

An officer lately proceeding by dawk to Simla was stopped in the Meerut district, plundered of every article he had, and severely wounded by sabre cuts in the arms and legs.—*Agra Ukhbar*.

**DHURMA SHUBA MEETING.**—The members of the Dhurma Shuba held a meeting upon Sunday last, when the propriety of requesting Government to entrust to that body the levy of the Pilgrim-tax, and the management, protection, and repair of the temples came under consideration.—*Englishman*, May 21.

**TREASURE FOR THE ARMY.**—We hear from Delhi, that treasure for the army is pouring in from all quarters. Forty or fifty lacs were in the treasury anterior to the arrival of the last steamer at Allahabad.—*Id.*

Major Drummond has returned from his laborious survey, commenced in February last, for the purpose of pronouncing on the best line for a road between Agra and Bombay. The first line surveyed, that lying direct between this and Indore, and running through Shahabad, Poree, and Kitchepoor, presented too many obstacles to be

selected. The gallant Major was, however, more successful on his return, and has laid down a line between this and Indore, which he considers to be as favourable for the construction of a road as any other direction, west and south from Agra, can present. We hope to be able to give further particulars of this interesting undertaking in a future number.—*Agra Uchler, May 18.*

**AGRA STEAM MEETING.**—The attendance was respectable, the feeling enthusiastic and the proceedings animated; but little was done. The comprehensive scheme was voted aside for the present, and the whole support of Agra tendered to Bombay. This very handsome offer will not however, we fear, affect the question, which to all appearance will end successfully only in the establishment of the comprehensive scheme, to which a Bombay communication must be subservient and secondary. One gentleman, Mr. Goulard, was loud and single in his support of the comprehensive scheme, but the sense—we mean the votes of the meeting were all against him. Nothing but cordial approbation of the Bombay plan was subscribed, except by Mr. G——, who subscribed to the comprehensive views of the Comprehensive.—*Id.*

**INTRODUCTION OF HINDOSTANI INTO COURTS OF LAW.**—Government have at length determined on a change of incalculable benefit to these Provinces, viz., the introduction of the Hindostanee for the Persian language in the judicial proceedings of the country. A partial substitution had before taken place in the Magistrates' Courts, but the innovation had not extended to the Sessions' Court, where it is of so much importance that it should. The difficulties contemplated in the circular will amount to nothing, indeed the great and only difficulty, the consent of Government to the change, has been removed. That a little inconvenience will result there is no doubt, but to an extent utterly incommensurate with the magnitude and importance of the measure, which we may now consider as effected.—*Id.*

**H. M.'s 21st REGT. OF FUSILIERS.**—H. M.'s 21st Regt. of Fusiliers, just arrived from Van Diemen's Land, did not land at Calcutta from the *Fairlie*, but were immediately transferred to boats and conveyed to Chinsurah, where they are to remain for the present.

This regiment appears to have been subjected to the abominable system of stowing and packing in a greater degree of *perfection*, than any of those troops on whose behalf we have heretofore lifted our feeble voice. Not less than 550 souls (officers, men, women, and children) were crowded into the *Fairlie* at Van Diemen's Land, in addition to the ship's company, &c., and thus left to endure all the miseries of confinement below, or exposure on deck in all weathers. We have not heard in what condition the regiment was landed, but we shudder to think what might have been the consequence, had any sickness broken out on board, or the weather proved as unpropitious as it was to the *Northumberland*.

The Government is, we understand, extremely careful of the lives of convicts; not even permitting a single one to embark on a vessel that is not provided with a surgeon. But of the comfort of its European troops, it would appear to be by no means so solicitous. If there is room for them to stand upright, or lie straight down, on the lower or main deck, little else is thought of. The cost per head of the transport of the soldier, is balanced against the expense of maintaining him; and as the former is payable *at once*, while the other is only '*in futuro*,' it is determined to be sparing of the immediate charge, and let the soldier pig as he can. This is exceedingly disgusting, and ought to be represented in strong colours to my Lord Howick, or whoever may now be Secretary-at-War. It offends the spirit of the soldier, and must be extremely prejudicial to his health and efficiency.—*Englishman, May 15.*

It has been suggested to us, by an intelligent military friend, that the arrival in this country of Her Majesty's Fusiliers, is not unlikely to be the source of frequent misunderstandings, at some future period of time, as to the respective rank of the junior Officers of that Regiment, who are Second-Lieutenants, and the Second-Lieutenants of the Company's Artillery and Engineers. In the royal army, Second-Lieutenants take precedence of all Cornets and Ensigns of whatever standing they may be; but, in the Company's army, Second-Lieutenants, Cornets, and Ensigns, rank together, according to the dates of their Commissions. Hence will inevitably arise confusion and controversy, whenever the Queen's Second-Lieutenants are brought into collision with the Company's, unless some immediate steps be taken by the authorities to place these matters in a less anomalous position. On a general court-martial, for example, a Queen's Second-Lieutenant will be entitled to take precedence of an Ensign or a Cornet, who may be entitled, by virtue of the date of his commission, to take precedence of a Company's Second-Lieutenant, who has an older commission than the Queen's officer. But here another difficulty presents itself. The Company's Second-

Lieutenant holds a Queen's commission, by virtue of which, he is "constituted and appointed" to "hold the rank of Second-Lieutenant in the Queen's army in the East-Indies, and to take rank as such." By this clause he is, doubtless, entitled to take precedence of every Second-Lieutenant in the Queen's service, whose commission is of a later date than his own, and so far the matter is plain enough, and sufficiently easy of settlement. But what is to become of the Ensign or Cornet in such a dilemma, as we have supposed?—*Bengal Hurkuru, May 16.*

"THE SYREN."—As very great interest is felt here at this moment regarding the fate of the "Syren," we took the liberty of addressing the captain of H. M. ship "Favourite," on the subject, (that vessel having proceeded in search of the "Syren,") and are permitted to publish his reply:—

"Captain Croker presents his compliments to Mr. Stocqueler, and begs to forward him the following proceedings of H. M. ship, 'Favourite,' in search of the wreck of the 'Syren':—

"I left Amherst in H. M. ship 'Favourite,' on the morning of the 6th of April, 1839, and proceeded to the island of the Great Andaman, and as we just fetched in with Stewart's Sound I inspected it, but seeing nothing, we then worked up to Port Cornwallis, and on the morning of the 13th of April, came to an anchor in that harbour; in it, we could not find the slightest trace of any wreck, indeed of any other thing than two of the rudest bamboo huts, with the remains of extinguished fire near them; these huts were evidently made by the savages of the island, as I found one of their broken weapons close to them.

"On the next day, we could not perceive any thing like a wreck towards the north end of the island, and we sent our boats to examine the reefs and islands of Land fall, and of West Islands; after the boats being thirty hours away, they returned, not being able to make any discovery whatever.

"I then directly proceeded to inspect both of the Cocos islands, and the island of Prepara, but could not find any thing of the ill-fated 'Syren' at either."—*Englishman, May 21.*

OPIMUM.—The views taken by our morning contemporary on the late proceedings in Canton, we hold to be thoroughly sound, as far as the prospects of an indemnity are concerned; and we would impress upon all parties interested in the 20,000 chests of opium delivered up to the Chinese authorities, the hopelessness of looking to England for one piece of the value, if that article can indeed be called valuable, which was unsaleable, and not even tangible, except at the risk of life, without an obvious paradox. Looking at the question, morally, politically, legally, or in reference to expediency, we cannot find an inch of ground on which any minister of the crown could stand, in submitting to the House of Commons a proposition for compensation to the holders of opium at Lintin, on the 18th of March. This opium has been in course of collection for months, with the full knowledge of all parties, that the Chinese Government was determined to have recourse to the severest measures to prevent its introduction. Proclamation upon proclamation was thundered forth to warn the traders, natives, and foreigners of the consequences of their perseverance in the traffic; and Her Majesty's Chief Superintendent, long before the catastrophe occurred, counselled and enjoined the departure of the receiving-ships, and a *bond fide* compliance with the commands of the Emperor. The legal bearings of the case are disposed of by the "Englishman." What guarantee, indeed, can be binding, which is extorted from a prisoner? or who would act upon such guarantee? or acting, would not know he did so at his own peril? Besides, it will be immediately asked, why was the instrumentality of Captain Elliot required to cause the delivery of the opium? Why was not the edict of the Chinese Commissioner of the 18th of March complied with at once?—*Beng. Hurk. May 15.*

RUNJEET SINGH.—Runjeet Singh lies in a very critical state, and is not expected to survive long. Dr. Steel, of the 27th Regiment, stationed at Ferozepoor, has been some time at Lahore, in attendance on the Rajah; and, it is said, another medical gentleman will accompany Mr. Clarke, now proceeding to that city, on a mission. At Simla, a fatal result is apprehended, so much so, that on intimation of the Rajah's illness being received there, Mr. Clarke, who had been previously appointed to proceed to Lahore, was summoned to receive in person his instructions from the Governor-General. He will remain some time at Lahore, in expectation of Runjeet's death.

Whether Runjeet Singh is or is not a cordial ally of the Government, there is no doubt his death at such a time would be perplexing. The integrity of the Sikh empire, as it now exists, is, we presume, considered a *sine qua non* to the accomplishment of the scheme we have embarked in, to protect our North Western Frontier. This integrity the death of Runjeet will most seriously endanger, and, indeed, without the

active interference of our Government, cannot be maintained. This interference, however, cannot be exerted without involving us with the Sikhs,—a people flushed with long success, and impatient of foreign intervention; and though a Wellesley or a Hastings would turn a misunderstanding with them to the advantage of our empire, it will, in the hands of our present Government, lead to the dismemberment of the Sikh power, and with it, to the total subversion of that scheme, which we are now carrying into effect with such risk and expense. The alliance of the Sikhs is indispensable to it, for to leave a hostile and unfriendly power between our ally Shah Soojah, would leave us in a worse position than we were in before we planned this Cabool Expedition. The danger, then, of any dismemberment of the present Sikh empire is so great, that we must prevent it, even were it necessary to render British influence paramount in the country. We might then dwell secure in our Eastern dominions, bounded as they would be, on one side at least, by the barrier, which nature and political science point out as the barrier of Hindostan. To this the death of Runjeet must open the way, and as we follow it up or not, depends the existence of those dominions. It is, therefore, an event to be looked to with the deepest interest!—*Agra Ukhar*.

Private letters reached Calcutta yesterday, confidently announcing the death of Runjeet Singh. There is every probability that the rumoured event, so long expected, has at length occurred. This occurrence has, we should suppose, entered into the calculations of the planners of the invasion of Candul, and at any rate cannot have taken them by surprise; but it cannot fail to have considerable operation in its consequences upon our movement on the N. W. frontier. If the India Government have guaranteed the succession of the Runjeet's favourite, or destined heir, the "Army of the Indus" may be called upon to settle a disputed succession on the banks of the Satledge, before it proceeds any further in its expedition against Candahar. With two wars of succession upon our hands, we shall have enough to fill the hands of those we have got to do the work. There seems, however, to be little doubt that the successor to old Runjeet, must either consent to dismember the Punjab, or fight a tough battle or two before he establishes himself in the Lion's seat. We may turn aside from Candahar, and settle the matter by establishing one under our protection; and this would probably be the best method of getting out of the Candahar scrape, as we should thus virtually constitute the Indus our North-west boundary, a very desirable object. What effect this event will have on the Candahar Chiefs, who are said to "come in" with proffers of men and supplies, it is not easy to predict; but it is not impossible that it may induce them to "go out" again. The conduct of Dost Mahomed himself, is mysterious and suspicious. His character has not been hitherto that of a man who would give in without striking a blow. He has not yet, however, struck a blow; he has omitted one good opportunity for striking a blow. Does he intend to strike hard, when he does at last strike? When we commenced this invasion, we ought to have been prepared against all casualties. Instigated by Russian counsels, he may adopt a Russian precedent, and by sacrificing his capital, and destroying the country around us, he may propose to make himself master of the Bolan Pass in our rear, and cut off our supplies. This, from the desperate enterprise which he is supposed to possess, may be his policy, and it ought to be provided against; for, at the present crisis, to risk anything, is to peril all.—*Bengal Hurkaru*, May 15.

Runjeet Singh has again rallied, after having been despaired of by his own people. His recovery just now is fortunate for Government.

Captain Wade has crossed the Khuebur Pass, having used the weapons recommended of old by the oracle to the Macedonian—silver spears, or without figure—rupees, of which he expended a large sum. The soundness of this proceeding many will doubt; and a preferable course would probably have been to have effected the passage by force. Had the Sikhs been worsted, which they would, in all likelihood, it would have impressed them rather clearly with the value of their alliance to us, and placed the Sikh military power in the light we really believe it ought to be viewed in. We confess we would not dislike to see them well thrashed.—*Agra Ukhar*, May 18.

## REGISTER.

## APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, CHANGES, &amp;c.

**Civil and Ecclesiastical.**

BY THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF BENGAL.

May 14. The leave of absence granted to the Rev. W. Vaughan, under date 8th inst. is to enable him to proceed to sea for two years, under med. cert.

*By the Governor-general of India.*

May 2. Major Thomas Wilkinson has this day been appointed to be resident at Nagpore.

*By order of the Rt. Hon. the Governor-general of India.*

May 7. Mr. E. T. Trevor, Assistant to the Magistrate at Hooghly, has been vested with the powers described in Sect. II. Regulation III. of 1821.

— Mr. R. C. Halkett, officiating Magist. and Collector of Dinagopore, has obtained leave of absence for fifteen days on private affairs. Mr. A. G. Mac Donald will conduct the duties of the offices during Mr. Halkett's absence.

— Mr. A. Reid, special dep. col. in Zillah Behar, has obtained leave of absence, on med. cert., for two months, from the 28th ult. in extension. Mr. C. H. Lushington, of Sarun, will act for Mr. Reid, and Mr. R. N. Farquharson, the special dep. col. in Patna, will, in addition to his own duties, dispose of the boundary disputes in Sarun and Shahabad, and complete the remaining Dearah and Towfeer cases on Mr. Lushington's file.

— Mr. R. Hampton, officiating special dep. col. of Bauleah has been allowed leave of absence from his station for fifteen days, from the 1st inst., on private affairs.

May 10. Mr. C. T. Davidson, magist. and col. of Purneah, has obtained leave of absence, on private affairs, for one month, in extension.

May 14. Mr. Assist. Surg. G. N. Cheek, of Burdwan, has been permitted to be absent from his station for one month on private affairs, commencing from the 15th inst.

— The leave of absence granted on the 3d inst. to Mr. H. C. Metcalfe, magist. of Burdwan, has been cancelled from the 9th idem, the date on which he reported to have resumed charge of his office.

May 15. Mr. J. Alexander, special dep. col. of Bhaugulpore and Monghyr, has ob-

tained leave of absence for six months, to proceed to sea, on med. cert., in addition to the leave granted to him on the 13th ult.

*By the Governor General for the N. W. P.*

April 16. Mr. J. Neave of the civ. serv., was permitted by the hon. the Dep. Gov. of Bengal, on the 20th March last, to proceed to Europe under a med. cert. submitted by him.

19. Mr. M. H. Turnbull, Judge of the Sudder Dewanny and Nizamut Adawlut, on med. cert., for eight months, for the purpose of visiting the Hills.

— Mr. C. G. Mansel, magist. and col. of Agra, on his private affairs, for seven months, from the 1st June next.

— Sir C. M. Ochterlony, bart., Assist. to the magist. and col. of Ghazepore, to remain in Calcutta till the sailing of the ship "Marion" on which he has taken his passage to England under the leave obtained by him in Orders of 10th Jan. last.

— Brevet-Major J. H. Mackinlay, post master at Cawnpore, on his private affairs, for six months, from the 1st proximo, for the purpose of visiting Simla.

— Brevet-Major C. Rogers, of the 20th Regiment, N. I., dep. judge adv. gen., to officiate as post master at Cawnpore, during the period of Brevet-Maj. Mackinlay's absence on leave, or until further orders.

— Capt. R. D. White, of the 69th Regt., N. I., A. D. C. to Maj.-Gen. Sir Thomas Anbury, knt., K. C. B., to be post master at Saugor, from 15th Oct. last, the date on which he received charge of the post office from Mr. Assist. Surg. Dickson, under the station order, by the Maj.-Gen. commanding at Saugor.

April 20. Mr. M. J. Tierney to the civil and sessions judge of Allypore.—The foregoing appointment is to take effect from the 29th ult., the date on which the "Zenobia," in which Mr. J. Neave embarked for England, was left by the pilot at sea.

*By the Governor-general of India.*

May 6. Captain J. Graham, 50th Regt., N. I. Assist. to the General-superintendent of Thugs, has obtained one month's leave of absence, from the 16th May to the 16th June, to visit Mussoorie on urgent private affairs.

The leave of absence granted to Captain

D. Downing, commanding the Jodhpore Legion, under date the 17th January last, is to have effect from the 16th, instead of the 1st of Feb. last.

May 8. The appointments of Mr. N. H. E. Prowett and Mr. J. A. Craigie, in the orders, dated 20th April last, the former to be magist. and col. of Boolundshur, and the latter to be special dep. col. in Bijour and Moradabad, were inserted by mistake. Mr. Prowett will continue to officiate as magist. and col. of Boolundshur, and Mr. Craigie as special dep. col. of Bijour and Moradabad, agreeably to the orders of the 15th Feb. last.

May 6. Captain G. B. Mitchell, 9th Regt. N. I., commanding Infant. Regt., Sindiah's reformed contingent, has obtained leave of absence on med. cert., from the 20th April to the 15th Nov. next, to proceed to the Hills north of Deyrah.

May 9. Lieut. H. M. Donaldson, 60th Regt. Mad. N. I. has been permitted on med. cert. to proceed to the Neilgherry Hills for the benefit of his health, and to be absent from his duty for that purpose until the 30th June next.

— Lieut. W. H. Nicholls, 28th Regt., N. I. acting Adjutant of the 1st Regt. of Infantry, Oude aux. force, has been appointed Adjutant, vice Lieut. Shaw.

### Medical.

BY THE COMMANDER OF THE FORCES.

May 7. Assist. Surg. R. Foley, M. D. of the 2d local horse, to proceed by dawk to Shajehanpore on professional duty.

— Assist. Surg. J. Arthur, M. D. of the 11th Regt. of Mad. N. I., to relieve Surgeon A. Simson, M. D. of the 46th Regt. of Bengal N. I., from the medical charge of the Nureeh corps and the prisoners in the jail at that station.

8. Assist. Surg. J. Murray, M. D. is removed from the 4th and posted to the 2d troop 1st brigade of horse artillery.

### Military.

BY THE PRESIDENT IN COUNCIL.

May 13. Capt. and Brev.-Maj. Thomas Williams, of the 70th Regt. N. I. is permitted to retire from the service of the East India Company, from the 30th ult. on the pension of a Major, in conformity with the regulation of the 29th Dec., 1837.

The hon. the President in Council is pleased to make the following Promotion:

— 37th Regt. N. I.—Ensign F. H. Hawtrey to be Lieut. from the 26th March, 1839, vice Lieut. D. Ramsay, dec.

— 63d Regt. N. I.—Lieut. and Brevet-

Capt. W. F. Grant to be Capt. and Ensign. Y. Siddons to be Lieut. from the 10th Sept., 1838, in succession to Capt. N. Lewis, dec.

76th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. and Brev.-Capt. E. J. Betts to be Capt., and Ensign R. Robertson to be Lieut. from the 30th April, 1839, in succession to Capt. and Brevet-Maj. T. Williams retired.

The undermentioned officers are promoted to the rank of Captain by Brevet.

— Lieut. Thomas Mackintosh, 24th Regt. N. I., and Lieut. John H. Blanchard, 63d Regt. N. I.

— Lieut. John Gilmore, Executive Engineer and Superintendent of Roads at Darjeeling, has leave to the Presidency for one month, from the 1st proximo, preparatory to applying for leave to go to sea for the benefit of his health.

— Maj. James Bourdieu, of the 43d Regt. N. I., is permitted to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope, and eventually to New South Wales, for the benefit of his health, and to be absent from Bengal on that account for eighteen months.

By the Rt. Hon. the Governor-general.

April 23. Appointment.—Capt. W. Grant of the 27th N. I., to be Maj. of Brigade to the troops at Ferozepore.

— Lieut. A. Sanders, of the 44th N. I., late an officiating dep. assist. quart.-master, general with the 2d division of the army of the Indus, is appointed to officiate as a dep. assist. quart.-master-gen. of the 2d class, during the absence on leave to sea of Lieut. R. P. Alcock, and from the date on which his late duties at Ferozepore may have terminated.

The following temporary appointment was made in the secret department, under date the 18th inst.

Lieut. E. J. Brown, attached to the corps of Sappers and Miners at Delhi, to be an assist. to Mr. Bell, who is deputed to Shikarpore to assume the duties of Political Agent in that quarter.

By the Commander of the Forces.

April 30. The Ferozepore station order of the 18th inst., appointing Lieut. Interp. and quart.-master T. Plombe, of the 27th N. I., to act as station staff, is confirmed.

Leave of absence—4th comp. 3d battalion artillery.—Capt. P. A. Torckler, from 3d May to 3d Aug., to proceed to Calcutta, on med. cert.

6th N. I.—Ensign W. Fraser, from 10th March to 10th June, to visit the Presidency on med. cert.

Head-Quarters, Meerut, 1st May.—Lieut. Col. T. Palmer's regimental order of the

22d ult., appointing Ena. J. Chambers to officiate as interp. and quart.-mast. to the 21st N. I., during the absence, on detached duty, of Lieut. Besant, is confirmed.

Maj.-Gen. T. Newton is, with the sanction of the Government, permitted to reside and draw his pay and allowances within the Meerut circle of payment, instead of Benares.

Leave of absence—1st comp. 1st battalion artillery—2d Lieut. W. Hay, from 28th Feb. to 11th March, on med. cert., to cruise off the coast of Arracan.

Brigade Staff—Capt. J. Hamilton, brigade major, Cawnpore, from 15th May to 16th Nov., to visit Calcutta, on private affairs.

May 3. Lieut. interp. and quart.-mast. T. Plumbé, 27th Regt., N. I., to officiate as Dep. Judge Adv. at a native general court-martial directed to assemble at Ferozepore.

Lieut. B. Boyd, 68th Regt., N. I., to be aide-de-camp to Maj.-Gen. M. Boyd.

The undermentioned officers have leave of absence.

1st Batt. artillery—2d Lieut. W. Hay, commanding artillery details in Arracan, from 16th April to 31st May, to visit Calcutta, on med. cert., preparatory to applying for furlough to Europe.

3d. Regt. N. I.—Lieut. C. Ralfe, from 1st May, to 1st May 1840, to visit Darjeeling on med. cert.

10th Regt. N. I.—Ena. P. G. Cornish, from 15th May to 10th Nov., to visit Calcutta, on private affairs.

55th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. Col. M. C. Webber, from 16th May to 31st Oct. to visit the hills north of Deyrah on private affairs.

64th Regt. N. I.—Ena. W. E. Mulcaster, from 2d May, to 2d May 1840, to visit the hills north of Deyrah, on med. cert.

May 4. — The undermentioned officers have been reported by the examiners of the college of Fort William to be fully qualified for the duties of interpreter, are exempted from further exam. in the native languages.

2d Lieut. N. A. Staples, 4th bat. artillery. Lieut. J. T. Gordon, and Lieut. J. Inglis, 15th Regt. N. I.

May 7. Capt. W. Barnett, of the Invalid establishment, is, with the sanction of Government, permitted to reside at Barrackpore, drawing his pay and allowances from the Presidency pay-master.

Cornet A. W. M. Wyllie, of the 7th is, at his own request, removed to the 8th Regt. of Light Cavalry, as the junior of his rank.

The undermentioned officers have leave of absence.

5th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. A. F. C. Deas, from 3d Feb. to 12th April, to visit Sultenpore, Oude.

33d Regt. N. I.—Lieut. J. H. Fergusson,

from 15th June to 15th Oct., to visit Juanpore, on private affairs.

8. The Presidency division order of the 25th ult. directing the undermentioned Ena. recently admitted into the service, to do duty with the corps specified opposite their respective names, is confirmed.

Ena. W. H. Smith, with the 56th Regt., N. I., at Dinapore.

Ena. P. C. Murray, with the 68th Regt. N. I. at Barrackpore.

Ena. G. C. Hatch, with the 58th Regt. N. I. at Barrackpore.

Lieut. and Brevet Capt. R. Smith, of the 28th Regt. N. I. to act as adjutant to the Bhangulpore hill rangers, vice Lieut. and Brevet Captain C. B. Hall, who has been permitted to proceed to the Presidency, on med. cert.

Lieut. interp. and quart.-mast. C. R. Gwatkin, of the 60th Regt. N. I. to officiate station staff at Kurnaul.

2d Lieut. C. B. Young, of the engineers, to act as adj. to the corps of sappers and miners during the absence on political employ of 2d Lieut. Brown.

Lieut. W. Young to continue to perform the duties of adj. to the 38th Regt. N. I.

The Commander of the Forces is pleased to make the following appointment.

38th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. A. C. Dewar to be adj., vice Young permitted to resign that situation.

The undermentioned officers have leave of absence.

38th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. W. Young, from 10th May to 10th Nov. to visit the hills north of Deyrah, on private affairs.

58th Regt. N. I.—Ena. A. Campbell from 15th June to 1st Sept. on private affairs to proceed to Burdwan.

May 13. The Assam light infant. battalion orders of the 28th Jan. last, directing all reports of the corps to be made to Capt. S. F. Hannay, and appointing Lieut. J. N. Marshall, the act. adj. of the batt., to act as second in command are, with the sanction of the Rt. Hon. the Gov.-general, confirmed.

Lieut. and Adj. W. Blackwood, 59th Regt. N. I. has leave to 30th Sept. on private affairs.

#### GENERAL ORDERS TO THE QUEEN'S TROOPS.

Head-Quarters, Mahableshwar, April 26, 1839.—No. 95.—The Commander-in-chief in India has been pleased to make the following Promotions and Appointments until Her Majesty's pleasure shall be known.

2d Foot.—Ena. T. W. E. Holdsworth to be Lieut. without purchase, vice Sparke deceased, 30th January, 1839.

Ena. D. J. Dickenson to be Lieut. without purchase, vice Nixon deceased, 30th Jan. 1839.

6th Foot.—Capt. T. S. Powell, from the

40th Foot, to be Captain, vice Caulfield, who exchanges, 26th April, 1839.

16th Foot.—Ens. S. Lawson to be Lieut. without purchase, vice Ximenes deceased, 22d January, 1839.

39th Foot.—Ens. W. Smith to be Lieut. without purchase, vice Bligh deceased, 23d March, 1839.

Ens. A. Hackett to be Lieut. by purchase, vice Marshall, who retires, 26th April, 1839.

40th Foot.—Capt. H. Caulfield from the 6th Foot, to be Captain, vice Powell, who exchanges, 26th April, 1839.

41st Foot.—Ens. T. O. Evans to be Lieut. without purchase, vice Whittell deceased, 29th Jan., 1839.

49th Foot.—Lieut. J. R. Campbell to be Capt. without purchase, vice Halpin deceased, 22d March, 1839.

Ens. S. H. G. Maclean to be Lieut., vice Campbell, 22d March, 1839.

55th Foot.—Ens. H. H. Warren to be Lieut. without purchase, vice Codd deceased, 4th Feb. 1839.

63d Foot.—Ens. R. Ramsbottom to be Lieut. without purchase, vice Wheatstone deceased, 9th Jan., 1839.

The Commander-in-chief in India has been pleased to promote the undermentioned officers to the rank of Captains, by Brevet, in the East Indies only.

39th Foot.—Lieut. H. F. Stokes, from the 23d July, 1838.

44th Foot.—Lieut. W. H. Dodgin, from the 15th Jan. 1838.

The Commander-in-chief in India has been pleased to grant to the following officers, who had served 15 years and upwards as subalterns previously to their promotion to a company, the rank of Captains, by brevet, in the East Indies only, from the dates specified opposite to their respective names.

2d Foot.—Capt. J. G. S. Gilland, from the 30th Dec., 1827.

39th Foot.—Capt. H. C. Searman, from the 3d Sept., 1827.

The Commander-in-chief in India has been pleased to accept the retirement from the service, by the sale of his commission, of Ens. J. Cross, of the 4th (or King's own) Regt. of Foot, pending the approbation of Her Majesty.

The leave of absence granted by His Excellency Lieut. Gen. Sir J. Nicolls, K. C. B. to brevet Capt. Coulman, 63d Foot, to proceed to England for 18 months, on med. cert., is confirmed.

The appointment of Lieut. G. S. Montizambert, 41st Foot, to act as Adj. to that corps from the 2d of March last, during the absence of Lieut. and Adj. Vaughan, on leave, is confirmed.

## BIRTHS.

At Budnagherry, on the 28th April, the lady of Dr. Bourchier, Civil Surgeon, of a daughter.

At Calcutta, on the 14th May, at the house of J. French, Esq., the lady of the Rev. C. E. Driberg, of a son.

On the 16th May, the lady of Donald McCallum, Esq., of a son.

At Jamaulpore, on the 7th May, the lady of Captain F. C. Milner, 36th N. I., of a daughter.

At Calcutta, on the 19th May, the lady of Captain F. W. Birch, Sup. of Police, of a daughter.

At Mangalore, on the 4th May, the lady of Charles N. Reads, Esq., Madras Civil Service, of a daughter.

At Calcutta, on the 15th May, Mrs. J. A. Potter, of a daughter.

At Calcutta, on the 18th May, the lady of C. W. Montrieux, N. I., of a son.

At Calcutta, on the 18th May, the lady of Capt. Welehman, A. A. G. of the Army, of a son.

At Calcutta, on the 21st May, the lady of Daniel Ainslie, Esq., of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

At Calcutta, by license, at St. Peter's Church, Fort William, on the 16th May, by the Rev. W. O. Ruspini, M. A., Mr. J. E. Dunn, of the Prev. Serv. to Margaret, relict of the late Mr. C. Gale.

At Saharunpore, on the 6th April, by the Rev. J. Whitting, Chaplain of Meerut, William Sweet Dawe, Conductor, to Miss Ellen Taylor.

At Dum Dum, on the 14th May, by the Rev. Mr. Hutton, Mr. William Watson, to Mrs. B. Tuilts.

## DEATHS.

At Moulmein, on the 7th April, in the 27th year of his age, Capt. Alexander Edgar, H. M.'s 63d regt., after a brief illness of a few days.

Near Coimbatore, on the morning of the 13th April, Richard Albert Watkin, the only and beloved son of Capt. R. A. Bayly, 5th regt. Bombay N. I., aged one year and a few days.

On the 17th April, at Goghira, en route from Bellary to Madras, of cholera, Emma, the dearly beloved wife of F. Dunbar, H.M. 39th regt., by whom with her family and friends this loss is deeply deplored.

At Delhi, on the 29th April, Eliza, the

infant daughter of Mr. J. Buttress, of the Barrack Dep., aged 3 months and 15 days.

At Waltair, on the 23d April, Arthur James, the infant son of Capt. Wright, D.A., Quarter-master General.

At Bombay, on the 25th April, Emily Quinn, youngest daughter of Capt. Bertain Newton Ogle, aged 9 months and 24 days.

At Hazareebaugh, on the 3d May, Thomas Alexander Montgomery, Serjeant-major H. M.'s 9th regt., aged 30 years.

At Calcutta, on the 9th May, Miss Fanny Emily Macgregor, daughter of Major-general J. A. P. Macgregor, aged 19 years.

At Dum Dum, on the 10th May, Anne Waddell, the beloved child of Captain H. P. Hughes, Artillery, aged 13 months, and 15 days.

At Futtipore, at the house of H. Armstrong, Esq., Henrietta Mary Lee Macan, infant daughter of Captain C. G. Macan, 16th regt. N. I., and commanding 2d regt. Shah Shoojah's Force.

At the village of Goodoor, on the 2d May, Ensign Charles Murray Babington, D. D., 18th regt. N. I.

At Dinapore, on the 4th May, William,

the beloved and only son of Mrs. M. Longway, widow, aged 11 years and 6 months.

At Calcutta, on the 12th May, Master Henry Constantia Kleyn, son of Mr. Thomas Kleyn, aged 8 years and 9 months.

At Calcutta, on the 12th May, Emily, the wife of Dr. Wise, aged 27 years.

At Calcutta, on the 15th May, William Kerr Ewart, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Gillander, Arbuthnot and Co., Merchants and Agents, aged 34 years.

On the 16th May, Henry Walters, the infant son of Mr. B. Barber, jun., aged 1 month and 24 days.

At Calcutta, on the 16th May, Malcolm Maclean, Esq., of Culna, aged 30 years.

At Delhi, on the 4th May, Harriett, the infant daughter of Mrs. and Quarter-master Sergeant Loveday, 16th regt. N. I., aged 1 year and 5 months.

At Delhi, on the 4th May, Georgiana, the infant child of Mrs. Champion, aged 1 year.

At Darjeeling, on the 6th May, the infant son of Assist.-surg. J. T. Pearson.

At Maulmain, on the 6th April, after a short but painful illness, Mr. George Byron, formerly of the Navy.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

### ARRIVALS.

May 13. The Scotland, from Greenock; the Rosalind, from London. 14. The Abercromby Robinson, from London; the Antigua Packet, from London. 19. Maria, from Rotterdam.

### DEPARTURES.

May 15. The Gentoo, for Liverpool; the John Bagshaw, for do.; the Lloyd, for London; the Renown, for do.; the William Nicholls, for do. 20. The Elizabeth for Liverpool.

## Madras.

**DR. HUNTER.**—We regret to announce the decease of Dr. C. S. W. F. Hunter, of H.M. 4th or King's Own Regiment, doing duty with the wing of the 13th Dragoons at Bellary, this valuable young officer, after but few days' sickness fell a victim to the fever lately prevalent at that station.—*United Service Gazette*, May 17.

**HYDERABAD.**—A correspondent at Hyderabad writes that a strange gloom seems to hang over that city, and that bazaar rumours are afloat to the effect that the Subsidiary Force may be expected ere long to have employment, as the Nizam's brother, who has a very strong party in the city, is supposed to be in league with the malcontents at Kurnool. It is further said that the resident is only waiting for instructions how to act from the Government of India. Our correspondent does not vouch for the correctness of these rumours, but merely gives them as the current *gossip* of the day.—*Ibid.*

**SECUNDERABAD.**—The troops at Secunderabad continue healthy, but our correspondent complains greatly of the high price of grain, which may probably account for the many

petty robberies lately perpetrated, especially in the cavalry lines, where several officers have recently lost their property. A Brahmin, who had been sentenced to hard labour on the roads for robbery, committed suicide, it seems, a few days since in the Cutwal's Choultry, by hanging himself, rather than submit to the disgrace whereunto he was condemned.—*Ibid.*

**VELLORE.**—Vellore was visited by a furiously severe storm early on the morning of the 9th instant. It began to blow pretty strongly from the eastward about 12 o'clock at night, and the wind having veered to every point of the compass, till one o'clock, it then blew great guns from the westward for full two hours, but happily no damage was done. Since that date rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning, has fallen every evening, which has not only enabled our Vellore friends to get tolerably well through half the present trying month of May, but caused a pleasant change in the appearance of the country.

Vellore seems to be a favourite place for recruiting, as no less than five parties were stationed there the other day, besides those from the two regiments composing the garrison.—*Ibid.*

**SHOLAPORE.**—A correspondent at Sholapore writes, that the weather has of late been very unusual for the season, it having rained more or less every night, which has tended to keep the atmosphere cool. The troops are represented as healthy, but an epidemic prevails amongst the horses, which are said to be dying just now in considerable numbers.

**BELLARY.**—Our accounts from Bellary are up to the 6th instant, at which date the cholera had greatly abated; three Europeans were burned on the 4th and one upon the 5th, but only one fresh case had occurred; all the above were in the Dragoons, H. M.'s 39th being quite free from the disease. Both corps were still in camp, and Captain Hamilton, who is in command of the two squadrons of the 13th, exerting himself with laudably anxious care for the health of his men. The Dragoons had already changed ground three times, and when our correspondent wrote, their camp was near the Artillery Hutt, a fine open spot, where we hope they will not be again visited by the pestilence. A rumour prevailed in the garrison that an order had arrived for the two squadrons of the 13th to occupy the old Dragoon barracks, (an arrangement which was suggested in the "United Service Gazette" of the 30th ultimo.) but as they are now places of arms for an Infantry Corps, it was supposed the order would be evaded. We trust, however, that the garrison of Bellary will be spared any further ravages of the cholera, which, strange to say, has almost entirely confined itself to the European troops, but sad, truly said, is it that so many lives should have been sacrificed, as we verily believe, through the ill judged arrangement of the local authorities at first, and wanton obstinacy in continuing the Dragoons in the fort after the receipt of the order for their removal. Our correspondent mentions, that low fever prevails to a considerable degree at Bellary; and we regret to learn that Major Walpole of H. M.'s 39th, had been so seriously ill as to render a trip to the hills indispensable.—*United Service Gazette*, May 14.

The Madras papers are not able to inform us of the cause of a force being assembled at Bellary. Some ascribe it to discontent at Kurnool, while it is again asserted that this discontent is fomented by the brother of the Nizam, who is ambitious to usurp the supremacy. We cannot see any sense or reason in all this blind and silly-looking intriguing, though it may be sufficient to justify the getting together of a considerable force. The crowded state of the assembled troops is said to have given rise to cholera, which, we are happy to hear, has since nearly disappeared.—*Ibid.*

We are happy in being enabled to state that the cholera seems to have passed away completely from the scene of its late fatal ravages, as our Bellary correspondent on the 11th instant, wrote that no fresh cases had for several days occurred, and that some fine showers had greatly cooled the atmosphere, which for weeks past has been so oppressively hot. H. M.'s 39th Foot have returned to their barracks in a more healthy state, but a good deal of fever still prevails. The Dragoons continued in camp near the small rock in the vicinity of Mango Tope, where they were placed for the sake of water, the quality of which however proved so bad that several men were taken ill immediately after drinking it, and a serjeant of Dragoons died without other apparent cause. The water has been since tested by a medical officer and veterinary surgeon, both of whom have reported it unfit beverage for man or beast, and the Dragoons now water from an excellent well close to their lines, but which had escaped notice previously.

The "Spectator" of Wednesday, states, "upon trustworthy authority from Bellary, that the late cholera visitation was not caused by closeness of barracks, and that no

blame is to be attributed to the authorities on that score." We congratulate our contemporary on his good fortune in possessing a correspondent capable of enlightening the public as to what was not the cause of the late awful visitation in that garrison; but does the "Spectator" really mean to assert that the men of H. M.'s 39th Foot were not crowded in a manner most prejudicial to health; knowing as he must that this entire regiment was crammed into a barrack only calculated for, and barely capable of accommodating a single wing of Europeans, this moreover in the hottest season of the year, at one the hottest stations in Southern India?—*Ibid.*

**STEAM MEETING.**—The Steam Meeting at the College Hall, on Friday afternoon, went off very satisfactorily; the attendance was not numerous, probably between fifty and sixty; but when we consider the shortness of the notice, the inconvenience of the hour, for many persons, and the state of the weather, the sea-breeze about 92 deg. we may rather express our surprise that so many were present, than wonder at the thinness of the Meeting. Amongst the persons in attendance on Friday, we noticed Sir R. Comyn, Sir Jasper Nicholls, Sir E. Gambier, Mr. Dent, Mr. Cator, Mr. A. Arbuthnot, Mr. Morris, Colonel Tulloch, Mr. Bruce, Rev. Mr. Bowie, Chocapath Chitty, Strenevasa Pillay, Mr. Seth Sam, Mr. B. Key, Mr. Pruen, Bash Carlo Naik, Mr. Franklin, Major Alexander, C. Terucawmy, Major Butterworth, Mr. Serle, Mr. Mc Taggart, P. Appasawmy Pillay, Mr. Dalrymple, Mr. Baynes, Mr. Waddell, Mr. A. Maclean, G. Lutchmanaraoosoo Chitty, &c. &c.

Sir R. Comyn having been requested to take the Chair, said, the object of the Meeting was to declare, that the Resolutions of the Calcutta Steam Meeting, held on the 15th of April, were generally applicable to this Presidency, and deserve the favourable support of the conditional subscribers to the Madras lists, and of the public in general. A Resolution to this effect having been put from the Chair, and seconded by Mr. Bruce, was carried unanimously. The second Resolution, calling upon those willing to become Subscribers, to pay a deposit of ten per cent., or sixty rupees, on each share, was moved by Sir J. Nicholls, and seconded by Colonel Tulloch, and carried unanimously. Sir E. Gambier proposed the third Resolution,—That, on the receipt of the Prospectus of the London Company, a public Meeting should be called, through the Sheriff, for the purpose of passing such further Resolutions as might be deemed necessary. Sir Edward Gambier thought it was of great importance that the people at home should know, that the desire for Comprehensive Steam Communication was unabated throughout all classes of the people of India. Mr. Dent, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, for the active interest which he had always taken in the promotion of Steam Communication with England, thought it necessary to state, as Chairman of the Steam Committee, that several parties, in declaring their willingness to become Subscribers to the proposed scheme, stipulated, that they were not to be held liable beyond the amount of their subscriptions. This objection had been anticipated, for it was expressly understood, that in the Act of Parliament to be applied for, parties were only to be held responsible for the amount of their subscriptions; and it is further arranged, that persons in the Civil and Military Services, who are now precluded from being shareholders in public bodies, should be capable of holding shares in the Comprehensive Steam Company. Mr. Dent further stated, that it was the wish of the Madras Steam Committee, that public Meetings should be held *simultaneously* in Calcutta, Madras, Ceylon, and, if possible, Bombay; but the people of Calcutta, anxious, on this as on all other occasions, to take the lead in objects calculated to promote the welfare of India, and the good of mankind, had anticipated them.

Sir R. Comyn, in returning thanks, said he should be happy to lend his best endeavours for the promotion of Steam Communication as long as he remained in India.

Subscriptions, as we understood, to the amount of one Lakh, were entered on the Lists before the Meeting closed; but we did not learn the particulars.—*Madras Courier*, May 13.

**QUEEN'S TROOPS.**—We have very important information from most of the large stations respecting the health, movements, and quarters of H. M. troops.

In Fort St. George, the officers and men of the 54th Foot have rather hard duty, but perhaps not more than is good for them. The most crying grievance is the want of proper ventilation in the guard-houses, and of Pandalls to shelter the men from the sun. Why are they not ventilated as the artillery quarters?

**POONAMALLE.**—It is expected that two companies of the 54th Foot will be stationed at Poonamalle; but we hear of no orders having been yet given to prepare for their reception, although the left wing of the regiment is expected at Madras in the course of a few days.

**BANGALORE.**—Things go on smoothly at this station, which is indubitably the best

for Queen's troops, under the Madras Presidency. It is sad, however, to see such facility for drunkenness afforded by the construction of the Infantry Barrack; but we hope that Colonel Breton's proposal for rectifying this evil, will prove effectual.

**BELLARY.**—The mismanagement of all arrangements for H. M.'s troops at this station, from first to last, since the arrival of the two squadrons of the 13th Dragoons, exceeds anything that we almost ever heard of; for although the cholera was hovering around, if it had not already appeared in H. M.'s 39th regiment, the dragoons with their horses were crammed into the Fort with them, contrary, it is said, to the advice of Her Majesty's Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, and the consequence was that the disease spread amongst the men like wild fire; and although they were afterwards all ordered out into camp, the malignant pestilence has clung to them for weeks, committing fatal ravages; and the season is now much too hot for the men to remain longer under canvass, when nothing active is stirring. Sir Henry Fane, it is expected, will order an inquiry into the business. When a ship of war is lost, the cause of such loss is always investigated by a court of inquiry; when fifty men-of-war are lost, will there be none?

**SECUNDERABAD.**—Our Secunderabad correspondent complains that nothing has been yet done for the improvement of the Guard-house; although they were all reported in an unfit state by a committee which sat upon them upwards of two months ago; and the men on duty have been, and are still suffering greatly from the intense heat, whereunto they are exposed: how different is this from the way of doing business on the Bombay side!

**BELGAUM.**—Here it appears that, on the representation of the Brigadier commanding, plans and estimates for some new Guard-house, and the repairs of others were immediately called for, and the Europeans relieved from the Bazar Guard, till a new and more fitting guard-house should be erected for their accommodation. This is as it should be; the dacks are wide awake to the value of the British soldier!

**CANNANORE.**—The 94th are quite surprised to find that no tables are allowed to their men in barracks; and, indeed, no wonder; for we believe that the Madras Presidency is the only part of the world where soldiers have not tables in established barracks.

**TRICHINOPOLY.**—The left wing of the 57th Foot has been at Trichinopoly some time; and it appears that the men suffered much from heat and fatigue during the first part of their march from Cannanore, as did also the right wing, which reached Calicut on the 4th instant; we think it right here to observe, that a few of the stages between Cannanore and Calicut, by some strange oversight, are so long, that no body of Europeans should be allowed to march them according to the present route; for instance, sixteen or seventeen miles over deep sand, with a river or two to be crossed, especially at this season of the year, is far too fatiguing for European infantry. The average rate at which the men march, including obstacles and halts, is, we are informed, about two miles and a quarter per hour; and thus, from the length of time that the day's march occupies, the men must reach their ground perfectly exhausted. The Commander-in-Chief, or Governor in Council, should give immediate attention to this, and order the stages in this line to be shortened: for the Quarter-master General's explanations about commanding officers having a discretionary power of halting, are nothing to the purpose, as they can hardly be expected to know which are the most proper halting places; and besides any change in the route of a European corps, invariably causes inconvenience in regard to the supplies, which might easily be avoided by timely arrangements of a better nature.

We invite information of the kind here given from all our military friends for the good of the army at large, since such cannot but prove beneficial to the service eventually.  
—*Madras Courier.*

## Bombay.

**PRIZE-MONEY.**—We learn, from the "Government Gazette," that steps are taking for the immediate payment of the prize-money due on account of the last Burmese war.—*Gazette, May 29.*

**ROBBERY AT MALWAN.**—The following, from the "Courier," has been the award allotted those who lately made an attack upon the Treasury at Malwan :—

"The robbers, who some time ago made an attempt upon the Malwan Treasury, have been brought to trial; five are condemned to be hanged, eighty-five to be transported for life, and some others to minor punishments. Eight yet remain to be tried, who were so badly wounded as to unfit to be brought up for the present."—*Ibid.*

**NATIVE CONVERTS.**—We have made an extract from the "Chabook," relative to the Parsee youth mentioned in a former paper. The "Chabook," says he, has been conveyed away to Nowsaree. If this statement be true, it ought to be ascertained by the proper authorities, whether the lad be there against his will, and if so, he should be liberated. In short, his case requires a writ of *habeas corpus*.—*Ibid. May 27.*

**WEATHER.**—We are happy to state, that the weather at this island has been greatly moderated from the oppressiveness of the heat, by the setting in of the rains, and we may now confidently assert, that our monsoons have commenced in good earnest, and rather early too in this season; we hope to realize the anticipations of a plentiful harvest of every description of grain and fruit, and our market may be seen richly stored. We experienced yesterday evening, at about seven o'clock, rather high winds, indicating a storm, and the sea very boisterous; we trust nothing serious, or of an alarming nature, has been communicated to us, after going to press.—*Ibid.*

**GATES.**—The Bazar gate is not yet finished, after nearly four years' labour, and it will be hard to say when the other gates will be completed, if things keep going on at the same rate. It is a very hard matter to get any thing, in the shape of an improvement on foot, and when it is set a-going, the lazy, sluggish, dilatory manner in which the work is performed, would seem to indicate that it was undertaken with an unwilling heart. No work of public utility appears to be entered into with heartiness, or carried through with spirit. Workmen are employed, and paid for working lazy; no active working superintendence is employed to keep them continually at their duties.—*Ibid. May 29.*

**ADEN.**—We understand, that Aden is to be strongly fortified, and that ordnance for the walls is to be sent there as soon as practicable. It thus appears, that Aden is to be a permanent station. Its fortification is a very necessary and useful work, both as relating to its importance as a military station, and a safe and commodious *refugium* for commerce. There is nothing that the trader, in that part of Asia, requires more than a free and liberal protection. The merchants of Arabia and other traders will not fail to make that place their resort, where their persons can be secure, and where they can keep their goods, without their safety being dependant upon the payment of very severe exactions. We hear, that the progress of the Egyptians towards Bussorah and Bahrein, are very slow, and that it is probable, that nothing will, after all, be effected. Meanwhile, it is said, the Turkish Empire is collecting all its resources for a most desperate struggle.—*Ibid. May 27.*

**PARSEES.**—We are daily and hourly observing fresh manifestations of the fact, that many of the Parsees have run mad. Shapoordaroo, the peon of their mightinesses so called of the Punchayet, is daily going about, from shop to shop, among the Parsees of the Bhendee Bazar, and warning them to take notice of any Parsee who may go into the American Mission Chapel. We are at a loss to know what advantage will be gained by the *mightinesses* of the Parsees from their thus displaying their silliness. We are at a loss to know what authority the mightinesses of the Parsees have thus to interfere. We cannot see by what authority they can prevent any Parsee, or any other person, from entering a Christian place of worship. It frequently so happens that we are necessarily obliged to go to that chapel on business; then what authority have the Parsees by which they can prevent us? And should they prevent us, are there no police to assist; if we require them? O madness! madness! madness! Do the Parsees not see that this is another abuse which needs reform?—*Chabook, May 28.*

**COLLECTORATES.**—The enormous divisions of territory, which commonly go by the name of Collectorates, and which are too unwieldy for the active management of a single person, ought, if the improvement of the country, and the welfare of the inhabitants be ever consulted, to be reduced to much more moderate and accommodating dimensions. No collector, even of the most locomotive habits, can ever become acquainted with his charge. While he takes a tour to one quarter this year, and a tour to another the next, he can never by such fleeting visitations be able personally to know and become intimate in all the peculiarities appertaining to each place under his sway; he must be contented to take the assurance of others; and thus his own direct utility is swallowed up in the unmanageable extent of his jurisdiction. True he has got assistants; but this fact by no means affects the policy of the case, in regard to the individual collector. He would, no doubt, have assistants, were the radius of his authority reduced to one-third its present length. We would contend that the principle upon which immense slices of territory are cut off and consigned to the superintendence of one man, is radically bad. The smaller the charge is, the more minute and careful will be the attention given, the more pains will be taken to improve it, and the more knowledge and experience will be gained.

We will go into more length on this subject in a future number.—*Gazette, May 24.*

**GULF.**—The latest account from the Gulf represent the Persian authorities as disdaining to make any apology. We are dubious to whom the virtue of apology properly belongs. It is no argument to say that the Persians were proud and insolent, and so forth; the question is, who gave the offence? We are not very anxious about the interests of Persia, nor are we aught solicitous to make her appear a whit more polite and mannerly, than she is represented to be; but if it be admitted that she is yet at liberty to manage her own internal concerns, and to make regulations for her own Custom-houses, we cannot see why she should be expected to seek for conciliation, by an apology. The Governor, at Bushire, tells our admiral and resident that certain baggage must go this way. They immediately get stormy, and declare it shall not go that way. Both parties become enraged, and insult one another. A squabble then ensues, and all the British authorities give leg bail. The Persians regard the squabble and the flight as a piece of pusillanimity; and as they cannot consider themselves the aggressors, are reluctant to make any apology. This we take to be the gist of the whole concern; and really we cannot see why an apology can be required, unless it be to teach the Persians that we can be as bullying and insulting as themselves.—*Ibid, May 29.*

**VERNACULAR DIALECTS.**—The employment of the vernacular dialects, in the law proceedings of the Company's Courts, where they were not formerly in use, is a measure of considerable importance and utility, and the wonder is, that the adoption of such a plain and easy mode of communication between judge and suitor, should have been deferred so long. Whatever may be the effect which the vernacular system may produce upon the course of litigation, by either contracting or lengthening it, we think, that it must operate favourably, in demonstrating and simplifying the administration of justice. The suitor will have some chance in knowing what he is about; he will not be wholly in the dark as to what is passing around him; and he will have an opportunity by hearing and knowing the nature and power of the pleadings, both in his own behalf and on the part of his adversary, to estimate the probabilities in his favour, and regulate the amount of the necessary bribe or fee accordingly. It is in this respect, that the advantage of vernacular litigation will particularly consist. We do not think that the corruption and knavery which adhere inviolately, in some shape or other, to every court of justice in which the influence of native officers is acknowledged, will be very much disturbed. The change of a dialect or a language cannot affect the rooted tenacity of principles which pay respect only to the claims of self-interest; so that justice may continue to be as firmly and perseveringly perverted under the light of a vernacular, as under the darkness of a Persian law process.

There is one great radical defect at the bottom of every superior court of justice in India, which is, the comparative ignorance of the European judges in the dialects of the natives, and their consequent dependence on the capacities of their native officers. This ignorance does not prevail to an extent which would render them the mere instruments of their native servants; but it exists so as to render all their duties excessively irksome and unpleasant, and makes them willing to receive the welcome yoke of any subordinate ability and influence, that can exonerate them from the fatigue of a vexatious task. Many are more inclined to hold the shadow and the more substantial emoluments of their office, than labour for a familiar accomplishment in the idiom of an obdurate language; and while they are permitted to enjoy the satisfaction of lassi-

tude and obesity, they think themselves blessed in having an official who can discharge all the arduous duties of their offices, and at the same time procure for them the estimation of most indefatigable and diligent perseverance in the performance of their duties, along with the *ecclat* of daily sacrificing all their time and distinguished abilities, and sometimes their valuable health, in the service of the public. While this deficiency in the most important element in the judicial functions continues to remain without much abatement, we cannot expect that the fountain of justice will be other than corrupt and unwholesome.—*Ibid.*

## APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, CHANGES, &c.

### Civil and Ecclesiastical.

#### BOMBAY CASTLE.

May 18.—Mr. E. Montgomery, to be Dep. Col. of Customs and Land Revenue at the Presidency, and to act as Dep. Civil Auditor and Mint Master, till relieved by Mr. Grant.

Mr. C. Sims, to act as Dep. Col. of Customs and Land Revenue during Mr. Montgomery's employment in the Audit and Mint Department.

22.—Mr. H. Willis is permitted to resume charge of his office as French and Dutch Translator.

17.—The Rev. A. Stackhouse, M. A., is appointed Chaplain at Surat.

The Rev. J. Jackson, M. A., is appointed Chaplain of Colabar, from the departure of the Rev. M. Davies for Europe.

23.—In consequence of Mr. W. Simson having been ordered to assume, forthwith, charge of his permanent app. of col. and magis. of Shoolapoor, the Hon. the Gov. in Council is pleased to make the following arrangements.

Mr. E. H. Townsend, to act as col. and magis. of Belgaum, and political agent in the Southern Mahratta Country.

Mr. P. Stewart, to act as col. and magis. of Poona.

24.—Mr. J. D. Inverarity, acting first assist. to the col. of Ahmednugger, is allowed leave of absence for one month, from the 11th instant, under section XIV. of the absentee regulation, to proceed to Mahableshwar.

Mr. P. M. Dalzell, uncovenanted assist. to the col. of customs to the Pres., is allowed leave of absence for 15 days, from the 21st instant, to proceed to Khandalla, on sick cert.

Mr. R. G. Chambers, acting sub-col. of Nassick, is allowed an extension under sect. XIV. of the absentees' regulation, for 24 days, of the leave of absence granted to him on the 18th ult.

Mr. A. Richardson, assist. to the prin. col. of Surat, is allowed leave of absence for 15 days, from the 11th inst., under section XIV. of the absentee rules, to remain at the Pres. on private affairs.

29.—Mr. H. Harrison, col. of Ahmednugger, is allowed to remain on dep. in the districts, until the setting in of the monsoon.

29.—The Hon. the Gov. in Council is pleased to notify, that Mr. S. Babington, assist. col. and magis. of Belgaum, was examined in the regulations of Government on the 20th inst., by a committee assembled for that purpose, and was found competent to enter on the transaction of public business.

### Medical.

#### BOMBAY CASTLE.

May 17.—By a resolution passed in the Gen. Dep., under date the 9th inst., the following arrangements and appointments have been made.

Assist.-surg. B. White, Vaccinator N.W. D. Guzerat, is transferred to the S. E. D. as Vaccinator.

Assist.-surg. J. Keith, Acting Vaccinator S.E.D. Guzerat, to be Vaccinator of the N.W. D. Guzerat.

Assist.-surg. White to join the S. E. D. when relieved from his military duties at Humole.

18.—Surg. C. Downey, Garrison Surg. of Bombay, is allowed a furlough to sea for six months, for the benefit of his health.

20.—Surg. H. Gray is appointed Garrison Surg., during the absence of Surg. Downey on med. cert., or until further orders.

24.—No. 50 of 1839.—With reference to General Order, No. 46, dated 13th instant, Assist.-Surg. Fraser is directed to assume med. charge of the Steamer Hugh Lindsay, without delay.

25.—Assist.-surg. Bowstead, of the 13th regt. N. I., is allowed a furlough to Europe for three years, for the benefit of his health.

28.—Surg. Pinney is appointed staff surg. of Mhow, to join on the termination of the Field Service, on which he is at present employed.

As a temporary measure, pending further orders, the Sen. Med. Officer stationed at Mhow, will act as staff surg.

29.—Assist.-surg. W. Pitcairn, Acting Port Surg., is directed to assume med. charge

of the 4th regt. N. I., during the illness of Surg. J. McMorris.

### Military.

BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

*Bombay Castle, May 18.*

The following alterations and promotions are made:—

#### *Left Wing European Regiment.*

Capt. J. P. Cumming to be Major, Lieut. W. H. Rawlinson to be Capt., and Ens. R. W. D. Leigh, to be Lieutenant, in succession to Meriton retired.—*Date of Rank*, 10th Jan., 1839.

N.B.—The promotion of the two latter officers are made, subject to the provisions of the 4th paragraph of the Hon. the Court of Directors' letter dated 11th April, 1838, published to the army on the 19th July, 1838.

#### *9th Regiment Native Infantry.*

##### *Adjustment of Rank.*

Captain J. B. Bellasis, and Lieut. A. Valliant, take rank, in succession to Meldrum retired.—*Date of Rank*, 12th July, 1837.

##### *Promotions.*

Lieut. (Brev. Capt.) W. Purves, to be Capt., and Ens. C. Halkett, to be Lieut., in succession to Farquharson, promoted.—*Date of Rank*, 28th June, 1838.

The undermentioned officers are promoted to Enss., and ranked from the dates specified opposite their names, and posted to the following Regiments.

Joseph Dyke, vice Halkett, promoted—Regiment Rank 20th April, 1839.—Army Rank 11th Dec., 1838.—Appointed to the 9th Regt. N. I.—(not arrived).

George Frederick Thorne, to complete the Establishment—Regimental Rank 20th April, 1839—Army Rank 11th Dec., 1838.—Appointed to the Right Wing Eur. Regt.—(not arrived).

By a resolution passed in the Secret Department under date the 17th inst., the services of Lieut. T. Postans of the 15th Regt. N. I., and Ens. E. B. Eastwick of the 6th Regt. N. I., are placed at the disposal of the Government of India, for service in Upper Scinde.

Ens. C. Grey of the 8th Regt. N. I., is allowed a furlough to Europe for three years, for the benefit of his health.

Lieut. F. C. Wells of the 15th Regt. N. I., is allowed a furlough to Europe for the benefit of his health.

Lieut. H. Wood of the Engineer Corps, is allowed a furlough to Europe for one year, as a special case, without pay, on private affairs.

20.—Mr. Alfred William Lucas, having satisfied the Government on the points of

qualification required by the Hon. the Court of Directors, is admitted to the Service as a Cadet of Infantry on this Establishment from the 9th inst., and promoted to Ensign; the dates of his commissions having already been settled.

The Hon. the Gov. in Council is pleased to direct that a small party of the Corps of Sappers and Miners to be stationed on the Ram Ghaut during the rains, to make such repairs as may be urgently called for, and that the whole company be employed on the Ghaut road, towards the close of the monsoon.

The following temporary arrangement is confirmed:—

Ens. H. L. Evans of the 17th Regt. N. I., to act as adj. to that regt., from the 27th Oct. to the 27th Nov. last, during the absence of Lieut. Knipe on leave to the Presidency.

Capt C. Johnson delivered over charge of the Com. Dep. at Malligaum to Lieut. A. H. O. Mathews of the 15th Regt. N. I., under date the 1st inst.

Brev.-Capt. G. N. Prior of the 21st Regt. N. I., has been nominated to command the detachment at Trombay, Sion, and in the districts, from the 12th inst.

The Brigade order under date the 16th Nov. last, directing Brev.-Capt. Wilson, Major of Brigade, to take charge of the Bazar dep. at Deesa, on the departure of Lieut. Shau from that station, is confirmed.

17.—The order issued by the Brigadier commanding the Scinde Reserve Force, under date the 1st Feb. last, appointing Capt. J. Gray of H. M.'s 40th Regt., to act as interpreter to the force during the absence of Lieut. Postans, from the 20th Jan. last, is confirmed.

Deesa being reduced to a 2d class brigade, the situation of dep. paymaster at that station is abolished.

A treasure chest will be established there, agreeably with the regulations.

Consequent on orders from the Government of India, a dep. paymaster is sanctioned for Mhow.

Ens. J. D. De Vitre of the 25th Regt. N. I., is appointed dep. paymaster at Mhow.

Lieut. C. D. Mylne, of the 6th Regt. N. I., to be assist. to the super. of Bazaars at Poona.

No. 285 of 1839.—Under instructions from the Rt. Hon. the Gov. Gen. of India, orders have been issued for raising at Baroda a local corps, to be designated the "Guzerat Irregular Horse," to consist of 8 russallahs, and to be of the following strength:—8 rissaldars, 8 Jemadars, 32 duffedars, 64 naib duffedars, 8 nishun burdars, 8 trumpeters, 640 sowars.—Extra: 1 wordes major, 1 nakieb, 1 writer, 2 native doctors,

1 trumpet major, 1 chowdry, 1 Mootsuddy, 3 flagmen, 2 lascars.

The following officers have been appointed to this corps:—

Commandant.—Major H. G. Roberts, of the 13th Regt. N. I.

Second in Command.—Lientenant A. N. Aitchison, of the 13th Regt. N. I.

Adjutant.—Ensign J. McGregor, of the 21st Regt. N. I.

Medical Officer.—Assistant Surgeon H. T. Chatterton, 23d Regt. N. I.

25. The undermentioned gentlemen are admitted to the service, in conformity with their respective appointments by the Hon. the Court of Directors, as cadets of cavalry and infantry, and as assist.-surgeons on this Establishment. The cadet for the cavalry is promoted to cornet, and those for the infantry to Ensigns, leaving the dates of commissions for future adjustment.

Cavalry.—Mr. C. F. Magniac—date of arrival at Bombay, 9th May, 1839.

Infantry.—Mr. J. D. Stewart—date of arrival at Bombay, May 9, 1839.

Fred. Stanley—date of arrival at Bombay, May 9, 1839.

Medical Establishment. — Mr. H. D. Glasse—date of arrival at Bombay, May 9, 1839.

Mr. R. H. Davidson, M. D.—date of arrival at Bombay, May 9, 1839.

The undermentioned officers have returned to their duty, without prejudice to their rank, by permission of the Hon. the Court of Directors:

Capt. G. Fisher of the 12th Regt., N. I.—date of arrival at Bombay, May 9, 1839.

Capt. T. Gidley of the 11th Regt. N. I.—date of arrival at Bombay, May 9, 1839.

Ena. J. L. P. Hoare, of the 13th Regt. N. I., is appointed Fort Adj. of Surat, vice Aitchison, subject to the provisions of Government General Order of 8th Aug. 1834.

Ena. R. FitzGerald, of the 12th Regt. N. I. is allowed a furlough to the Cape of Good Hope for a period of two years, for the benefit of his health.

27. The temporary appoints. specified in the following Extracts from General Orders, by His Excellency the Commander-in-chief, dated the 8th March last, are confirmed.

Capt. J. Scott of the 23d Regt. N. I., to act as a sub-assist. Commissary-General, and to be stationed at Bukkur, until further orders.

Capt. H. Lyons, of the 23d Regt. N. I. is appointed an acting sub-assist. Commissary-General.

Lieut. R. H. Wardell of the 5th Regt. N. I. is appointed an acting sub-assist. Commissary-General.

28.—The following temporary arrangement is confirmed:

Lieut. N. P. McDougall, of the 13th Regt. N. I. to act as Fort-Adj. at Surat, on the departure of Lieut. Aitchison, from the station until the arrival of the officer nominated to the situation.

May 29.—The General Order issued by the Commander-in-chief, under date the 10th March last, and also the Brigade Order issued by Brigadier Valliant dated the 26th March last, directing Capt. Corsellis, paymaster to the Scinde Reserve Force, to proceed to Bukkur as soon as possible, and Capt. Donnelly, dep. assist.-adj.-gen. of the Scind Reserve Force, to take charge of the Treasure Chest for the use of the brigade divided between Karachee and Tatta, is confirmed.

The hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to confirm the following divisional order by Maj.-Gen. Willis, commanding northern division of the army:

Under information received yesterday from the acting political agent in the Myhee Kaunta, Capt. Apthorp, K. I. C. 20th Regt. N. I. will, as senior officer, assume command of the troops in that province.

Lieut. Valliant, 9th Regt. N. I., is appointed, subject to the confirmation of the Commander of the Forces, line-adj. to the force, from the 8th inst., the date on which they were to take the field.

The superintending surgeon is requested to avail himself of the services of assist.-surg. White, and to direct that medical officer to proceed to Hursale without delay.

#### MARINE DEPARTMENT.

May 20.—Mr. Fred. St. Lawrence Pratt is admitted to the service as a volunteer for the Indian Navy, from the 9th inst. the date of his arrival at Bombay.

22. The following temporary appointments and arrangements are confirmed:

*By the Superintendent of the Indian Navy.*

Commander Haines, the political agent, proceeding to Aden, to resume his duties, to be accommodated with a passage on board the Hugh Lindsay, at the commander's table, from the 16th April last.

Mr. Purser Dawson, proceeding to Aden, in charge of government coal, stores, and provisions, to be accommodated with a passage on board the Ann Crichton from the 5th December last to the 10th April, 1839, the date of his arrival at Bombay.

Lieut. Buckle, proceeding to the Malabar coast in the Bengal pilot brig Orissa, to be accommodated at the commander's table from the date of the sailing of that vessel.

Lieut. Campbell from the Hastings to the temporary charge of the Hon. Company's steam vessel Indus, from the 27th April last.

Mr. Atkinson, 2d assist. to the master-attendant, to be accommodated on board the *Semiramis*, from the 27th Feb. to the 29th of March last, at the commander's table.

Mr. Graham to join the *Taptee* brig, employed on special duty, as clerk in charge, from the 7th of March last.

Mr. Roberts to perform the additional duties of mate on board the *Hugh Lindsay*, from the 9th of April last.

Assist.-surg. Atkinson, proceeding to join the Hon. Company's brig *Euphrates* at Kurrachee, to be accommodated with a passage on board the *Eamont*, at the commander's table, from the 16th of March to the 2d of April last.

*By the senior Indian Naval Officer in the Persian Gulf.*

Acting Lieut. Campbell to perform the duties of mate of the *Clive*, from the 6th of January last, the date of Mr. Roberts' departure in the *Forfield* to Bombay.

Acting Lieut. Draper to perform the duties of mate of the *Tigris*, from the 6th of Jan. last, the date of Mr. Leeds' departure in the *Forfield* for Bombay.

Mr. Purser Stockham to perform the duties of clerk of the *Clive* from the 6th of Jan. last, the date of Mr. Fallon's departure for Bombay.

Lieut. H. H. Hewitt to the charge of the *Tigris*, from the 13th of March to the 1st of April last.

Lieut. Winn to the charge of the *Tigris* from the 2d of April last.

*By the Political Agent at Aden.*

Commander Haines, the political agent proceeding to the Presidency on med. cert., to be accommodated with a passage on board

the *Berenice* from the date of his leaving that port to the date of his arrival at Bombay.

*By the Senior Officer commanding the naval branch of the Expedition to the Indus in Scinde.*

Maj. Gen. Torrens and Col. Beresford to be accommodated on board the schooner *Constance* from Kurrachee to the Presidency from the 16th to the 20th April last, at the commander's table.

Col. H. Pottinger resident in Scinde, and assist.-surg. Deacon to have accommodation to the Presidency on board the *Palinurus*, from the 11th to the 17th of April last, at the commander's table.

May 23. Lieut. J. Bird, of the Indian Navy, has been permitted by the Hon. the Court of Directors, to return to his duty.

#### BIRTH.

At Poona, on the 4th May, the lady of Major Osborne, of the European Regt. of a daughter.

#### DEATHS.

At Bombay, on the 23d May, Mr. John Eilbeck, aged 35, son of the late Capt. B. Eilbeck, deeply regretted by all who knew him.

On the 28th May, Harriet Nanette, the infant daughter of Capt. Duff, 16th Regt. N. I.

At Colaba, on the evening of the 19th May, Joseph Stephen, the youngest son of the late Mr. J. E. Cross of this place, aged 14 years.

On the 15th May, Alexander Bell, Esq., jun., of the Bombay Civil Service.

### SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

#### ARRIVALS.

May 20. Packet-boat *Bordelais*, from Bordeaux. 22. William Sharples, Liverpool. 24. *Albyn*, Greenock. 26. *La Josephine*, Bordeaux. 27. British Merchant, *Llanely*. 28. Thomas Worthington, ditto.

## Army of the Indus.

WE have accounts from the Army of the Indus to the latter end of April, from which we learn, that Sir John Kean, with between nine and ten thousand men, had entered Candahar, which had been abandoned by Dost Mahomed, who had retired with his family and effects towards Bukhara, or, as some say, towards Persia. The Bombay division, on the 29th of April, were fifty miles from Candahar: want of forage and provisions, with continued attacks of the Beloochee thieves, were the only real obstacles that were encountered.

At Candahar, public rejoicings and illuminations were going on in honour of Shah Soojah, who had been formally proclaimed and seated on the throne, and to them several of the Affghan chiefs had tendered their submissions.

It is said that Runjeet Singh had dispatched a powerful army to co-operate with the British in their expected movement on Cabool. A letter says:—"Colonel Wade, with a small force from the Bengal army, chiefly artillery, and from fifteen to twenty thousand Sikhs, under General Ventura, is now forcing the Khyber passes. It is said, that he is opposed by 10,000 stout Affghans. Many of the Affghan chieftains, the Khan of Bajour, and others, have joined Colonel Wade, and made their submission to Shah Tunoor, the eldest son of Shah Soojah, who is with that officer."

The following is extracted from a Bombay letter:—"The first step has been propitious: by the latest intelligence from the army, the conquest of Cabool appears all but certain. The two formidable positions, the Bolun and the Kojuck passes, which a handful of men might have successfully defended against powerful armies, had been left unoccupied, and were surmounted without loss,—the expedition, in fact, has not yet encountered any opposition whatever; and as it is pretty certain that the appeal made by the Sirdars to the religious bigotry of the population has utterly failed, it is not likely that any opposition will now be offered to our progress. Letters have just been received here, announcing the entry of the army into Candahar, on the 25th ult., the southern capital of the state, and the flight towards Persia of its chief, the brother of Dost Mahomed, of Cabool. The latter, and the Peshawar Ameer, are making preparations for flight, by selling off whatever they can lay their hands upon. This news is of vital interest, for had these princes the courage to offer us any opposition in the almost disorganized condition of the army, the result would have been most deplorable. The accounts which we have been receiving here from the army, for some weeks, were truly startling. Owing to the treachery of the Khan of Kheillat, upon whose friendship too much reliance had unfortunately been placed by Sir Alexander Burnes, the supplies of every necessary of life had been withheld. The camels were the first victims, and, by their loss, quantities of valuable stores and property were necessarily abandoned to the clouds of savage plunderers, who hovered night and day upon the flank and rear of the expedition. The camp followers, who, in an eastern army, as you are aware, far exceed the combatants in number, soon began to feel the horrors of famine; they are described, by an eye-witness, as contending with the wild dogs and vultures for the bodies of the animals which had fallen in the road. The troops were reduced to half their regular allowance, and numbers of the horses shot. A short time further would have sufficed completely to disorganize the army; indeed, letters from the camp describe the advance of the British into Cabool to be unparalleled in the annals of modern warfare, except by the retreat of the French from Russia. Shah Soojah's contingent had dwindled from 6,000 to 1,500 men. What a blessing that we were not attacked while in this miserable state! The tide had fortunately turned at the date of the last accounts. Provisions were coming in freely; many camels had been procured, and the British force, before Candahar, mustered (exclusively of Shah Soojah's contingent, and of the irregular corps,) 11,000 fighting men of all arms."

Private letters have been received from the advance of the Army of the Indus, which state, that all the Candahar Chiefs had "come in," and proffered assistance in men, and, what is better, in provisions for our troops, and forage for our cattle.—*Hurkaru*, May 15.

Whilst the Head-quarters were at Quetta, the Kakurs, in the surrounding hills, were daily carrying off camels, and robbing and killing any unfortunate camp-followers who strayed near their places of concealment, A piquet of six Lancers, under Cornet

Yule, caught a party of them carrying off camels; when pursued by our men, they made for a small Gharri, and, on entering it, commenced firing upon the Lancers; the latter rode up to the place, dismounted, and, after wresting the matchlocks out of their hands through the loopholes, scaled the walls, and put six of them to the sword. One of the Lancers was shot in the wrist, and the Cornet had a narrow escape for his life, his face being burnt by a matchlock discharged at him. Several of the robbers escaped, and one poor devil shot through the thigh, was brought into camp, and hung on a tree close to the town, as an example to the neighbouring country. Nothing can be more delightful than the climate of Shawl; it is some thousand feet higher than Candahar, consequently enjoys a much lower temperature. The nights are still intensely cold, and the surrounding high peaks covered with snow. With the exception of two or three hours in the middle of the day, when the sun is rather powerful, you may go about all day shooting or fishing, that is to say, if you do not attach much value to your life, for the surrounding hills are covered with Kakurs, a savage race of murderers and robbers. On their account it is dangerous to attempt pursuing the wild sheep or goats, amidst the almost inaccessible cliffs of the mountains. We are still suffering much for want of supplies, the troops being on half, and camp followers on quarter rations. Sir Alexander Burnes, and Captain Simpson of the Commissariat, have just returned from Kelat; they have not brought any grain with them, but seem to think their negotiations will have the effect of procuring a supply. I suspect, in spite of the political acumen of the Knight, he has been completely out-manœuvred by Mehrab Khan, and that not one maund of grain will be got from Kelat, till we make good our footing at Candahar. Then, of course, the Khan will come forward, and do the agreeable in every way. The Shah does not increase much in popularity; I hear of no influential persons coming to see him; but this may be accounted for, if the report is true, that the Cabul and Candahar Chiefs have made all the principal persons send their wives and families to their capital, for security against their walking over to Shah Soojah.—*Gazette, May 15.*

Extract of a letter from Camp, dated Seviah, 12th and 13th of April:—"This is the first decently warm day we have had since coming through the Bolan Pass on the 7th; the others have been very cold. General Nott, with the 43rd, and a Regiment of the Shah's, is at Quetta, eight miles a-head, and has just favoured me with 700 camels, besides 700 I got a few days back, so there will be a pretty string of them to go into camp with at Candahar, twelve marches hence, short and pleasant ones of ten or eleven miles, instead of the whacking long ones we have had of twenty-six and twenty-eight. It is very strange the Beloochee rascals let all letters come on to the Force, but, I believe, allow very few to return. You cannot imagine a more detestable march than the one we have just made from Shikarpore, to the march before this. The first ten stages are over a barren wilderness, a flat desert; and the remainder are through stony hills, without a blade of green of any description to please the eye with. How different is this beautiful country! Hills covered with trees, or at least well sprinkled, and the richest valleys you can imagine, covered with wild thyme, red and white flowers, with such lovely water, and such Doomba sheep! The finest Bengal gram-fed mutton is not fit to appear on the same table with these grass-fed animals. The Shah had 100 camels, laden with provisions, sent to him the first march he made from Quetta towards Candahar, so I hope the army is now well supplied. Major Parsons writes, that the people are bringing in camels, sheep, and grain in abundance. The skirmish you heard that the 35th had with the Beloochees in the Bolan Pass, is true enough. It was a fair pitched battle between a Havildar, eight Sipahcees and Suwars, Sir Alexander Burnes and myself, against about thirty mounted and twenty-five Beloochees on foot, of whom we killed four, and wounded from six to eight, losing one Sipahce and one horse, a slight scratch I received myself, a matchlock ball above my knee; we beat them fairly off the field. In fact, the most unpleasant part of our trip is now over. A company and 800 camels were sent to bring the loads left in the Bolan Pass; they will very likely be here to-morrow, when next day we start again, through a friendly country, to join the army at Candahar, eleven marches off, or 111 miles. April 13th.—The camels and loads are safe through the Pass, and in camp. We start to-morrow morning.—*Ibid.*

#### GENERAL ORDERS BY SIR JOHN KEANE.

*Camp, Quetta, April 5, 1839.*—Consequent on the arrival of the Commander-in-Chief, the following arrangements will have effect from this date. Major-General Sir W. Cotton, K. C. B., and K. C. H., will resume command of the 1st Division, and Major-General Nott will resume that of the 2nd Brigade, from which these Officers were tem-

porarily transferred in General Orders of the 4th December last. Lieutenant-Colonel Dennie, c.n., will deliver over command of the troops at Shikarpore, and proceed to join the Regiment to which he belongs, by the first favourable opportunity. Brigadier Gordon, commanding in Upper Scinde, will receive directions to send on to the advance, as occasion may offer, the three Regiments of Bengal Native Infantry, now at Shikarpore. They will be sent by strong detachments, guarding provisions and treasure; the 45th N. I. is to be the first sent on. Depôts for Ordnance and Commissariat Stores will be formed at Dadur and Quetta, and at each of these posts, a Regiment of N. I. will be quartered, with a Rissalah of local Horse, and such details of His Majesty Shah Soojah's troops, as may hereafter be specified. Major-General Nott will continue for the present with the Head Quarters of the 2nd Brigade at Quetta, and exercise general superintendence and military control within the province of Shawl.

The 43rd Regiment N. I. will stand fast at Quetta; and one Regiment of Infantry, with a Rissalah of local Horse, of His Majesty Shah Soojah's force, will also remain at that place.

*Head Quarters, Camp, Quetta, April 5, 1839.*—Captain Nash, of the 43rd Regiment N. I., is appointed Baggage-Master to the Bengal Column of the Army of the Indus, vice Brevet-Captain Troup, of the 48th N. I., placed at the disposal of the Envoy and minister at the court of His Majesty Shah Soojah-ool-Moolk.

*Head Quarters, Camp, Quetta, April 6, 1839.*—His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief, having arrived in camp, and assumed the command in person of the army, and having directed Major-General Cotton to take the command of the Bengal Infantry of the 1st Division, he cannot give up the charge of the Bengal Column, without expressing, in the strongest and warmest terms, his thanks to Major-General Thackwell, the brigadier and commanding officers of the Cavalry and Horse-Artillery, to Major-General Nott, the brigadiers and commanding officers of Infantry, and to the officer commanding the Camel Battery, to Major Pew and the officers of the Park, to Captain Thomson and the officers of the Engineer Department, and to the men composing the various corps, for the admirable manner in which the superior officers have conducted a march of upwards of a thousand miles, and for the good conduct and soldier-like behaviour of the men. To the Deputy Adjutant-General, the Deputy Quarter-Master General, and the officers of the respective Departments, and to Major Parsons, the Deputy Commissary-General, and the officers of his Department, to Doctor Thomson, and the Medical Department, Sir W. Cotton begs to offer his recorded approbation of the assistance he has received from them, and for the manner in which these officers have conducted their duties.—*Delhi Gazette, May 15.*

*Quetta, April 10, 1839.*—The Shah, Mr. Macnaghten, Sir John Keane, and the Head-Quarters, with the whole of the Cavalry, Artillery, and 1st Brigade of Infantry, marched from Quetta, in progress to Candahar, on the morning of the 6th; the Park and 4th Brigade followed them on the 9th. General Nott has been left in command of the province of Shawl, and is directed to exercise military control over it, and keep up the communications with Dadur and Shikarpore. Captain Bean, who commands the Shah's Infantry corps stationed here, has likewise been appointed Commissioner of the district; he is authorised to raise a local corps of Kakurs, for the protection of the Pass, and for the purpose of attempting to tame the numerous wild and savage tribes which infest the whole of this beautiful country. Mr. Loveday, 37th N. I., is appointed Assistant. We have seen nothing as yet of the Bombay troops, with the exception of a squadron of the 1st L. C., and a wing of the 19th N. I., which accompanied Sir John Keane as escort; both men and horses look small when compared to our Bengal troops, but they are neat, smart-looking men, and the troopers sit their horses well, and have a soldier-like appearance. The Shah's force suffered terribly coming through the Pass; they had not entered it an hour, when the Commissariat hackaries of Captain Watt were attacked by some hundreds of Beloochees. The Jemadar, two Havildars, and eight men of the Shah's on guard over them, were immediately killed, some twenty or thirty hackary men, women, and children cut to pieces, and forty-nine out of fifty-eight machines regularly captured and plundered. Sir John Keane, on his arrival at Seri Bolam, had a party of ten men brought before him, who were caught in the act of carrying away the camels. After an investigation into the affair, he dealt with them in a very summary manner, by ordering the Provost-Marshal to lead them to execution; the sentence was carried into effect by a party of Bombay troopers, who shot the delinquents through the head.—*Englishman, May 21.*

*CAMP WUGGAN, TWO MARCHES FROM SHIKARPORE, APRIL 21ST, 1839.*—We left Shikarpore on Friday the 19th, with the 31st regiment N. I., a small detachment of Europeans under Lieutenant Bennett, of the European regiment, and 400 of the Shah's

cavalry, commanded by Captain Anderson, as an escort to twenty-two lacks of treasure for the advance army. A pleasant task to guard such a sum; and if we *ponchaw* it safe, we may consider ourselves particularly lucky. Our first March was dreadful; for though the general beat at nine o'clock, *p. m.* we did not get clear of the ground until four o'clock, and reached Gurree Yarsaw eleven miles by nine o'clock. The heat for two hours was very oppressive; and you will be truly grieved to learn that our much-esteemed friend, Colonel Thomson, commanding 31st N. I. has fallen a victim to the climate. He had been a little unwell for some days, but rode with us the whole march; was cheerful, and in good spirits. I went to him at one o'clock—he did not appear to be at all unwell, but complained sadly of the intense heat—and well he might, for it was 116 in a tent, and when the thermometer was put out in the sun, it rose to 135. At three o'clock I was called into the Colonel's tent, and found him a corpse. The doctor, about twenty minutes before this, heard him breathing hard, and on looking at him, saw he was in an apoplectic fit. He instantly opened both veins in his arms and the temple, but the poor man was beyond all human aid, and was dead in a few minutes. We buried him at dusk in a small tope of tamarisk trees outside the Gurree. He was universally beloved, and is deeply regretted by us all. I cannot tell you how grieved I feel at his loss.

We marched on Friday night at twelve, and arrived here at sunrise yesterday morning. We have been obliged to halt to-day—all the Commissariat camels and Godown were in the rear. We have met with none of the Beloches marauders; and no accidents, except the constant desertion of camels and Surwans. We have a party of Beloches horsemen with us, in government pay. They are a set of rascals, but are useful as guides.

This melancholy event throws the line promotion into the 56th regiment, Major G. R. Pemberton, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Captain Hope Dick, to be Major, Lieutenant Bamfield, to be Captain, and Ensign Charles Bailey, to be Lieutenant.—*Delhi Gazette and North-West Englishman, May 8.*

The Depot Regiment, Shah Soojah's Force, under the command of Lieutenant C. Codrington, 49th N. I., is likely to remain at Shikarpore for some months. Major Sir E. Campbell, K.C.B., 3d Cavalry, left Shikarpore to join his regiment on the 19th April.—*Ibid.*

We gave in our last the substance of a report that the 1st Brigade of the Army of the Indus had been attacked by the Candaharees, but we are still without any further explicit information. A nearly similar report reached us subsequently, from a different quarter from the first, which so far corroborates it. According to this report, the attack was made within eighteen koss of Candahar by a considerable body, who were gallantly repulsed, and fled broken from the field. The action appears to have been short and decisive.

The report has, we believe, been traced to the Punjab, to which it came *via* Peshawar, and we are disposed to credit its main features. The submission of the Candahar Chiefs was only reported; and as the submission we have received from the Rajah of Khelat, now appears to have been specious and hollow, that of the Candaharees could not have been sincere. It is, therefore, we think extremely probable, that they had determined to make a hostile demonstration at the latest hour, *i. e.* when their capital was threatened. The result will have a very salutary effect on our future proceedings.

Besides this report, we have it on very unexceptionable authority, that Dost Mahomed has determined to strike a blow for his capital. He had, according to our informant, detached his brother with 10,000 horse, to defend the passage of the Khyber Pass against the Seikhs, and he himself, with all his infantry, and a select body of 10,000 cavalry, had marched from Cabool towards Candahar to meet us. The source of this information leaves us little room to doubt its truth; and admitting it to be true, little will come of it. The defeat of the Candaharees, will not be without its effect on Dost Mahomed, and will very probably determine him to fall back before us. This is, perhaps, to be regretted; as a victory over him would materially assist in giving us a command over the supplies of the country, which we would not otherwise have. Should he, however, retreat, he will find it impossible in such a country to keep together anything like an army, and the only opposition we shall meet with, will be of a desultory nature, which is not the least harassing. All this speculation will, however, now soon be at an end; for, after the arrival of the army at Candahar, our intelligence will be more regular and rapid than it has hitherto been, and we shall be better able to keep up with them. Our allies, the Seikhs, appear little inclined to co-operate with us cordially in the expedition. The force they were to employ in it, had not, at the time of our latest accounts arrived at Peshawar, where Major Wade is, and has long

been waiting for them. The distance they have to traverse is not a sixth of what our troops have completed, and the time for entering on the series of co-operative movements allotted to them has come, if not gone by. The aid of the Seikhs is, however, so little to be depended on, that Government, it is rumoured, have determined to march a strong force on Cabool, via Peshawar, in the rains. This is not improbable in the present aspect of affairs, and still less so, under the serious development of them about to take place.

Since writing the above, a fresh rumour informs us that the action with the Candaharees took place on the 16th ultimo, near Candahar; and so complete was their repulse, that they fled, leaving their guns on the field. Intimation of it has, it is said, been received at Simla via Peshawar and Ferozepore.—*Agra Ukhbar*, May 9.

We are glad to be able to state that since our last, very favourable accounts have been received from the army. They were within six marches of Candahar; and supplies were abundant, with every prospect of their continuing so. A quantity of Commissariat stores, under Lieutenant Palmer, of that department, had come into camp, and peace and plenty once more prevailed. Previous to this, they had been reduced to great extremity. The loss of bullocks was enormous, and the whole route of the troops was covered by the carcasses of these animals, their food latterly having disagreed with them, and produced this extensive mortality. Sir Alexander Burnes, it is said, had been severely remonstrated with by the Governor-General, for not making better provision for the army.

The number of souls forming the camp at Quetta, was on the 6th and 7th ult. 80,000!

The Khelat Chief will, it is said, be deposed and replaced by some member of his family, more devoted to the interests of the British. His conduct to us is said to have been treacherous in the extreme. It was thought he would not be received by Sir John Keane.

Lieutenant Pattenson, A. D. C. to Brigadier Arnold, who accompanied Sir A. Burnes to Khelat, had returned to camp in a high fever, brought on by excessive fatigue.—*Ibid.* May 16.

The following letter contains the latest intelligence that has yet appeared from the army. Matters were, we are glad to see, improving with them. Reports from Kurnaul and our North-west frontier stations state that the troops had reached Candahar; but no authentic information of their having done so, has arrived here. However, there is now no doubt that that city must have been gained in the due progress of marching, without any obstacles. The rumour of an engagement between the Candaharees and Colonel Sale's Brigade, which was current some time ago, appears to have been totally without foundation.

Letters have been received from the army in advance to the 13th April, at the Kojuk or Kosuk Pass of the Khoja Amran range of mountains, the last obstacle intervening before the descent into the plains of Candahar; and from Quetta to the 15th April. All were well at both points; and the prospects of the army satisfactory.

The advance troops had reached the Kojak Pass by the 11th April, and it was found that three days' labour would be required to render it practicable for the transit of the guns and stores. When the reconnoitering officers approached, they found the crest of the Pass occupied by some well-mounted and armed men, who fired at them; but on the two companies of the Bengal Sappers being ordered up, the horsemen immediately retreated, and no further measure of opposition was attempted. The troops were to cross the Pass in the course of the 14th April, and would be concentrated at Candahar, from the 20th to the 22nd. The road over the Pass, was not wider than would admit of one laden camel crossing at a time. A regiment of the Shah's infantry had been posted at Pisheen with a risala of Captain Christie's horse, and a levy of 200 of the Atchiksy mountaineers, under a local chief of intelligence and influence. The troops at Quetta were gradually procuring supplies from that town and neighbourhood, where the shops had been opened to them, though the prices were at first exorbitant, and would continue very high, until after the reaping of the harvest. A connected line of posts is now established from Bukkur to the Khojah Amran Range, at Shikarpore, at Rohan, at Bagh, at Dadur, at Quetta, and in the Pisheen valley extending to the Fort of Abdoollah Khan, close to the Kojak Pass. The Bombay troops, comprising two regiments of European, and a wing of Native Infantry, 300 European dragoons, a wing of Native Cavalry (a wing of Native Infantry and Cavalry having gone on previously with Sir John Keane,) and a strong artillery were expected to have cleared to Bolan Pass by the 17th April, and would join the army before Candahar within ten to twelve

days after its arrival there. The whole disciplined force assembled at Candahar may be rated at 11,500 men.

The disposition of the Affghans continued favourable; and though no previous stores could, of course, have been collected in that quarter, along the line of march, and the troops moved too rapidly to wait for supplies being brought in from any distance in the neighbouring country, the Commissariat were able to purchase freely such provisions as could be furnished by the villages near the route. Lieutenant Palmer's batch of 2,000 laden camels, guarded by the 35th Bengal Native Infantry, had also safely reached Quetta, and quitted it on the 15th April for Candahar, where the supply would reach on the 6th or 7th day after the army. The crops on the ground were fast ripening; and these, it was hoped, would be made available for the army as soon as ready. A body of 3,500 laden camels, under a strong guard of the Lohanee Affghans, left Bukkur for the army, on the 27th April, and might reach Candahar in a month. About 4,000 more laden camels would be prepared to follow this Lohanee convoy from Bukkur within ten days or a fortnight.

The camels under Lieutenant Palmer, and the company of the 35th Native Infantry, had been attacked by a body of plunderers from 200 to 300 strong in the Bolan Pass, but the guard had beat back the assailants with the loss of their leader, and of from thirty to forty men killed and wounded, only one man having been killed of the Sepoys. This appears to be the affair, of which some inaccurate accounts had before been circulated.

A Parsee merchant was expected at Quetta shortly, having left Shikarpore under the protection of some troops, which reached Dadur on the 10th April. These enterprising traders from Bombay, have put to shame the merchants of Upper India, who do not seem yet to have made a venture even to Shikarpore.—*Agra Ukhbar*, May 18.

## Arracan.

**SICKNESS AND MORTALITY, AND DISTRESS OF SHIPPING AT ARRACAN.**—Letters from Arracan to the 5th inst. mention that Cholera of a most fatal description had been raging at Akyab and Aieng, for the previous month. Six or seven Sepoys and the native doctor of the Arracan battalion, had fallen victims to its ravages. On the morning of the 4th inst., at break of day, a gale commenced blowing from the East. Out of five vessels in the roads or harbour of Akyab, three were driven on shore: one remains there, having lost anchors, rudder, and main mast;—another, cleared to the deck, had been got off: the third, when the wind changed to the South-west, was driven out, and got on shore somewhere on the opposite coast, a distance of six or seven miles. The crew were saved. The vessel lost her rudder; and the sail, with which it was attempted to give her head, was blown to shreds immediately. Considerable damage had been sustained on shore by almost every person, European and Native; and owing to the Cholera, no materials for repairing choppers, &c. could be procured, excepting at double the usual price. Our correspondent mentions that labourers are likewise scarce, some hundreds of Bengalees having gone off to Chittagong, on the breaking out of the Cholera.

The rain had set in on the coast of Arracan on the 28th ult., and had fallen in showers up to the 6th instant. No intelligence had been received of the "Amherst."—*Englishman*, May 17.

## Assam.

The following extract from a letter from Assam, communicates intelligence which may be relied on:—

"Your friends at Sylhet are sometimes out of their reckoning in respect to news from this quarter. Captain Vetch set out for Suddyah on the 1st ultimo, where he has been appointed political agent, and where his services were eminently required, the whole of the chiefs having, about that time, become more to be suspected than they were; and, in fact, just when you reported to us, on the authority of Sylhet corres-

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pondents, that Captain Hannay had written down to say that confidence was restored, and he wanted no more troops, the Tao Gohain was quietly stockading himself within eighteen hours' march from us, quite unmolested! At the same time, also, parties of Mishmes were plundering the country up to within sight of cantonments in open day, carrying off herds of cattle, &c. Part of the Assam Light Infantry are now with Lieutenant J. N. Marshall, at Sub. Sagur, near the old city of Rungpore, where the head quarters are eventually to be established. To give an account of this old city, its superb tanks—measuring, as the largest one does, 1,200 paces, or about 1,000 yards square—its temples, &c. would require greater time and space than I have at present to spare; but of all places in Assam, which I have seen, it is to me the most desirable. The natives are particularly partial to it, and declare that the water and air are so pure that no one was ever known to die from living there. The civil station is, I believe, to be fixed at this place. Provisions are extremely cheap and plentiful; and the place is on the high road to Ava, by which the advanced guard of the Burmese army is said now to be approaching Assam, having reached Hookow, a distance of not more than twenty-six or twenty-eight marches from hence, and by which the Burmese retreated from Assam in 1825 and 1826. A rumour is afloat that the iron steamers are to be sent up with regular troops immediately: if so, it is a pity the 70th N. I. were not allowed to come on, as they would have been ready long ere this, and at their destination.

"The Bhootias have, I heard lately, attacked a person of some importance in the district of Chadoor, and killed him. They had an idea that, owing to his representations, the old system of levying black mail was put a stop to, and a payment in money substituted for one in kind. This will, it is hoped, put an end to any further delay in at once stopping this demand on our subjects, and that the Bhootias may now be kept in their own hills by a guard. Talking of guards, how come the Sebundies, who were raised for Lower Assam, to be knocked up and down on the inferior pay they receive, out of their own districts? Surely this is unfair! And now that Government have encased the corps, and added sergeants, &c. they had better finish what they had so well begun, by making them locals at once, raising their pay the same as that of the Light Infantry (which is not more than a rupee or so per month more,) while it would allow of their being employed throughout the province, which now, according to the original intention of Government, they cannot well be. We heard some time ago, from some of the tribes who come down for the purpose of bartering their cotton for salt, that Mr. Grange had penetrated into the fastnesses of the Naga hills to the South-east, and by this time must have returned home. Some Burmese were said to have been with him. I suppose the levy of Shans were raised to accompany Lieutenant Grange for the purpose of putting an end to the incursions of those barbarous tribes."—*Englishman*, May 21.

## AVA.

RANGOON.—We have had opportunities of conversing with those, who, we are sure, are much more competent to speak with confidence on the existing state of the Burmese Empire, and the real sentiments of Tharawaddee in relation to our government, than those who obtain their information from individuals, who would be personally benefited by a rupture with the Burmese, or those who would appear to possess some knowledge of that people and their affairs. We place very little reliance on the accuracy of the intelligence supplied by the merchants at Rangoon, who, if the fact is not known, we beg to inform our readers, have resorted to the manoeuvre of removing all their valuable property from that place, with a view to make believe that they consider it insecure, and thereby hasten, if possible, the crisis which would be extremely delectable to their fellow instigators of a war with the Tharawaddee army. If the Rev. Mr. Judson, and other individuals who must be acknowledged to be the most familiar with the state of Ava, and the character and disposition of Tharawaddee, were to be consulted on these subjects, the popular misconceptions would be presently dissipated, and prove that the ruler of Burmah is not the character he is so hastily supposed to be. We are assured on the best authority that his feeling towards us is of the most friendly nature: that he is perfectly sensible of his utter incapacity to withstand us in the event of a war; and that he is the last person in the world to provoke hos-

ilities. The opinions we have all along entertained, have been fully borne out by the assurance given us that nothing is farther from the intention of the King of Ava than violating the peace that now subsists between us; and if war were to be declared against him, we should not hesitate to say that it is a most unrighteous one. We hope our Government are fully sensible to the propriety of our remarks, that they are in possession of much more accurate information, than such as find its way into the columns of some of our too credulous and short-sighted contemporaries, and that they will regulate their measures in such a manner as to show that it is remote from their purpose to precipitate matters with Tharawaddee.—*Commercial Advertiser*, May 13.

## Ceylon.

**COLONEL BURRELL'S DEATH.**—We have great satisfaction and pleasure in being able to contradict the report very prevalent for some days at Colombo, of Colonel Burrell's death at Trincomalee.

The gallant Colonel has been but slightly indisposed, and long may he live, say we, to command the Royal Irish.—*Observer*, April 25.

**FIELD ASSISTANTS.**—It is painful to observe, that several married officers employed as Field-Assistants under the Civil Engineer Department, to whom the extra 7s. 6d. a day was a matter of great consideration, have been obliged to join their regiments, in consequence of the late general order, which commands, that when on duty they shall not be accompanied by their families. This order, which also declares, that in future, *ceteris paribus*, unmarried officers shall be selected as Field-Assistants, was issued in consequence of the alleged inattention of some officers to their working parties; as they were found to be at some distance from them, and where they had taken up a fixed residence for their families. But even supposing this to have been the case, it appears severe to visit the offence of some upon all, and to make the innocent suffer with the guilty.—*Ibid*.

## China.

WE have accounts from Canton to the 15th April, from which we learn that the Chinese Government had taken effectual, if not unjustifiable means, for the suppression of the Opium-trade. It appears that an Imperial Commissioner had arrived from Peking, who, after examining the Hong merchants, issued an edict commanding all the opium held by British and other foreign merchants, on shipboard and elsewhere, to be given up, in order that it might be burnt, and requiring that they should enter into a bond that in future no vessel should bring opium to China. The British merchants, not seeing fit to comply with the terms of this edict, they, together with Her Majesty's Superintendent, Captain Elliot, were made prisoners in the Factory, around which a cordon was established to prevent the introduction of provisions. Negotiations appear to have been carried on for some days, but the Imperial Commissioner seemed determined to effect his purpose; and the result was, that Captain Elliot was compelled to direct upwards of 20,000 chests of opium, of the estimated value of 2,000,000*l.*, to be delivered up, which he did under protest; at the same time promising, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, full indemnification to the parties so delivering. Particulars will be found in the following extracts.

(From the *Canton Press*, March 23.)

"In our last week's paper we noticed the arrival in Canton of his Excellency, the Imperial Commissioner Lin, and mentioned that this event, in the absence of any certain knowledge of his proceedings, had given rise to numerous rumours as to what his measures would be. It appears certain that he has, to obtain the favour of the people, relaxed the punishment of most of such as have hitherto been imprisoned, both for dealing in and for smoking of opium, the former of which are to be punished with less se-

verity than the law warrants, and the latter having been liberated from prison without any punishment whatever. His Excellency has likewise made known that he will himself defray all the expenses of his household, and not allow any of his followers to be a burthen to the people, or the local magistrates. These measures, by conciliating the minds of the Chinese, cannot fail to strengthen him in the exercise of the unlimited powers delegated to him by the Imperial Government, as 'a High Imperial Commissioner, who, having repeatedly performed meritorious offices, is sent to settle the affairs of the outer frontier.' Such is his title; and he is furnished with an Imperial seal, which is said to invest its keeper, for the time being, with all the despotic power of the Emperor himself, and which, on account of the enormous power it conveys, has been only twice or three times intrusted to high officers of state. The last time this very seal, now held by Lin, was intrusted to the keeping of a subject, was to quell the rebellion of the Tartar Prince, Jehangir, about seven or eight years ago.

"Such is the nature of the powers intrusted to this officer, for the special purpose of eradicating the trade in opium, and its use in the empire, and it is probable that he stands deeply pledged to the Imperial Government for his success; and that failure in his mission, would involve him in disgrace and punishment. It is, therefore, not to be doubted that he will exert himself to the utmost to attain his object; nor can for the present any expectation be entertained but that the opium trade will be speedily suppressed altogether.

"Since the Commissioner's arrival several seizures, and of suspected persons, have been made in China-street and Hog-lane, and a great many of such as fear to be implicated, have fled; but what most interests the foreign community, are the steps he has taken since his arrival towards the Hong-merchants, and foreigners themselves. The former have repeatedly been called before him, and examined as to the nature of their intercourse with the latter; in his Excellency's presence they were kept kneeling all the time the examination was being carried on. The linguists also were called before his Excellency, and on Sunday last even the Compradores of many of the foreign houses, who were questioned on the nature of the business transacted by their masters, and it is said that they gave satisfactory information, and were graciously dismissed with a present of two taels in silver each.

"On Monday last at length appeared two documents; one addressed to the Hong-merchants, and the other to foreigners, which we published in an extra on Wednesday, the 20th inst. In these documents his Excellency upbraids the Hong-merchants for having suffered, in disobedience to imperial mandates, the importation of opium into Whampoa, and for having connived at and facilitated the transaction of business in the drug; for having allowed foreigners too much familiarity in their intercourse; for being too subservient to them; for disregard of proprieties in the prosecution of wealth; for giving information to foreigners on what passes in the Government-offices; for allowing the exportation of silver, &c.; and finally threatens them with death to one or two of them, if, within three days, foreigners do not give up all the opium now outside. In his commands to foreigners, his Excellency first expatiates upon the great favours showered upon them by the Emperor to be permitted to trade, since, without rhubarb and tea, they are unable to live; and then states that, as the strictest watch is kept in all the provinces against the introduction of opium, it will be only to the ruin of foreigners to keep it still on board of their vessels in the offing, that he therefore orders foreigners to deliver up to this Government every chest of opium, that it may be burnt, and that by such act of obedience they may deserve the imperial reward. They are, moreover, to give a bond that vessels hereafter will not bring opium, but that if they should be discovered smuggling it, the foreigners will be content to suffer the loss of their goods, and the extreme penalty of the law. His Excellency further informs foreigners, that the indignation of the whole population is roused against them; and that in proceeding to possess himself of their persons, should they continue refractory, it will not even be necessary to call out the military, but that the able-bodied of the nation (a kind of militia, or *posse comitatus*, or perhaps special constables,) will be quite sufficient for that purpose.

"His Excellency, moreover, informs them, that he is perfectly aware of the names of such among the foreigners who have dealt in opium, and of others that have not; and if these latter will come forward and point out their depraved countrymen, they are promised a liberal reward. The same term of three days is also given to foreigners in which they are to present an address to his Excellency, in reply to his edict.

"In consequence of the receipt of these edicts, great excitement prevailed among the foreign community; and the Hong merchants increased this, by the danger threatening them seeming more immediate. They all assembled in Consou, on Tuesday night last,

and requested to be met there by a number of the most influential of the foreign merchants, whom they intreated, as they had any regard for their (the Hong merchants') lives, that they would lose no time in giving a reply to his Excellency. Any longer delay, they said, would cause two of them to be executed on the day following. Harassed as these poor Hong merchants have been, first with the different rumours that preceded the Commissioner's arrival, next with his threats, and their frequent attendance upon the Commissioner, they appear to have considered their situation as really very dangerous, and to have feared that the Yum-chuy would carry his threats against them into effect. It is impossible to say whether these were meant to be acted upon; but on the following day (Thursday) a general meeting of the members of the Chamber of Commerce was held, of which the result will be seen in the letter from the chairman to the Hong merchants in a preceding column. From this it will be seen that a committee was appointed to take into consideration the Yum-chuy's edict, and report upon it at the earliest opportunity to the Chamber, and a deputation to the Hong merchants to acquaint that body with the result. These, after this communication had been made to them, all went into the city to deliver it to the Commissioner, and returned to the factories at about ten o'clock at night, stating that the answer from the Chamber had appeared by no means satisfactory to the Commissioner, and that if some opium were not immediately given up, not only their own lives would be forfeited, but those of foreigners generally would be in imminent danger. In the meanwhile all communication with the coast, and even Whampoa, had been cut off; numerous Mandarin boats being stationed in the river to prevent any foreigners leaving Canton, and the trade had also been stopped. No cargo was allowed to leave, and grandchops for such vessels as had completed their cargoes, were refused. All foreigners were, therefore, virtually prisoners here, and completely in the power of the Chinese Government, and their lives and property at their mercy. Under these circumstances, after the return of the Hong merchants at ten o'clock at night, another meeting was held at the Chamber of Commerce, the result of which was, after a good deal of discussion, and after the Hong merchants had solemnly and individually declared that if about a thousand chests of opium were not given up immediately, they would most certainly be executed, to offer to deliver up 1,037 chests of opium to the government to be destroyed—this, of course, under protest, that the coercive measures of the Chinese Government and the consideration of the danger in which the Hong merchants were, forced them to this abandonment of property. With this resolution from the foreign merchants, the Hong merchants early in the morning (yesterday) returned into the city, where they saw the Viceroy only; and though as yet (Saturday morning) they have not made any official communication of what result that interview has been, it is understood that it was by no means satisfactory, and that the quantity offered, was by the Viceroy declared to be insufficient. No direct answer has been received from the Commissioner; but we hear that demands for the delivery of an additional quantity were made last night.

"Matters remain in this uncertain state this morning; nothing has been heard from the Commissioner since Thursday night, but it is evident that the Government is taking every precaution to support their pretensions by force, if necessary. No intercourse, even with Whampoa, is permitted; boats are allowed to come up to Canton, but cannot return thither; the river in front of the factories is filled with Mandarin boats and other craft, containing troops; we hear of a number of soldiers having been called into the city, and to be ready for service at a moment's warning, and yesterday morning a detachment of soldiers landed in front of the factories and marched into the city. If the Chinese Government, by the course of intimidation they pursue, partly by means of threatening the lives of the Hong merchants, and partly by depriving the foreigners resident here of their liberty, obtain possession of the opium now in the Chinese seas, instead of allowing it to be sent away, it will, of course, become a question for the Governments of the respective merchants here, in what manner the Chinese are to make good the value of the opium. Yesterday in the afternoon a message was sent purporting to be from the Imperial Commissioner inviting Mr. Dent to go to the city-gate to meet him there. Mr. Dent, we understand, expressed to the Hong merchants his willingness to meet his Excellency at the City-gate, provided his Excellency would furnish him with a safe conduct, under his own seal, and provided he were not detained above twenty-four hours. The Hong merchants, after many attempts to change this resolve, were at last obliged to report it to the authorities; and afterwards again, late at night, urged Mr. Dent to promise to go, representing that his refusal would place their lives in imminent danger. This morning early the Qwang-chow-foo, and several other officers assembled at the Consol, attended by all the Hong merchants, two of whom (Howque and Howqua) had a chain hung round their necks, and three others were

said to be imprisoned in the city, and they again proceeded to Mr. Dent's house, to urge him to meet the Commissioner, assuring him that if he did not comply with this summons, two of them were to be executed immediately. The answer being the same as before, the Hong merchants asked for a meeting to be called at the Chamber of Commerce, and there, at about one o'clock, met the foreign community, and Howqua again represented that yesterday's refusal of Mr. Dent to comply with the summons, had already subjected them to the loss of their buttons, and to the degrading punishment of the chain; that the Commissioner was determined to see Mr. Dent, and that if they (the Hong merchants) could not prevail on him to go, on this very day two of them would most infallibly lose their lives. Mr. Leslie answered on behalf of Mr. Dent, that if a safe conduct under the seal of the Commissioner were given to Mr. Dent, he would immediately go, but on no account willingly without it. Howqua then addressed the Chamber, asking it as a body to express an opinion, as to whether they thought Mr. Dent's conduct just and reasonable, in refusing to go and see the Yum-chuy, whence he was certain to return unharmed, thereby exposing the merchants to degradation, and even to the loss of their lives. The Chamber answered that it was without their province as a body to judge Mr. Dent's conduct, but that if Howqua wished it, the opinion of every one present individually would be taken. This the Hong merchants refused, and then requested that Mr. Dent be asked to attend at the Chamber; but being told that under the circumstances in which that gentleman now found himself, he was resolved not to leave his house on any plea, Howqua proposed that these present at the meeting should proceed with them to Mr. Dent's house to obtain a definitive answer to give to the officers, then waiting for it at the Consou-house. The meeting accordingly proceeded to Mr. Dent's, who again expressed his willingness to go, but only under the safe conduct from the Commissioner, and the opinion of those present being taken, and they were the majority of foreign residents, was unanimous that without such guarantee, it was unadvisable for Mr. Dent to go. This safe conduct, the Kwang-chow-foo declared in the Consou-house, it was impossible to obtain, as they dared not even ask the Commissioner for it; but the Kwang-chow-foo gave the assurance that there was no intention whatever to keep Mr. Dent a prisoner, or to maltreat him; and being pressed on this subject, he most solemnly avowed this to be his own conviction; but that he could, of course, not answer for what the Commissioner would do. Messages were frequently sent from the Consou-house, but Mr. Dent adhering by his original purpose, the same answer continued to be returned, until at length, at about three o'clock, the deputy, Kwang-chow-foo, the Nam-boyune, and another officer, went to Mr. Dent's, and there stated that they had the most positive commands that Mr. Dent must on that day see the Yum-chuy, and his not going would bring disgrace on them. Mr. Thom, who interpreted for Mr. Dent, then informed these officers, that it being the unanimous opinion of the foreign community that Mr. Dent should not go without the safe conduct, no other answer could be returned. The officers appeared very anxious to gain their end, and even entreated Mr. Dent's compliance; and seeing all their efforts fail, they declared that they would not leave the house except with Mr. Dent, protesting all the while that no evil whatever should befall Mr. Dent, and the Deputy Kwang-chow-foo, even assured him that he would himself escort Mr. Dent back that same evening. The answer returned to that being still the same, they at last proposed that, as their efforts were unavailing, Mr. Dent's partner (Mr. English) should go to the Consou-house to take this answer to the Kwang-chow-foo. This was accordingly done, and it being there represented to this gentleman, that it would be desirable that he should state Mr. Dent's resolve to some high officers then waiting in the city, he, accompanied by Messrs. Thom, Slade, and Fearon, went there, and they were received by the judge, the treasurer, the salt commissioner, and grain inspector; the four highest officers of the province, with the exception of the governor and deputy-governor. The questions asked had reference exclusively to Mr. Dent's refusal to go without the safe conduct, and they solemnly declared that no evil was intended to Mr. Dent; that the Commissioner only required some information from him. After a stay of about two hours, the gentlemen were allowed to depart, escorted by a number of police, and Mr. Thom was presented with two-pieces of silk and two jars of wine as a mark of favour. At night the tops of the houses and the entrances of the foreign hong were guarded by a great number of Hong Coolies to prevent Mr. Dent's escape, the merchants being held responsible for his presence in Canton. In this position affairs remain this night (Saturday,) for though the Hong merchants have again, at midnight, urged their request that Mr. Dent should go, nothing has happened materially to affect the question. The refusal of Mr. Dent to go without a safe conduct from the Yum-chuy himself, and its approval by the

foreign residents, are caused by the treatment Mr. Flint suffered, who, being invited to visit the Viceroy in the year 1759, was sent to prison to Cass-branca, and kept there three years."

(From the *Canton Press*, March 30.)

"We have considered it to be the best plan to give the occurrences of the week in the shape of a journal, confining ourselves mostly to facts. It will be seen that our paper, instead of being issued on Saturday, has been delayed two days, caused principally by the absence of our Coolies.

"Sunday, March 24.—This day passed off quietly, owing, it is thought, to the knowledge the Chinese have of the respect paid by Europeans to the Sunday. The following proclamations were received from Macao.—

"Circular to Her Britannic Majesty's Subjects.

"The Chief Superintendent of the trade of British subjects in China having received information that her Majesty's subjects are detained against their will in Canton, and having other urgent reasons for the withdrawal of all confidence in the just and moderate disposition of the Provincial Government, has now to request that all ships of her Majesty's subjects at the outer anchorages should proceed forthwith to Hong-Kong, and, hoisting their national colours, be prepared to resist every act of aggression upon the part of the Chinese Government. In the absence of Captain Blake, of her Majesty's sloop, *Larne*, Captain Parry, of the *Hercules*, will make the necessary dispositions for putting the ships in a posture of defence, and in the absence of Captain Parry, that duty will devolve on Captain Wallace, of the *Mermaid*; and the Chief Superintendent, in her Majesty's name, requires all British subjects to whom these presents may come, to respect the authority of the persons charged with the duty of providing for the protection of British lives and property.

"CHARLES ELLIOT,

"Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British Subjects in China.

"Macao, March 22, 1839."

"Her Majesty's sloop, *Larne*, at anchor in Macao-roads, March 22, 1839.

"With reference to my circular of this day's date, it is desirable that the ships of her Majesty's subjects at the outer anchorages should proceed forthwith to Hong-Kong, placing themselves, in the absence of Captain Blake, of her Majesty's sloop *Larne*, under the guidance of Captain Parry, of the *Hercules*; and, in the absence of Captain Parry, under the guidance of Captain Wallace, of the *Mermaid*.

"Commanders of British ships will make every preparation to resist aggression upon the part of the Chinese Government, but they will be very careful to refrain from provoking attack.

"CHARLES ELLIOT,

"Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British Subjects in China."

"Until six o'clock in the evening nothing had transpired concerning the measures the Yum-chuy was likely to take, in consequence of Mr. Dent's refusal to go into the city; a little after six, Captain Elliot arrived in a four-oared boat belonging to the *Larne*, at the Company's garden. Captain Elliot had proceeded in the *Sousa* cutter as far as Howqua's Fort, though some ineffectual attempts had been made to stop his progress. From Howqua's Fort he proceeded in the *Larne*'s boat, and no opposition was made, although several Mandarin boats followed him, watching his motions. Captain Elliot's arrival was immediately generally known; the English flag was hoisted, and Captain Elliot, accompanied by a great number of the foreign residents, proceeded without loss of time to Mr. Dent, to take that gentleman under his protection, and walked with him to the hall of the Superintendent, where he still remains. On Captain Elliot's arrival in the hall, where every one of the foreigners present in Canton had assembled, he read to the meeting the following proclamation:—

"Public Notice to British Subjects. L. S.

"Macao, March 23, 1839.

"The considerations that have moved the undersigned to give public notice to all her Majesty's subjects that he is without confidence in the justice and moderation of the Provincial Government are:—

"The dangerous, unprecedented, and unexplained circumstance of a public execution before the factories at Canton, to the imminent hazard of life and property, and total disregard of the honour and dignity of his own, and the other western govern-

ments, whose flags were recently flying in that square; the unusual assemblage of troops, vessels of war, fire-ships, and other menacing preparations; the communication by the command of the Provincial Government, that in the present posture of affairs, the foreigners were no longer to seek for passports to leave Canton (according to the genius of our own countries, and the principle of reason, if not an act of declared war, at least its immediate and inevitable preliminary,) and lastly, the threatening language of the High Commissioner and provincial authorities, of the most general application, and dark and violent character.

“ ‘ Holding it, therefore, impossible to maintain continued peaceful intercourse with safety, honour, or advantage, till definite and satisfactory explanations have passed, all these particulars, both as respects the past and future, the undersigned has now to give further notice that he shall forthwith demand passports for all such of her Majesty’s subjects as may think fit to proceed outside, within the space of ten days from the date that his application reaches the Government; such date hereafter to be made known:’

“ ‘ And he has to counsel and enjoin all her Majesty’s subjects in urgent terms to make immediate preparations for moving their property on board the ships *Reliance*, *Orwell*, and *George IV.*, or other British vessels at Whampoa, to be conveyed to Macao; forwarding him, without delay, a sealed declaration, and list of all actual claims against Chinese subjects, together with an estimate of all loss or damage to be suffered by reason of these proceedings of the Chinese Government.

“ ‘ And he has further to give notice, that the Portuguese Government of this settlement has already pledged itself to afford her Majesty’s subjects resident here, every protection in its power so long as they shall be pursuing no course of traffic within the limits of the settlement at variance with the laws of this empire. And he has most especially to warn her Majesty’s subjects that such strong measures as is necessary to adopt on the part of her Majesty’s Government, without further notice than the present, cannot be prejudiced by their continued residence in Canton beyond the period now fixed upon their own responsibility, or without further guarantees from the undersigned.

“ ‘ And he has further to give notice that if the passports shall be refused for more than three days from the date that this application shall reach the Provincial Government, he will be driven to the conclusion that it is their purpose to detain all her Majesty’s subjects as hostages; and to endeavour to intimidate them into unsuitable concession and terms by the restraint of their persons, or by violence upon their lives, or by death of native merchants in immediate connexion with them, both by ties of friendship and of interest, or by the like treatment of their native servants.

“ ‘ The undersigned, in conclusion, most respectfully submits these observations to the attention of all the foreigners in China. And the respective Governments closely united by a community of feeling and interests, not only in their own quarter of the globe, but most especially in this peculiar country, he feels that he is performing an act of duty in offering them every humble assistance in his power on this, and all similar occasions, when they may be of opinion that he can be useful to them.

“ ‘ Given under my hand and seal of office at Macao, this 23d day of March, 1839.

“ ‘ CHARLES ELLIOT, .

“ ‘ Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British Subjects in China.’

“ ‘ This was received by loud and hearty cheers, and every one seemed glad of Captain Elliot’s arrival, and to think that affairs were likely now to take a better turn, particularly as that officer’s presence served as a rallying point, which had hitherto been wanting.

“ ‘ Howqua took Captain Elliot’s letter for the Viceroy, and up to a late hour this night no answer has been received. Immediately after Captain Elliot’s arrival, notice was given to all native servants to quit, and they accordingly left the Hong without loss of time. The mob, which had collected in front, attracted by the news of Captain Elliot’s presence, was dispersed by a strong police force, which had been partly on the spot all day, but was now reinforced, and everything was soon reduced to perfect order and quiet. The river near the factories was cleared of all the boats usually there; and in lieu of them three rows of boats filled with police and soldiers stationed there completely hemmed us in, and rendering escape altogether impossible. The streets leading into the square from the town were blocked up, and no natives allowed to remain or to go into any of the foreign factories. The strongest guard was, of course, before the Company’s hall to prevent Mr. Dent’s escape; and the men on duty there, Coolies belonging to the Hong merchants, were armed with pikes and shields, which they held

ready for use whenever the door of the English Hong was opened to admit people, or allow them to get out. Howqua and Mowqua, who had made their appearance in the Superintendent's hall, not ten minutes after Captain Elliot's arrival, returned to the hall several times during the night, but without anything being known as to the nature of their negotiations. The inhabitants of the British Hong organised themselves into a night watch, consisting of one to keep the gate, and two others to patrol, being relieved every two hours.

"Monday.—This day has passed over very quietly, the Chinese have completed their police regulations, and not a Chinese is to be seen in front of our houses down to the river, except such as are on duty. Howqua, and other Hong merchants, are repeatedly going to see the Superintendent, but nothing has transpired. In the afternoon a chop from the Kwang-chow-foo was said to have been received by Captain Elliot. This night four, instead of three gentlemen, formed the watch, one taking his post in the Superintendent's veranda. The night passed over quietly, with the exception of one gentleman being mistaken by the police for Mr. Dent. and stopped; the mistake was immediately rectified. In the afternoon Messrs. Thom and Fearon were asked by the Hong merchants to go to the Consol-house, and when there were asked to go into the city, the Yum-chuy being anxious to see them; Captain Elliot, however, we are told, did not wish them to go.

"Tuesday.—Everything quiet in the morning, the guard near the houses has been reinforced, and the Coolies are busy building sheds to live under. The Hong merchants came several times, and at about one o'clock brought two chops, said to be from the Viceroy. Their nature not known, but it was said that things were going on favourably. In the evening some reports prevailed of a boat or two from Whampoa having attempted to force her way to Canton, which turned out a false alarm. This evening the pleasure boats were removed from in front of the British Hong, and carried to the middle of the square. The Hong merchants, in setting the watch of their Coolies for the night, gave strict directions that they should be watchful, and not sleep at their posts, as they had been seen to do by the Mandarins on a previous night, for which they had been re-proved. The night passed over very quietly; and it is said that Lin had incognito himself inspected the preparations. The following proclamation was this day issued, a translation of which was kindly handed us by Mr. Fearon:—

*"Public Notice to British Subjects.*

"I, Charles Elliot, Chief Superintendent of the trade of British subjects in China, at present forcibly detained by the Provincial Government, together with all the merchants of my own and the other foreign nations settled here, without supplies of food, deprived of our servants, and cut off from all intercourse with our respective countries (notwithstanding my own official demand to be set at liberty, so that I might act without restraint,) have now received the commands of the High Commissioner issued directly to me under the seals of the officers to deliver over into his hands all the opium held by the people of my country.

"Now I, the said Chief Superintendent, thus constrained by paramount motives affecting the safety of the lives and liberty of all the foreigners here present in Canton, and by other very weighty causes, do hereby, in the name and on the behalf of her Britannic Majesty's Government, enjoin and require all her Majesty's subjects now present in Canton forthwith to make a surrender to me, for the service of her said Majesty's Government, to be delivered over to the Government of China, of all the opium under their respective controul: and to hold the British ships and vessels engaged in the trade of opium, subject to my immediate direction: and to forward to me without delay a sealed list of all the British-owned opium in their respective possession. And I, the said Chief Superintendent, do now, in the most full and unreserved manner, hold myself responsible for, and on behalf of her Britannic Majesty's Government, to all and each of her Majesty's subjects surrendering the said British-owned opium into my hands, to be delivered over to the Chinese Government. And I, the said Chief Superintendent, do further specially caution all her Majesty's subjects here present in Canton, owners of, or charged with the management of opium, the property of British subjects; that failing the surrender of the said opium into my hands at or before six o'clock this day, I, the said Chief Superintendent, hereby declare her Majesty's Government wholly free of all manner of responsibility or liability in respect of the said British-owned opium.

"And it is specially to be understood that the proof of British property, and value  
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of all British opium surrendered to me, agreeably to this notice, shall be determined upon principles, and in a manner hereafter to be defined by her Majesty's Government.  
 " "Given under my hand and seal of office at Canton, in China, this 27th day of March, 1839, at six o'clock in the morning.

" "CHARLES ELLIOT,  
 " Chief Superintendent of the trade of British Subjects in China.

(True copy.)

" "L. S. EDWARD ELMSLIE.  
 " Secretary and Treasurer to the Superintendents."

" We believe that every British subject has complied with the requisition, and merchants of other nations have also made over to the British Superintendent whatever opium they held on account of British subjects. The quantity of opium thus offered to him, amounts to 20,283 chests. Nothing worth noticing passed during the day; the servants are still away, but any one that likes may go and buy provisions; the Chinese, therefore, have no wish now to starve us into compliance, though on Monday last Chinese were not allowed to sell anything to foreigners. The guard of Coolies mustered as strong this night as before, and having since yesterday built up their sheds, they proceed with more regularity. In the square there are five partitions in the shed, each containing about fifty men from their respective Hong, the names of which are written on their lanterns and caps. They relieve each other in patrolling, two hong parties being continually moving. At night the square presents a very picturesque appearance, all the men carrying lanterns, and the different sheds being profusely illuminated, as well as the watch-boats on the river. Hitherto the people behave very civilly, and there seems to exist no ill-feeling against foreigners. In fact, the only signs of a disposition to a riot, were given at the moment of Captain Elliot's landing: when the Chinese saw foreigners run to meet the Superintendent, they, not knowing the exact cause, thought something extraordinary must have happened, and the square was filled with a mob in a moment. Since that time, however, the square being kept quite clear of people, we see nothing of them in front: but the communication with the back streets not being stopped, foreigners go there and have an opportunity of witnessing that no ill-feeling exists."

" Thursday, March 28, 8 A.M.—Nothing has yet transpired as to his Excellency's intentions with regard to the opium. This morning a chop was received from the Kwang-Chow-Foo, which is as follows:—

*" Proclamation to the Foreigners of all Nations.*

" 'Chow, Kwang-Chow-Foo, &c., proclaims to the Hong merchants for their full information.

" 'The following official communication has been received from Lin, the Imperial Commissioner, &c., dated the 13th day of the 2nd month.

" 'The foreigners of all nations have presented the petition.

" 'The foreign merchants of all nations in Canton have received, with profound respect, the edict of his Excellency, the Imperial Commissioner, and now beg leave respectfully to address his Excellency, having already communicated, through the Hong merchants, their intention of doing so with the least possible delay.

" 'They beg to represent, that being now made fully aware of the imperial commands for the entire abolition of the traffic in opium, the undersigned foreign merchants hereby pledge themselves not to deal in opium, nor to attempt to introduce it into the Chinese empire.

" 'Having now recorded their solemn pledge, they have only further respectfully to state to his Excellency, that, as individual foreign merchants, they do not possess the power of controlling such extensive and important matters as those treated of in his Excellency's edict; and they trust his Excellency will approve of leaving a final settlement to be arranged through the representatives of their respective nations.

" 'Canton, March 25, 1839.'

" 'This coming before me, the commissioner, it appears, by the petition, that, in obedience to my commands, they dared no longer traffic in opium. Their reverential obedience is thus manifested. They also earnestly entreat, that, as my will involved such important and heavy results, I will direct the superintendents and consuls of their several nations to manage the business.

" 'Now, as respects the delivering up of the opium, the superintendent, Elliot, has this day handed up a duly-prepared petition to deliver up the opium; and I, the commissioner, in due course, commanded that the most minute particulars be examined into, and handed up in the form of a clear and distinct report, when he must wait till I

fix a day for receiving the opium. This is on record. As respects Elliot, therefore, there is no occasion for my again issuing my instruction; but the consuls must forthwith clearly petition as to who they are, and their names and surnames, so as to enable me to act accordingly, and issue an edict immediately for their instruction.

"This edict is now issued to the Kwang-Chow-Foo for his information and obedience. Let him forthwith send a reply, with instructions to the Hong merchants, to transmit copies of it to the foreigners of all nations for their information and obedience, and report the same a special edict.

"On receipt of this, I, uniting the circumstances, issue this edict. On receipt of it, let the said foreign merchants, in obedience thereto, forthwith state, in a clear petition, the names and surnames of the consuls. Do not oppose. A special edict.

"March 27, 1859."

"The back-doors were blocked up on Saturday last, and admission into the back-streets is permitted only through old China-street, all the other streets are blocked up, and a watch set to guard them. Dr. Parker has hitherto been permitted to go to this hospital, but this day he was refused admittance into Hog-lane. The Chinese outside seem to be very anxious for the result, they having been dependent for their living on the foreign trade. In the evening of this day, Captain Elliot issued the following notice to His Britannic Majesty's subjects:—

"Notice.

"I, Charles Elliot, chief-superintendent of the trade of British subjects in China, do require any British subject or subjects, in the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, who may have opium within his or their factory, to acknowledge the same to him in person within the space of two hours from this date.

"CHARLES ELLIOT, Chief Superintendent.

"Canton, 6 P.M., March 28, 1839."

"It appears as if the Chinese relax in their very great vigilance, and Coolies have been ordered by the Hong merchants to bring water; a great quantity of pigs, sheep, and poultry, were brought to the Consou-house this evening, and it is said they will be made a present of by the Yum-chuy to the foreign resident, probably, as a set-off for the opium given up. The patrols of Coolies went their round as regularly as before.

"A letter from the Yum-chuy was received this morning, addressed to the French, American, and Dutch consuls, in which he requires them to give between them a quantity of opium, similar to that offered by the British superintendent. Strict orders were given this evening to bring the pleasure-boats on shore; they were, accordingly, amidst tremendous noise, brought from the river, and all deposited in the middle of the square, where they now are, many of them broken to pieces through the careless manner of landing them. One wherry was taken out of the Old Company's long room, and added to those in the square. Howqua and Mowqua frequently called on Captain Elliot during the day, and at times remained several hours with him.

"Saturday, March 30.—This morning we hear that no one is allowed to go down China-street to market; this new vexatious prohibition is caused, they say, by some foreigners going to the Consou-house last night, when the Kwang-Chow-Foo and other officers were assembled there, and the Kwang-Chow-Foo is reported to have said, that, when they wanted any foreigners to come to them, they did not go, but came when not required; that therefore they should no longer be permitted to go into the back streets. Another reason for this prohibition may be the desire to force us to accept of the Yum-chuy's present of poultry, pigs, &c., which we stated were brought to the Consou-house on Thursday-night; these were offered to foreigners in the morning of yesterday, but refused, we believe, without exception. During the day, some Parsee servants were allowed, with a passport, to go to market. Another cause of this greater strictness may have been the Nam-hoy-yune's intended visit to the front of the factories, which took place at about two o'clock in the afternoon. He came, accompanied by several other Mandarins, and walked over the square, up to the British Hong, looked down the passage, which divides the Company's garden from the house, and walked away again. The impression seems to be general this day, that things are far from being settled; this is, however, merely guessed at, nothing having transpired as to the nature of Captain Elliot's negotiations with the authorities. We omitted to mention, that two buckets of spring-water were carried to each house yesterday, by order of the Hong merchants.

"Sunday, March 31.—Provisions, such as fowls, eggs, mutton, and vegetables, were offered this morning by the linguists, in all the houses, but by many refused, unless payment were taken for them, while the Chinese insisted upon giving them as a present. A long document, containing the Yum-chuy's correspondence, was posted this

afternoon on the wall of the Company's garden, which for want of space and time we must defer giving until our next. Foreigners were informed this day, that since they were averse to receiving provisions gratis, the linguists would in future supply them with them for payment.

"Monday, April 1.—This morning, another part of the correspondence between the Commissioner and Captain Elliot, and the American and Dutch Consuls was published in the square. Its purport is briefly to the following effect:—The Commissioner says, that Captain Elliot proposes that Mr. Johnston should go down to Hong-Kong, to be present at the delivery of the opium; this, his Excellency says, is not necessary; why not make each British subject give an order for opium, such as they were in the habit of giving to the opium dealers? This, Captain Elliot should indorse, and then give to his Excellency, who would then send down for it, without Mr. Johnston's presence being necessary. If, says his Excellency, Captain Elliot has power sufficient to obtain the making over to him all the opium belonging to British subjects, he surely may also have that of ordering such documents to be made out. To Mr. Snow, the American Consul, his Excellency says, that he cannot understand the reason why, as he, the Consul, has informed him, his countrymen should have delivered into Captain Elliot's keeping some 1,500 chests of opium, rather than to him, he says there must be some double dealing there. (The opium here spoken of is declared to be British property, and as such was, by the consignees, given over to Captain Elliot.) The Dutch Consul, Mr. Van Basel, his Excellency says, in answer to a letter from him, that though he nor his countrymen have no opium, yet, that he cannot, for the sake of allowing one vessel to depart, permit the whole of his plans to be deranged. He recommends to the Dutch Consul to influence his neighbours to give over all traffic in opium.

"We ought to have mentioned before, that, in consequence of a letter from Mr. King, the commissioners sent him a gracious answer, which was ordered to be stuck upon Mr. King's door, in which it is said, that though his Excellency is aware of Mr. King's having abstained from the opium trade, yet he cannot allow his servants yet to return, as such concession would interfere with his plans. He, however, recommends Mr. King to disseminate his maxims among his neighbours.

*"Public Notice to British Subjects.*

"The undersigned has now to announce, that arrangements have been made for the delivery of the opium lately surrendered to him for Her Majesty's service, by which his Excellency, the High Commissioner, has stipulated, that the servants shall be restored after one-fourth of the whole to be delivered, the passage-boats be permitted to run after one-half be delivered, the trade opened after three-fourths be delivered, and every thing to proceed as usual, after the whole be delivered (the signification of which last expression the undersigned does not understand.)

"Breach of faith (and his Excellency, not unnaturally, is pleased to suppose that breach of faith may be possible,) is to be visited, after three days of loose performance of engagements, with the cutting off of supplies of fresh water; after three days more, with the stoppage of food; and, after three days more, with the last degree of severity on the undersigned himself.

"He passes by these grave forms of speech without comment.

"But, with the papers actually before him, and all the circumstances in hand, he is satisfied that the effectual liberation of the Queen's subjects, and all the other foreigners in Canton, depends upon the promptitude with which this arrangement is completed.

"The maintenance of the national character, and the validity of the claim for indemnity, depend upon that scrupulousness of fidelity, with which he is well assured his countrymen will enable him to fulfil his public obligations to this Government.

"As soon as the whole opium surrendered to him be delivered over to the Chinese officers, it will be the duty of the undersigned to communicate with his countrymen again.

"But it is a present relief to him, to express to the whole foreign community his admiration for the patience and kindly feeling which have uniformly distinguished this community, throughout these trying circumstances.

"And he offers his own countrymen his grateful thanks for their confidence in his sincerest efforts to lead them safely out of their actual strait.

"The ultimate satisfactory solution of the remaining difficulties, need give no man an anxious thought."

## Australia.

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### SYDNEY.

We have Sydney papers to the 27th March, but they do not contain intelligence of much interest. The following narrates the particulars of the loss of the "Dispatch :"—

Copy of Captain Pritchard's letter to the agents detailing the circumstances attending the loss of this unfortunate vessel :—

"Gentlemen—On Monday, the 11th instant, at eight A.M., I perceived a strong smell of fire, and ordered the scuttle of the after cabin to be taken off, to ascertain the cause. Upon raising the scuttle, a dense volume of smoke arose and filled the cabin. I then ordered the scuttle of the fore cabin to be raised, which gave egress to a body of smoke; on perceiving which, I ordered both scuttles to be instantly caulked down, to prevent, as much as possible, the accession of air. I now feared the attempt to extinguish the burning wood would be fruitless; at noon the smoke increased. Our latitude 33 degrees 27 minutes south, longitude 161 degrees 45 minutes east; at this time nearly 575 miles from the heads of Port Jackson. Wore ship, wind S.S.E. with a heavy sea. At five P.M., the after cabin nearly full of smoke; shortly after the doctor went into the state room, but was obliged to return to escape suffocation. Directed the chief officer to clear the long boat, and put in her a cask of water containing sixty gallons, two bags of bread, and a quantity of beef and pork. This done, directed the passengers to get ready for the long boat, as there did not appear any prospect of saving the ship. At seven Mr. and Mrs. Street, the two children, and two female servants, with the passengers (except Mr. Bentley and part of the crew), twenty-one in all, took to the boat at my desire, and with directions to hang astern of the ship. I remained on board with the doctor, Mr. Bentley, and five of the crew, in the hope of being enabled to preserve some important documents, which, however, I found it impossible to accomplish. At midnight, flames burst up the companion, compelling all on board to betake themselves without delay to the jolly-boat. Immediately on leaving the ship, the flames spread with amazing rapidity, rushing up the mizen rigging. It soon communicated with the main rigging, and the mizen mast went by the board; the main-mast followed; and the flames began to spread with increased ardour. At five o'clock the following morning (Tuesday) the fore-mast went by the board, and the ship presented one sheet of flame to the water's edge. I thought it useless to remain longer by the wreck, and in conjunction with Mr. Street, agreed to stand in the course of vessels bound from Sydney. Stood to the westward all day, but saw nothing. Wednesday, mild south-west fresh breeze, and much swell. At noon, in company with the long boat. At four, P.M., agreed to make for Lord Howe's Island, it bearing by compass north-west by north 150 miles; weather more moderate. Thursday 14th, at daybreak saw the long boat bearing east of us, latitude 32 degrees 30 minutes south, longitude 160 degrees 35 minutes east; found all well in the long boat, agreed to burn blue lights during the night, wind south-west, with a heavy breaking sea. At eight, burnt a blue light, and was answered by the long boat at half-past ten. Midnight, breeze steady, Friday 15th, long boat out of sight, varying from west-south-west all forenoon, lat. 31 degrees 26 minutes south, long. 162 degrees 30 minutes east. At two P.M., wind shifted to north-west, wore boat, stood to south-west, wind still fresh, two hands baling the boat, sea still high from north-north-west. Saturday the 16th, wind shifted to northward, stood west-half-south, latitude 31 degrees 24 minutes south, longitude 161 degrees 46 minutes east, Lord Howe's Island bearing west, distant 140 miles. At half-past six P.M., a man descried a sail right a-head, at eight neared her, and found her to be the "Governor Bourke," Captain Dawson, by whom we were very cordially received. Captain Dawson, upon my explaining the situation of our companions in the long boat, wore ship to the southward in expectation of seeing them, but made little progress during the night. Sunday the 17th, at day-light, wind north-north-west, strong from east-south-east to west-south-west, in search of long boat. At noon, a strong breeze with heavy squalls, no appearance of long boat. At sun-down, despaired of seeing her, shaped course for Sydney.

The governor despatched the revenue cutter, "Prince George" to cruise in the neighbourhood of Howe's Island for a few days, and endeavour to pick up the long

boat with the twenty-one unfortunate persons. Mr. Holt has made arrangements by which the cutter "Rover's Bride," which sailed yesterday, is to assist the "Prince George" in her search.

### MARRIAGES.

By special licence, by the Rev. J. M'Garvie, on the 4th inst., Mr. James Robb, builder, to Miss Agnes Francis M'Intosh, of Sydney.

By the Rev. John M'Garvie, on the 15th inst., Mr. James Keppie, to Miss Elizabeth Powel of Paterson's River.

### BIRTH.

At Bathurst, 24th March, the lady of Mr. James P. Poynter, esq., of a son.

### VAN DIEMAN'S LAND.

We have received papers to the 23rd March.

On the 19th March, the foundation-stone of a Roman Catholic chapel, to be built on the Contract Hill, near Launceston, was laid by the Rev. J. J. Therry, vicar-general, assisted by Major Ryan, H.M. 50th Regt., and several most respectable colonists.

Yesterday, at the conclusion of the cause *Nicholas v. Nicholas*, the Attorney-General, understanding that it was the last occasion of Mr. Stephen's appearing professionally on this side of the island, addressed the learned gentleman in terms of handsome and merited eulogy, and congratulated him on his promotion to the Bench. Mr. M'Dowell testified to the polite and conciliatory demeanour which Mr. Stephen had preserved toward his brethren of the Bar, and reflected on the talents which adorned his professional character. The Chief Justice united in what fell from the Attorney-General, and acknowledged the service which the Court had received from Mr. Stephen's talent. His Honor paid the most honourable testimony, in a speech of some length, which a professional gentleman could receive. The foreman of the jury, Mr. Degraives, on the part of the jury, expressed the high sense entertained of Mr. Stephen's abilities and general conduct at the bar, and he added that he might express this, not only as the testimony of the present, but of every other jury.—*Tasmanian*.

### SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

#### DEPARTURE.

March 21. Barque *Augusta Jessie*, Edingborough, master, for London.

#### PASSENGERS TO LONDON.

Per *Augusta Jessie*—E. Lord, Esq., E. Lord, Jun., Miss Lord, Mr. George Cock, Mrs. Cock, three children and servant, Miss Lovekin, E. Tegg, Elizabeth Peers.

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## HOME INTELLIGENCE.

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**COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.**—Sir Jasper Nicholls has been appointed Commander-in-chief in India.

**SIR J. KEANE.**—Sir John Keane has been appointed Colonel of the 43rd Regiment.

**SIR W. COTTON.**—Sir Willoughby Cotton has been appointed Colonel of the 98th Regiment.

**MISS ROBERTS.**—Miss Emma Roberts proceeds overland to Bombay in the course of a few weeks.

**SIR A. OLIPHANT.**—The honour of Knighthood has been conferred upon Anthony Oliphant, Chief Justice of Ceylon.

**THE DRUID.**—The Druid, 44, Capt. Lord J. Churchill, shortly will proceed with Capt. Hobson for New Zealand, of which colony Capt. Hobson is appointed Governor; and from thence to the East Indies.

**OVERLAND MAILS.**—Accounts were received by special messenger at the India House on the 31st July, from Bombay 5th June, and letters to same date, *via* Marseilles on the 5th August; those *via* Falmouth on the 14th.

**REV. MR. STREET.**—The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts has appointed the Rev. Alfred W. Street, of Pembroke College, and Craven Scholar, to the Junior Professorship in Bishop's College, Calcutta. By the will of Lord Craven, his scholarships cannot be held after the possessor obtains any preferment of double value.

**THE VERNON.**—On the 27th July the "Vernon," a splendid frigate-built ship, belonging to Messrs. Greens, of Blackwall, was safely launched from their building yard at that place. This vessel, which is to be commanded by Captain George Denny, H.C.S., is fitted with a powerful steam-engine to propel her in calms at the rate of five knots per hour, thus avoiding the tedious part of a voyage in India round the Cape; and the owners are sanguine that the "Vernon" will complete the voyage from the Lizard to Calcutta in 75 days. The engines are low pressure, and are supplied by Messrs. Seaward and Co., Limehouse.

**THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR C. T. METCALFE, BART.**—On the 5th August, Sir Hesketh Fleetwood gave a splendid dinner at the Thatched House Tavern to his relative, Sir C. Metcalfe, the new Governor of Jamaica. The company was limited to the more esteemed friends and companions of the Right Honourable Baronet. It was suggested by Sir Hesketh, who then entertained the distinguished Baronet and his friends, that they should, during Sir Charles's absence, meet annually and dine together to manifest the high esteem in which they held his character—a proposition which was received with the warmest concurrence.

On the 30th July the Right Honourable Sir C. T. Metcalfe was entertained by his friends and admirers at Willis's Rooms on the eve of his departure to assume the Governorship of Jamaica, to which he has recently been appointed.

Mr. J. E. Elliot, M.P., presided, supported on the right and left by Sir C. Metcalfe, Sir C. Grey, Viscount Combermere, the Hon. A. H. Cole, Sir R. Jenkins, Admiral Sir R. Donnelly, Sir J. Bryant, Sir H. Fleetwood, Colonel Galloway, General Cartwright, Colonel Battle, Major Frederick, Major Moore, Admiral Sir C. Malcolm, Colonel Barnwell, Colonel Wyatt, Colonel Honeywood, Colonel Bonner, Captain Grindlay, Messrs. J. C. Brownrigg, D. Hill, R. Cavendish, H. Wood, T. Pakenham, J. A. Cassamajor, G. A. Bushby, W. More, D. C. Smyth, V. Smith, &c.

The cloth having been removed, *Non nobis* was sung in excellent style by Messrs. Fitzwilliam, Jolley, and Atkins.

The chairman then proposed, without observation, the usual routine of toasts of "The Queen," "The Queen Dowager and the rest of the Royal Family," "Lord Hill and the Army," which were all drank with enthusiasm, the last being ably and appropriately acknowledged by Sir R. Donkin.

The next toast was "Lord Minto and the Navy," which was followed by "Rule Britannia."

The Chairman in proposing "The health of their excellent and honoured guest, Sir C. Metcalfe," said they had assembled to express to him thus publicly their warm and affectionate regard. He saw around him the friends of his boyhood, the companions of his youth, and the admirers of his riper age. They had known him from the time he had entered the college at Fort William to the period when his great services appeared to have reaped their full reward in obtaining the government of a mighty empire in the East (cheers). It was not for him, in such an assemblage, to trace the illustrious career of his much esteemed friend. Perhaps some even among those he now addressed might have felt some surprise that he should have left the retirement of private life to undertake so important a duty; but his honourable friend, acting on the principles of public duty, saw nothing before him but a broad line of duty, a noble opportunity of public usefulness, and therefore without one moment's hesitation or estimate of the sacrifices he should be obliged to make, he had determined, in defiance of all selfish considerations, with deepest devotion to his country's good, at once to accept the situation which had been offered to him (cheers). He asked them whether he might not congratulate this country, and particularly the inhabitants of the island of Jamaica, upon such an appointment? What might not such a colony expect from such a man, who had accepted its governorship from such motives, who went determined to do justice to all and favour to none, to restore harmony and peace, and revive the drooping interests of a distracted colony? (loud cheers). Sir C. Metcalfe was a man of entire independence, and untainted by party bias (cheers). His firmness of character and determination had always been manifested in times of difficulty, tempered, too, with

mildness, conciliation, amiability, and tenderness. The chairman, in conclusion, proposed "The health of their honourable and distinguished guest," which was drank with all the honours, and followed by "Charlie is my Darling."

Sir C. Metcalfe, in acknowledging the compliment, said he felt considerable difficulty in finding words appropriately to express his thanks for the honour which had been done him. He could only say he was deeply sensible of their kindness, and he should endeavour, in his new sphere of duty, so to conduct himself, as not to make them ashamed of the partiality which they had manifested towards him (cheers). He was going to Jamaica with an earnest desire to devote himself to the prosperity of that valuable colony, and the welfare and happiness of every class of its inhabitants (cheers). If he succeeded—if he were the humble instrument of accomplishing the great purposes for which he should go thither—he need not say he should be highly gratified, and would never regret having quitted the enjoyments of private life to re-engage in the public service. If he failed, it would not, he assured them, be from any want of exertion or attention on his part (cheers). He could not but express his warmest thanks for the manner in which his health had been proposed on the present occasion. He felt the kindness and friendship which had just been evinced towards him as one of the most valuable blessings of life (cheers). When he reflected that the same kindness which had cheered him throughout his humble services in India, shone with equal warmth and steadiness here at home, and accompanied him even to the distant west, he must say he could not find language sufficiently strong to express his sincere and heartfelt gratitude for the manner in which he had been received (cheers). In conclusion, he must be allowed to express his ardent hope that he might yet have the happiness of meeting them all again in a happier hour than that which warned him they were now about to part (loud cheers). He, therefore, begged, in return for the compliment they paid him, to drink all their good healths (cheers).

Sir J. Briant next proposed "The health of the Marquis Wellesley," and read the following letter from his lordship, addressed to the chairman:—

"It would afford me sincere pleasure to accept the honour of the invitation which you have transmitted to me, but for a considerable time past I have declined attending public entertainments. No person can concur more cordially in the laudable object of the proposed entertainment. Sir C. Metcalfe was originally introduced into that service, of which he now is a principal ornament, under my special superintendence and care, at a very early age, at the recommendation of his highly respectable father, my steadfast friend. His progress to high distinction and honour I have always regarded with the warmest interest, and with the most affectionate solicitude, and the eminent station which he has attained in the estimation of the public, is not only a gratification to my sentiments of friendship, but real matter of satisfaction and pride to me. The respectable body of gentlemen in whose name you have addressed me, are fully capable of appreciating my feelings on this occasion. Amongst them I recognize with pleasure many distinguished names of the fellow-students of Sir C. Metcalf, and of my early assistants and fellow-labourers in the Government of India, the principal stations in which were most honourably filled by several of them in the course of their career of service. The choice of Sir C. Metcalfe for the arduous Government of Jamaica, is most creditable to those who have named him, and I have no doubt will prove highly beneficial to the British empire, and advantageous to the great cause of African emancipation, to which I have always been a sincere and anxious friend. My most ardent hopes, wishes, and confident expectations of success, honour, and glory in this congenial enterprise will ever attend my esteemed pupil, who, I trust, will return from the West with a reputation equal to what he so justly acquired in the East. I have the honour to be, your respectful and obedient servant,

"WELLESLEY."

The gallant officer, in continuation, said that the entire administration of Lord Wellesley was familiar to all; it was a proud and happy reflection that the admiration with which they regarded it had at length become a general sentiment—a feeling they partook in common with the whole world. Time, the parent of truth, had led England, tardy England, to join India in a just appreciation of that illustrious statesman. Lord Wellesley had assumed the government of India when it was surrounded by bitter hostility, and menaced by danger on every side, and he left it when, by his brilliant services, he had achieved paramount dominion (cheers). He concluded by proposing "The health of the Noble Marquis," which was drank with much enthusiasm.

"The healths of Capt. Jenkins Jones, and the Chairman," who severally returned thanks, concluded the business of the evening.

The company did not separate till midnight.

## BIRTH.

On the 7th inst., at 84, Sloane Street, the lady of Captain Wm. Hamilton Halford, 42d Regt. Bengal Army, of a daughter.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## ARRIVALS FROM INDIA.

July 29. Marion, Bengal, Portland; H. M. S. Leverett, Mauritius, Plymouth; Baboo, Bengal, Liverpool. 30. Mermaid, Bombay, Downs; Reliance, Bombay, Liverpool. 31. Gunga, Mauritius, Liverpool. Aug. 3. Juliana, Mauritius, Folkestone. 5. Viscount Melbourne, China; Mount Stewart Elphinstone, Bombay; George McLeod, Robertson, Mauritius. 6. Zenobia, Owen, Bengal; Lotus, late Gore, New South Wales, Capt. Gore died at sea, on the 4th of June; Hindostan, Redman, China. 7. James Pattison, Cromarty, New South Wales; Grasshopper, Billinghamurst, New South Wales. 8. Warrior, Douthwaite, Ceylon. 9. Earl Grey, Talbert, Manila. 12. Charles Hartley, Hopper, Bengal; Cove, Palmer, Bengal. 13. Sir George Arthur Tindal, Hobart Town. 14. Sophia, McNair, Bengal; Mercury, Pattison, Singapore. 15. Cherub, Matthews, Ceylon; Felicity, Small Cape. 20. Catherine Evans, Bengal; Alexander Ramsay, Bengal; Mary Ann Peters, Roberts, Bengal. 21. Harrison Surfen, Mauritius; William Grey, Scudder, Batavia. 22. North Britton, Fyall, Sourabaya.

## SAILED FOR INDIA.

Aug. 6. Robert Small, Scott, Portsmouth, Bengal. 4. Oratava, Watson, Downs, Algoa Bay. 6. Samuel Smith, Hodgson, Downs, New South Wales. 4. Atlas, Pigot, Downs, Madras, with troops. 2. Elizabeth Cundy, Bristol, Mauritius. 4. Eleanor Russell, Worth, Downs, Ascension and Mauritius. 1. Adrastus, Day, Liverpool, Cape. 2. Cornubia, Bell, Liverpool, Bombay; Kite, Noble, Mauritius. 3. L'Amitie, Delafosse, Plymouth, Mauritius. 6. James Ewing, Greenock, Batavia. 13. Olive Branch, Lindsay, Dartmouth, Cape. 22. Fatima, Fethers, Liverpool, Bombay. 15. London, Adamson, Liverpool Bengal. 9. Argyll, Cowan, Liverpool, Bengal. 12. Sir Edward Paget, Campbell, Portsmouth, Bombay. 10. Duchess of Northumberland, Geare, Portsmouth, South Australia. 12. Euphrates, Wilson, Portsmouth, New South Wales. 11. Joshua Carroll, Porter, Launceston. 8. Fanny, Andrew, Downs, New South Wales. 13. Orestes, Smith, Bristol, New South Wales; Portland, Conbro, New South Wales; Imogen, Downes, Liverpool, Bengal. 8. Malabar, Dunlop, Greenock, Cape. 12. Countess of Durham, Johnstone, Downs, Cape. 14. Francis Anne Hay, Liverpool, China. 13. Aden, Ponsonby, Liverpool, China; Meg. Merri- lies, Skinner, Downs, Mauritius. 12. Trident, Todd, Downs, New South Wales. 14. Derwent, Riddell, Downs, Hobart Town. 7. Goshawk, Laing, Shields, Cape. 15. Wellington, Liddell, Portsmouth, Cape and Madras; Scotia, Campbell, Bengal. 14. Florentine, Goodwin, New South Wales, 12. Eagle, Patterson, Downs, Cape. 17. Ocean, Patterson, Downs, Cape. 15. Arab, White, Liverpool, Cape. 21. Westminster, Mollinson, Port Phillip and New South Wales. 25. Windsor, Nisbit, Portsmouth, Bengal. 20. Mary Ann, Tarbut, Portsmouth, Madras. 16. Joseph Storey, Spencer, Rotterdam, Cape. 25. Carnatic, Voss, Portsmouth, Madras. 21. Richmond, Hync, Downs, Bengal. 23. Edinburgh, Patterson, Downs, Bengal, with troops. 22. Theseus, Gaymer, Liverpool, Bengal. 18. George, Fyfe, Leith, New South Wales. 26. Mayflower, Headly, Downs, Hobart Town. 24. Susan Crisp, Fleming, Gravesend, Cape. 25. Jane Blair, Reid, Downs, New South Wales. 24. Seymour, McFarlane, Liverpool, Bengal. 25. Lucy, Wallace, Downs, St. Helena. 22. Thomas Lee, Wolff, Liverpool, Mauritius; Rio Packet, Dench, Muscat. 26. Friends, Arnold, Liverpool, Singapore. 23. Isabella, Dickenson, Shields, Mauritius. 26. Moffatt, Gilbert, Downs, South Australia.

## PASSENGERS—OUTWARDS.

Per *Richmond*, Captain Charles Hind, for Calcutta (touching at the Cape of Good Hope).—Mrs. Hodges, child, and servant; Captain Hodges, Bengal N. I.; Alexander Wallace, F. Pohnmoller, and R. Tidmarsh, Esqs., Merchants; Lieut. John Sutherland, 56th N. I.; Lieut. Trail, Bengal Engineers; Lieut. Reid, Bengal Artillery; Hugh Davidson, Esq., Cadet; Miss L. M. Bennett; Miss C. Whatten; Mr. F. L. Bennett, late Quarter-master of Spanish Legion.

*Oriental Herald*.—Vol. 4.—No. XXI.

Per *Vernon for Bengal*.—Mr. and Mrs. Hastings; Capt. and Mrs. Tucker; Mr. and Mrs. H. Chapman; Mr. and Mrs. Neave; Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie; Mr. and Mrs. Palmer; Capt. and Mrs. Collyer; Miss Greaves; Miss Lloyd; Miss Lethredge; Miss Huntley; Miss Gregory; Capt. Hunter; Mr. McCornachie; Mr. Delmaine; Mr. Milford; Mr. Gilmore; Mr. A. Hunter; Mr. Broadhurst; Mr. Ross.

Per *Duke of Argyll for Madras*.—Mr. and Mrs. Brewer; Mr. and Mrs. Morehead; Mr. Wood and family; Mr. and Mrs. Marshall; Mrs. Spencer; Miss Young; Miss Morehead; Mrs. Cooke; Miss Robbon; Mrs. Steel; Mr. Callan; Mr. Bands; Mr. Tweedy; Mr. Tuckey, H. M. 41st reg.; Mr. Morris; Miss McLean; Miss Watson.

Per *Marion for Madras and Bengal*.—Mrs. Col. Webber; Capt. and Mrs. Barton; Miss Grant; Capt. and Mrs. Garratt; Dr. Wilkinson; Mr. Fletcher, and Capt. and Mrs. Norman, for Madras.

Per *Bland from Liverpool to Bengal*.—Mr. and Mrs. Edwards; Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Grant; Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Smith; Capt. and Mrs. H. C. Reynolds; Capt. and Mrs. G. A. Smith; Mr. Ronald.

#### PASSENGERS—INWARDS.

Per *Viscount Melbourne*, Drayner, from China, Aug. 5.—Master H. Elliot; Miss Elliott; Mr. Smith; Miss Harriett Cotgrave, died at sea.

Per *Zenobia*, Owen, from Bengal.—John Neave, Esq., Bengal Civil Service; Lieut. Wilson, 10th N. I.; Ensign Bennett, 13th L. I.; M. Gladstone, Esq.; and R. Williams, Esq. Dep. Com. Gen. from St. Helena.

Per *Sophia*, McNair, from Madras and Bengal.—Mr. and Mrs. Barnett, from Bengal; Mrs. McNair; Miss McNair; Lieut.-Col. Murray; —Bourdillion; Dr. Hopkins; Mr. R. M. Binning; Captain Grealey; Lieut. McPherson, left at the Cape; Captain Bridge.

Per *Catherine*, Evans, from Bengal.—Capt. Horne, H. M. 44th reg.; Lieut. R. P. Alcock, 46th N. I.; Ensign H. R. Dennys, 20th N. I.; Lieut. T. S. A. Goad, 20th N. I.; Lieut. C. E. Steel, 61st N. I.; Lieut. H. Trevor, Bengal Horse Artillery, left at the Cape; Lieut. C. Mann, 11th M. N. I.; Ensign David Fyffe, H. M. 46th reg.

Per *Sir George*, Arthur, from Hobart Town.—Mr. Petchey; Mrs. Petchey; N. Kelsy.

## POSTSCRIPT.

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August 29, 1839.

By an overland mail, which reached town this morning, through the agency of Mr. Waghorn, we have accounts from Calcutta to the 21st June, and Bombay to the 4th July. The Governor-General was still at Simla. The Hon. Col. Morrison vacated the Deputy Governorship of Bengal on the 15th June, and was succeeded by the Hon. T. C. Robertson, Sir W. Casement occupying the vacant seat in the council.

The *Delhi Gazette* of the 19th of June mentions that Major-General Sir Willoughby Cotton was not suffering from illness. He had, however, been indisposed.

The cholera was said to be raging with some violence at Dhoolia and Bangalore. The *Bombay Courier* of the 2d of July mentions the death in that city of a Mr. George Rousseau, of spasmodic cholera, after an illness of only five hours.

We collect from Calcutta papers of the end of June, that the prospects of the Indigo crop were rather gloomy.

(From the *Bengal Hurkaru*, June 1.)

We have received letters from Rangoon, up to the 16th ultimo, but we have not discovered any news in them beyond the fact stated by our correspondent Representative, that Tharrawadee had appointed three of his sons to command three armies. It is not mentioned where these armies were to collect, or their destinations.

The Merchants of Rangoon appear to be very indignant, and to consider their interests and independence sacrificed without reason, by the supercession of the Agent for Letters selected and appointed by them, and the confirmation by the Supreme Government of the nominee of the Political Agent at Rangoon.—June 8.

The death of Brevet Major S. P. C. Humfrays, of the 36th Regt. N. 1., recorded in our Obituary of to-day, promotes Brevet Capt. W. C. Carleton, (a Lieut of 16 years standing) to a Company, and gives Ensign F. A. Carleton a Lieutenantcy in the same Regiment. There were no less than three Brevet Majors out of the five Captains and six Brevet Captains, out of the eight Lieutenants in the corps, at the date of the above casualty.—June 6.

(From the *Madras Courier*, June 13.)

The Dragoons at Bellary had become healthy when they were put into the old Dragoon Barracks, which they should have had on going there; but for the stingy arrangements of the Company's Authorities who think to get favour for *saving, saving, saving!* the constant preaching of the Leadenhall Street Rulers.

The *Weather* all this week has been most delightful, for the season of the year; more resembling, we should imagine, other parts of India than the Coromandel Coast. On Sunday night we had a very heavy fall of rain, which continued for six hours, and was accompanied with thunder and lightning, and heavy squalls; since then we have had several smart showers; and, except for a short time in the middle of the day, the temperature has been quite agreeable. All the dust has been washed off the trees, and nothing can exceed the luxuriance of the vegetation about Madras at this moment. Mango eaters complain of the great scarcity of that fruit; but we have Pine Apples and Oranges in abundance.—June 13.

(From the *Bombay Courier*, June 29.)

Intelligence has been received in Calcutta from China ten days later than what was brought by the "Good Success"—viz. to the 18th of April. No amendment had taken place in the state of matters, the whole foreign community being still prisoners at Canton, and all communication between that place and Macao cut off. Business was entirely at a stand still at the above date, and the ships are all lying in Macao roads, anxiously waiting the result of the commissioner's proceedings. The Rob Roy was expected to be the first to sail with despatches.

It is rumoured that a despatch has been received from Simla, urging the immediate departure of Her Majesty's ship "Conway" for China; but in consequence of the *imperium in imperio* relations existing between the Admiral and the Governor-General, the request cannot be complied with until a reference has been made to Sir F. Maitland, at Ceylon. Nothing can more strongly prove the absurdity and inconvenience of two separate authorities at a distance of half the globe from the Imperial Govern-

ment, than this want of a discretionary control over Her Majesty's ships of war, which may be as much required to carry out some policy essential to the stability of our paramount rule in the Eastern hemisphere, as the power to order half-a-dozen Queen's regiments to collect at Ferozepore.

(*From the Bengal Herald, June 16.*)

Since our last remarks on the Chinese question, it has been announced, that the Supreme Government have intimated, to the Chamber of Commerce, that they have no jurisdiction as to British residents or property in China; but that the letter of the Chamber, urging the adoption of measures for the protection of both, should be sent to the Admiral, who is left quite to his own discretion in the matter. His Excellency, it is said, goes in the "Wellesley," direct to China, without coming to Bengal.

It will be admitted by every one who reflects on the importance of our relations with China, and the critical state of things there at present, that there is every reason to lament that anomalous position of affairs, which gives the Supreme Government no jurisdiction in China. Even the Admiral, indeed, has no jurisdiction beyond that which arises out of his general duty, to protect the lives and rights of British subjects, and maintain the honour of the flag. What, if his measures should involve us in a war with China? Is nothing to be done then beyond what can be accomplished by the naval force, such as that now is, until a reference can be made home and authority received from thence for the Bengal Government to co-operate? If so, there is the more reason to lament that, owing to the supineness or indifference of the authorities here, that intelligence of the state of affairs in China, is likely to be five months reaching England.

The "Times" of this morning says,—The accounts from the expeditionary army at Candahar, which had reached Bombay, came down to the end of May, at which date all was well in that quarter. The harvest was just about to commence, and it was calculated that sufficient stores would be collected to admit of the march of Sir John Keane to Cabul about the 15th or 16th June. No opposition from Dost Mahomed was anticipated. The alternatives presented to him appeared to be to make terms with Sir John Keane, or abandon the country. One report stated that he had already fled to Bokkara.

It appears that the Affghans, reported the bravest and most warlike people of Central Asia, had shown neither courage nor military enterprize in presence of our troops. The only losses suffered by our army in its passage through their country, arose from the fatigue and privations to which it was exposed. No fewer than 400 horses perished on the march from Shikarpore to Kandahar, and the whole army had been reduced before their arrival at the latter-mentioned place to half, and even quarter, rations.

The capture of Kandahar, and the restoration of the Schah under such extraordinary circumstances, had produced on the whole country a moral effect difficult to describe. The natives are represented as a fine, frank, manly race, unsparing in their strictures upon all our acts, but on the whole well-disposed towards us, although they could not be brought to regard us as simple "allies." At Herat, where Lieutenant Pottinger had become all-powerful, the success of the expedition had produced a great sensation. A party was about to proceed for that city from Kandahar, under the command of Major Todd, who would convey a number of guns, and be accompanied by engineers to put the place in a complete state of defence. No credit was given to the rumours that the Persians were again marching against Herat.

No intelligence had lately been received of the Sheik force that was to have co-operated with that under Sir John Keane in the attack on the Cabul. Runjeet Singh was still alive, but nothing more. The British force in the neighbourhood of Lahore had been strengthened—an indispensable precautionary measure to ensure tranquillity on the demise of that personage.

The praise bestowed on the officers and soldiers composing the expedition to Candahar does not seem to have been merited universally. In a general order, dated Headquarters, Kandahar, the 14th of May last, published in the "Bombay Courier" of the 2nd of July, Sir John Keane states, that Major Griffiths, of the 37th Native Infantry, had quitted Dadur with three companies of that regiment, without the sanction of the Commander-in-Chief, although aware of the reasons which induced his Excellency to order him and the detachment to occupy that post, and also contrary to the express desire of Lieutenant-Colonel Dennie distinctly communicated to him by that officer.

PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE, BOMBAY, JULY 4.—We have advices from the army to the end of May, at which date all was well at Kandahar. The harvest was just commencing. It was calculated that sufficient commissariat stores would be collected to allow Sir John Keane to proceed on to Cabool, about the 15th or 16th ult. No opposition was anticipated from Dost Mahomed, who will be driven either to make

terms with Sir John, or to fly the country. Indeed, one report says that he is already gone off to Bokhara. These Affghans, though reputed the bravest and most warlike people of central Asia, have shown themselves arrant poltroons in their affair with us. The impracticable nature of their country, and its being utterly destitute of all forage and provisions, have been the only difficulties that our army has had to contend with, and what these difficulties were, may be imagined, when the cavalry brigades alone lost four hundred horses on the march from Shikarpore to Candahar, and the whole army were reduced to half and quarter rations, and still suffer under many privations, though greatly alleviated since they reached the present quarters. The taking of Candahar, and the Shah's resumption of the reins of power, under such novel circumstances, have produced a wonderful effect all over the country.

One letter states, "The moral effect of this undertaking is more powerful than I can describe. The most respectable of the Zemindars have publicly avowed, that it was not expected we should have succeeded in crossing the Indus, and one man significantly added, that if there had been 'Jumaat,' or union among the Mussulmans, we must have been checked. The natives of this country differ from those of our provinces in mind and manner, as much as in form and feature. They are a fine, frank, independent race, speak their sentiments boldly, condemn most unsparingly every act of ours they disapprove of, and think nothing of enforcing their argument by a slight slap on the shoulder."

On the whole they are glad to see us here, but they cannot or will not understand our character as simple allies. Our success had created a great sensation at Herat, where Pottinger had become all powerful, and was said to exercise unlimited control, both civil and military, over the whole resources of the State. A party, under Major Todd, was about to leave Kandahar, at last advices, for Herat, in charge of the guns destined for Shah Kamran, and accompanied by several experienced engineer-officers, to assist in putting the place in a complete state of defence. Rumours are still rife of the Persians being on the march against it a second time; but they obtain no credit here. We have no late advices of the movement of the Sikh force, destined to co-operate with Sir John Keane in the attack on Cabool, farther than that the Kyber Pass would not be disputed, and that if they stuck together, which was not very likely, they would, in all likelihood, reach Cabool without opposition. Old Runjeet still lives, but it may almost be said in death. We have been strengthening our force in the neighbourhood of Lahore, in anticipation of an event that, in all likelihood, will throw the whole Punjab into confusion, and make very vigorous measures necessary on our part to ensure tranquillity. Regular passage-boats have now been established between Ferozepore and Bukkeer; and from Bukkeer to the sea, the Indus is always open, so that we hope speedily to see this become the channel of an extensive commerce.

Our affair with Persia still remains unaltered. Karak continues in possession of our troops, and the residency at Bushire untenanted. The Egyptian force under Kourahid Pasha, still remains inactive on the gulf, and most probably will retire by the route it came, the Government having remonstrated against any attempt on Bussorah or Bagdad.

The utmost anxiety prevails here for further news from China, none having been received later than those I sent you—viz., to the 8th of April. It is believed the admiral only waits fresh advices, before proceeding with the whole force under his command to Canton. He has the whole now concentrated at Trincomalee.

The Bengal Government sends a clipper (the *Water Witch*) with a mail to Suez, on the 12th inst.

Government-house is the scene of continued gaieties, quite altered from what it was in Mr. Ferialis' reign. The *Caruacke* will be very popular. Sir J. is quite idolized by the natives.

The brig of war, *Euphrates*, will leave this on the 18th instant with a mail for Aden, *en route* for England, and on the 1st of August a steamer will proceed to the Persian Gulf, with another mail for England.

(Extracts from the *Bombay Courier*, June 29.)

Her Majesty's ship, *Jupiter*, sailed from this on Thursday last for Ceylon. We have heard that her orders are to bring hither, with all possible despatch, her Majesty's 18th regiment of Infantry, at present in that island. Our readers would remark, that the destination of the 15th Hussars had been changed from Madras to Bombay, and that the "*Herefordshire*" had been taken up to bring them hither.

We have been favoured with the perusal of letters from Kandahar of the 15th and 19th ultimo. They give but little public news; but what there is, is satisfactory. The

harvest had commenced, and there was consequently a reduction of prices; flour, formerly one and a half seers per rupee, and barley three seers; being now, the former two and a half, and the latter four and a half seers per rupee. The fruits also were rapidly coming to maturity; peaches, apricots, and many varieties of plums, as well as apples and pears, being spoken of in anything but the disparaging strain made use of in some of our former letters. Grapes promised to be an abundant crop. The heat had been as high as 104 in the tents, but the nights cool, and no lack of ice for all needful purposes.

The Bengal Commissariat expected to be able to march for Cabul about the 5th or 7th of this month, should the stores and treasure (seventy lacs, it is said.) *en route* from Bukkur reach in good time. One of the Shah's regiments was to occupy Geriahk, and not to follow the Sirdars, who had fled to Bakwa. The reports from Cabul were most satisfactory; Doat Mohammed had made no proposal to accept terms, but meditated no resistance. Sir John Keane was quite resolved to take on the Bombay troops with him, though contrary to Mr. Macnaghten's opinion, and the general opinion of the whole force, openly expressed, that the Bengal division was amply sufficient for the undertaking. Indeed, it would appear that the Bengal Government never wished our troops to proceed beyond Shikarpore, and there is no doubt that the unnecessary magnitude of the force has not only greatly embarrassed the enterprise, but created delays that would not otherwise have happened, for by this time the force ought to have been at Cabul. The Bengal Brigade under General Nott, was still at Quetta. Our letters state that a great many officers had suffered in health from bad diet and hard work, and become so thin, that a want of tailors to reduce clothes, and take in sword-belts, began to be felt. Sir John Keane himself had been affected with bleeding at the nose. There are some sensible remarks in these letters, in which we entirely concur, in regard to the officers' right to remuneration for the great losses they have sustained in property, and the extraordinary prices of provisions they have been obliged to pay both for themselves and servants, arising almost entirely from the bad arrangements in the first instance; losses greater than ever were sustained on any former campaign, and for which the double batta allowed on former occasions (the Burmese war for instance) would hardly be a sufficient compensation. The force was considered very healthy, numbering only about seven per cent. sick, without including those left at the top of the Pass.

Considerable anxiety prevails in Bombay, in consequence of a report in circulation that a vessel has foundered on the coast, supposed to be the "Sir Herbert Compton."

We have made inquiry into the facts; and, from all we can learn, are very doubtful whether any ship has been lost at all; but if unhappily this conclusion should turn out to be premature, the vessel cannot, we think, possibly be the "Sir Herbert Compton." It appears that a Syrang presented himself before the magistrate of Compta, North Canara, stating that he and two Moplalis were the only survivors of all the crew, consisting of fifty-three souls, from the ship "Sir Herbert Compton" bound from Calcutta to Bombay with stores and ordnance for Government, which had been wrecked on a reef near Compta on the 16th instant. By the last accounts from Singapore, the "Sir Herbert Compton" was lying there on the 28th of May, and, from this circumstance, in connexion with the other discrepancy, we may conclude that the whole account is a fabrication. The probability is, that the man is a deserter from some ship on the coast.

(From the Bombay Courier, July 2.)

We are enabled to present to our military readers the following:—  
General orders by his Excellency Lieutenant General Sir John Keane, K.C.B. and G.C.H., Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Indus.

Head-Quarters, Camp Candahar, May 4.

The combined forces of Bengal and Bombay being now assembled at Candahar, the Commander-in-Chief congratulates all ranks on the triumphant, though arduous march which they have accomplished, from distant and distinct parts of India, with a regularity and discipline which is much appreciated by him, and reflects upon themselves the highest credit. The difficulties which have been surmounted have been of no ordinary nature, and the recollection of what has been overcome must hereafter be a pleasing reflection to those concerned, who have so zealously, and in so soldier-like a manner, contributed to effect them, so as to arrive at the desired end. The engineers had to make roads, and, occasionally, in some extraordinary steep mountain passes, over which no wheeled carriage had ever passed. This was a work requiring science and much severe labour; but so well has it been done that the progress of the army was in no manner impeded. The heavy and light ordnance were alike taken over in

safety, by the exertions and good spirit of the Artillery, in which they were most cheerfully and ably assisted by the troops, both European and native, and in a manner which gave the whole proceeding the appearance that each man was working for a favourite object of his own.

2. His Excellency shares in the satisfaction which the troops must feel (after the difficult task they have accomplished, and the trying circumstances under which they have been placed, the nature of which is well known to themselves, and therefore, unnecessary for him to detail), at knowing the enthusiasm with which the population of Candahar have received and welcomed the return of their lawful Sovereign, Shah Shojah-ool-Moolk, to the throne of his ancestors in Affghanistan: Sir John Keane will not fail to report to the Right Honourable Lord Auckland, Governor General of India, his admiration of the conduct and discipline of the troops, by which means it has been easy to effect, and to fulfil the plans of his Lordship in the operations of the campaigns hitherto.

3. The Commander-in-Chief has already, in a General Order dated the 6th ultimo, expressed his acknowledgements to Major-General Sir Willoughby Cotton for the creditable and judicious manner in which he conducted the Bengal Column to the valley of Shawl. His Excellency has now a pleasing duty to perform, in requesting Major-General Wiltshire, Commanding the Bombay Column, to accept his best thanks for his successful exertions in bringing the troops of that Presidency to this ground in the most efficient and soldier-like state.

4. The Commander-in-Chief entertains a confident expectation that the same orderly conduct which has gained for the troops the good-will of the inhabitants of the states and countries through which they have passed, will continue to be observed by them during their advance upon Cabool, when the proper time for the adoption of that step shall have been decided upon by his Excellency, in concert with His Majesty Shah Shoojah-ool-Moolk, and the envoy and minister W. H. Macnaghten, Esq., representing British interests at the Court of the King of Affghanistan.

May 5.

On the occasion of His Majesty Shah Soojah-ool-Moolk taking possession of his throne, and receiving the homage of his people at Candahar, the following ceremonial will be observed:—

The whole of the troops now at head-quarters will be formed in review order at daylight, on the morning of the 8th instant, on ground which will be pointed out to assistant-adjutants-general of divisions to-morrow afternoon at five o'clock, by the deputy-adjutant-general of the Bengal army.

The troops will take up their ground in the following order from the right.

Bengal.—Horse Artillery, Cavalry Brigade, Camel Battery, 1st Brigade of Infantry, 4th Brigade of Infantry.

Bombay.—Horse Artillery, Cavalry Brigade, Infantry Brigade.

The 4th Local Horse will take up a position in front of the right flank, and the Poonah Auxiliary Horse in front of the left flank, for the purpose of keeping the space in advance of the troops clear of the populace.

A platform will be erected for His Majesty Shah Soojah-ool-Moolk in front of the centre of the line, on either flank of which detachments of His Majesty's cavalry will take post to prevent the intrusion of the populace.

Captain Lloyd's battery of Bombay artillery will be stationed at the Edgah gate of the town, and will fire a royal salute as His Majesty passes.

The troops of His Majesty Shah Shoojah will be drawn up in street in the most convenient situation, between the gate and the British army, and will salute His Majesty as he passes. The King's artillery will be formed near the Palace, and will fire a royal salute on the departure and return of His Majesty.

On His Majesty approaching the platform, a royal salute is to be fired from one of the batteries in the line, and on his appearing in front of the troops he will be received with a general salute from the whole line, the colours being lowered in the manner that is usual to crowned heads, and as soon as the infantry have shouldered arms, 101 guns are to be fired from the batteries in line under directions from Brigadier Stevenson.

The Envoy and Minister, and officers attached to the mission, the Commander-in-Chief and his personal staff, and the officers at the heads of departments, and Affghan sirdars, are to be stationed on the right of the throne, synds and moollahs on the left, the populace on both sides and rear of the Schah, restrained by His Majesty's cavalry, 4th Local Horse and Poonah Auxiliary Horse.

The Envoy and Commander-in-Chief will present Nuzzurs, as representatives of Government.

The officers of the Shah's force will also present Nuzzurs, leaving their troops for that purpose after the Shah has passed, and returning to receive His Majesty.

The Shah's subjects will then present Nuzzurs—at the close of the ceremony the troops will march past, the cavalry in columns of squadrons, the infantry in columns of companies in slow time, the columns will move up the wheeling point in quick time; the columns having passed will continue their route towards the encampment, the 4th brigade of Bengal Infantry moving on to the Cabool gateway, at which His Majesty will enter the city, where it will form a street, and salute His Majesty as he passes.

The troops are to appear in white trousers, the officers of the general staff in blue trousers and gold lace.

Corps will parade on the occasion as strong as possible, and the encampments will be protected by the convalescents, and by quarter and rear-guards, such extra guards as may be considered essentially necessary to be placed over treasure at the discretion of brigadiers commanding brigades.

Officers commanding divisions are to be supplied with field states, showing the actual number of troops there are under arms in their respective commands, to be delivered when called for.

His Majesty having expressed a wish that his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief should be near his person during the ceremony. Major General Sir Willoughby Cotton will command the troops in line.

May 7.—Owing to the indisposition of Major-General Sir Willoughby Cotton, and his inability consequently to attend to-morrow at the ceremonial on the occasion of His Majesty Shah Sooja-ool-Moolk taking possession of his throne, the post assigned to the Major-General by the General Order of the 5th inst., of commanding the line, will devolve on Major-General Willshire as the next senior officer, and he is requested to meet the Deputy-Adjutant and Deputy-Quartermaster-General of the Bengal and Bombay troops on the ground this afternoon at the time he may fix, to make the necessary arrangements.

May 8.—Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane has received the gracious commands of His Majesty, Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, to convey to Major-General Willshire, commanding in the field, to the Generals and other officers, and the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who were present and assisted at the splendid spectacle of the King taking possession of his throne this day, the deep sense His Majesty entertains of the obligations he owes to them and to the British nation. The King added, that he would request W. H. M'Naghten, Esq., Envoy and Minister at His Majesty's Court, to convey these his sentiments to the Right Hon. Lord Auckland, Governor-General of India.

By order of Lieutenant-General Sir J. Keane, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of Indus.

R. MACDONALD, Lieutenant-Colonel,  
Military Secretary and Deputy-Adjutant-General of  
Her Majesty's Forces, Bombay.

## HOME INTELLIGENCE.

### CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND SIR CHARLES FORBES.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Your readiness to insert in your valuable journal whatever relates to the welfare of the natives of India, induces me to hope that you will do me the favour to give publicity to the following correspondence with the Bishop of London upon a subject deeply affecting the character of the people of that country, of whom, after an experience of half a century, it is but justice to say that I cannot call to mind having ever been deceived, either in word or deed, in my extensive commercial transactions with them. I wish I could say as much for the moral qualities of the Europeans I have had to deal with.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Fitzroy-square, Aug. 24.

CHARLES FORBES.

TO THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

My Lord,—I observe with pain and surprize the report of a speech stated to have been made by your Lordship in the House of Lords, on Tuesday, the 13th instant, under the head of "Idolatry in India," containing the following passage :—"It was notorious, that so prevalent was their disregard of truth, that no testimony of a Hindoo would be received in a court of justice, or could be relied on."

I should hardly have believed that such a speech could have been made by your Lordship, did I not find that it was partially noticed by Lord Brougham, although in terms falling short of what I think the occasion required.

I feel it, therefore, to be my duty towards the natives of India to declare, that after an experience of twenty-four years' residence among them, and twenty-eight years' constant communication with them since my return to this country, I consider the passage in the speech referred to altogether undeserved by the natives of India, and which, if uttered by your Lordship, would not I am sure have been so, had you been personally acquainted with the true character of the Hindoos.

I have no hesitation in repeating, on this occasion, what I have often expressed publicly in the House of Commons and elsewhere, my perfect confidence in the honour and veracity of the natives of India, than whom no people can be more scrupulous in the observance, not merely of an oath, but of their word, and of the obligation of which they entertain as high a sense as any man in this country can do : and, moreover, that the more I see of the people of Great Britain, the more highly do I estimate the moral qualities of the people of India, agreeing as I do in the opinion expressed by Sir Thomas Munro in his evidence before the House of Commons, that "were morals to become an article of trade between the two countries, England would profit by the import cargo."

In performing this act of justice towards the people of India, let it not be supposed that I differ from your Lordship in the objections which you entertain to a revenue being drawn by the Company from the temples and religious rites of the natives, or to the Company's civil and military servants being compelled to attend religious processions and ceremonies contrary to their conscientious feelings.

I have always advocated the most perfect toleration in matters of religion, not only in this country, but in every dependency of the British Crown, and more especially in that most valuable portion of them all, India, where not only the most strict neutrality ought to be observed by the Government, but every proper degree of protection afforded to all classes of the people in the exercise of their religion, for which they are accountable only to their Maker.

My apology for troubling your Lordship with this letter must be the regret I feel that a charge so serious, proceeding from so high a quarter, should be made here, and go forth to that country uncontradicted. No doubt, your Lordship, actuated by the purest motives, spoke from the information of others ; but, whoever your Lordship's informants may have been, I might safely challenge them to the proof of a charge so injurious to our fellow-subjects, the natives of India, and which cannot but be hurtful to their feelings, when placed before them, as it no doubt will be, through the medium of the public press.

I have the honour to be with great respect, my Lord,  
Your Lordship's most obedient servant,  
CHARLES FORBES.

Fitzroy-square, 17th August, 1839.

Fulham, August 19, 1839.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge the favour of your letter respecting an observation which I made in the House of Lords on Tuesday last, to the effect that the character of the Hindoo people for veracity was so low, owing to the debasing influence of their religion, that their testimony could rarely be admitted without suspicion in a court of justice. I afterwards qualified this remark, in answer to an observation of Lord Brougham, by saying, that of course, in speaking of the national character in general, I did not mean that no individuals were to be found, amongst the more educated classes of Hindoos, whose word might be relied upon.

For the general observation I consider that I had abundant authority in the conspiring evidence of the late Lord Teignmouth, Sir John Macpherson, Sir Robert Barker, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Oldham, Mr. Leslie Melville, Mr. Butterworth Bayley, and lastly, the Bengal Government, who in 1827, speak of the mendaciousness of the natives as matter of notoriety :—"It is needless to remark, how much the proceed-

ings of all our tribunals are delayed and embarrassed by the notorious disregard for truth so generally displayed by natives in giving evidence, and from their want of moral principle—evils which cannot be mitigated or remedied by any direct or immediate modification of our judicial ‘institutions.’” “The fact,” says Mr. Thornton, “cannot be denied,” and he ascribes it to their superstition, in a work which the Chairman of the Court of Directors put into the hands of Sir Peregrine Maitland, when he was going to Madras, as a book which might be relied upon. If you will peruse the authorities which Mr. Thornton has quoted in his chapter on the Religion and Morals of India, you will excuse me for saying that I adhere to the opinion which I expressed in the House of Lords, as modified by my subsequent remark, notwithstanding the testimony which you have borne to the moral qualities of the people of India—a testimony entitled to all the weight which can be given to the evidence of a single witness.

At all events, I am confident that you will acquit me of having expressed an opinion formed upon no sufficient grounds.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

To Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.

C. J. LONDON.

TO THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's letter of the 19th, in reply to that which I took the liberty to address to you on the 17th inst. ; and whilst I regret to observe that your Lordship adheres to the opinion which you expressed in the House of Lords, with reference to the general character of the Hindoo people for want of veracity, I have to thank your Lordship for the candour manifested in stating the grounds on which you have formed that opinion.

I should not have ventured again to trouble your Lordship, were it not that I am anxious, before giving publicity to the correspondence, to state the authorities which I am confident may be offered in support of the testimony I have borne to the moral qualities of the people of India—a testimony which your Lordship is pleased to observe is “entitled to all the weight which can be given to the evidence of a single witness.”

The evidence of the authorities alluded to, and which will be found in the records of Parliament, and at the India House, is, that of Warren Hastings, Sir Thomas Munro, Sir John Malcolm, the Marquis of Hastings, Lord William Bentinck, Bishop Heber, Sir Alexander Johnston, Sir Lionel Smith, General Briggs, General Walker, Mr. Rickards, Sir James Carnac (the chairman, I suppose, alluded to by your Lordship, who handed Mr. Thornton's book to Sir Peregrine Maitland), and last, though not least, that amiable man Jonathan Duncan, long judge and collector of Benares, and for sixteen years Governor of Bombay, than whom no one was more competent to form a just estimate of the native character.

To these I might add the names of many other persons, in public as well as in private station, entitled to as much consideration as Mr. Thornton, a clerk of the India House, who never was in India, and who, perhaps, never had an opportunity of seeing a native of India, except it may have been those unfortunate persons who find their way to this country to complain of injustice and oppression, and are occasionally to be found sitting in “dhurna” at the portals of the India House.

I have the honour to be, with great respect,

Your Lordship's most obedient servant,

CHARLES FORBES.

Fitzroy Square, Aug. 22, 1839.

# THE ORIENTAL HERALD.

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## CAMPAIGNING SKETCHES,

OR

SCENES ON THE RIVER INDUS.

No. 3.—THE ALLIGATOR SPRINGS.

*(Continued from page 120.)*

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It will be readily believed that we were one and all getting decidedly tired of Kurrachee. We had ridden on the desert sands, until acquainted with every swamp and prickly pear bush in the neighbourhood; the few musicians among us had practised and re-practised their favourite airs until the greatest egotist of the party became sorely weary of re-echoing the tones of otherwise most mellifluous concords, and rather differing upon the moral of "life let us cherish," we began with true and soldier-like zeal to envy the exciting position of the advanced corps, even with the startling terrors of the "Bolan pass" before their eyes.

With joy, then, was the proposal hailed, that a party should be formed forthwith to visit the celebrated hot springs in the neighbourhood of our camp. And no anxious invalid or ennuied votary of fashion ever set forth with more zest to enjoy the "Bubbles of the Brunnens," than did our chosen few give orders to their Gorawaller helps to precede them to the Alligator springs. On went our Skihar Duglahs and our hunting topees, with the few who could so manage it, mounting their green glasses to keep out the most penetrating sand of this arid desert; and the tattoos, nothing loth, scampering away with honest zeal, brought us in good time, to the very curious springs which are situated about eight miles from Kurrachee, embosomed amongst the neighbouring hills. At length, arrived in the centre of an extensive plain, we found a small and curious tomb, which has been described as very ancient; but it proved, on enquiry, to be an erection of but ninety years. This singular place is surrounded with date-trees; and near it are several other tombs, all of Mahomedan erection. From the roots apparently of one of the largest of these trees, the waters of a hot spring bubble forth at a temperature of 120 degrees. After passing through a narrow channel for a few yards, these waters fall into a basin some four feet square, in which they are collected, and thence issuing, spread over some low ground, and form a perfect swamp about one hundred and fifty

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yards long, by eighty broad. In this agreeable retreat, we observed two enormous alligators, bloated and shapeless monsters who lay like muddy logs upon the bank, in an apparently most unexcitable condition of animal existence. As an affair of choice, indeed, your alligator tribes but seldom affect the pleasures of locomotion; but if disturbed, they contrive to flounder and blunder through the slimy mud of their chosen solitudes, with an activity abundantly sufficient for their personal security.

The water of this spring is exquisitely clear; and on immersing the hand the curious investigator is but too happy to draw it back, the experiment proving its heat to be a little too great for pleasant bathing; with such invalids, however, as are directed to be parboiled by their medical advisers, the hot springs of Kurrachee would doubtless prove highly beneficial. I lost some time in endeavouring to trace the source of this spring, but my efforts were ineffectual. A small hill immediately in the rear, appears to be composed of sand-stone; but I had neither much time nor opportunity for geological investigation. The Sindhians drink the water, and describe it as wholesome and agreeable to the taste; a medical officer, attached to our force, who analyzed it, assured me he could discover in it no mineral properties; which is a remarkable fact, inasmuch as the water deposits an oxide of iron throughout the whole of its course from the immediate spring to the smaller tank.

The sand-stone rocks, the thick masses of date-trees overhanging them, the banks covered with rich green grass, and the bright waters falling over the rugged stones which intercept their course, make a pretty picture of the whole; and the artists of the party commenced a hunt after their sketch-books and pencils, which, in common with the cheroots and "eau de vie," had been consigned to the especial care of our heated and heavy-laden Gorawallers. The Alligator spring, is a spot of considerable Mahomedan sanctity; and, during our stay, a party of Beloochees brought the body of a comrade from Kurrachee, to bury him beneath the date-tree shades; to our sketching friends, this was a very desirable incident; the bright topees and white dresses of the Sindhians, forming a striking group for their foreground effects.

About a quarter of a mile from the spring described, is another, which we found to be of lower temperature. Here is a pretty little tomb sacred to the memory of some canonised individual, a peer, and probably a beggar in his day, inasmuch as I have before observed, Sindh is famous for these personages; the beggary and the saintship seeming to form the *post* and *ante mortem* conditions of all the distinguished among its people. The tomb containing the body of the saint was railed in, and ornamented with richly carved wood-work. It stands on a rocky eminence, from whence we looked down on a pool of water some one hundred yards long by forty wide, surrounded by date-trees, and occupied by alligators.

Down we of course scrambled to investigate this matter, and the most agile of the party soon discovered that the spring issued from the rock with considerable force immediately beneath the peer's tomb, whence it descends into a tank eighteen feet square and ten deep, built to receive the water. Advancing our hands with greater slowness of discretion than on the former occasion, we found the temperature to be 97°, the most agreeable heat for bathing. Not having the means and appurtenances at hand for this species of extempore ablution, I was satisfied with the assurance of the fact; but three or four of the party betook themselves at once,

like ducks to the pool, and came out wonderfully refreshed, appetites being declared to be peculiarly keen.

The great curiosity of this place is the large pool which receives the superfluous water from the tank, and this not being in any very large quantity, numerous little islets or clumps of earth appear, covered with short grass. On these islands, and around the banks, luxuriating beneath the shade of the lofty palm trees, some fifty alligators repose, varying in size from four to twenty feet, and so amiably conditioned, that the visitor may with perfect safety approach within a yard, and quietly contemplate the sluggish monsters; in short, as a friend facetiously observed, "it was a glorious opportunity for the young naturalist to study the nature and habits of the alligator species."

As the alligators' dinner hour approached, (the fakirs of the temple considering it as their bounden duty to offer them due refreshment), our interest became vividly excited for what promised to be a curious scene, and at length their entertainment commenced. A goat having been killed and thrown upon the bank, at some distance from the pool, the fakir in charge of the temple (and also acting *maître d'hôtel* upon the occasion of the banquet) summoned the slumbering monsters with a peculiar call, immediately recognizable in India, by all well-educated and obedient quadrupeds. On the alligator party its effect was now astonishing. As the sound reached their well-accustomed ears, each log-like looking brute first afforded unequivocal signs of existence by gradually distending his jaws, and then opening his eyes, remaining motionless after the action. Again the fakir raised his voice, and the idea of "dinner ready," seemed at once to reach the capacity of the most sluggish. Slowly and steadily the whole troop, and those from the opposite bank, came sailing through all the intricacies of the little islands, the object of attraction being the dead and unskinned goat. One large alligator, more hungry and consequently more ferocious than the rest, cunningly advanced, and after smelling at the animal provided for the general refection, suddenly seized it with a rapid and very unexpected movement of his masticatory process. The crack which succeeded this particularly selfish appropriation, convinced us at least of the power of his monstrous jaws. As if expecting the retributive vengeance of his defrauded companions, the brute turned quickly round, making towards the water, and bearing away his enormous load with as much ease as an accomplished mouser would have borne off the victim of her treachery. Our alligator friend was not however so to escape. No sooner did the other brutes discover his trick, than they became at once animated and ferocious, and darting upon him from all sides, a scene ensued as disgusting as it was curious.

The whole pool seemed at once alive with these monsters; they turned, they grunted, they lashed about their enormous tails, and the black and stagnant water flew in all directions, scattered with their earnest efforts to secure their prey. One alligator, larger and more determined than the rest, contrived to introduce his terrible teeth into a portion of the goat which the original appropriator still retained, and the method then pursued to disengage a portion for "private consumption" was certainly effectual. The alligators keeping a firm hold of the particular parts of the goat depending from each other's jaws, kept up a series of ingenious twinings, at incredible speed considering the unwieldy nature of the brutes, the effect being of course to reduce the goat to the appearance of a twisted rope, which break-

ing in the centre, the object of the ferocious attack was at length obtained. A more disgusting scene I have never witnessed. The black murky stagnant water stained with the dark red blood of the mangled goat, the huge, ill-shapen, bloated monsters, gorging with filthy greediness the reeking flesh, horns, skin, and all, presented a scene which Dante might have borrowed from, or Martin have imagined for a scene in Hades.

The alligators, however, albeit "alligators stuffed," are not without their friends, being highly respected by the fakirs, who afford them constant protection.

One of our party, a very *young* gentleman, was loudly upbraided by the holy men for tilting at a leviathan who lay wrapt in most delightful repose upon the opposite bank. Yet, truth to say, with the exception of the long reed with which our hero made his thrusts, he would have formed no bad caricature of the redoubted "More of More Hall" and the Dragon of Wantley.

At the back of the peer's tomb rises an immense dunga, or hill, crowned with a small white building decorated with a few flags. This I determined to explore, and with much difficulty gained the summit, when a view presented itself which amply repaid my toil. The hills in this part of Sindh strongly resemble those of the neighbouring province of Cutch, more particularly near the edge of the great salt desert of the Runn. Like the country referred to, the soil is arid and dusty, with a chaotic collection of large masses of black rock pitched here and there as if by Titans at play.

From this eminence I obtained a view of the surrounding country for at least forty miles. To the south stretched the low Sindhian coast, with the harbour of Kurrachee, having a jutting promontory on the one side, and its triad of small islands on the other, with the native boats and a fine brig lying in the offing. To the north and east, at a distance of about twenty miles, towered the high mountain range called the *Pub*, the intermediate country being an unvaried plain, diversified only with stunted bushes and sand-careering whirlwinds. By the aid of a good telescope a few camels were discerned grazing here and there as some remnants of withered herbage met their eagle gaze, but beyond these nothing could be seen bearing even a vestige of life. Neither villages nor cultivation met the eye, but all bearing the character of an arid and barren desert. "*Terra inhospita!*" cried I; "and is this the miserable waste over which the conquering Alexander led his host, as he watched the departure of old Nearchus, with the fleet, sailing from the port of the distant Crocala?"

I was indeed on classic ground, and my meditations fell into the very natural strain induced by the locale. The British camp lay stretched now low before me, on the same spot probably occupied some centuries since by the mighty and oft-chronicled Sikunder. On the bright waters of the rolling ocean rode our British men-of-war; and in sight of the same harbour where our gallant admiral but a few days since issued the necessary orders from his noble seventy-four, a wily Greek, long anterior to the influence of Britain's power within the tropics, might, within a yard of our own anchorage ground, have given forth his commands for an immediate equipment to the Persian Gulf. The food and manners of the people to the present time testify how little change has occurred among the primitive inhabitants of this desert spot, and even at the foot of the hill on which I stood rested a temporary hut or wandh, identical with these mentioned by

the Greeks, erected as in the olden time entirely of reeds, and so fitted for removal, as pleasure or necessity might require.

The coast here *trends*, to use a nautical phrase, to the westward, where it is met by the range of hills before referred to. On the other side of this range is situated Mukran, and beyond the wild tracts of Beloochistan, the fair kingdom of Iran.

My observations concluded, I hastened to wend my way back to the dismal pool, whence a chosen few returned, cheeroot in mouth, to camp, leaving the rest of the party comfortably engaged in the cold fowl and curry apparatus of a hearty tiffin.

T. P.

(To be continued.)

## SONNETS.

## A RUINED PALACE AT BEEJAPORE.

BY MAJOR CALDER CAMPBELL.

## I.

It was a turret high, that once had been  
Most fair, within that garden'd space, and frowned,  
Beetling in grandeur, o'er the deep moat's bound,  
With spires and bastions toppling o'er the scene!  
The steps that led to it were broken now,  
And threatened danger to the intruder there;  
And, as I sought the battlement's steep brow,  
My tottering steps shrunk back; yet did I dare  
To climb the dark ascent. A hall I gained,  
Its walls yet bright with specks of blue and gold.  
And, browsing in that desolate spot, behold  
A solitary goat! How it attained  
That lonely hall, I know not; but it fed  
Quietly there, starting to hear my tread!

## II.

Innocent creature! lov'st thou, too, to trace  
The haunts where grandeur once held revel loud?  
Where devastation boldly now takes place  
Of wassail-triumph, and the sensual crowd  
Of petted minions? Here no longer sounds  
The laugh of frivolous mirth; nor meets the ear  
The tone of soft kitar, or lute; for here  
Afrits and spectres walk their dismal rounds!  
Oh, MAN! dost thou not shudder thus to see  
Thy noblest works o'erthrown? and dost thou dare  
To lift in pride thy recreant head, and bear  
The mien of one all potent? Yonder tree  
Has flourished there for ages; they are dust  
Who planted it! Be humble, holy, just!

## SYUD KURRUM ALLY.

BY ROBERT NEAVE, ESQ., B. C. S.

*(Continued from page 48.)*

[It is due to the author of these pages and to others to declare, that in these Sketches no personal allusion is intended against any functionary who holds or ever held office in the districts herein mentioned. The author commenced his delineation of native manners by placing the characters in a part of the country with which a long residence has made him familiar, but the facts and details, where not ideal, are drawn from persons, things, and occurrences, which were connected with the many parts of the country which it has been his lot to see, and in which he has resided.]

## CHAPTER XI.

The meeting.—False alarms.—A contrast.—Fresh sorrows.—The enemy appears to blight Kurrum Ally's hopes.—Ibraheem has not the same views on marriage as his daughter, and tries to convince her reason by force.—The cock crows and the light appears.—Kurrum Ally retires quicker than he came, and not with such success—Flies, and meets an obstacle which he removes with his fist.

HERE I was then at the goal of my expectations, and what was to be the result? The pelting of the rain was pitiless, but I heeded it not in my anxiety to ascertain some sign or token by which I might discover my beloved to be on the watch, or to invent some method of giving her notice of my presence, without alarming the encampment. The shower was too violent to last; the clouds rolled away, and left the night as calm and serene as it had been previous to the storm. A short dry cough, apparently half-suppressed, fell on my ear. It was evidently the cough of a female; I answered it in a similar manner. A female form approached—the words simply passed our lips "Kurmo"—"Zebun," and we were in each other's arms. Oh, what were my sensations at this moment! It were in vain for me to attempt the description, and I shall leave it to the conception of those who have loved as I did—they who have not, could not comprehend my feelings, even were I to describe them.

Zebun's agitation was excessive, and there was ample reason for it. Independent of her ardent affection for me, which had alone induced her to bear her part in this clandestine interview, the step she had thus taken placed her reputation, nay, her very life, at stake. It was perhaps the consideration of these accumulated hazards, or an undefined sensation of terror, which caused her to utter a low but distinct shriek. A shrill voice from within one of the tents called out, in a querulous tone, for Zebun. Were we discovered? thought I, as a thrill of horror ran through my body like a flash of lightning; I rose and grasped my dagger to guard against all possible accidents, but Zebun eagerly seized my arm and whispered earnestly in my ear "Silence, as you love your life—and as you regard mine too, dearest; it was but my mother's voice. Rashness would

undo us all. She sleeps but lightly, and perhaps the rustling of the trees has awakened her for a moment,—she will soon fall asleep again. I will go to her, and do you, I conjure you by the blessed Imams, remain here in quietness, and stir not until I return.” She soon returned, and told me that her mother had again dropped into a slumber, and all was still. Once more we were in a warm and fond embrace, and it was some time ere we were sufficiently calm to converse in a reasonable manner. Then too I had first the opportunity of beholding my fair one, and gazed with astonished and admiring eyes at the beauty before me. In my youthful days I had thought Zebun perfection—but what was she then in comparison to what she now was. Her infantile promise had been more than amply fulfilled in the maturity of full-blown womanhood. To the elasticity and vivacity of childhood had succeeded a subdued and polished grace of demeanour which enchanted while it commanded deference. The partial light which was shed upon us by the stars did not enable me to discover the full and glorious brilliance of dazzling light which flashed from beneath her downcast eyelids, but it was sufficient to shew me that the orb had lost none of that lustre which had been the galaxy of my boyish day-dreams.

I loosened my beloved from my ardent grasp, held her at arms length, gazed at her, and again folded her to my arms. I could for a time scarcely bring myself to believe that I was in the presence of her whom I had loved so early and so well. Nor did she seem less pleased with the improvements which time had made in me; a pretty, playful, tall, and somewhat forward youth, had become a robust, strong, and handsome man, and my beard and whiskers were small but superb; and all these excellencies too shone forth conspicuously from underneath the ill-favoured disguise which I had been compelled to adopt. In one respect, however, there was a wide difference between us, in which time had altered me, but left her almost as she was when I first knew her. Intercourse with the world had done its work with me; the simplicity, the confiding innocence, the freshness of a youthful and ingenuous heart had been displaced, and suspicion and wariness had supplied their places. Alas, that so it should be! but where is it otherwise? just as we begin to be capable of enjoying and relishing life, we commence to discover its utter hollowness and the rottenness of its core.

How great a contrast did I present to Zebun in this matter. Though my mind had changed, hers was almost as simple and child-like as when I last played with her at the mock marriage which had ended in our separation. In this respect I had, as I thought at first, some little reason for complaint; her love for me seemed too sisterly for that which I now bore to her, and which burnt fiercely, nay intensely. This was not perhaps to be wondered at, when the manner of her life is considered. Shut up in the Zenana, having few other companions than her mother and the slave girls, and with little other occupation than that afforded by the household, it is no marvel that her mind did not expand as mine had done. But what of that? Her mind was a mine of innocence and purity; it was like a form of virgin wax, which would take readily and preserve the image which might be impressed upon it by a master hand, and happy would he be who should be thus fortunate. I had not long to complain of that coldness which I at first fancied that I saw, for Zebun was an apt scholar, and ere I left her, she had renewed her early vows that she would never marry

any one than me, no, not if death itself were the alternative. Her love resembled the young and healthy plant which lies vegetating in the earth, until called forth by the revivifying powers of the sun; I was to her as that sun, and rarely did the plant flourish in my vicinity. She too had suffered for my sake, and when that is the case, a woman's heart is no longer her own, though she may for a time conceal the fact from herself. So enthusiastic did she at last become, that she would have consented to eloping with me at that very instant, had not the time and circumstances of the case then prohibited even the idea of such a proceeding. I had neither home of my own, to which I might bear her, nor an independence which might secure her from want, and I therefore discouraged the idea. Besides this, as I had now full assurance of the worth and perfection of that pearl of price, which I had selected from the common herd of woman-kind to adorn my brow, what impediment was there to my asking her boldly in marriage? Did any unforeseen accident occur to prevent my marriage, then I might perhaps have recourse to such a method. But now what need was there of it?—what *could* occur? So I thought; but that which I thoughtlessly deemed might never happen, had occurred already.

These thoughts did not present themselves to me at once, but at many times, as my beloved Zebun and I sat conversing on the subject of those happy days of our youth when our free intercourse was uninterrupted, and asking questions respecting our friends of those days. It seemed to me, however, that in the midst of the happiness which Zebun felt at seeing me, and the fervent caresses which she bestowed on me, that there was some deep-seated sorrow at her heart; for she several times sighed deeply, and occasionally fell into fits of absence when I was addressing her in tones which hardly merited such a listless manner. I was at a loss what to do. I was anxious to know the cause of this, and yet I feared to ask. At last however my curiosity was gratified, and for the first time in my life my eyes were opened to the appalling precipice on which I stood. Zebun had fallen into one of those reveries which I have mentioned, and remained thus for a longer space than at any time previously; I observed, by the heavings of her bosom, that some tremendously agitating controversy was taking place within, and I was about to speak to her, when she fell upon my breast, and burst into an uncontrollable fit of tears. For a short period all my persuasion and consolation were useless—but the copious flood of tears had partially relieved her mind, and she thus addressed me:—

“It has cost me much to make up my mind to break to you the knowledge of facts, which must make both of us, for a time at least, most miserable. I say for a time, because did I think that there was no remedy for the present state of things, I do verily believe that I should droop and die. Ullah Akbar!—Heaven is beneficent, and may the dark clouds which now surround us be soon dissipated.” “Imsha Ullah!—may it please Heaven,” replied I. “You have an enemy, Kurmoo,” she continued, “a deep and bitter enemy where you least expect it; one who is trying to thwart the fondest wish of your heart, and need I say, of mine also. He has for the present succeeded, but I still hope his accursed wiles will yet fall on his own head.” These few words astonished me not a little. I had no enemies, as far as I was aware, and at least none of my own making; on the contrary, I was very much liked by those of my own

class, and had found favour with all. My thoughts unconsciously wandered to that bankrupt vagabond, my uncle Rahut Ally, but I did not, on much reflection, see why he should cross my path in my projected alliance with Zebun; for to this it was, I did not doubt, that her observation pointed. Forewarned is forearmed, thought I, as I mentally resolved to probe this affair to the bottom, and to use every energy which nature had given me to counteract any obstacles which might be thrown in my way by any one. I endeavoured to cheer Zebun as much as possible from her deep despondency, and begged of her to give me the particulars of the affair which weighed so deeply on her mind. She once more sighed and thus spoke,—“ You have praised my form, Kurmoo, and have said how fair I look : that you are pleased with me, my life, is sufficient to make me look well ; for your words are the first tones of kindness I have heard for a long time. Weary and long have been the days of late, and tedious have been my nights, passed in thoughtful sorrow ; it has indeed so worn me down, that I wonder at your not perceiving in me the traces of my grief. In the midst of all this, the thoughts of you, and you alone, have supported me, and have been a source of comfort without which I must have sunk. It is a mysterious tie that is between us, Kurmoo, and one which I would willingly believe is approved in Heaven, for otherwise I cannot think why your name, and the thoughts of you, should bring me relief—for you were not near, nor had I then even the remotest hope of seeing you. Such however is the case. Time runs on, and I have much to say, while there is but a brief space for me to converse with you. Ever since the time when we last parted, and when our affection assumed the appearance of a childish love for a comrade and playmate, I never concealed from my father and mother that I loved you, and wished to be your wife. The idea was laughed at in those days, but was never seriously discountenanced by them ; on the contrary, they seemed well pleased, and not unfrequently talked of it very seriously. Thus it came to pass that when, as I grew up, and it would not, under other circumstances of the case, have been quite discreet in me to mention your name in connection with mine, my so doing had become so familiar, that it was thought little of ; and you were so certainly considered my destined husband, that my relations used to joke me on it. Had your parents, Kurmoo, at any time made any application to mine on this subject, I do not doubt that it would have been readily met and willingly acceded to. Alas ! it cannot be sufficiently lamented that this was never done. Had that been the case, though my parents might, as they have done, have changed their opinion as to the advisability of the match, and wished to cancel their engagement, yet they could not, with any show of good faith or honour, have broken it off. As it is, they have nothing to bind them, and no ties to break—no difficulties to encounter, and nothing to make them hesitate. All, however, is in the hands of Ullah, praise be to him !” Here she sighed deeply. “ But tell me, dearest,” I said, “ tell me by your soul, how and why have matters taken such an unfavourable turn, as you seem to hint that they have done ? And who is he by whom this has been brought about. I swear by the blessed sword of Ali, on whom be peace,—by the revered and holy Zool-fikar, the two-edged sword of Ali, that I will call him to a severe reckoning. I will use him worse than Joseph<sup>1</sup> was ever served by his brethren,

<sup>1</sup> Joseph. The expression here used is a proverb in frequent use in the East, to signify, as it implies, bad treatment, but more especially when accompanied by ingratitude.

and will count with him in blood for every tear shed from those dear eyes."

"Calm your spirit, and be not so vehement," expostulated Zebun, "or you will awaken the sleepers, and we shall be lost. I was just about to tell you what you wished to know, when you broke in upon my narrative. Shortly after your grandfather died, now about a year ago, my father had occasion to go to the city of Patna on business. He stayed there for some days, and at last returned in no pleasant mood of mind. Up to this time, he had been invariably a most kind parent to me; and I never expected to receive aught like harshness at his hands. As was usual with me, I rushed up, kissed his forehead, and then gently drawing him towards my mother's room, asked him playfully to tell his little country girl all the pleasures of the town, and the sights which he had seen. I was not repulsed, it is true; but his manner towards me was evidently changed; he paid no attention to my request; received my salute, and passed on, not further deigning to notice me, to the interior of the house. I was not thus, however, to be thwarted; and deeming that some temporary ailment, or perhaps the fatigue of travel had disordered his temper, I followed him as he went, and then asked if he had received any news of, or seen Kurrum Ally, my husband that was to be. Here I unwittingly touched the string, and it vibrated immediately. It seemed as if he wished for some excuse to vent the anger which was pent up in his breast; and I felt its full force. I will not repeat in words what he said to me, but the purport of it was to forbid my again mentioning your name, or thinking of you at all, and he, moreover, Kurmoo, called me—he actually called me a shameless girl, for hankering after—those were his very words—hankering after one, whose parents had not yet come forward with any proposal of marriage.

"I need not say how shocked I was at hearing language, such as this, proceed from a mouth, whence nothing but kindness towards me had hitherto ever issued. Sorrow fell upon my heart; and had I been by myself, I could have laid myself down and wept at the prospect before me, and the indignity which had been put upon me; for others had heard his words. I have a spirit, Kurmoo, within me, which kindness would subdue, and render subservient to its lightest impulse; but it rises at oppression and injustice, even when the author of it is a father. Instead of succumbing to his petulance, I boldly demanded the reason of this sudden change, and denounced it as unfeeling tyranny. Further reproaches, and a reiterated command to think no more of you, were the only reply; and at last I retired to my chamber, where, being alone, I could give vent to my feelings in a flood of tears. Illness followed on my agitation, and I kept my room for some days; but this produced no symptom of relaxation in the stern resolves of Ibrahim; he visited my room and spoke kindly, but unsaid nothing of what he had spoken. Hope will, however, penetrate into the deepest of dungeons. I verily believe that the cordial which restored me to health, was the constant thought that things were not so bad as they might be, and that whatever were the circumstances which had thus strangely perverted my father's mind on this subject, might pass away, and all once more become peaceful quiet.

"This, however, was not to be; and I was woefully mistaken in my hopes. It was destined—and who can withstand his destiny?—that fresh misfortunes should be heaped on my already overlaid heart. I held

conversation with no one on the subject of my sorrows ; but at last it oozed out and reached my ears, that not only was I forbidden to think of that connexion, which I had from my youth up considered as certain, but that another marriage was actually in the course of negociation ; but with whom, I could not learn. It was necessary that I should ascertain the truth of the story, and I put a bold face on the matter, being resolved to show that I had energy to resist, should force be attempted. I applied to my mother ; but she waved her hand and shook her head, as if she had nothing to do in the business. I took an opportunity of speaking to my father ; and from him learnt that I had heard nothing but truth. A speedy marriage, he said, he did not wish to press on me ; but for an eventual union with a youth of equal parentage and fortune I must prepare myself—and that youth was not to be yourself. I might have argued, but I was not sufficiently cool for that. The Syud blood which flows in my veins, again boiled up, and I hurled defiance at Ibraheem ; I plainly avowed my determination to use every means in my power to avoid the match which he had set on foot ; and I said and did much, which at this time I would not perhaps willingly acknowledge. My father was equally resolute ; and confinement to my chamber, on scanty fare, was the result of my passionate conduct.

“ Force and violence, I plainly saw, would avail me nothing. It was, however, of some consequence to know who the person was, to whom I was to be made over ; and this I often asked my mother ; but from her could extract no answer. Where force fails, stratagem often succeeds. I feigned humility, where I felt it not ; and professed to become more lowly in spirit. A subdued demeanour added strength to representation, and encouraged hopes that I might at length—as my father termed it—listen to reason. Ah ! how little did they know with whom they had to deal ; it was with one who would rather have exposed her bosom to the drawn sword, than have made the sacrifice required of her. Still it availed me nothing that I pretended to bend to the storm. I could not learn what I wished to know : but at last I prevailed. I represented to my mother, that if I knew the object of my father’s choice, I might become more reconciled to the measure, and prepare to receive with submission whoever he should suggest. May Heaven forgive the gross falsehood I spoke ; but it had the desired effect. My mother, who, I really think, pitied my hard case, and would side with me if she dared to oppose my father, under a promise of strict secrecy, told me what she knew of the affair, and it was as follows.

“ The purport of my father’s visit to Patna, was to propose to Rahut Ally to take charge of that portion of the Zemindarry which your father had relinquished. Rahut was well pleased to obtain so respectable a person as a coadjutor, and readily agreed to the proposal. In the course of conversation between them, my father casually mentioned his expectation of an alliance with one of the branches of Rahut’s family, in the person of yourself, observing that no formal contract had been made ; but that from the friendship which had existed between himself and your father, he thought that such might be the result. The motives which have actuated Rahut Ally in this transaction, Heaven alone can tell ; but no sooner did he hear of what might take place, than he commenced dissuading my father by all means in his power from thinking of such a match. I think it very likely that there has been some underhand plotting, besides all this ; but I

have not been made aware of any. Still enough occurred to make my father think seriously of breaking off our projected alliance; and this was finally concluded, when Rahut Ally casually observed, that in case of Ibraheem's refusal to abide by his advice, he must cease to think of taking charge of the estate for which he had applied. On Ibraheem's acquiescence, Rahut Ally came forward with what was the real end and object of all his plots: he proposed that a marriage should be contracted between me and one of his sons, which, he added, must be much more advantageous to our family, than an alliance with one, who, sooner or later, must turn out little else than a bankrupt. What all this means, I cannot say; but it has had its due effect on Ibraheem, who had no difficulty to encounter in the case; since the alliance between yourself and me, has been implied merely, and not engaged.

"Since that time, I have been told by both my parents to consider the marriage as positively arranged, and to look on one of Rahut's sons as my future husband. It is so much a matter of indifference to my father, provided the alliance takes place, that he has not taken the trouble to ascertain which of Rahut's progeny is to be my future lord and master. Nor do I care to enquire; for rather than this hateful plan shall be completed, I will—" here she paused for a few seconds, and then continued.—"Well, we will not touch on that point now, but leave the thoughts of that until the worst comes to the worst. Some time will yet elapse before I am to be called on to sacrifice myself, not only for one for whom I care nought, but in opposition to an ardent love, which I now do not scruple to avow; and between this and then, much may be done. Be not then uneasy on my account, Kurmoo. I have avowed my determination to my parents, and have received from my father much harsh treatment. Never fear that my constancy will be worked on. They little know me, who suppose such a thing as that."

I here caught the lovely girl in my arms, and imprinted a glowing kiss on her lips. She then pursued her narrative:—"My life has, indeed, for a long period, been one of misery. Why I, as well as the others, was brought to the fair, I do not know. One thing only appeared certain, which is——" Ha-ee-ee-agh—bawled the centinel outside the tent; and a cock from amid the distant camp, proclaimed the approach of the morning. We both started from where we were sitting, and gazed at each other; reading in each other's eyes the necessity which required our instantaneous parting, on penalty of all we held dear. We had been so absorbed in hearing and telling our respective stories, that the night had slipped away unperceived, and morn had stolen a march upon us, before we were aware that its approach was nigh. It now for the first time flashed across me (and it ought to have entered into my calculation before) that having found means to gain my present position without being discovered, I should have obtained the means of egress in the same manner. This, also, seemed highly improbable; almost total darkness covered my entrance; and a gradually increasing glimmer of day was against my exit. I well knew that the guards never left their posts until sun-rise; and if I remained in the tent until then, I should be discovered by the servants, who are early risers. There was no room for further delay, for another cock crew, and a red streak appearing in the East, gave notice of the near appearance of the false dawn, which would still more leave open my steps to observation. The risk, then, of passing the sentry, must be hazarded at every chance.

I once more hastily embraced Zebun; a mutual vow of fidelity was registered and sealed with our lips, and I promised, that I should return to pay her a visit the same night, if I might by any possibility be able to find entrance, as I had that night done. With much difficulty I tore myself from her side, and went to the place which I had cut with my dagger. I watched and listened attentively, until I heard the sentinel pass by to a little distance; and then getting through the hole, I made for the jungles with all the speed I could muster. Alas! in this my luck deserted me, and I failed in success. Besides the light, which now began to increase steadily, other matters were against me; no pelting shower caused the vigilance of the sentry to diminish, and no rustling of the branches covered the noise of my footsteps. My sharp repeated footsteps fell upon his ear, and I felt that they must do so, so I was prepared for the worst. I was, however, saved by a chance. He did not at first correctly distinguish the quarter from whence the sounds which he heard proceeded; and he rested half a minute in loosening the large cloth which he had tied over his turban, to keep his ears from the morning winds. This gave me time to reach the edge of the jungle, before his ear, released from bondage, ascertained whence the noise came; then, indeed, his eye fell on my retiring form, and, in an instant, he had levelled his piece, and fired in the direction where I was. The aim, however, was too hasty to be true, though the bullet passed pretty near my head.

I thought at first that he might rush into the bushes after me, and a personal conflict might ensue, but such did not occur. He had discharged his piece and his duty at the same time; had proved to his master that he had not been sleeping on his post, and, doubtless, did not feel himself called on for further exertion. He did not know how many of the supposed thief's companions were in the jungles, and so he proceeded to reload his piece, and utter a cry to bring about him all the people of Ibraheem's encampment. Before, however, he had time to fire again, or to collect the people, I had gone far enough off, rejoicing that I had in such a case escaped so well, and had avoided the necessity of any personal conflict. Meanwhile, having emerged from the jungle, I ran for my life, lest notice of what had occurred should reach the police, and a hue and cry should be raised. I passed the station, however, and behold the eyes of the State were closed in somnolent forgetfulness, and as little awake as when I had passed them in the night-time. I approached near my own residence, and here too I met an obstacle. A more than usually zealous watchman, having, in all probability slept all night, had just awakened as the morning dawned, to gain great credit for himself, on account of that vigilance which had preserved his charge in peace and safety, but which peace and safety were more justly due to absence of attack than presence of protection. This active guardian had just opened his eyes, and was, to all appearance, but barely able to discern the outlines of matter. He heard, however, footsteps; his ready ideas anticipated a thief, and he attempted to stop me; a blow with my fist levelled him to the ground; I turned the corner, and regained my residence.

*(To be continued.)*

## EXPERIMENTAL POLICY OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT.

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THE understood policy of the Indian Government of the present day, with regard to the millions which are subject to its control throughout the wide East, is to render them competent at a future and not distant period, to govern and protect themselves. However startling the entertainment of such a principle may at first sight appear, to those who fully appreciate the importance of our vast possessions on the continent of Asia, it is not the less apparent that this principle has been systematically acted on within the few past years, and is daily developing the results which, it is natural to expect, would follow the application of so bold an experiment in government. The two chief engines which have been employed in the process, are legislation and education: the one by its direct power overruling and removing the more prominent obstacles to the projected plan; the other by its indirect influence preparing the masses for the gradual ameliorations of which they are to be made the objects.

Respecting the measures which have been adopted both here and abroad for working out the grand idea of Indian regeneration, and which must be familiar to most of our readers, from the discussions in the public prints, it is not our intention to expatiate; more especially as considerable difference of opinion prevails on the subject, particularly the legislative branch of it. We think, however, that the crudities which have formed the main points of objection, may fairly be traced to an origin in this country; where, be it said, though with deference, Indian affairs in a certain quarter, command less attention, and are more imperfectly understood, than matters of trivial moment nearer home. It is this apathy, and this constitutional ignorance which engendered the questionable clauses of the new charter—that source of mingled good and evil, on the current of which the destinies of India will descend to futurity. But the spring once struck and the gush irresistible, the sole concern must be now to restrain its impetus only, and to guide it into channels calculated to enrich and not to overwhelm the land in which it takes its rise. It is here that a fearful responsibility is imposed on the administrators of government in India; a nation's fate is morally in their hands—all their movements will be scrutinized, and, when erroneous, challenged by that powerful censor, the press, aided by the enquiring spirit which animates the Indian community. As an instance of the watchfulness which is evinced on this head, we may note the severe handling which certain parts of the criminal code has received in India, and the freedom with which the acts of the Legislative Council are canvassed as they successively appear. It is probable that a dash of party spirit is mixed up with these discussions, and that in Mr. Macaulay's case, insufficient allowance has been made for the difficulties attendant on uniform legislation for so conflicting a variety of interests; but we think, on the whole, that he has executed his task with fidelity, considering the peremptory nature of the instructions laid down for his guidance. His error seems to have consisted in undervaluing the talent of others, especially the portion of it concentrated in the Indian press; which in turn forgot its own dignity by de-

scending to damage the man, while it professed to judge but his measures. Both sides have been in the wrong; for Mr. Macaulay should have known that the talent of the press represents the talent of India, the best writers of its highly cultivated and intellectual community resorting to the press, as the common field for the depository of thoughts and things which have made India what she is, and will make her what she is to be.

Respecting the other section of the means adopted,—that of education, more unanimity of opinion exists; though even this has been subjected to the same searching ordeal which is applied to legislation. The friends of national education in this country will, probably, form an indifferent opinion of our Indian efforts, when they are informed, that religious instruction is not made the basis. Strict morality, however, regulates the whole scheme; and it is a decided conviction, among well-informed and calm-judging men, that education must prepare the soil before Christianity can venture to sow the seed that is to come to perfection. All desultory and direct attempts at proselytism, on any other principle, are injudicious if not injurious, being based on an ill-regulated enthusiasm, and not on deliberate calculation of cause and effect, made on an intimate knowledge of the people, whose conversion is aimed at.

Simultaneously with the main design, subordinate accessories have been brought to bear on the process for ensuring the gradual improvement of our subjects in Asia. Among the more prominent of these may be noticed the conciliation of the native army by means of honorary distinctions, the admission of the East Indians and natives to situations of respectability and trust, and the diffusion of medical knowledge. The circle of utility is still incomplete, from the absence of any systematic plan to introduce a knowledge of science as applied to the arts,—a subject of great importance in India.\* Education will bring in its train new ideas, and give rise to new wants, which must be met by corresponding advances in the social condition of the country. Steam-boats will traverse all the broad rivers, and rail-roads intersect the rich plains of Hindostan, ere many years elapse; but even this consummation, certain as it is, might be considerably accelerated by a more utilitarian course of instruction. There are many educated natives familiar with the beauties of our literature, and who can converse in English as if it were their mother-tongue, to whom the improved methods of agriculture, the correct principles of commerce, and the stupendous powers and complications of machinery, are almost a sealed book. How are a people to learn to govern and protect themselves who are left in ignorance of the first principles which constitute the wealth and strength of nations? Surely this defect requires early attention from the friends of India.

In mentioning that the tendency of public measures in India is directed towards the ultimate relaxation of the dependence which has so long marked the connexion between England and the Asiatic possessions of the Crown, it would be folly to affirm, that complete independence will ever be accorded to the millions of Hindostan. As much for their safety as for her own, England must ever remain the protectress and arbiter of the Eastern world, or other nations will soon essay to re-impose the yoke of physical as well as of moral bondage, under which for centuries India has laboured. The "mild despotism" of the English rule, against which some

\* The Mechanics' Institute, recently established in Calcutta, will, in the course of time it is hoped, avert this evil.—*Ed.*

parties complain, would then be remembered with gratitude, compared with the truculent tyranny of an autocracy, which would seek to establish itself on the former. It would be well, certainly candid, if we were distinctly to define the extent of self-government which is intended to be conceded to India. The very use of the term implies the possession and control of those agents, both of internal and external policy, which are essential to the existence of independent, or at least, "protected" states. The Canadas and the West-India islands, with modifications suited to the peculiar constitution of Indian society, will probably form the model on which the future government of India will be regulated. At present, it is well-known, she possesses no self elected institutions, though the want of these is not felt in the universal freedom and toleration which she enjoys, and the ability with which her affairs are administered. Our own opinion inclines to the conviction that India, for a century to come, will not be able to dispense with the protection of England; though in the interim she may safely be trusted with a gradual adoption of the best-adapted portions of our peculiar policy. Among the chief of these is representation in parliament, the want of which has tended more than anything else to retain our Colonies in that unwise pupilage, which not unfrequently has led to serious embarrassments in their administration by the mother country. Englishmen, wherever they go, carry with them the feelings and habits of their country; and they cannot help contrasting the inconsistency which accords to a petty borough of some two thousand inhabitants a voice in the national councils, while the rich, powerful, and extensive territories in which they are residing abroad, are deprived of a similar advantage. In this respect we are behind even despised Spain; whose colonies, it is well known, send representatives to the national Cortes. It may be said that in the press of England lies a remedy for the defect on which we have just dwelt. This pre-supposes a purchased advocacy of a secondary means, where a superior should be freely at disposal. Besides, with two or three exceptions, it is notorious that the English Press displays an apathy and ignorance on subjects connected with India, which would be ludicrous, were it not reprehensible—

"Misquoting—mis-stating—mis-dating——"

inglorious confounding of men and things as they exist in the far East. But the press is expected to be omniscient; and hence the result;—truly, a little knowledge, in this respect, at least, is a dangerous thing.

Our limits preclude us from entering into the question so fully as its importance deserves; we have, therefore, contented ourselves with brief outlines which may serve for a more extended notice hereafter, when the subject has attained greater maturity. As yet it is comparatively in its infancy; but it is the infancy of the unsuspected giant, which, if not carefully watched, may some day prove too strong for its foster parents. We have good guarantee for caution in the plain sense of the Indian Government, both at home and abroad; but we apprehend that their advice is liable to be over-ruled at times by the influence of the "speculative benevolence" men, who are apt to drive point blank on their object, without considering that their zeal may overshoot the mark. Great bodies, it is true, move slow, but their step is the more firm; and we are old-fashioned enough to think that in matters of government, the steady pace of the tortoise is, on the whole, preferable to the rail-road scamper of the hare.

## THE PANDUBS\*—A HINDU LEGEND.

BY PEARYCHAND MITTRA,

LATE OF THE HINDOO COLLEGE, NOW LIBRARIAN OF THE CALCUTTA  
PUBLIC LIBRARY.

[The last Overland Mail brought us the annexed, which we have great pleasure in inserting, not only as a fit illustration of the peculiar style and progress of English literature among the Hindoo population, but as a pourtrayal of their manners, customs and superstitions. When in India, we had the pleasure of the author's acquaintance,—a young man of considerable attainment and promise, holding a public appointment requiring no small share of intelligence and integrity. —Ed.]

## BOOK I. CHAPTER I.

THE kingdom of *Hustindá* was ably governed by *Pandu Rajah* for a number of years. The glorious exploits which he had performed in the latter part of his reign endeared his name to all his subjects. He was of a bold and warlike disposition, for which monarchs from all quarters of the world held him in the highest esteem. In the beginning of *Dwapur Yug*, he grew quite tired of his royal dignity, and felt exceedingly inclined to wander in forests and unfrequented spots in order to gratify his sight with the charms of novelty. With this object in view, he bade farewell to *Hustindá*, which had attained considerable eminence and prosperity under his administration, and set out on a journey accompanied by his two wives *Coonti* and *Mádrí*. The Rajah divested himself of all royal pageantry, and was *simply* clad; a bow and an arrow hung across his shoulders and a sheet of red cloth was flung upon his breast. *Coonti* and *Mádrí*, who followed him with downcast looks, and indicated, by the glow of their aspect, every feeling of loyalty and endearment, were attired in white garments bereft of all the niceties of elegance or the lustre of show. The sudden retirement of their lord from worldly affairs had cast a tinge of pensiveness over their demeanour, though, from a wish of pleasing him, they were not without efforts in putting on a different appearance; their dark locks, which were at one time the delight of *Pandu*, and received every polish of wax and oil, now fell in wild ringlets round their crimson cheeks—their eyes were brimful of bewilderment, and they looked like two steady lightnings, flashing together. In such habiliments and in this dejected mood they steered their course through labyrinths of jungles and tangled woods, reckless of every fear or danger. They at last plunged

\* Pandubs was the name given to the five sons of *Coonti* and *Mádrí*.  
*Oriental Herald*.—Vol. 4.—No. XXII.

themselves into a solitude, wearing every gloom of awfulness, and maintaining a degree of silence which heightened its sublimity. As the dark shadows of night began to repose on the adjacent hills, a mingled hum of insects and chirping of little birds added an exquisite charm to the scene. When *Pandu* perceived that all the objects of nature were wrapt in dimness, and that he could not conveniently walk any further, he sat himself with his two wives on a tufted mound to enjoy a little rest; meanwhile, a stag and a hind that were lying on the rich bed of "a grassy couch," presented themselves to the sight of the Rajah, who, fond as he was of hunting, soon pierced the stag with a pointed arrow, at which the innocent dying creature raising its faint head cried out, "Rajah, what injury have I done that thou shouldst thus wreak thy vengeance upon me? I am a *Mone's* son. In killing me thou hast incurred the guilt of murdering a *Bramin*.\* Thine arrow penetrated into my heart in the midst of my conjugal felicity—thou hast acted *unjustly*, and I therefore fulminate on thee a curse that whenever thou shalt express affection death will instantly seize thee." Saying this, it expired. *Pandu*, *Coonti*, and *Mádri* now caught a tremor of fear, and looked upon each other with grief and despondence. The frightful words of the stag they began to revolve in their minds. Their lips abounded in expressions of deep regret. They felt the chilling frost of remorse and repentance, and were at a loss what to do for the revocation of the sad curse. *Pandu* was entranced in a train of reflections on this subject for some time. After which he broke his taciturnity and observed, heaving sighs every now and then, "So I can no more feast myself on the charms of love; little did I know before that I should meet with such a fate; I must now renounce all wordly happiness and devote my days and nights to the contemplation of God *Coonti* and *Mádri*, the fascinations of your beauty have not yet faded away; the bloom of youth still sparkles in you both; your colour still surpasses the brightness of *Chumpas*; you have been accustomed to live from your infancy in affluence—you are strangers to pain and misery. If you would take my advice, go back to *Hustiná*, where I am sure my blind brother *Dhrotorásto* will bestow on you every attention and care. As for me, I am resolved to proceed wherever my legs shall direct me, in defiance of every danger and difficulty. Waste not your life and time with me, I say, but return, return to *Hustiná*. Should you accompany me, I might have more troubles in my way. The safest plan for you will therefore be to return." "Speak no more, oh master of our lives," replied the *Ranees* in a plaintive tone, "about our returning to *Hustiná*. We would rather share with you *all the miseries of the world* than sit at home tormented by your absence. While we are in your company, nothing can depress us. The very thought of our having you within our access dispels all sadness. We therefore beseech you, we implore you with folded hands, *may we fall at your feet*, not to insist on our going back to *Hustiná*." When *Pandu* found that he could not in any way prevail upon them to do what he had wished, he gave up all hopes of being separated from them, and consoled them by saying that he would permit them to accompany him.

\* It is scarcely necessary, we presume, to inform the reader that the Hindoos place implicit faith in the metempsychosis.—Ed.

Next morning they all rose and renewed their journey.—They were quite unacquainted with the places they were now treading, and could not therefore pursue any preconceived route. They were entirely led by fancy in the choice of paths without the least consideration of comfort or convenience. In this manner they passed many a desert and country, and having exhausted their strength in perils and peregrinations, reached, after a lapse of some months, the borders of the “cloud-capt” *Hymelia*, which was ever and is still considered the *Ladder to Heaven*. In visiting the holy spot, their hearts swelled with pious emotions. The balmy breeze of the south infused vigour and animation into their exhausted frames. The lofty summit of the mountain glowing in majesty mid roseate clouds, where golden smiles were dancing playfully on the tremulous lap of streams and rivulets that had wandered along its sides, fertilizing the fields and valleys as they passed, added to the ancient notion of its being the mansion of *Mohadeba*, and awoke in their minds recollections of the sanctity of the place and of its boundless power. *Pandu* looked around, above, below, over and over. He was so much struck with the grandeur of the scene, that in a rapture of religious feeling he encircled the necks of his wives with his hands, and approached the mountains, exclaiming, “No more do I wish to live on the earth—I have had enough of its enjoyment; now we shall go to Heaven!” Scarcely had they ascended *Suttochrongo* hill, when they heard a voice cry, “Oh do not make such an attempt; stop, stop, walk no farther.” This astounded the three pedestrians. They walked around, but observed no one, when all of a sudden, a group of old Bramins, clad in dry skins and having grizzled beards and immense long hair knotted together appeared before them. “Who are you, sirs?” asked the Rajah in a supplicating voice. “We are *Monies*. We live here, and pray to God all day and night. We saw that you were going to Heaven. Had we not stopt you, you would have been disgracefully thrown down. Are you not aware that sonless persons get no place in Heaven? If you are at all ambitious of attaining celestial felicity, you must have a son. Remain with us for some time in our caverns and try to propitiate the omnipotent Being by intense *prayer* and *contemplation*.” This reasonable admonition produced its desired effect. The aspirants to an ethereal habitation turned back from their course, and followed the sages in their gloomy cells, where they lived for some time, and could get nothing but fruit and water for their food and beverage. Availing himself of the advice and precepts of the *Monies*, *Pandu* consulted his *Ranees*. *Coonti*, declared that she possessed a *munter* (charm) by which she could invoke any god in the hour of distress or danger.

“I rejoice,” said *Pandu*, “to hear of this; pray have recourse to this *munter*. Let *Mádri* learn it too.”

*Coonti* and *Mádri* retired accordingly to the recesses of the mountain while *Pandu* engaged himself in a train of reflections concerning his prospective happiness in the event of his getting sons by dint of *munters*. As he was thus remaining in a state of abstraction, a voice from above suddenly cried “Glory to *Pandu*; glory to thy sons.”

*Pandu* became quite startled at these strange words. Then shook the hills as it were “with thunder riven.” The mountain, valleys, plains, and all the surrounding objects wore a gorgeous brilliancy. Shouts of joy and exultation rang loud every minute, showers of flowers fell in-

cessantly from the sky, cheers of benediction reverberated without intermission, and "Glory to Pandu, glory to thy sons," was repeated every moment.

*Pandu* took all these strange phenomena to be an illusion or dream. He essayed to fathom its meaning, but his efforts were unavailing. He felt a strong impulse of curiosity to account for these miraculous phenomena, when *Coonti* and *Mádri*, flushed with joy, ran to embrace him with five children in their arms. "Oh, what do I see here?" exclaimed *Pandu*, looking toward the children! "how admirable is their shape! how exquisite are their features! how spacious their forehead! how lovely their physiognomy. Did you observe what transpired just now?"

"We did; they are all good signs, and were done in honour of the birth of our sons."

"But what gods did you worship for obtaining these inestimable treasures? Oh, now is every obstacle of my going to heaven removed!"

"I," said *Coonti*, "first of all invoked *Dhurma* (god of Virtue), and was blessed with this *long armed son* (pointing to one of the five sons). When he appeared, a voice cried, 'He will excel every one in the practice of virtue, and will be a great lover of truth; let him be named *Yudister*.' I thought that a son so virtuous might not, perhaps, be able to govern a kingdom, and defend his country against the invasions of enemies. I longed for a strong son, and therefore invoked *Pubona* (god of Air.) When my second son was born *Hymelia* shook, and the earth seemed to be in a quake. The same voice cried, 'This will be the strongest man in the world, and will surpass every one in warring with clubs, but he will have no compassion or mercy; let him be called *Vima*.' I was again in the same state of anxiety, and wished for a son, who would combine the accomplishments of a hero with the *qualities of a good man*. I therefore adored *Indra* (god of Firmament), and was blessed with another son. On his birth, the same voice cried, 'Glory to *Pandu-Coonti*—Glory to your son! This is the son that will possess both valour and virtue. He will be a great warrior, and will be the *blazing torch* of your race; let him be named *Arjuna*.' I was satisfied. The gods, meanwhile, lighted the place, and showed symptoms of their pleasure. I then taught *Mádri* the wonderful *munter*. She invoked *Ossini Coomar* (twin gods of Medicine), and was delivered of two sons, which you now see 'mewling and puking' in her arms. They have been recommended to be called *Mocul* and *Sohodeba*."

"You have acted very properly. I bless you for what you have done. We will all be happy. Nurse my sons well, for I see, through the mirror of futurity, that they will all be *great*.—Oh, this is a most auspicious day! This happy circumstance has entirely dispersed the clouds of my sorrow."

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A few years had rolled away, and it was spring. The glorious sun had sunk in the west. The sky looked embroidered with ten thousand colours. The trees of the forest were fraught with variegated fruits. The verdure of the field was as green as emerald. Every shrub and herb were in their vernal pride. The dales and vales were carpeted with flowers, which

seemed to dance, as it were, in an exuberance of joy, as the gentle *Somirun*\* was flowing with the impatience of a lover, to receive their embraces. The *Kokeels* and *Kokeelast*† poured forth their melody in the groves, while the *Vromorahs*‡ sang their murmuring ditties around every lotus. The wooings of *Mollayah*§ were stealing aloft, and the chanting of *Chatucks*|| inexpressibly fascinating. Amidst such charms as these, *Hymelia* appeared doubly lovely, and as happy a spot as heaven itself.

*Coonti* and the five sons were sitting in a cavern. *Pandu* and *Mádri* were sauntering in a copse. The captivating scenery of the place so much attracted the attention of the Rajah, that he felt induced to perambulate in the adjacent gardens, to feast his imagination on the beauties of nature. His beloved companion *Mádri* expressed her readiness to participate in this pleasure.

*Pandu* took her by the hand, and felt quite enraptured by her conversation, and the sight of the objects around him, as he walked from grove to grove. In this way they sauntered for a good while; the bright orb of the day sunk in the west. The atmosphere was veiled in serenity and calmness. The trees, rocks, and rivulets streamed with the early smiles of the moon. External appearances exercise a great influence on the mind. Situated as *Pandu* was, his heart thrilled with the emotions of love. *Mádri*, aware of the curse, dreaded his tenderness. *Pandu* at length could not refrain from the eloquent expression of his deep-rooted love, and, in so doing, his blood ceased its motion, and he was no more. The curse of the dying stag was at last realized.

*Mádri* was thunderstruck. She fell on the ground, wringing her hands, beating her breast, and tearing her locks in an excess of distraction. While she was rolling on the earth in this state, she heard the tramp of some persons moving fast through the desert. She raised her head, and had recourse to every visual effort to discover who they were; but failing to do so, she remained in a state of suspense for some time, and, at last, perceived that *Coonti* and the five sons were running towards her, to learn the cause of this long absence from home.

On seeing *Coonti* and the five sons, her grief knew no bounds; she rolled more on the ground, bursting into a flood of tears, and exhibiting every sign of a state of mind approximating to insanity. "*Coonti*," said she, after a few moments in a weeping voice, "our dearest beloved husband has departed this life; and the curse of the dying stag has at last been fulfilled." "What?" said *Coonti*, "what do you say? My breast bursts to hear this; you have been the cause of his death. Oh, *Pandu*!" she exclaimed, "Oh, master of our souls! Where art thou gone? Oh, why did I not die? Hast thou left us to suffer the miseries of widowhood? Was this in thy mind? I do not wish to live for a moment. Death would be relief to me. Oh God, what sin did I commit that thou wouldst thus punish me?" In such mourning language as this, both the *Ranees*, being deeply afflicted with the loss of their husband, were weeping. *Yudister*, *Vima*, *Arjunah*, *Nocul*, and *Sohodeba*, also wept

\* *Somirun* means southern wind.

† *Kokeel* and *Kokeelast* means male and female cuckoo.

‡ *Vromora* means humble-bee.

§ *Mollayah* means gentle breeze.

|| *Chatuck*, a sort of singing bird.

with them, with all the warmth of filial affection. When the night was far advanced, and the Ranees recovered their senses, they thought it proper to burn the remains of *Pandu*. A pyre of sandal-wood and dry leaves was consequently prepared. The corpse was placed upon it, and as *Yudister* (being the eldest son) was advancing with a bundle of lighted straw to throw it on the face of his deceased father, *Coonti*, turning round towards *Mádri*, said, "Sister, I have no desire to live on the earth. Being much older than you, have seen much of the world; you are still young, and should remain for some time. Protect my three sons as your own, for they still require maternal care and protection, and permit me to die the death of a *Suttee* with my beloved *Pandu*."—"That can never be," interrupted *Mádri*; "I have already made up my mind to accompany him to the blessed regions of *Bykaunt*, and I entreat you to grant me leave to do so." After much expostulation, *Coonti* yielded to her sister's wishes.

Now *Mádri* rose from the ground with a stern and subdued aspect. She gazed for a while at the sky. She had a mangoe twig in one hand, and wild flowers in the other. Her countenance, however clouded it might have been with sadness, now shone forth with the refulgence of chastity. Her eyes were eloquent of what her heart concealed,—“a longing after immortality.” She made seven circuits around the pyre of her deceased husband; she muttered her prayers in an enthusiasm of piety; she glanced once more at *Coonti* and her sons; she blessed the *Pandubs* till she could bless no more, and in a fit of fanaticism and religious fortitude, plunged herself into the pyre, to put an end to all her sufferings and miseries, by shaking off “this mortal coil.”

April 15, 1839.

(To be continued.)

## TO MOOTEEJAWN, FROM HER LOVER.

“Mutwallah keeah moojkoh thoo kown phikeer-say?  
Therry ankhoh missree kay dullee gholekay peejowungay!”

A FREE TRANSLATION OF THE ABOVE.

Bright brimmers I've gulp'd of narcotic most rare,  
Till my senses in stupor are sunk;  
What is it? 'tis of thine eyes' sweetness, my fair,  
I have quaff'd, till I'm—dreadfully drunk!

B.

## PROJECTED IMPROVEMENTS IN CALCUTTA.

ALTHOUGH much has been done during the past twenty years towards improving the metropolis of British India, a vast deal still remains to be effected before it can vie in the excellence of its municipal arrangements with the capitals in other quarters of the globe. Health being synonymous with order, cleanliness and comfort, it follows that every advance in the latter requisites must be attended by a corresponding amelioration in the former; and hence, the obvious inference, that on the effectiveness of its police system must in a great measure depend the comparative healthiness or insalubrity of a city. By police, in this instance, is not to be understood the common acceptation of the term, as applied to a body of men maintained for the sole purpose of apprehending offenders against the law, but its far wider, yet much neglected application to every thing that affects the internal welfare of communities, the individual members of which are too much occupied with their own affairs, to be able to devote sustained attention to those numberless minutiae, on the ceaseless supervision of which, the excellence of a police depends. It is to this inefficient state of what may be termed the preventive branch of municipal government, that the inferiority of Calcutta over other large towns, not a little aggravated by its ill-chosen natural position, mainly consists. It does possess, it is true, what is called a "Conservancy," but on a scale and organization quite inadequate to any thing beyond the "scavengery" of a good-sized English parish; the higher purposes for which such a department should exist, being overlooked, or abandoned from the want of sufficient means to bring them into operation. It is the fashion to undervalue the police of Calcutta, scarcely a week passing but that they are held up to ridicule and obloquy in the newspapers of that presidency; but without undertaking to affirm that it is the best possible of similarly constituted bodies, we must do it the justice to say, that the majority of the faults observable in it, are inseparable from the principle of subordinate native agency, on which, from mistaken motives of economy, it chiefly relies. It is not however with this branch of the subject that we propose to deal at present; our object is to take a survey of what has been done, what is now doing, and what in our judgment ought to be done, to bring Calcutta to a level with cities of much less pretensions, but better repute. Strangers hear of its boastful title—the "City of Palaces," and set it down in their minds as a second Palmyra. Were they on the spot, the illusion would speedily vanish. The natives have a proverb which aptly illustrates the case.\* Calcutta looks well at a distance, and a few of the streets in the Chouringhee quarter can vie with those in the suburbs of London; but the great mass of the town consists of narrow dirty streets, ill ventilated, and redolent of concentrated filth accumulated in the noisome open drains which line both sides of the road; while houses, and huts of every size and shape, from the palace to the hovel, shew the total absence

\* "Cheenth, raur, pahaur;  
Doohr séh bahaur."

Literally—Chintz, women, and hills, look  
beautiful at a distance.

of every thing like public taste. This state of things has been fostered by the injudicious freedom which every one is allowed to exercise, of doing what he likes with his own. This assertion may startle those who are accustomed to hear of the "mild despotism" under which the British possessions in India are administered; but so it is. There is more practical freedom in Calcutta than in London, and that maxim of English law which circumscribes individual volition within the bounds of public good, is over-ruled by toleration pushed to extremes. The population bathe at the public aqueducts, and make the street drains *leurs cabinets de petite aisance*.

For what has been done towards the improvement of Calcutta, the inhabitants have to thank the "Lottery Committee" of past years. To their public spirit are owing, the Strand, several fine squares, and new lines of road in the native quarter of the town. A long interval has elapsed since the period of their labours, during which economy has laid its chilling interdict on similar attempts, and the profits of the public lotteries mortgaged for past advances from the Treasury, have been applied in the slow and painful reduction of the debt thus incurred. This we believe is now wiped off; and a fund, though but a moderate one, is again available wherewith to recommence the process which had been unwisely suspended. The far-famed Fever Hospital and Town Improvement Committee was instituted at an early period of Lord Auckland's administration; and is known to have collected a mass of valuable information, on all points connected with the present state of Calcutta. Public expectation has been wound up to a high pitch from the statements which have occasionally been put forth; the place which was found of plastered brick was to be converted to marble, and a metropolis was to be formed worthy the name which it had unworthily arrogated. Alas, for the irresolution and uncertainty which are too characteristic of Indian resolves! they are vigorous only under the preternatural excitement of war; in peace, projects multiply, philanthropy betakes itself to its wonted channels, when some unlucky rupture with a semi-barbarian chief changes the scene, and the patient labour of years is, in a moment, consigned to oblivion. New men enter on the scene, new ideas, new lights arise; and thus the Penelopean web of Indian amelioration is alternately half-woven, and then pulled to pieces.

We understand that the chief features of the projected improvements in the metropolis of British India, consist in cutting two main streets diagonally through the city, in a north-east and south-west direction, being that of the prevailing monsoons; down the middle of which, either an open canal, with a row of trees or banks, or a covered tunnel, having its fall towards the Salt-water Lake, is to run; thus forming the grand outlet for the accumulated sewerage of the place. The plan appears to be a well-judged one, considered in a medical point of view; but it is easy to foresee the ruinous effect which it would have on existing house-property in Calcutta; since the new lines, if proper care were taken to prevent the erection of native huts, would become as well the fashionable, as the business quarter of the city, from the ready access which they would afford to all other parts, to many of which, access at present is only to be had by circuitous routes. At first sight, the idea of a canal might be deemed opposed to the usually-received opinions of local salubrity; but further enquiry would demonstrate the advantage of the arrangement, especially when accompanied by the planting of trees along the banks. It is well known that

trees are powerful attractors and purifiers of miasmatic particles, from the presence of which, the unhealthiness of Calcutta principally arises; and the Dutch, whom we are accustomed to ridicule for the practice, appear to be fully aware of the fact, most of their foreign settlements being provided with canals, bordered by shady walks, which correct, in a great measure, the ill effects arising from the impurity of the atmosphere in most tropical climates. Of course, the canal communicating with the Hoogly on one side, and the Salt-water Lake on the other, would have a regular current, which, in addition to constantly carrying off the filth of the town, would act as a ventilator to the confined streets and gullies, in the majority of which the foul air stagnates to a degree that is almost oppressive.

Another very important suggestion is that of filling up the smaller, and clearing out the larger tanks—of which, the astonishingly pernicious number of six hundred, is said to exist within the boundaries of Calcutta. The Marhatta ditch—another source of disease, arising from the rank vegetation which accumulates within it and renders the line of the circular road so remarkably insalubrious, ought either to be obliterated, or kept constantly cleansed. The quantity of low bushes and jungle in the garden-houses, should also be abated, as tending to keep the soil too damp, and impeding the circulation of air; while, in connexion with the great public work of the same nature, a perfect system of household drainage, should be rendered imperative on the owners of landed property.

The local government, impressed, in common with the inhabitants of Calcutta, with the necessity of the measures which have been recommended above, are unable to sanction any outlay for the purpose, in consequence of the severe injunctions of economy emanating from the requisitions of the home administration; but there exists in Calcutta a vast amount of capital seeking investment, which, under the guarantee of government, might be advantageously employed in the execution of this great work. Under judicious management, it would amply repay the money expended on it; perhaps a public company would be the best means of effecting it—at all events, the subject cannot much longer be allowed to remain dormant. We owe it to the English name in the East—to considerations of common prudence and absolute necessity, to wipe off the reproach which attaches to the neglect of this important question; an unhealthy people will always be found an immoral one; and it will be to little purpose that we establish schools for the improvement of their mental faculties, unless we accompany the process by a simultaneous amelioration of their physical condition.

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## A "BURRAH KHANA."

(BY MRS. POSTANS.)

MR. HOOK has remarked, in his clever work of "Maxwell," that Life in London would be but a dull thing were it not illustrated by "Plates." In India, as in England, a "Burrah Khana" constitutes a great portion of the felicity of the people. And although leaves from the verdant grove supply the uses of Mortlock's most splendid services, and the condiments are all either of the farinaceous or the vegetable kind, yet such feasts are considered delicious, and entertainments of the kind anxiously attended. Among the Hindoos it is customary for the heads of castes to expend large sums in giving feasts to their social party; thus do we find a goodly company of Sonars or goldsmiths, of Vauzaris or grain-merchants, of Karsars or copper-smiths, with similar exclusiveness prevailing throughout the castes; while every week some one among the servants of an Eastern establishment is certain to request permission to attend "hummarā jāṭ kē khana,"\* a feast usually given either on the death or marriage of some among their friends. The Dhobi, if residing in his employer's compound, comes all smiles and salaams to crave permission to depart on a rice and ghee devouring exploit. The commonly dirty Mali, after donning a garb and turban of unusual cleanliness, forthwith desires permission to attend the gardener's feast; and whether the occasion is one of sorrow or of joy, whether the mourners go about the city, or "dyed garments from Bosrah" with sound of tomtoms and of songs announce the triumph of the charming Camdeo; the table is yet spread, and the sorrowful and the gay alike seek pleasure at the festive board.

The Mahomedans, in common with the Hindoos, mark the death of a valued friend by a "Burrah Khana," in token of the days of mourning; crowds of guests are then invited, who, squatting in circles on the ground, devour the chosen delicacies of rice and ghee, and rich pillaus, to most uncomfortable repletion. There will the mourners sit, attired in flowing robes, with long beards and dark moustache, each with his lota of water by his side, with primitive simplicity every individual using his fingers for a spoon; while all talk and eat and smoke, as if the party assembled were celebrating the most joyful event imaginable. This conduct is not however the result of heartlessness, but custom. Many may have loved with strong affection, the wife or husband, the friend or sister, who, in accordance with the inevitable doom of man, have gone so sadly from among their social group: but custom or habit has reconciled *them*, and accustomed their forefathers for ages, to consider these observances as honourable and good, and a commemoration agreeable to the deceased. Sad as this may appear to those accustomed to weep and fast, and to put on mourning apparel on similar occasions, a little reflection will convince us, that this habit is at least better than such as mark the celebration of an Irish wake, where rational beings, howling in drunken chorus, commit all sorts of horrible excesses. Would men but seek to know more, and to compare more, of the usages of various people, prejudice would shrink

\* The dinner of my caste.

abashed from the contemplation, and charity materially increase among the great human family.

Like our friars of old, the religious professors of Hindooism, with the sacred class of Brahmins and Fakirs, are especially addicted to the enjoyment of nourishing condiments; the wealthy and the great, consequently, as an expiation for sin, or in fulfilment of especial vows, commonly set apart large portions of their annual income for the entertainment of ecclesiastics. For days before the appointed time, preparations are to be made, and the neighbourhood of some great temple or sacred tank is usually decided on as the trysting-place. Thither carts laden with huge cauldrons, camels bearing ponderous sacks of grain, carbuoys of oil, and gourds of honey, with every appurtenance for the feast, may be seen travelling slowly towards the spot. A provision of wood in large quantities is felled in the neighbouring jungle, and numbers of women are employed, to bear water vessels from the adjacent well or river, in furtherance of the approaching culinary preparations.

On the appointed day, the route between the city and the place of general rendezvous, forms a lively and animated picture—women in gay and brilliant raiment, glittering with jewels, their handsome countenances radiant with holiday expectation, peep from between the crimson curtains of innumerable ruttas;\* horsemen on caracoling and richly caparisoned steeds, display their equestrian skill, by curvetting and wheeling the half-broken animals, whom a severe Mahratta bit alone keeps in comparative submission to their riders' will; old men and children mounted on miserable ponies, and camels carrying double and sometimes treble on this occasion, throng the highway; while numerous little groups may be observed emerging in knots from every bye-path in the neighbourhood. Here and there a wealthy Brahmin is seen sitting cross-legged upon a pile of cushions luxuriantly arranged in an open gharree, drawn by sleek and enormous bullocks, or a Fakir smeared with dust and ashes and crowned with a plume of brightly dyed feathers, trudges onwards amongst the people, determined to fill his wallet to overflowing, on so propitious an occasion.

'Tis a gay and joyous scene, that tropic sun beaming brightly on so many rich costumes and smiling faces; and probably no grouping in the world presents so many fine and varied contrasts, as the holiday festival of an eastern people. Their mirth is happily that of temperance and good nature; pleasures which the aged man and the little child can equally enjoy. Dense as the crowd may be, the younger ever moves aside to let his elder pass, and gray hairs and a tottering step every where meet with respect and consideration. There is indeed something which ever touches and interests the feelings in an expression of general sympathy; and if the occasion which excites it is but a joyous one, the veriest cynic cannot but feel some kindred spark of awakened benevolence as he witnesses so large a portion of human happiness; and though he may scowl upon the frivolity, as he terms it, of the withered crone, the smiling face of the cherub infant must yet smooth his rugged features into an answering gleam, and awaken a transient kindliness, a gentler and more congenial spirit.

A festive party at length arrived beneath some widely spreading shade, all seat themselves on little knolls, or pleasant spots, to partake of the abundant feast. Each is provided with a little plate of leaves neatly joined

\* A native cart, used for the conveyance of families, springless and rude in its construction, and covered with a canopy of embroidered cloth.

with twining fibres ; whilst smoking platters of piled rice and seasoned curries, are placed before the guests ; sweetmeats and confections follow, the fragrant hookah is handed round, and the animals of burthen (not neglected in the general mirth) revel on the fragrant grass prepared for their refreshment.

So passes an Indian feast, and as many may wish to be acquainted with the general character of the condiments furnished on the occasion, I am happy to be enabled to subjoin a list, translated from the one written in the Guzzeratee character, and presented in my presence by a native minister to his prince, as a carte of the articles required at a dinner, which was afterwards given to a party of Brahmins and Fakirs, at a very sacred temple in one of the provinces of western India.

|        |               |                                      |
|--------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 800    | maunds*       | of sugar.                            |
| 1200   | "             | of ghee.                             |
| 1200   | "             | of flour.                            |
| 200    | "             | of rice.                             |
| 75     | "             | of pulse,                            |
| 36     | "             | of gram or grain,                    |
| 50     | "             | of rice and kedgerree,               |
| 180    | "             | of badjeree,                         |
| 36     | "             | of mutt,                             |
| 108    | "             | of gowa, for bullocks,               |
| 135    | "             | of cotton seeds,                     |
| 3      | "             | of curry powder and coriander seeds, |
| 20     | "             | of oil,                              |
| 10     | "             | of salt,                             |
| 3000   | pooliest†     | of grass,                            |
| 250    | gharree loads | of fire wood,                        |
| 10,000 | basins,       |                                      |
| 100    | maunds        | of tobacco,                          |
| 1      | "             | of opium                             |
| 2      | "             | of bang.‡                            |

The expense of this dinner amounted to fourteen thousand rupees, and was an entertainment of frequent occurrence.

\* The maund, it may be observed, is a measure which varies materially in different parts of India ; it sometimes contains forty pucka (full) or forty kutchas (short) seers, or lbs. In the present case they were full measure, pressed down and running over, and the quantities by calculation will prove enormous, even for the multitude who shared in the abundance of the feast.

† Bundles.

‡ A condiment of intoxicating quality procured from hemp-seed.

## ARTS AND MANUFACTURES IN CALCUTTA.

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INDIA appears marked out by the hand of nature as a producing country—a vast laboratory of commercial staples, capable of supplying the whole world, if necessary, with the raw material, from which, the mechanical genius of manufacturing nations may elicit every thing that is required, either for sustenance or luxurious enjoyment. Yet is Bengal, at least, the richest portion of that vast continent, admirably adapted by position, by facilities of internal communication, and the command of coal, to become a manufacturing country also. It is true that considerations of policy, militate against this expectation; yet necessity is more powerful than studied enactments; and already the steam-engine plies its silent, but powerful arm, in many an unostentatious enterprise carried on by Europeans on the banks of the Hooghly. In proof of this assertion, we may notice the paper mills at Serampore and Cossipore, and the flour mills at the latter place and Calcutta; independently of the public establishments, where steam-power has long been applied to some of the highest branches of metallurgy. The government, too, with a correct understanding of its proper interests, proclaims public contracts for various articles of consumption, which it was heretofore in the habit of procuring from Europe; and thus an impetus has been given to new sources of employment, which, in the course of time, can scarcely fail of exerting a powerful influence on the productive capability of our Eastern possessions. There are, however, particular branches of trade which at present exhibit no symptoms of being affected by local competition, among the chief of which is the cotton manufacture, which has comparatively obliterated the corresponding branch of industry in India. Manchester deluges the East with calicoes, Glasgow with muslins; and, as a consequence, the spinning-wheel and the hand-loom are comparatively rare in the land. Yet cannot the wiry and stiffly-dressed cloths of Europe compare for durability with the samples of native manufacture, which still maintain a desultory competition, encouraged by the remains of ancient predilections, and the patronage of the judging few, who prefer to give a fair price for a good article, in contra-distinction to the unreflecting many, who are caught by cheapness and artful dressing. In the article of twist alone, can the local manufacture attempt to compete with the imported, on account of the superior freshness of the former; still a very large quantity of this description of goods find a market in India, and must continue to do so, until a greater number of factories, worked by steam-power, are put into operation in Bengal, when that country may be expected to render herself, in a great measure, independent of foreign supply, in this important item. One thing will always militate against enterprises of this kind; which is, that Europeans in the East are bent on realizing fortunes from proved sources of profit, instead of incurring heavy outlays on untried, but promising methods of making money. No one will take the first plunge, or lead the way in a new notion; since, from the absence of all legislative protection in the shape of patents or privileges, which seem absolutely necessary to stimulate invention in a new country, such as India is in this respect, no one has a chance of enjoying the benefit of his labours.

We believe that the Government has been applied to on behalf of individuals so circumstanced; but the reply has been that no such protection could be afforded, that being a prerogative of the Crown alone.

The iron trade, is another in which it is hopeless to suppose that India can ever dispense with British supply. The small quantity which is produced in the country, is of the most inferior description, though preferred by the natives for its ductility, a quality in which English iron is defective; so much so, that were it not for its greater cheapness, the latter would be entirely superseded by the Swedish metal, which is applied in India to all purposes where great strength and facility of working are of consequence. We do not omit to notice that a superior description of steel is produced in small quantities in Peninsular India; but this is entirely a local manufacture, and does not appear capable of supplying any extensive foreign demand, should such arise.

The wrought silk trade has of late years become an object of considerable attention in Bengal, many works for the production of both plain and printed goods being in operation in the vicinity of Calcutta, in addition to the long-established factories at Cossimbazar, and in Bhaugulpore. Of the former, some have the block patterns cut in London, and the brilliancy and finish of the handkerchiefs and gown pieces, can scarcely be excelled in England; while the quality and texture of the silks, give them a general preference in the home market.

For a distant settlement, Calcutta has maintained a respectable character for engineers' work; and recently private foundries have been established, at which almost any description of metal work can be turned out, at rates which would not be considered unreasonable at home. The government possesses very efficient means of this kind; but they are not rendered available beyond its own immediate wants, though beneficially capable of much more. The ordinary branches of the metallic arts are almost indigenous to India, particularly that of brass ware, which, in point of cheapness and durability, cannot be equalled by similar work executed at home; though, as in all other manufactures prosecuted by natives, without the advantage of European superintendence, the "finish" which imparts much of the value to the latter, is generally wanting. Artificers who have served in the magazines, or with English mechanics, have, however, some idea of this essential requisite, and can make articles in metal, which are both serviceable and well designed; as an instance of which, may be adduced the ponderous and powerful screws used in indigo presses, many of which are made in the China and Bow Bazars of Calcutta.

It is singular that so ingenious and sensible a race as the natives of India should be remarkably deficient in the chief characteristic of mechanical excellence—invention. Even in the minor quality of imitation, they are behind-hand; being apparently unable to appreciate the minutiae, in which the superiority of European art consists. If this were not the case, it is to be expected that many of the trades which are carried on by Englishmen in India, would, long ere this, have been monopolized by natives; but such is not the fact, there being scarcely an instance, with the exception of bread, of a native carrying on a manufacture for the supply of other than those of his own community. The cause cannot proceed from want of capital, since the greater portion of that which is invested in the commerce and manufactures of India, is derived from native monied men. We are conse-

quently driven on the supposition that the peculiarity is constitutional, and will require years of specific education to obliterate.

Turning to the fine arts, a still more unfavourable state of things is found to exist. Sculpture is a thing unknown—painting but little removed from barbarism; music mostly atrocious. To say the truth, there is no encouragement to the two former, though the latter is patronized to some extent. Even among Europeans, the science of music is by no means so refined as at home; the effect partly of distance, and partly of a certain degree of supineness on the part of the British-Indian public, in most matters connected with public amusements.

Of those arts which maintain a middle position between the mechanical and imaginative, and which, from their general utility, have almost become necessary to civilized existence, the progress towards perfection, in Calcutta, at least, is creditable. Printing, engraving, and lithography are conducted in a manner which would be pronounced workmanlike, even in England; though, as respects design, the two latter arts labour under some disadvantage, there being scarcely a draftsman accustomed to the requisitions of the trade in this respect, the dependence being principally on amateurs.

The higher branches of architecture find no scope in India; whatever is attempted in this way being superintended by the engineer officers attached to the army, who have little field for display of talent on bricks and stucco, the materials of most public erections. Domestic architecture, however, is well understood; and in no country are there more commodious and stable buildings, than in the three Presidencies. Latterly particular attention has been paid to this subject; and with the aid of professional men, such as are now engaged in the business, there is good expectation of the improvement being permanent.

## MR. CRAWFURD'S "APPEAL."

"Is this the way of Justice?"—LANDHOLDERS' PETITION.

HAVING already noticed the nature and extent of that claim which the East India Company has put forward, to justify a seizure of the rent-free lands in Bengal, and having stated some of the reasons which compel us to determine, that such a seizure cannot be justified, either in law or equity, and that expediency and humanity alike forbid it, we now proceed to notice some other considerations, which a further investigation of the subject presents.

In prosecuting this claim, it does appear to us, that the first principles of law, as applied in this country, have been disregarded, the first principles of equity disallowed; and if these are not equally applicable in India, —if the generally received rules of right and wrong are not suitable to the state of things there, we must say, that such does not appear from the only defence of the Bengal Government we have seen—Mr. Secretary Halliday's official reply to the Landholders' Petition, which is to be found in the appendix to Mr. Crawford's book. In that document, the law and

justice of the case are relied upon as the grounds of defence, but they do not justify the resumption measure, the originators of which can never be excused till law and justice are alike forgotten, and an attempt to appropriate two millions per annum to the service of the state, is pleaded and received as a sufficient vindication of proceedings, completely opposed to English notions of right and wrong. The services of the State may possibly require an increase of revenue, and this demands a more provident expenditure of public money: but it cannot justify the seizure of rent-free lands, even though it may fairly be urged in favour of a moderate reduction of the dividend of  $10\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum, payable upon the capital stock of the East India Company. So long as the Permanent Settlement stands, the lands which were held rent-free, whether by grant, right, or, we should say, immemorial usage, up to 1793, or were held prior to the transfer of the Dewanny to the Company in 1765, no matter by what tenure,—or indeed, whether by a feasible tenure or not, mere possession being quite sufficient,—so long such lands must remain tax-free; for by that settlement they are declared to be so for ever.

In thus enacting, Lord Cornwallis does not appear to have been surprised into an act, the bearing and consequences of which he had not well considered, nor did he enter rashly into an arrangement which it was not the interest of the East India Company to confirm, whatever may have been first impressions. It is quite true he may not have known the amount of rent-free lands, but he well knew, and openly declared, the hopelessness of prosecuting any claim to them; he felt the injustice that must result from such an inquisition into property, and saw the danger that must follow useless and harassing inquiries; and such considerations undoubtedly had their proper influence. He had secured to the Government 18s. out of every 20s. produce of the soil, never to be remitted, even in part, though there should be neither seed-time nor harvest, and all should be lost, whether from unfavourable seasons, inundations, or other natural calamities; and he could do no more. He could not seize upon the rent-free lands, but he did the next best thing for his employers, by securing to them the more remote, but not less certain advantages which must result from a judicious disposal of them. It was with this view he declared these lands tax-free, and gave up to the Zemindars all the waste and uncultivated lands appertaining to their estates, tax-free also, avowedly, that so they might be encouraged to extend their cultivation, and thereby they might be enabled to lighten the pressure of a disproportionate impost, which the necessities of the Government, and the orders of the Court of Directors, had obliged him to lay on the cultivated parts.\* This was the settlement made under the sanction of the British Parliament, and the people of England are therefore bound to see it now faithfully adhered to, especially as the India Government at least was a willing party to the contract, and so binding was it considered, that the Court of Directors were fully satisfied, in justice and good faith, it ought not to be disturbed.

As far as the Natives were concerned, the bargain does not appear to have been equally favourable to them; for we find, that by its operations, in the course of a few years, the Zemindars were swept away from the face of the country; and, though modifications were made in the manner of collecting the revenues, it was long before the settlement could be considered fully established. It is probably to this we may, in part at least, refer the

\* See Rickard's India.

fact, that no general attempt was made to enforce, or even effectually promulgate that clause in the regulation of 1793, which declared, that the Government had a right to and would resume rent-free lands, unless the possessors submitted their titles to the examination and verification of officers duly appointed for the purpose, who were bound by law to prepare and keep the necessary register. The East India Company had secured to themselves nine-tenths of the produce of the soil, they had good reason to be satisfied with the arrangement, and it was therefore of the last importance it should, if possible, be confirmed and maintained. Accordingly, there were then few or no complaints of the quantity of land held rent-free, at least no active steps were taken to resume them; for, notwithstanding all the advantages which must result from the possession of such tenures, the amount of revenue to be paid on assessed lands was greater than could be met, and it was neither wise nor expedient, under such circumstances, to agitate the matter, and enforce the registry of free-tenures. No active steps were taken to compel registration, and, indeed, the Government did not afford the means of complying with its own law, for no register was kept by the proper officer, and in this way the regulation of 1793 has become a dead letter, though it was sought to perpetuate some of its provisions by the enactment of one or more legislative measures on the subject of resumption, the very existence of which was scarcely ever known beyond the walls of the council-chamber of Fort William.

Thus the matter now stands; but as it suits the purposes of government to possess itself of an increased revenue, the rent-free lands are to be seized upon. To effect this, parties are now required to do what is impossible,—notwithstanding numerous transmutations of property, to trace through various generations a possession existing before the Dewanny, if such would be deemed a sufficient title—to shew a right existing previous to 1793, and even this would not be held sufficient, if we are to judge from the following extract of Mr. Halliday's letter, which intimates, that there are still merits to be tried notwithstanding due registration as required by the act of 1793:—"But the fact is, that in every case where it has been shewn that full notice and opportunity of registration was not given, or that the registers have been burned or otherwise destroyed, it has been directed that all lukberaj claims should be investigated upon their *merits*, as if they had been duly registered according to law."

Why, it may be asked, should the possessors of rent-free lands be now placed in a worse position than they occupied at the time of the Permanent Settlement, when Lord Cornwallis found it impossible to maintain the claims of Government, and therefore abandoned them? Why should these persons be now called upon to shew, after a lapse of seventy-four years, what the Government could not show forty-six years since? The thing is unreasonable, though it may be fair to require that a possession should be shown by prescriptive right, unbroken by a sufficient assertion of adverse claim on the part of Government. If this is made apparent, then sufficient is shown to meet any claim founded upon a now obsolete enactment, and to satisfy the law of the case; and more than is necessary to answer the equity and justice of the demand put forward on the part of the East India Company.

But it is not only of the resumption question itself that the Natives of India have to complain, nor of the injustice and misery that flow, and

must continue to flow, from the proceedings which have been adopted. They have to complain also of the unheard-of manner in which the claims of Government are preferred and prosecuted: that they are not decided by the ordinary courts of law, though even these are deficient in securities against the influence of the executive; but that extraordinary tribunals have been *especially* created, and judges *especially* appointed by Government, for the sole purpose of adjudicating in all such cases. They complain also that gentlemen of high professional reputation as Civil Servants have been passed over, and that young and inexperienced persons, to a great extent unacquainted with the language, habits, laws and institutions of the country, are appointed to preside in these courts, and to determine the most complicated rights, and that the collector who enquires into such titles, acts at the trial on behalf of the East India Company, and frequently gives evidence in the case. And they complain further, that notwithstanding the express provisions of the 21st Geo. III., they are deprived of the right of appeal to the Sudder Dewanny, or high court of appeal, the judges of which are not removeable at pleasure!! And that they are driven to the necessity of referring to another *special* tribunal of Government, presided over by a commissioner, far more conversant with revenue than judicial proceedings—a man removeable at pleasure, and continually being removed to offices of higher trust and emolument, as he is found to give satisfaction to his *employers*.

It is true there is a still further appeal, but in order that it may be seen how complete is the mockery of justice, we quote from Mr. Crawford's book, where the whole matter is completely exposed in a brief but masterly manner.

"The machinery put in operation, for the resumption of the rent-free lands, may be shortly described. After setting the ordinary courts of justice aside, themselves part and parcel of the very rights under which the free-tenure lands are held, a special commission has been constituted for the sole purpose of resumption. This consists of two classes of officers. The first are called 'special deputy-collectors,' and are empowered to call before them the supposed holders of rent-free lands, individually or in masses, by advertisement or proclamation,—to examine all titles,—to decide upon them, and to assess the lands at 18s., or, in case of compromise, at 9s. in the pound of the net rental; or, in short, at whatever, in the exercise of their judgment and discretion, they may consider such. In the words of one of the native speakers at the great public meeting held at Calcutta, he (the deputy-collector) 'is the informer and complainant to his own tribunal, and has the preparing of the case; he hears the witnesses, he examines the titles, and, if he choose, he can reject the evidence.' These functionaries are chosen from the junior branches of the European covenanted servants of the East India Company, and, in common with all other persons of this description, removeable at pleasure. The 'special deputy-collectors' are assisted by a numerous corps of native officers, among whom are scouts sent abroad to hunt out rent-free lands. These last are known to the natives by the Persian word *Goendah*, which in English means literally *spy* or *informer*. This is the same class of persons that, in the same country, was, a few years ago, much to the detriment and dishonour of justice, employed to hunt out thieves and gang-robbers.

"From the decisions of the special deputy collectors, an appeal, either by

the government or the private individual, lies to a superior class of officers called 'Special Commissioners.' These, however, have no other means of arriving at the truth, than an examination of the documentary evidence with which the tribunal of first instance may think proper to supply them. This new appellate jurisdiction, in the person of a single man, and he an officer of the revenue, is said to be in the teeth of an unrepealed act of parliament. From this individual there is an appeal to another individual (for he has now no council, that assistance having been taken away by the last charter,) viz., the Governor of Bengal, the very man who has already prejudged the entire question, and publicly proclaimed that he has done so, by making the law, setting in operation the whole machinery of the inquisition, and arguing for a rigorous interpretation of his own law, as if he were an ordinary disputant, as may be seen by his published letter, while he is, at the same time, the party that has the patronage and appointment of the judges appealed against; and is, moreover, 'the treasurer' by law, who receives into a needy exchequer the proceeds of their successful efforts to fill it. There is a third appeal to the Queen in Council, that is, to a tribunal 10,000 miles off, provided—and the proviso would exclude ninety-nine out of every hundred cases—the amount at issue is not less than 5,000*l.* sterling; and that the appellant has 5,000*l.* more to pay costs, and can wait seven years—the defendant all the while having taken forcible possession of his property, and being in the enjoyment of it, backed by the revenues of an empire, to defend his very probable—adverse possession."

Such are the proceedings adopted; such is the right of appeal given; and as for the constitution of the court which is to decide upon titles to real property, it is both exceptionable and irregular, for many reasons; but especially because it was provided by the Regulations of 1793 and 1805 that the claims of government upon rent-free lands, should be decided by the established courts of judicature, with which the people are better acquainted, and in which they are supposed to have some little confidence. It may suit the purposes of government to appoint its own judges, and we will not here question its right to create special tribunals, though the proceeding appears most illegal; but there is no power which can absolve those who are appointed for the administration of right, from seeing, if they can—that suits are conducted according to the well-known rules of justice; and deciding, if they know how—according to the regulations and the law of the land. It is the sacred duty of government to secure this at least to unfortunate suitors, whose titles are impugned; and yet what is the very first step the government itself takes? Why, as it cannot show any right to the lands in dispute, it very quietly slurs over the first principles of law—reverses the well-known principles of equity—assumes to itself the establishment of a *prima facie* case, without an attempt at proof, or even the form of enquiry; and then issues a *quo warranto* against every land-holder in Bengal; thus surrounding him with the difficulties it could not itself surmount,—throwing the *onus probandi* on the wrong party, and requiring him to show what Lord Cornwallis could not show in 1793, and that to the satisfaction of a very questionable tribunal. Was the like ever heard of!!! But even this, hard as it presses, is not the worst feature in the case. We have already stated how impossible it is to consider the tribunals which have been erected, perfectly impartial; we shall now see the fatal consequences to the conscientious judge, of a single impartial decision.

In one case in Birdwan, where the special deputy collector had, we may say without enquiry, decreed the resumption of 800 estates, his judgment was set aside, on appeal to the special commissioner; but when this decision was transmitted to the local government, the government became judge in its own case, it censured the decision of the special commissioner, and upheld the rectitude and propriety of the principles upon which the deputy collector had acted, though two eminent civilians, Messrs. Pattle and Walter, had declared against it. Can the judges in these courts, after this, dare to be impartial? Yet if they are impartial, the case does not appear to be much mended; for such are the contradictory and capricious decisions which have been come to by these irresponsible tribunals, that it is impossible to imagine what title or what amount of proof would be held sufficient to establish a right of property, against any claim the government may please to advance, though unsupported by the slightest evidence. We should like to see the question asked—what is a sufficient title? There would, probably, be answers as various, as the various capacities, humours, and dispositions of the several special deputy collectors in Bengal.

It would be endless to detail the unheard-of decisions which have been come to by these courts, we shall therefore merely notice a few.

In cases where the Government has sold rent-free lands by decree of its own courts, and has accepted the current value, which is about eight times more than the value of taxed lands, and granted a title without any reservation of right; it has been decided that the parties so deriving cannot plead such a title, and resumption is decreed without directing the restoration of one rupee of the purchase money.

Regulation XIX of 1793, as we have seen, declares that lands free from assessment previous to 1765, shall be so considered for ever, by reason of long possession. This law is now disregarded; no such right is allowed, and resumption is decreed if a documentary title cannot be shown.

As appears from Mr. Halliday's letter, registration under the act of 1793 will not be held conclusive. So these courts have decided; and though they reject a good title as invalid if not duly registered, they will not permit registration to be pleaded as evidence that a title is good as respects the land-holder, while on the part of Government it may be used to prejudice him in every way. Thus if the register declares the property to be rent-free, but, by some error, states it to consist of 500, instead of 250 beegahs, resumption is decreed in the face of the register, while resting upon the same register, the officers of Government require every beegah of the 500, and select what lands they think proper, where the boundaries are not defined.

In this country a prescriptive right to real property is allowed; and it has been expressly provided by act of Parliament, even so far back as the reign of King James, that the Crown shall not make claim to lands through any right or title which has not accrued within sixty years. In India a right by prescription is disallowed, though it is the only title by which the East India Company hold many of its possessions, and that, notwithstanding such a right was recognized by a Regulation passed in 1805, which enacts, that Government may prosecute claims for assessment of lands held free, "if the same be regularly and duly preferred at any time within the period of sixty years, from and after the origin of the cause of action." From this it is manifest that 1779 is the extreme date to

which inquisition can now be carried, and yet resumption is decreed without any limitation. But these are the acts of mere officials; in order that it may be seen in what light even imperial grants of property are now viewed by the Bengal Government itself, we quote the following from Mr. Halliday's letter:—

"If, therefore, the increase of *ultumghas*," grants under notice, "during successive reigns might, if not checked, have materially impaired, if not altogether exhausted, the resources of the state, it seems to follow, from *the reason of the thing*, that the sovereign must have had the right to resume as well as grant:"—from which it is to follow that the East India Company, who hold themselves by grant, have now a right to annul every grant, no matter by whom made. After such decisions as these, it cannot be surprising to find the following rich specimen of wholesale adjudication, which is given upon the authority of Mr. Dickens, a barrister, and the Registrar of Her Majesty's Supreme Court at Calcutta.

A Special Deputy Collector, recently appointed to a district, having found the fragment of a registry dated forty-five years back, discovered that between 700 and 800 estates were there registered as rent-free tenures. Without enquiring who were the present possessors of the lands in question, or even ascertaining the actual site of those lands, he issued a proclamation or summons to all the ancient possessors, by the names inscribed in the register, though most of them had been long dead, calling upon them to shew cause why they should not be assessed within one month, and requiring them, for this purpose, to meet him at a given place. The fatal day arrived, and though no sufficient steps had been taken to serve notices on the parties in actual possession, the unfortunate possessors of these estates, situated in villages known, but sites unknown, were declared subject to assessment, and four hundred such decrees were passed in a single day. The sequel is amusing, for this ridiculous difficulty occurs, that the Government possesses, by the decree of the Deputy Collector, eight hundred estates liable to assessment, which neither the Collector, the Government, nor its officers, know where to find. This was the case which was reversed by the Special Commissioner, but ultimately sustained by the Government itself.

"Can such things be?" It may here be asked, how long will such things be permitted? And, after all, what is the *nature* of the lands here sought to be taxed? In most instances these lands were granted in waste, so that in 1793 they could yield no revenue. They have since been reclaimed by an expenditure of capital and labour more than the untaxed possession is worth; and yet they are now, regardless of the transmutation of property that must have taken place in so many years, by a sort of forcible compromise, called half jumma, to be assessed at forty-five parts in every hundred of the present produce. It need not be illustrated how, in the words of Mr. Crawford, this operates as "a penalty on industry, and a premium on sloth." If the East India Company has claims upon these lands, it is not at such a rate that they can now be fairly assessed!—if it has claims upon these lands, they must be prosecuted in a legal and constitutional manner; and a system must not be now employed, which in a more equitable form was attempted in 1772, and abandoned in 1786, which a Committee of the House of Commons declared impracticable in 1812, when only forty-seven years of our possession of India had passed away—and which the

Court of Directors more than once saw fit to denounce, whatever new light may have since dawned upon their councils.

“What makes all doctrines plain and clear?”

Some twenty million pounds a-year.

“And that which was proved false before,  
Prove true again?” Two millions more.

We have, in the course of these remarks, stated some of the objections which have been so forcibly put forward by Mr. Crawford on behalf of the natives of India against the measures of resumption which have been taken by the India Government. To those who are desirous of examining the subject in detail, we strongly recommend “*An Appeal from the Inhabitants of British India to the Justice of the People of England.*” The grounds upon which that appeal rests, have been urged upon the attention of the government of Bengal, and urged in vain; and as a last hope, the matter is now referred to those, who, enjoying the advantages of a free constitution, and an impartial administration of the laws, may feel constrained by a sense of justice to secure to their fellow-men a slight participation in the same blessings. The people of India appeal to the justice and humanity of their fellow-subjects; they only seek an impartial investigation of their case, and ask, that pending enquiry, the East India Company should be stayed in its reckless career of resumption. T. E.

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### A TIGER-HUNT.

“O formose puer, nimium ne crede” &c.

VIRGIL.

I WAS once invited by a Chuprassee (the Nagery term for commissioner of circuit) to a tiger-hunt in the Southern Circars of the Cossitollah Doab. Our party consisted of the following European and Indian gentlemen:—

The Commissioners of Cherra-Poonjee, Titalya, Entally and Chandnee-chôke.

The Judge and Magistrate of Chunam-gully.

The Deputy-Collector of Dargeeling.

The Dewan of Doomtollah.

The Political Agent at Puddopooker.

Praun Baboo and Pertaub Chund, twin-brothers and hereditary aspirants to the Autocracy of the Punjab.

Rajkissore Dutt and Praunkissen Holdar, Members of the Hindoo Legion of Honour.

Rustumgee Cowasgee, the Katmandoo Consul at Calicut.

Bhobonnychurn Bannerjee, the Sanscrit Professor of Divine Literature at Karamnassa,

and several others, with their respective retinues.

Our gaily-caparisoned elephants were extremely well trained; our Mahouts (or elephant jockies) were fine stalwart Durzees, and our howdahs (or elephant saddles) were made of the finest belattee punneer (or Indian oak) by the illustrious W. W. Robinson, of Calcutta.

We started at day-break, after a light breakfast of grilled hurgeelaha (or ortolans), and curried hackberries, a very favourite dish in the Southern Circars of the Cossitollah Doab. We were each armed with Chitpore salmon-spears, Burmese tomahawks, Monghyr rifles and arrows poisoned with the deadly venom of the pulwul. Thus equipped, we entered the dense jungles of the Durrumtollah Mydawn, or great tamarind forest of the Cossitollah Doab. Our moonshees (or beaters) being adepts at Oriental venery, we were not long in arousing an immense tiger from his lair. The Judge and Magistrate of Chunam Gully and the Rajah of Russapuglah (who, by the bye, I omitted to mention was of the party) being in the front rank, were the first to commence the terrific onset; the Rajah, with great dexterity, struck the tiger's flank with his salmon-spear, and the Judge and Magistrate of Chunam Gully took a deliberate aim with his Monghyr rifle, and lodged a ball on the enemy's left shoulder-blade; but a royal tiger of the Cossitollah Doab, being by no means inferior in point of ferocity to his regal kindred of Bengal, cares as much for a flesh-wound as the alligator does for the minnow; the spear and the rifle-ball acted, therefore, merely as the squibs used to infuriate bulls in Spanish bull-fights. Would they had proved mortal! for they led to a tumasha (or catastrophe) which it is my painful task to detail. In the thrilling excitement of the moment, Praun Baboo and Pertaub Chund descended from their elephants, and, very imprudently, mounting their Kiranchee tatoos, (or Arabian chargers), led by their maytrannees (or grooms), courageously attacked the savage monster, sword in hand. The tiger, immediately on their approach, made a desperate spring, (as they are wont to do when wounded), and, I regret to add, succeeded in taking poor Pertaub off his saddle, and in retreating with his prey into the jungles before we had time to come to the rescue. Praun Baboo, notwithstanding our entreaties to abandon the idea of so rash an enterprise, insisted on alone pursuing the fugitive, and accordingly dashed into the jungle where his friend Pertaub had disappeared. We followed as a matter of course, but we being mounted on elephants and he on a fleet and thorough-bred Kiranchee charger, he was soon out of sight. Shortly afterwards we perceived Praun Baboo's steed pricking (alas! without his rider) over a portion of the forest that had been cleared by the Dingee-wallahs, or Commissioners of Woods and Forests; he too had evidently fallen a victim to the hunger and rage of our formidable antagonist. Having resolved to continue our search for our missing comrades till night-fall if necessary, we separated into five different parties, in order thoroughly to scour the woods. In case of discovery or need of assistance, we arranged to ignite an arcotty sandoway (or bonfire of brambles), and to discharge our simpkin-shrawb (or brazen swivel) fastened to the haunch of each elephant, in case of rencontre with a rhinoceros or a jungle tupsee-muchee, a species of boa-constrictor, very abundant in the Southern Circars of the Cossitollah Doab.

We had not parted three quarters of an hour, when we heard the preconcerted soorkabucha (or signal) a joyous prognostic, we sanguinely hoped, of the safety of our unfortunate friends. We gladly hastened to the spot whence the report proceeded; but what was our disappointment and dismay on arriving at the nullah (or rendezvous) to find Rajkissore Dutt and Praunkissen Holdar beating their breasts and abandoning themselves to the most disconsolate kiswastay (despair.) "Bapraybap! Hussayn-Hoossayn! Burrahtummashah" (ejaculations of sorrow) exclaimed they, on our arrival—

"Look there, your Highness the Ruler of Chunam Gully—there lie the dall-bat (or entrails) of our lost companions." And there, sure enough, lay the turbans and the swords of our comrades, besmeared with blood and human garbage. Incited by the natural revenge engendered by the loss we had sustained, we re-commenced our search for the savage brute that had occasioned our bereavement. After wandering about in various directions for upwards of two hours, one of our party spied the gorged monster crouched under an umbrageous pawnsyway (or banian tree) besmeared with blood, and devouring the remains of one of our ill-starred companions. As the impatient bull-dog rushes at the throat of his opponent, we simultaneously dismounted and attacked the object of our bitter revenge and hatred. He fell an easy victim to our combined attack—not, however, without inflicting a deep wound on the piejamas (or breast) of one Moo-teelal Seal, a poor sepoy (or soldier) who, having lost three of his joroos (or heifers,) supposed to have been carried off by the tiger, was one of the first to confront the enemy with his lotah and gungajole—the sword and shield used by the Bahmunbustee warriors of the lower Assamese hundreds of the Deccan.

As the climate of India, at certain seasons, is so intensely hot as to create the most rapid kabob (or putrefaction) in morbid animal matter, we opened the tiger (to preserve his skin as a melancholy trophy) with our pigdannees (or hog-hunting couteaux de chasse), and there, to our inexpressible horror, we found parts of the mangled corpses of poor Praun Baboo and Pertaub Chund. No language can depict the taza-bee-taza teen-pisa-muchlee and Hilly-Milly-Punneeah (Hindoo threnodies) of Rajkissore Dutt and Praunkissen Holdar at this revolting spectacle; but we must all submit, in our turn, to the harsh fortunes of war, and if we *do* play at bowls we must (according to the trite apophthegm) expect rubs; he that betakes himself to the noble but perilous pastime of tiger-hunting, must go to the field, prepared to encounter hardship and danger—to face the foe without flinching—and to steel his heart to the occasional loss of (perhaps) a beloved comrade. With such philosophical reflections, we wended our way homeward, and after a ride of five hours through the luxuriant valley of Culnah, we arrived at our boberchee-khannah or hunting-tent. As it was utterly unavailing to brood over the melancholy event above recorded, I took a dewal-gherri (or warm-bath), and after a refreshing repast, consisting of Dhangar-Coolee curry, a roasted Koomeer (or Indian capon,) a couple of fricasseed dhobies (or water-fowl) the leg of a devilled jogee (or wild goose,) and a bowl of sherbet, made of iced loll-digge (or Cyprian wine,) I retired to my travelling pallet, and shortly afterwards fell into that species of deliciously-lethargic sleep, which those only know who have undergone the incredible fatigues of tiger-hunting in the jhoot-bat (or fertile forests) of the Cossitollah Doab.

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## BRITISH CONNEXION WITH HINDOO IDOLATRY.

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*To the Editor of the Oriental Herald.*

SIR,

PERMIT me to solicit insertion of the following extract from a letter, from a valued friend, the Reverend C. Lacey, at the Temple of Juggernaut. Having resided in Orissa, and been an eye-witness of the evils of British support of idolatry, I cherish a lively interest in every step towards the abandonment of this anomalous policy. The Hindoos have often enquired, "*Why have the Company anything to do with Juggernaut, if his worship be wrong?*" Why, indeed! May Imperial Britain speedily wash her hands from the pollution of idols, and use every legitimate means to promote the civilization of her Eastern territories!

*"Pooree, April 28th, 1839.*

"The temple still rears its lofty turrets to the skies, as if to defy the God-head, and mock the prayers and expectations of his servants; its long shadow still covers the land, producing moral pollution, fitting millions for woe, and *spreading on every hand disease and destitution, pestilence and death.* But I have to tell you that one effectual step towards its doom, is taken! I hear the shout of exultation sound from place to place, and from land to land!

"But waving what I see and feel, let me tell you that orders have been received by the Commissioner, A. M. Mills, Esq., from the Supreme Government, that the *Pilgrim Tax is to be immediately and entirely abolished!* When, therefore, you get this, which will be about *two months* hence, you may think that the Pilgrims are passing in free, to the ruth festival, and that I am preaching and distributing tracts, without having it said, 'If Juggernaut be not true, why do your Government take a tax of his Pilgrims, and support him in all his glory?'" but I must explain particulars—

1. The tax is not to be collected, either by our Government, or by the Rajah, or anybody else; *it is totally abolished.*
2. All interference with the Temple or Establishment by the Government, is to cease.
3. All patronage in the ordering of cars, draggers of them, servants, gifts of cloth, &c. is to be withheld.
4. A good Police is to be kept up to preserve peace, and prevent extortion.
5. *Fifty thousand Rupees (5,000*l.*)* are to be given annually by the Hon. Company, towards the establishment of Juggernaut, from the regular revenue of the Province, in furtherance of an engagement to that effect, when the Province and Temple came into their hands. These are the particulars, so far as they are known here, to those who are most acquainted with the subject.

"The last clause, you will say, *mars the whole*; still the repeal will do good, and *this stain must be wiped off.*

"The Orissa Christians have obtained their *families*, but *not their property!* I am locating them at Khundita, on the banks of the Kursea river."

*Oriental Herald.*—Vol. 4.—No. XXII.

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The receipt of this intelligence from India will be grateful to myriads. It is to be regretted that the British Government did not at once and for ever discontinue all connexion with the infamous Temple of Juggernaut; it has done well, but it might and should have done better. "*What agreement hath the temple of God with idols?*" The Province of Orissa was subjected to the British Government in 1803, and, "Possession," says Hamilton, "was taken of the town and temple of Pooree, by the British, September 18th—the sacred will of the idol having been first ascertained, through the medium of the officiating priest!" What a farce! A British army at the gate of Juggernaut's city would soon settle the question of entrance. No British superintendence of the temple existed till January, 1806, and hence there is no plea for giving 5000*l.* per annum to support this popular idol. The income of the temple lands at Koorda, now taken by the Government, is stated at 26,818 rupees per annum, and the grant by it to the temple in 1806, was 56,000 rupees. Christianity does not require our Government to rob heathen temples of their endowed property. It says, in reference to a thousand evils—"Touch not, taste not, handle not." Let the professedly Christian Government of India return the proceeds of Juggernaut's endowed lands, and retire from all connexion with idolatry, and its polluting and deadly rites and pilgrimages. It is pleasing to hear from the Chairman of the Hon. Court of Directors, that "the tax is done away at Allahabad, and that measures are in progress to abolish it at Gyah and Juggernaut." British connexion with idolatry is an evil of great extent and atrocity in India; let not the friends of our common Christianity rest till it be entirely removed. The state of native converts to Christianity in India, being deprived of their property, loudly calls for redress from the enlightened rulers of British India. Let this subject be pressed upon their attention—liberty of conscience should be enjoyed throughout the British empire.

Yours truly,

Bourn, Lincolnshire,

Sept. 11th, 1839.

J. PEGGS.

## LITERARY NOTICES.

*Memoirs of a Cadet.* By a Bengalee. In one Volume. Saunders and Otley, Conduit Street.

THE above volume possesses much attraction to the lover of light reading regarding the affairs of the East, as well as to the young *militaire* of the Indian army; the former will cull from its perusal many accurate comments on the character and habits of the native population and faithful descriptions of places visited in the course of the author's travels up "the sacred stream" and elsewhere; whilst the latter will gather information from its pages, which may prove serviceable to him during his own *griffinage* (or greenhornism); for alas! of all mortals who venture on a harsh pilgrimage on the shores of Ind, it is difficult to discover one who needs more counsel, or is easier led astray by the glittering temptations and harem-scarem examples of early military life, than your young cadet of the Hon. East India Company's service on his first arrival in India. The reader must not expect to find in this volume many profound dissertations on military tactics, or narratives of "grim-visaged war," for it rarely falls to the lot of a cadet to commence his military career in India

with deeds of high emprise; but if he happen to be on the eve of embarking on a similar enterprise, he will, we repeat, derive much useful and entertaining information from the “Memoirs of a Cadet”—rise from its perusal with *some* profitable knowledge of the geography, history, and manners and customs of India, and be, in some degree, prepared to combat the toils, troubles, and temptations of glorious cadetship!

Our author (like many others who have dwelt in the East) has, we perceive, adopted the fashion of interspersing the narrative of his adventures with phrases and dialogues in Hindostanee; most of these have been faithfully rendered for the comprehension of the English reader; but occasionally a word, like *palkee*, *tiffin*, and the like, has escaped untranslated—terms which, though perfectly comprehensible to *us* Indians, who have acquired a knowledge of “the learned languages” of the East, are quite the reverse to those who have never sojourned there, nor studied Gilchrist’s *Vade Mecum*. We regret to find but one illustration in this work,—that of the *Taje Muhal* at Agra. Perhaps no country affords an ampler scope for the pencil of the wanderer, than India; the military man possesses very many opportunities of adding to the pictorial illustration of that country, for his life, from the cadetship to the colonelcy, is one of frequent locomotion. The next relief may send him from Calcutta to Cawnpore—from the campaign shores of Bengal to the base of the majestic Himalayahs. *What* a field is thus afforded to the sketcher and the lover of the fine arts!—and to what excellent account, in after years, might he not turn an hour’s limning on such occasions!

The author promises, in his peroration, that if the volume he has published meets with public approval, he will continue the narration of his travels. We hope he will fulfil that pledge, and send us (as all writers on Oriental subjects should!) the result of his literary labours.

*The Arabian Nights’ Entertainments*, newly translated by E. W. Lane, and illustrated with many hundred wood-cuts after Original Designs, by William Harvey. Charles Knight. London.

The press of England is at this time teeming with illustrated editions of the most popular works in the language. Our poets and novelists come to us commended in a new shape,—speaking not merely to the imagination, but adorned with all that art can do to charm and fascinate the eye. Conspicuous amongst these, and perhaps superior to them all, is Knight’s edition of the *Arabian Nights Entertainments*, illustrated by Harvey, of which the sixteenth part is now before us. The elegance of Mr. Harvey’s pencil, is known to every lover of art,—the poetry of his design has long been felt and appreciated—but never has his genius found a field in which it could revel with such exquisite grace, as in the illustration of the time-honoured and far-famed *Tales of the Thousand and One Nights*. The new translation of the text by Mr. Lane, though his orthography at times sadly interferes with our recognition of persons and places, increases the value of the work, and will doubtless render it the standard edition for all time to come.

Want of space prevents us this month from noticing another recently published and interesting edition of the *Arabian Nights*; we allude to that of Mr. Torrens’, of the Bengal Civil Service. We shall allude to that publication in our next issue.

*Curtis on Health in Tropical Climates.*

WE have very great pleasure in attracting the attention of our readers to the following extract from Mr. Curtis' "Hints for the Preservation of the Health of Europeans in Tropical Climates." From our own experience (albeit no Galen) we can vouch for the accurate judgment of his advice for the guidance of fresh arrivals in the dangerous climes of the East. To those who *have* sojourned there, it is needless, we hope, to recommend his counsel to their notice, but to those who have *not* undergone the ordeal, and purpose doing so, we have no hesitation whatever in soliciting their serious attention to a work from which they will assuredly elicit most valuable information. It is proverbial, that advice, in ten cases out of twelve, (however humanely and judiciously given,) is heard unheeded.—Sound medical advice, on the strict pursuance of which, when ailments assail us, depends much of our future happiness and welfare, *should* form one of the most paramount exceptions to this reckless rule. The *Qui Hi*, who, after the enjoyment of vigorous health at home, has lost it in the baneful climate of India, and has a lively remembrance of the incalculable blessings of a once uninjured constitution, will, we feel confident, thoroughly coincide with us in the above opinions, and bear us out in honestly commending Mr. Curtis' admonitions to the Indian community generally, and to the Indian invalid in particular.

"Persons going out from this country to reside in tropical climes, such as officers in the service of the East India Company, or civilians, are exposed to considerable danger; many valuable lives are lost every year from want of the necessary precautions to prepare the system for encountering the great change of climate. As this is a subject affecting not only this very numerous class, but, to some extent, the members of the naval and military professions also, I shall here state the more important rules for the preservation of health under such circumstances.

"Strict temperance is indispensable. As soon as the warm latitudes are reached, the preparatory regimen should be begun; the principal items of which are, abstinence from fermented liquors, and a spare diet. On arriving at places within the tropics, every excess is dangerous; temperance in all things is essential to the health of persons of every age and sex: great self-denial and abstinence for a while being the best security against illness. To the neglect of these simple precautions, the fearful mortality which so generally prevails among Europeans, on reaching the tropics, is mainly attributable. Dr. Thomas, in his *Modern Practice of Physic*, recommends the plethoric and robust, on their approach to the warm latitudes, to be bled in proportion to their strength, and the use of purgatives and emetics. He tells us also, that 'the effects of temperance, as a prophylactic, are strikingly demonstrated by Dr. Chisholme, who observes, that while the yellow fever raged at the island at Grenada, the French inhabitants, whose mode of living, compared with that of the English, is temperate and regular in an uncommon degree, were almost totally exempted from the disease.'

"Residents in the East or West Indies should be very careful in the choice of the situation of their dwellings: the more elevated, and the further removed from all kinds of water, the better. In such climates, exhalation takes place to an extent of which we can form but little conception; hence the atmosphere in the proximity of stagnant water and swamps is generally loaded with pernicious vapours, producing obstinate intermittent and jungle-fevers, liver-complaints, and putrid diseases. To this cause are, in a great measure, attributable the fearfully destructive fevers of the African coast, especially the endemic fevers of Sierra Leone, the colony which bears the awful name of 'the white man's grave.'

"Those who are compelled to reside near low, marshy places, should sleep from them as often as possible, the air being most vitiated at night: for the same reason, all exposure at that time should be avoided. In case of illness, the first measure to be adopted is the removal of the person from such situations into some elevated region, where the air is pure: this alone is sometimes sufficient to effect a cure.

"Exposure to wet or damp is highly dangerous; and exertion in the sun, or during

the heat of the day, not less so. Both these evils are incurred by the practice common with many officers, of shooting snipes in the paddy, or rice-fields, which are covered with mud and water; the feet of the sportsmen being kept quite cool, while the upper part of the body is exposed to an Indian sun.

"The abundant tiffins, or luncheons, furnished at Indian tables, are very unwholesome. The lighter the morning's repast, the better; especially as dinners in that country are late and luxurious.

"By attention to these rules, the danger incurred by visiting the tropics would be much diminished; and although nothing can entirely ward off the influence of so complete a change of climate as is encountered by natives of countries situated in the temperate zones, in going thither, it would thus be rendered far less destructive to health and life than it is at present.

"It is a prevalent error in the East Indies to attribute all maladies to affections of the liver; hence the almost universal practice of taking large doses of calomel. The ganglionic plexus of nerves of the stomach, which, as I have shown in my other works, exerts so powerful an influence over every part of the system, is quite as frequently affected as the liver; in which case, the use of mercury is not wholly inefficacious, but often induces other diseases:—a truth discovered by many persons on their return to this country; and several examples of which I met with at Cheltenham a short time ago."

*Travels in the Trans-Caucasian Provinces of Russia, and along the southern shore of the Lakes of Van and Urumiah in the Autumn and Winter of 1837.* By Captain Richard Wilbraham, Seventh Royal Fusiliers, lately employed on particular service in Persia. London. John Murray.

THIS book belongs to a class of which the press has of late years been extremely productive; but in which the public interest has not yet abated. It is the rapid and unstudied sketch of an intelligent British officer travelling in a region of the world which, whether considered in reference to the past, or to the changes which it has recently undergone beneath the grasping hand of Russia,—or to the relation which, from its geographical position, it must always bear towards our own immense dominion in the East, can never fail of fixing the attention of the English reader. Captain Wilbraham's volume is nothing more than it professes to be—a transcript of the notes dotted down in his diary in the course of a hasty journey from Tehran to the Caucasus; and again through Georgia and Armenia, and along the southern shores of the lakes Van and Urumiah on his return to the Persian capital. If, in the pleasant pages thus presented to us, there is nothing strikingly new, nor any thing calculated to leave a very powerful impression upon the mind, there is still enough to awaken a lively interest, and to reward the care of an attentive perusal. The testimony of so observant an eye-witness to the actual condition of the provinces south of Caucasus, which of late years have come within the clutch of the Czar; but over which he even yet finds it difficult to extend the tyranny of his sway, is at this moment particularly valuable. Captain Wilbraham, too, had the singular good fortune of being at Tiflis, the Georgian capital, at the very time that it was visited by the Emperor Nicholas, when he came to behold with his own eyes the extent and value of the conquests which the Russian arms or Russian intrigue had effected in the south. Like a true despot, he seems to have approached his new dominion with the van-guard in his train, for he is described as entering Tiflis attended by "a quashed of honour composed of four-and-twenty Georgian princes, who rode near the carriage, and whose gay dresses were bespattered from head to foot." Again, Captain Wilbraham informs us that "the duties of the

interior of the palace are performed during the residence of the Emperor, by a chosen body of young Georgian princes." Then, speaking further of these young princes he says: "Dressed in their splendid and becoming national costume, they fully uphold the character which the Georgians have acquired of being the handsomest nation in the world. Over a closely fitting tunic of rich silk or brocade they wear a cloth dress with short sleeves, which reaches to the knee. Their loose eastern trouser is of silk, and a black boot fitting close to the leg confines it below the knee. A sword and pistol, richly inlaid, are fastened in their girdle, and on their head they wear a low lambskin cap." The gallant Captain does not seem to have formed so favourable an opinion of the female beauty of this celebrated region. "I must confess," says he, "that I was sadly disappointed in the beauty of the far-famed Georgian women; and yet I do not know what right I had to raise my expectations high. Their praises have been sung almost exclusively by the poets of the East; and the absence of mind, without which the most perfect features fail to charm the refined taste of an educated European, matters little to the sensual eye of an Asiatic. Their dress is also most unbecoming. Their golden tiara, pressed low upon foreheads already somewhat deficient in elevation, is the universal ornament for the hair; while their gowns, too liberal in the display of their bosoms, conceal the foot and ankle, and hide the prettiest figure. Then, almost all, young as well as old, are painted, and their stained eyebrows impart a coarseness and unpleasing boldness to the countenance. In short, if there be beauty, it is beauty of a low and unintellectual order." But to return to the Emperor: it would appear from the following passage that he never ceases to have an eye upon the British possessions in India: "An adventurer who styled himself the Baron Dieskau, who had the impudence to pass himself off for an English Elder among the Affghans, and the knavery to procure money in that character, expressed himself desirous of making my acquaintance — an honour I declined, knowing rather more about him than he reckoned upon. He is an officer in the Russian service, into which he has been admitted since his doings in Affghanistan. *Any one, indeed, who has been in India, whatever may have been the cause of his quitting the country, is received by Baron Rosen (the Emperor's representative) into the Russian service.*" Afterwards we have a specimen of the liberality of the government in these southern provinces. "The French consul is only allowed to receive the 'Journal des Débats,' on the condition of not showing it to any Russian subject. Whenever any article appears, which is condemned in Petersburg, the guilty number is enclosed in cartridge paper, and sealed with the seal of the censorship, a sort of political quarantine. The 'Petersburg Gazette,' a scanty little sheet containing no information, is the only paper seen in Georgia." The Emperor's personal appearance is briefly but forcibly described: "The boast of the Russians — that amongst a thousand men you would not fail to recognise the Emperor — is scarcely exaggerated. His figure is commanding, and his countenance striking; his height must be nearly six feet two, and his frame unites symmetry with strength; his smile is peculiarly fascinating, but the high forehead, the short and curved upper lip, and the expression of rather a small mouth, impart somewhat of sternness to his features when in repose. His naturally fair complexion is now bronzed by exposure to a southern sun; but the forehead where the cap has sheltered it is white as marble. His blue eye is quick and expressive, and a small mous-

tache adds to his soldier-like appearance." The absolute despotism of the Czar may be gathered from the following:—Prince Souvoroff, a civilian, and an old schoolfellow of Captain Wilbraham's at the German College of Hofwyl, is presented at grand audience at Tiflis. "On his name being announced by the Governor-General, the Emperor immediately exclaimed that it did not please him to see the grandson of the Prince Souvoroff Italisky, in other than a military uniform, whereupon my friend had to kiss hands, and to become a soldier *volens volens*. This struck me as rather an arbitrary mode of changing a man's profession, especially when he has for many years been following some other line, and has perhaps no inclination for a military life." Captain Wilbraham does not often venture upon the expression of a positive opinion, but he will find few English readers to differ from him in that we have just quoted. We might multiply our instances of this *paternal* system of Government, but our limits compel us to forbear. Upon the subject of the Circassian war we are told that "it is almost as difficult to obtain any correct information in Georgia, regarding the war in Circassia, as it is in England. I have spoken on the subject with many officers who have served against them, and can only learn that it is a complete guerilla warfare. All agree that these mountaineers are as brave as steel, and that there is no prospect of a speedy termination to the contest." We must not close this entertaining volume without stating that it contains much curious and interesting information, with respect to the German and Scotch colonies which are scattered over this wild region. It seems that in the Black Mountain, within about fifty miles of Tabreez, a body of Scottish miners had at the time of Captain Wilbraham's visit just commenced operations. "We visited the mines," says the Captain, "under the guidance of Mr. Robertson the superintendant, a clever and intelligent Scotchman, who informed us that in no other country had he ever seen such mineral wealth. Within the compass of a few miles are found the richest veins of iron, tin and copper ore, apparently inexhaustible. The iron ore contains upwards of ninety per cent of metal." These extracts will suffice to show, that the volume is worthy of an attentive perusal.

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*Documents and Dates of Modern Discoveries in the Nervous System.*  
Churchill, Princes Street, Soho. 1839.

*Narrative of the Discoveries of Sir Charles Bell in the Nervous System.*  
By Alexander Shaw, Assistant Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital.  
Longman and Co. 1839.

THE study of the Nervous System, or mental organization of man, has not yet become sufficiently palatable to the general reader, to justify us in entering much into detail on works in that department of science. We are perhaps too much in the habit of considering the subject as a mere matter of anatomy, and therefore interesting only to the medical student. Yet does Dr. Henry speak of the discoveries treated of in these volumes as "doubtless the most important accession to physiological knowledge since the time of Harvey." Therefore the mighty strife for priority among the eminent physiologists, both in our own country and on the continent, and the honours awarded to those supposed to be the most distinguished,

render it a matter of national concern to possess ourselves of authentic general information on the subject. This is amply furnished in the very neat volume first mentioned. An Advertisement, and Introductory remarks are prefixed, containing very intelligent preliminary matter, and a short historical view of ancient physiological research. Then follow the "Documents," which are supposed to have entitled their authors to the respect and honourable estimation of their countrymen. In this work the general reader will find an epitome of a branch of science highly interesting to him; while the professional student may consider it as a manual—a starting point for more extended investigations, and a means of saving him much tedious research.

The character of Mr. Shaw's book is chiefly vindictory. As a relation of the late Mr. John Shaw, the brother-in-law of Sir C. Bell, he has taken the latter gentleman's reputation into his keeping—asserting the priority and superiority of Sir Charles's discoveries against Messrs. Mayo, Majendie, and others; assuming that, having cleared up the question as regards these two, nothing remains but to confirm Sir Charles Bell's right to be ranked as the first discoverer and experimenter in these times.

Though the publication of the volumes under consideration has occurred within the same week, that circumstance appears to be accidental. Yet, coming before us at the same time, we cannot fail, having perused both works, to note the rebuke silently implied in the "Documents" for Mr. Shaw's total omission of the mention of an eminent physiologist, who very obviously stands in the same relation to Sir C. Bell, as Mr. Shaw asserts Sir C. Bell to stand in with Mr. Mayo, and Dr. Majendie, the French physiologist. It seems passing strange that Sir C. Bell should not have been well acquainted with the labours of Mr. Walker, indisputably his predecessor in the same researches. Not less remarkable is the omission of all mention of the name of Bellingeri, also a predecessor of Sir C. Bell in the discoveries of which Mr. Shaw treats, and whose works he must have been acquainted with.

In conclusion, while praise is justly due to Sir C. Bell for his industrious spirit of research, let not his vindicators claim for him more than his deserts. Several of Mr. Shaw's statements are at variance with one of the now published "Documents," by Sir C. Bell himself; and, upon the whole view afforded by these two works, we cannot deny the applicability of the Latin poet's complaint—"Sic vos non vobis," &c. to the present discussion. Without meaning to place Sir C. Bell so low in the comparison, as the classic anecdote places Bathyllus, his contemporary may justly assert—

"Hos ego versiculos feci, tulit alter honores."

For while Sir Charles has obviously claimed as his own the ideas of another, and from his own inability to work out the contemplated results has at last inverted them, the profession for whose benefit his researches ought to have been available continue gazing in admiration at his eminent attainments, without being able to move one step in advance, or to deduce results tending to the spread of knowledge which the original discoverer had in view, and which must at last be established.

## SYNOPSIS OF INDIAN INTELLIGENCE.

### Calcutta.

**MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.**—The report of the proceedings at the meeting convened to establish the Mechanics' Institute, the laws and regulations of the Institute, and Mr. G. W. Johnson's opening lectures, are now printed in the form of a pamphlet.—*Englishman*, 10th June.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS.**—Saturday's *Gazette* contains three long and important Government Orders, the first of which publishes a resolution of Government founded upon a letter of the Court of Directors, regarding the salaries of numerous civil officers, the second regulates the power of Mofussil Judges, in respect to the custody or disposal of disputed or unsettled property; and the third enacts laws for the proper enquiry, by competent superior officers, into the conduct of European functionaries against whom charges of misconduct may happen to lie.—*Englishman*, Monday 10th June.

**MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.**—Drs. Bermont and Fairbridge, proposed at the last meeting, were duly elected.

The following gentlemen were proposed as members :—

K. W. Kirk, Esq., M. D., by Dr. Martin, seconded by Dr. Colvin.

— Eddin, Esq., M. D., by Dr. Brassey, seconded by Mr. R. O'Shaughnessy.

A paper upon Tic Doloieux, by Mr. G. Dundas Mitchel, of Calcutta, was presented through Dr. Goodeve.

This paper was read and discussed.

Some discussion ensued upon the propriety of medical men sanctioning the use of Morison's pills for their patients. It was contended that being unacquainted with their ingredients, no one could safely recommend his patients to take them, and many instances were related of the dangerous consequences of taking them in large doses. It was shewn that individuals sometimes take as many as a hundred per diem, and that the uncertain and irregular manner in which these pills are made, often causes the more powerful ingredients to be all collected in *one* box, and the milder articles in another, so that people taking these enormous doses with comparative safety from one parcel, might be destroyed by the violence of a similar quantity taken from the next parcel they purchased; instances of this kind were related. It was also shewn by many of the members present that the continued use of such powerful purgatives tended at length to produce great irritability and finally inflammation of the intestinal canal, and often established inveterate and fatal bowel complaints of various kinds.

Dr. Goodeve called the attention of the society to a native emmenagogue of great power, which had lately been brought to his notice. The remedy in question is the common Till. The Sesamum Orientali, an infusion of which, given every morning, speedily promotes a return of the menses. Dr. Goodeve alluded to some very obstinate cases of Amenorrhoea, which had been cured in a few days by the use of this remedy; in two of these, the catamenial discharge had been absent for upwards of twelve months.—*Englishman*, 12th June.

**CHOWRINGHEE THEATRE.**—The Chowringhee theatre has been destroyed by fire, and many plans are in contemplation for the erection of a new one. This calamity is particularly inopportune on account of the recent arrival in Calcutta of a very favourite actress, from whose sojourn in England and frequent visits to the first theatres there, in addition to her own acknowledged merit, much dramatic entertainment was expected.

**FOUNDATION OF A SCHOOL FOR INSTRUCTION IN THE VERNACULAR LANGUAGES.**  
—The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the 'Pautsala' in connection with  
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the Hindu College, took place yesterday, at 6 p. m., and was performed by Mr. D. Hare, in the presence of Sir Edward Ryan, Messrs. Millet, J. Young, Halliday, Capt. Birch, Drs. O'Shaughnessy and Goodeve, Dwarkanauth Tagore, Mutty Loll Seal, Raja Radanauth Deb, &c. &c., and a numerous assemblage, chiefly of natives. There was on the stone an inscription in English and Bengalee, stating the date of the foundation, &c. &c. There was also a bottle containing newspapers of the day, coins, and a plan of the Hindoo and Medical Colleges, the names of the principal professors and teachers in both these schools. Mr. David Hare addressed the meeting, congratulating the Hindoo community on the establishment of the institution for the improvement of the vernacular tongue, now become so necessary, owing to the abolition of the Persian language.—*Englishman*, 15th June.

SIMLA.—The Governor-General and the Miss Edens gave a dinner and ball in Annadale, on the 24th instant, in honour of Her Majesty's birthday. It was intended to have had illuminations; but the lamps, from some mismanagement, would not light. There was a small display of fire-works, and the party altogether was not on the scale which rumour had said it was to be.—*Delhi Gazette*, 5th June.

PERTAUB CHUND—NIZAMUT ADAWLUT'S DECISION.—W. Braddon and C. Tucker, Esqrs., Judges.

Read letter, No. 39, dated the 23rd of January last, from the Session Judge of Zillah Hooghly; the proceedings held on the trial of Aluk Shah, alias Rajah Pertaubchunder, son of Rajah Tejchunder, alias Kistololl Pauree Burmocharree and others, charged, first count, the prisoner, No. 1, with gross fraud and imposture, in falsely and fraudulently assuming the name of the deceased, Maha Rajah Dheraj Pertaubchunder Bahadoor, formerly Zemindar of Burdwan, and pretending in various places, during the last two years, to the great disturbance of the general peace and quiet of this country, that he is in verity the aforesaid Zemindar of Burdwan, and that the Zemindary of Burdwan belongs of right to him, and in obtaining money from various individuals, and more particularly from one Radhakissen Bysack, Dewan of the Government Treasury in Calcutta, by means of these and such like false pretences; and second count, charged further with having, in furtherance of fraudulent pretences above-mentioned, instigated and prevailed on divers subjects of the British Government, and others to the number of 300 and more, unlawfully and tumultuously to assemble, at or near the town of Culna, in the district of Burdwan, such proceeding being intended or eminently calculated to produce a most serious breach of the peace, and with having there remained, at the head of this unlawful assembly, from the 13th of April, 1838, up to the 2nd of May, 1838, and with having during that period on various occasions, by the display of superior force, resisted, and set at defiance, the constituted authorities of the district, he, the said Alak Shah, alias Rajah Pertaubchunder, alias Kistololl Pauree Burmocharree, having previously, on the 4th of August, 1836, been convicted of a similar offence, before the Sessions Court of Hooghly.

The Court having duly considered the proceedings held on the above trial, and the Futwa of their law officer thereon, pass the following sentence:

The Futwa of the law officer of the Nizamut Adawlut, declares that false personation for one's own advantage, is an offence under the Mahomedan law. That no specific punishment is laid down for such offence, but the punishment is at the discretion of the Hakim; with a view to restrain the offender, respect being had to the circumstances of the offender, and the character of the offence, which of itself is apparently of trivial nature.—The Court convict the prisoner, Aluck Shah, alias Rajah Pertaub Chunder, alias Kistololl Pauree Burmocharree of so much of the first count, 'as charges him with gross fraud and imposture, in falsely and fraudulently assuming the name of the deceased, Maha Rajah Dheraj Pertaub Chund Bahadoor, formerly Zemindar of Burdwan, and pretending that the Zemindary of right belongs to him. They acquit him of the other offences with which he stands charged, and sentence the said Aluck Shah, alias Rajah Pertaub Chund, alias Kistololl Pauree Burmocharree, to pay a fine to Government of 1,000 Rupees; and in default of payment, to be imprisoned in the jail of zillah Hooghly, for the period of six months.

The Court observe that the remaining prisoners, Radakistno Ghosaul, Hafez Futoolloah, Shagur Chunder Dhur, Kallee Pursaud Sing, Jumun Khan, and Rajah Nurreehurree Chunder, have been acquitted, and released by the Session Judge.

GRANT'S ORIENTAL HEADS.—The fifth series contains "A Native of Lucknow," "A Jew," "A Burmese," "A Lahoree," and another likeness of Moghul Beg, Kirmanee. This collection is considered even superior to its predecessors, which have met with such general and deserved encomium.

**WOLVES IN AGRA.**—No less than three children were taken away by wolves from the new Sudder Bazar on Wednesday night; two, however, though severely injured, were afterwards recovered—the third was devoured.

**DR. CAMPBELL.**—We are given to understand, on the best authority, that Dr. Campbell, Residency Surgeon and Political Assistant at the Court of Nepaul, has been appointed Political Agent at Darjeling, in the room of Colonel Lloyd, whose services have been placed at the disposal of the Commander of the Forces.

**INDIGO.**—In consequence of heavy rains, the bursting of bunds, and consequent inundations in various indigo districts, the most gloomy accounts have been received of the prospects of the ensuing crop. It is apprehended that if the extensive inundations continue, they will lead to a repetition of last year's heart-rending tragedies of famine.

**CALCUTTA CIRCULATING LIBRARY.**—The following is an extract from the first Annual Report of this library. The librarian Pearychand Mittra loquitur—

"I have the pleasure to state, for the information of the curators, that the library now consists of 1800 vols. They have been chiefly collected from proprietors on account of their shares. Very few books have, as yet, been purchased from the funds of the library, and a number of works have been received as donations, a list of which I herewith send you.

The circulation of books has stood thus for the last three months :—

|                    |                              |           |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| In March . . . . . | { Literary Works . . . . .   | 78 vols.  |
|                    | { Scientific ditto . . . . . | 29 ditto. |
| In April . . . . . | { Literary ditto . . . . .   | 79 ditto. |
|                    | { Scientific ditto . . . . . | 22 ditto. |
| In May . . . . .   | { Literary ditto . . . . .   | 68 ditto. |
|                    | { Scientific ditto . . . . . | 16 ditto. |

"I can assure you that the circulation would have been far more extended, had our collection not been so limited as it is. Since the opening of the library, I believe, I must have disappointed upwards of one hundred applicants for works, which we could not furnish.

"I regret to observe that there is no collection of vernacular works in our library, and would beg to suggest that such a collection is necessary in a public library, chiefly supported by natives."

**LAHORE.**—We have received letters from Lahore of so late a date as the 17th of May. Captain Mouton was to have proceeded to Peshawar on the 19th ultimo, to take the command of the cavalry and cuirassiers of the late General Allard. M. LeBeauf had started, a fortnight previously, for Cashmere. Generals Court and Aritabile were at Peshawar. M. LaFout and a dozen English officers were also with the army at that place.—*Bombay Times*, 5th June.

**WRECK OF THE ELIZABETH, OF GREENOCK.**—The masts and spars, stern-frame and counter-timbers of a vessel seen floating at the Sand Heads, and reported a few days ago, have at length proved to be parts of the wreck of the unfortunate Barque Elizabeth, of Greenock. She appears to have suffered very seriously by the last gale, and was returning to Calcutta; but being much shattered, took in water in such quantities that she became nearly unmanageable, and on the morning of the 14th struck and went to pieces in some part of the Bay. The cargo is totally lost, and no property of any description whatever has been saved from the wreck. No lives appear, however, to have been sacrificed, and the captain and crew have arrived in town after being four days in open boats. The fugitives from the wreck have come to town by the way of some back creeks, which accounts for no announcement of the wreck having been made by the Semaphore.—*Englishman*, 19th June.

**ARMY OF THE INDUS.**—By the official report of Captain Smee, it would appear that, while proceeding with his detachment and one gun *en route* to Rojan, as noticed by us in our paper of last Wednesday, the Beloochees on the road cut off ten of his camels. He pursued and traced them to a fort named Subish-ke Ghurnee, but he there ascertained that the camels had been taken to another fort called Khan Ghur, whither he proceeded. Upon conferring with the people within the fort they commenced firing on him. He returned the fire from the gun he had with him, but missed the bastion, which caused some shouting and a display of swords and shields above the walls. The Soobadar Buhadoor of the detachment was shot: this event rather dispirited the Sepoys, many of whom were young, and had seen no service. Ensign Taylor himself tore away the brambles from the entrance, as the Sepoys would not; a brisk firing was kept up by the fort, and we lost three Sepoys, and had some wounded, Ensign Stanley among them. Had it not been for the personal exertions of the officers,

the result might have been different. Captain Smee entered the fort alone, leading the native officers arm in arm to the entrance of the fort. Some horse were placed outside to prevent the escape of any of the Beloochees. The slaughter must have taken place inside, for, in the return of killed and wounded, forty-eight of the former, and seven of the latter, are enumerated; forty-six were taken prisoners. Ensign Stanley's is a flesh wound, and does not prevent his proceeding with the detachment against Rojan. Captain Smee, with his officers, have been highly complimented by the Brigadier.

Letters are stated to have been intercepted, from Meyrab, Khan of Kelat, urging all the Beloochee Chiefs to harass the English on their march. This has been proved against him.

Captain Newport was under orders to escort, with 300 men, 4000 camels, to leave Sukkur on the 16th May, to Shikarpore, where he was to have been joined by four companies of the 42d Bengal N. I., and thence he proceeds to Dadur, where he delivers over his charge to the 42d, who carry it on through the Pass to Shawl. Captain Newport remains at Dadur to keep open the line of communication between that place and Shikarpore. 300 of those camels have been given to the Parsee shopkeepers to enable them to take on supplies for the army. The new levy at Shikarpore is progressing, 300 Beloochee horse have been collected, and about 200 foot. A dawk is now established from Hyderabad to Sukkur, and letters are received there in fifty hours. It is reported that the army would occupy Shawl, Gundava, and Moostong, to be taken from the Khan of Khelat.—*Bombay Times, 5th June.*

LUCKNOW.—An investigation into the cause of the late King's death—Nusseer-ooddeen Hyder,—which was at the time ascribed to poison, has been for some time back conducted by the Supreme Government, and they have just issued orders to the Lucknow Resident for the apprehension of four persons, suspected of the murder.—*Agra Ukhbar, 8th June.*

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUND FOR BUYING OUT LIEUTENANT-COLONELS OF THE BENGAL CAVALRY.—We heartily congratulate the Bengal cavalry on the consummation which the under-given letters announce, and grieve, at the same time, for our infantry friends who, we fear, will surely be sufferers, in an obvious respect, from their want of unanimity in the same good cause, and from persisting in *arguifying* that line steps are too slow a good for seventy-four regiments, though all very well for ten, or for one, like the Artillery, which has line promotion within itself:—as if the seventy-four could not get the proportionate number of steps, to the ten or the single one! In the future wars which may happen any time these twenty years, the supersessions now in embryo, will be sincerely felt by the infantry Colonels, who will find themselves often *backed out* of lucrative and honourable commands; and it will be seen that the race between the present cornets and ensigns of from eight to twelve years' standing, will be decided, by several years in favour of the former, at the winning post of the Colonelcy. As each of these winning cornets comes in, let him (and we say the same to his seniors) give a cheer to our good friend Major Angelo of the 3d, who was the first to propose, through our columns (anonymously) the application to his own arm of the service, of the bonus scheme—in principle the same—which nearly fifteen years ago was drawn out for the Infantry by one of their own body. In its present adaptation, we wish it every success; for men who strive together, head and purse, to accelerate their promotion, deserve that their efforts should not be made in vain.

*To the Editor of the Englishman.*

DEAR SIR,—Encouraged by your constant profession of regard for the prosperity of this army, we call upon you with confidence to give to the accompanying notice early insertion, and a prominent place in your widely-circulated journal; a compliance with which request, will confer a favour on the cavalry branch of the service generally, but more immediately on,

Dear Sir, yours faithfully,  
R. ANSTRUTHER, Maj. 6th L. C.  
J. A. D. FERGUSON,  
T. MACMULLEN.

Sultanpore, June 12th, 1839.

*Notice to Absentees from Cavalry Corps, interested in the establishment of a Fund for buying out Lieutenant-Colonels.*

DEAR GENTLEMEN,—We have unbounded satisfaction in announcing that our persevering and unwearied efforts, hopeless as these seemed for a long while, have at

length been crowned with success, the whole of our ten regiments having now unanimously agreed to join the establishment of a fund for buying out Lieutenant-Colonels of our branch of the Army.

Having consented to act as a Committee to conduct the management of the general business of the Fund, we have made an offer of the Bonus to those Lieutenant-Colonels likely to accept it immediately, and have prepared the several regiments to be ready with their respective contributions, the moment we intimate the number of steps that are procurable. The Fund may thus be said to be now in actual operation.

For all particulars of the scheme of the Fund, and for the scale of contributions, &c., we refer you to your respective corps, and remain,

Dear Gentlemen, your's faithfully,

R. ANSTRUTHER,  
J. A. D. FERGUSSON,  
F. MACMULLEN.

Sultanpore, Benares, 12th June, 1839.

*Englishman, 20th June.*

**DISASTROUS STORM IN BENGAL.**—Calcutta was visited last night by an unusually severe storm. The lightning appears to have been very disastrous in its consequences, though the amount of injury done, has not yet been fully ascertained. We have heard, however, of the loss of several lives, the total destruction of the schooner, "Bengal," which was by this morning burnt down to the water's edge, and some partial injury sustained by the iron accommodation vessel "Jellinghee."—*Ibid*, 21st.

**THE PUNJAB.**—A letter mentions that the European officers in the Punjab army begin to feel themselves very uncomfortable. Three French gentlemen had arrived at Lahore from Bombay, in the hope and expectation of being admitted into the service; but they did not succeed, and were obliged to retrace their steps. The Sirdars are extremely jealous of the Europeans, and anticipate the worst consequences (to themselves) of the influence of these latter, during any commotion that may arise from a disputed succession.—*Englishman, 20th June.*

**DEATH OF RUNJEET SINGH.**—At length authentic intelligence of the demise of the Maharajah Runjeet Singh has been received. Thus the most important state on our exterior frontier, whether we consider the character of its people, its resources, or the position of the country itself, may become the scene of civil war and broils; unless the happy proximity of our forces stay the ruthless bands, who have long desired the death of the Maharajah, that their schemes of plunder might be put into effect.

The question of succession has, we believe, been long since settled with our Government; and one of the implied or understood conditions of our recent treaties has been, that we should support the cause of the heir, Kurruck Singh. The rivals in the field against him may be divided into three classes—the followers of No Nahal Singh, those of Shere Singh, and those of the European generals. This latter class, had M. Allard been alive, would have been the most formidable; but whether General Ventura has obtained that degree of influence and power to be able to settle the question of succession, may be doubted. We do not mean to say that the gallant General himself looks to the guddhe; but it has of late years been believed that whoever of the rivals should have the support of Allard or Ventura would, without British troops opposed, ascend the throne, and become the ruler of the Punjab.

By recent treaty we are pledged to support the heir of Runjeet, in the possession of the territories guaranteed to the Maharajah, as a stipulation for his support of us in our Cabul schemes. The treaties published to the world do not state who is the heir, and the late Maharajah was particularly careful in avoiding all allusions to such a person. Our troops at Ferozepore and Loodianah will doubtless advance; and the energy and firmness of Mr. Clerk, in charge of our political relations with the Court, is a warranty that British interest and British influence will not be lost sight of.

The death of Runjeet at such a juncture, is another of the lucky events which attend Lord Auckland, who is undoubtedly "a most fortunate man;" for it has opened to us a direct route to Cabul, through a country abounding in supplies, and free from the impediments which, though they have been surmounted by our army, will offer serious interruption to its efficiency. Had not our troops been surrounding the territories of the deceased Rajah, some of the rival tribes might have sought for succour from their neighbours. Dost Mohamed would assuredly have made an incursion to recover Peshawur, and the ruler of Cashmere would have declared himself independent. These events cannot now take place. The death of Runjeet Singh will enlarge our

sphere of diplomacy; by it all our ties, as far as the Maharajah's personal feelings and treaties were concerned, are absolved—and we are free to enter into such engagements with his heir as may best please ourselves—and with a conviction that he must grant his assent as the price of his throne.

The revenues of the Punjab are estimated at two crores of rupees; but the late Maharajah is supposed to have been immensely rich. Naturally most avaricious, he had for years hoarded up his gains, collected from every quarter of his dominions, whilst his expenditure was restricted to a Bentinck parsimony. The private character of Runjeet Singh was immoral and vicious. Addicted to the indulgence of every appetite, unknown to restraint, and never subject to any curb but that of sickness—the result of debauchery, he lived for himself alone. His name will not be handed down to posterity, except for his martial qualities; he was a good soldier, fearless of his own person, quick at discerning an advantage, and ready to apply his resources. The niceties of political economy were not studied or thought of at his council board. If a portion of territory was backward in revenues, a farmer was sought who would pay down a certain sum, fixed by the cupidity of the Rajah; in consideration of which he was placed in possession, his tenure depending on the will of the Maharajah, who was not proof against intrigue, if supported by an offer of money, jewels, shawls, or horses. His passion for the latter was notorious; and the stratagems to which he would resort to obtain possession of an animal he coveted, would better belong to the highwayman or swindler, than to the ruler of a mighty nation. We have not heard of any events within the Punjab, consequent to the demise of the Maharajah. The news had reached the Governor-General, but time has not elapsed for the arrival of the regular daks.—*Agri Journal*, July 6.

We give some interesting particulars relating to Runjeet Singh's death, and the ceremonies attending it, which may be relied upon as correct.

All was quiet in the Punjab; and Khurruck Singh is the late Maharaja's acknowledged successor.

The Maharaja, later in the day, became very ill—and, at the idea of departing from all his worldly wealth, ordered his treasures and jewels to be brought forth. One hundred cows, with horns gilded, one hundred caparisoned horses, and five of the best breed, such as the "Kubootrah," the "Kandaharee," the "Nugeena," and others, all equipt in gold and jewelled saddles, four elephants, with gold and silver Howdas, a golden chair and bedstead, plates, strings of pearls, swords, shields, guns, and innumerable other valuables, were given in alms and deposited with Missur Beilee Ram, to be distributed in all parts of India, and at all the sacred Hindoo shrines and temples. Afterwards a Surpeich, received from the Governor-General, and other jewels and gold bangles, were given away.

The gifts made this day, are computed to have amounted to about two crores of rupees; but making allowances for exaggeration, it can be no less than one crore. The Ministers and Koonwur Khurruck Singh enquired, with cries of lamentation, "what would become of them?"—on which the Maharaja shed tears. The Rajas (Dhian Singh and Heera Singh) will, according to their own opinions, distribute all the money and things to the Goodwara, and other places, and to the Brahmins and Sodhees. The Maharaja sent for the precious diamond (Koh-i-noor) from Beilee Ram, and wanted to give it in alms; but he was dissuaded by the Rajas, who represented how invaluable a diamond it was—worth the revenues of all India, and that there would be no one to buy it from the Brahmins. A jagher of 25,000 rupees annual revenue, was granted to the Amrutsur Goodwara, to support travellers. The surpeich and string of pearls received from the Governor-General were given to Pundit Mundsoodun, because of their being so very precious. The gifts continued till evening, and the Maharaja remained in the state in which he was, the physicians all the while feeling his pulse. The Rajas have so strictly guarded the Toshekhana, the fort, and the city, that no stranger can enter, and similar arrangements have been made at Amrutsur, through Missur Sookraj. At Jemadar Khooshal Singh's suggestion, Koonwur Khurruck Singh has written to Koonwur Sheer Singh to come without delay, and he is expected to arrive soon.

The death of the Maharaja being known, the Ranees, Koonwur Khurruck Singh, Raja Dhian Singh, Jemadar Khooshal Singh, and others, raised cries and lamentations, tearing their hair, casting earth on their heads, throwing themselves on the ground, and striking their heads against bricks and stones. This continued during the night, by the side of the corpse; every now and then looking towards the corpse, their shrieks became shriller. The gates of the fort were shut, but Koonwur Khurruck Singh ordered the shops in the city to be opened, and business to be carried on.

Koonwur Kharruck Sing, Rajah Dhian Sing, and others had a bier of sandal wood prepared, and embroidered with gold flowers. Raja Dhian Sing prepared to burn himself with the Maharaja, but the Koonwur and the Sirdars threw their turbans at his feet to dissuade him, alleging that without him, the affairs of the state would be deranged. It was not until after some hours passed in thus beseeching him, that they could prevail upon him. Then the Raja proposed to go to Benares after a year, which was complied with. Ranees Koondum, called "Guddun," daughter of Raja Sunsar Chund of Kuttock, Ranees Hindeerree, daughter of Meean Puddum, Sing of Noorpor, Ranees Rajkowur, daughter of Sirdar Jay, Sing of Chynpoor, a village about seven miles from Amrutsur, and the Ranees "Baant Allee" came and approached the corpse weeping, and resolved to burn themselves with their husband. Koonwur Khurrucc Sing did his utmost to dissuade them; he pointed out to them the dignity and the affluence they were possessed of, and promised that in future he would be with all his heart and soul most devoted to them, would they only relinquish their intention, but they would not for a moment listen either to the appeal of the Koonwur, or the other chiefs. Ranees "Guddun" taking Raja Dhian Sing by the hand, and placing it on the breast of the corpse, made him swear never to be a traitor to Koonwur Khurrucc Sing, and now Nehal Sing; or to be inattentive to the welfare of the state. Koonwur Khurrucc Sing was in like manner made to swear to be led away by no misrepresentations of interested parties, to renounce Rajah Dhian Sing; and the torments due for the slaughter of a thousand cows, were imprecated on him who should violate his oath. The corpse was then washed by the Koonwur with the water of the Ganges, and placed on the splendid bier. Rajas Dhian and Heerah Sing, Khooshal Sing, Ajeet Sing, Sundhan Walla, the Vakeels of Aloo Walla, of Ladlah, of Tehara, Hursurn Doss, and others, threw shawls on the bier, and it was carried in procession in the garden at Dhole-kote, situated in the Fort near the Huzoree, adjoining to Gooroo Urjin's residence. The four Ranees, clad in the richest apparel and jewels, worth many lacs of rupees, accompanied the procession, bestowing every now and then some portion of their jewels and ornaments to the singers and the Brahmins. Having arrived at the funeral pile, made of sandal wood, the corpse was placed upon it. Ranees Koondun sat down by its side, and placed the head of the deceased on her lap, while the other three Ranees with seven slave girls seated themselves around with every mark of satisfaction on their countenances. At ten o'clock, nearly the time fixed by the Brahmins, Koonwur Khurrucc Sing set fire to the pile, and the ruler of the Punjab, with four Ranees, and seven slave girls, were reduced to ashes. A small cloud appeared in the sky over the burning pile, and having shed a few drops, cleared away. No one saw a hope of relief, but in resignation. Raja Dhian Sing attempted four times to jump into the burning pile, but was withheld by the multitude. After the ceremony was over, Koonwur Khurrucc Sing and the other chiefs bathed themselves in the Ravee, and returned to the Huzoree Garden. Fifteen pairs of shawls and twenty ducats were given to the singers of the holy hymns of Baba Nanuck; and a thousand rupees were distributed amongst the poor. The Koonwur sat lamenting. The heart is rent in attempting a description of the distress and lamentations in the Palace amongst the Ranees, and amongst citizens of every age, sex, and religion.—*Delhi Gazette*, July 10th.

**DOST MOHAMED AND THE AMEERS OF SCINDE.**—We have been favoured with a letter from a friend at Simla, with the following information: we lay it before the public, *môt-a-môt*, as it comes from a source on which we place some dependence.

"A letter has been intercepted from the Ameers of Scinde to Dost Mohamed: this was managed through the zeal and intelligence of a young officer (we are not permitted to publish his name) of the Bengal Army, but we may add the hope that the Government will handsomely reward his services.

"It would now seem that an open rupture with the Scindians, is inevitable; indeed, so prevalent is this belief among the troops beyond the Indus, that it has raised the spirits of the whole *Corps d'Armée*; it is also said, and this report is borne out by many circumstances, that the Persians have actually reached Herat with an army of forty or fifty thousand men; this, at all events, confirms the intelligence which has been received by the overland mail.

"Confirmatory of the above rumours, Government has received an express from Bhoj (the seat of the British Resident in Scinde) which puts it in possession of the intrigues of the Ameers; we may, therefore, look for the immediate assembly of a force for the subjugation of the Scinde States, and—though it has hardly been remarked on as yet, the fact will not escape future animadversion—that Sir John Keane, on landing in Scinde, instead of acting up to his instructions, patched up a treaty with the head-

strong chiefs of this country, which common sense ought to have told the dullest of his suite must soon fall to pieces.

"It is not, therefore, too much to conceive that Dost Mohamed, aware of the success he may expect from Scinde and Persia, and with his knowledge that the advance of the British army has not been aided by scientific, or even prudential arrangements, but is entirely owing to a series of contingencies, which ought not to have been admitted into calculation, will concentrate all his strength, and inspire such energy into his people, as to prevent the Khyber Pass, or at all events, Kabool, falling the easy acquisition of Shah Soojah, that has been anticipated; for Dost Mohamed is an acknowledged able warrior, and will prove his right to this character, before he has done with the army now in the field; that Britons (for the Shah, the impotent, impudent Shah, must be thrown aside in such arguments,) will eventually scale the walls of Kabool, there can be no doubt, but not without a stubborn opposition!

"The Governor-General's attention at this moment is constantly turned towards Nepal; and, as the late Lord Castlereagh would say, war there depends upon the holding up a finger—indeed, it appears inevitable—unless the Rajah should again knuckle under, which does not appear likely; but Government will, of course, endeavour to keep him in play, until affairs in Kabool are settled."—*Ibid*, July 17th.

**ARMY OF THE INDUS.**—The army had not left Candahar at the last dates, nor was their situation much improved. Many camp followers had been cut off, in their attempts to return to their homes; and a friendly feeling towards the force, seems to be confined to the limits within range of its guns. We have been favoured with the following from a private quarter:—

"June 25, 1839.

"Colonel Wade had come to blows with the Khyber pass folk—little or no execution had, by the last accounts, been done—and lots of shot and powder expended to no purpose. Wade had erected a stockade at the entrance of the Pass, in which he placed his guns: his army was unpleasantly situated, as the Khyberians had diverted the only stream of water that supplied his camp, and refused to allow the water to flow back to its original channel, without a large and early payment. Further accounts represent all quiet; firing ceased, and the people anxious to come into Wade's terms."—*Agra Journal*, 6th July.

**THE RUMOURED DEFALCATION.**—Much sensation has been occasioned by the rumoured defalcation in the Commissariat Department attached to the Governor General's camp—the particulars of which have not generally transpired; but which are eagerly inquired after by all classes—which, we presume, will form the subject of inquiry by a committee.

No one accuses the head of the department of more than an unwise trust and confidence in the integrity of his subordinates; but similar credulity has recently blasted the prospects of two honourable men, who have been returned to their regiments, deprived of a portion of their allowances to liquidate the sums due to the state.

The line to be pursued is sufficiently clearly defined; and whatever claims to consideration (they are not slight) Captain Hawkins may have on the Governor General, still his lordship cannot depart from the course he has strictly adhered to in the two cases we allude to. We have not heard who has been put in charge of the department, or who are the members of the committee to investigate into the matter; but it is said that Captain Hawkins is prepared to reimburse all the sums which may be deficient.—*Agra Journal*, 6th July.

**SPIRIT OF THE EASTERN PRESS.**—The political horizon, to use the appropriate phrase, is darkening around us, and assuming daily a more ominous appearance. We are actually engaged in an expedition of unprecedented magnitude and expense, and the last intelligence from Burmah leaves scarcely a doubt, that we shall soon be at war with that power. The statement given in our last of three armies under the command of three of the Burmese king's sons, having marched towards three different points on our frontier, has been confirmed by the Singapore paper. Against Jhouldpore, the chief principality and rallying point of Rajpootana, a force is now under equipment; the detected treachery of the Sindian Chiefs, has determined the Governor General to reduce Hydrabad and Kelat; and lastly the Nepaulese, if we can rely upon information from Simla, await but an opportunity, such, for instance, as a war with Burmah, to commence hostilities against us. Here then are we either in actual warfare or are threatened with it, from every quarter of the Empire, East, West, North and South; a sufficiently delicate position, without distrusting our great resources, or the firmness and caution of the Governor General. The Cabool expedition wears a less encouraging

appearance than it recently did. Kamran is hostile to us ; a large body of Persians, it is now confidently rumoured, are at Herat, and Dost Mahomed will strike a blow for his capital, the dastardly desertion of the Sikhs having allowed him to concentrate his strength upon it. Our army, on the other hand, is badly commanded, ill-provisioned, becoming deficient in equipment, more dispirited than assured, thoroughly isolated and cut off from all succour. Under these circumstances nothing but the most prompt and vigorous proceedings can ensure that certainty of success, which our position renders absolutely necessary. No time should be lost (not an hour in overtures) in investing Cabool, taking it and reducing the country around, after the most summary military fashion. This is the only course that will be appreciated by Dost Mahomed or Kamran, or remove the arrogance, our usual pacific proceedings are calculated to inspire. We know not either if the recal of Sir John Keane would not be expedient : he evidently possesses little of the confidence of the army, and equally little of the judgment required in the critical situation he is placed in. His error before Hyderabad has rendered a second expedition into Scinde necessary, and this view has, we understand, been taken by the Governor General of that affair. Here too a series of quick and decided operations can alone bring the war to a conclusion, conducive either to our safety or the credit of our arms. The reduction of Hyderabad would wonderfully dispose the Burmese tyrant to keep the peace towards us ; as well as his allies the Nepalese.

We are evidently at present near a crisis, when our hold of India must either be weakened or more than ever strengthened, and with a good cause, abundant resources and a prudent and firm Governor General, we do not doubt as to the result. But to leave the least to chance, whatever is done must be done quickly, opposition must be put down by the strong hand, and the paramount power of India must assume the position that becomes her. Our forbearing pacific policy has embroiled us with Burmah, Nepal, China, Jhouldpore and Scinde, and similar effects will follow a longer perseverance in a similar course.

As a set-off against these difficulties, it appears Government have an overflowing treasury, at least we are informed by the London Correspondent of the *Hurkaru*, in the number of that paper of the 8th instant, that at the end of 1837, there was a surplus revenue of upwards of ten millions of pounds sterling in the treasury. From statements, however, put forth in the *Friend of India*, apparently on authority, we suspect some mistake in this statement, though on the other hand it is generally believed, that Government are not embarrassed in their finances.—*Agra Ukhbar*, 18th July.

**DELHI.**—Reports have been in circulation, during the last week, of the probability of resistance on the part of Dost Mohammed's sons, at or near Ghiznee, and we have anxiously waited, until the last moment, in expectation of news of the arrival of the 1st Division of the army before that city, which we calculated upon receiving ere this.

A letter from Quettah, dated 20th June, confirms the movements of the Army of the Indus, given in the supplement to our last number, and also furnishes us with further interesting particulars.

Our letters *direct* from Lahore give assurance of perfect tranquillity, but the contumacy of Shere Singh, Runjeet Singh's second son, may ere long interrupt this ; our correspondent, however, thinks that he will see the futility of his attempts, and that he will present himself at the coronation of Khurruck Singh.

Matters at Jeypore and Joudpore appear to wear as bad an aspect as they possibly well could. The news of the decisive steps, now taken by our Government, will, it is supposed, presently bring these *rebels* to their senses.

It will be seen in another column, that the Ameers of Scinde are likely to draw down upon themselves the punishment averted by the patched-up treaty of Sir John Keane, and a force, it is said, is about to move forward to that province.

Altogether we think there is good prospect of work being carved out for the military for some time to come ; and but little hope of Lord Auckland's promise to the ladies of having their husbands soon back, being verified.—*Delhi Gazette*, July 17.

From our Simla correspondent we learn that Captain Burn of the 1st Regiment N.I., and Lieutenant Corfield of the 68th Regiment N.I., have been appointed to the Indus Commissariat, and are to proceed by dak to Peshawar to collect stores for the anticipated return of the army. After this service is performed, Captain Burn is to obtain a regiment in the Shah's service.—*Agra Ukhbar*, July 20.

The Rajah of Bughat died last week, and, leaving no heir, his territory lapses to the Company ; this makes the third Hill state which has fallen, from a similar cause, into the possession of the British this season.—*Ibid*.

*Oriental Herald*.—Vol. 4.—No. XXII.

## PROPOSALS FOR ERECTING A NEW CATHEDRAL AT CALCUTTA.

*Bishop's Palace, Calcutta, June 18th, 1839.*

1. The Bishop begs permission to submit to the gentry of Calcutta, of the stations in the Bengal Government, and the Upper Provinces, and to the friends of religion in India generally, both here and at home, the following statement, with the view of ascertaining what aid he may calculate upon in erecting a Church on the Esplanade of Calcutta, in a manner worthy of British India, and such as may hereafter be constituted, if circumstances should permit, the Cathedral of the See.

2. It has been long felt and acknowledged, that a Church of considerable magnitude is most urgently needed for the inhabitants of Chowringhee and its neighbourhood. But it may not, perhaps, be generally known, that the last of a succession of private plans, formed during the space of fifteen years, for building such a Church, has just been laid aside, chiefly from the difficulty of procuring subscriptions for the purchase of a site, as well as for the erection of the sacred building itself.

3. The Bishop, under these circumstances, has applied to Government; and a fine commanding site has been granted him for this purpose, on the Esplanade, near the point where the Chowringhee and circular roads unite, and about a mile and half south-east from Government House.

4. This site is amongst the very best Government could bestow, in consistency with the regulation that no building should be erected within a certain range of the Fort. It is most convenient also in itself, with reference to the necessities of the Christian population in and around Calcutta.

It is very near the centre of a circle embracing Calcutta on the North; and Ballygunge, the neighbourhood of the Martiniers, Tallygunge, part of Entally and the Circular Road, Allypore, and Garden Reach, on the East, South, and West; where the multitude of European residences, distant from two to four miles from Calcutta, would surprise any one who had not lately visited the several localities. Indeed, the Southern part of Chowringhee alone, crowded as it is with houses, of itself demands a Church.

This site is also likely to increase every year in relative importance. For as the city of Calcutta becomes more and more occupied by offices and houses of merchandize, which the increase of its commerce, in consequence of steam communication, is already rapidly occasioning, it is probable that Chowringhee, taken as a centre point, will become the spot, around which the main body of the whole Christian community of Calcutta will be collected.

At the same time, it is near enough to Calcutta itself, to accommodate, during the cold weather, the numerous gentry who arrive from England, or who flock to it from all parts of Bengal and the Upper Provinces, and, indeed, from every quarter of India, and who are now incapable of obtaining accommodation in the existing Churches.

For nine months out of the twelve, in fact, the distance of Chowringhee and the neighbourhood, from the Churches in Calcutta, exposes even those who have regular pews or sittings in them, to the greatest inconvenience—which the thinness of the actual attendance in the hot season, compared with the fact that all the main sittings in every one of the Churches are let, sufficiently prove.

5. This seems, accordingly, the very spot for erecting a sacred edifice, capable of becoming the Cathedral of the metropolis of India. Nor is there any place in the world where every facility for attending public worship ought so much to be afforded as in Calcutta, where the oppressive nature of the climate, the imperfect health of the Christian population, and the danger from the least exposure to the sun, concur with the want of that Christian sympathy and association, which prevail at home, to make the habits of attending Church languid and unstable.

6. It is proposed, therefore, to erect a lofty, spacious, airy Church, in the Gothic, or rather Christian style of architecture; unencumbered with galleries; with an ample chancel or choir; with North and South transepts or entrances; and capable of seating about 800 or 1,000 persons—its internal dimensions being probably somewhere about 180 or 200 feet, by 55 or 60; and 50 or 60 feet in height.

7. In correspondence with this necessary magnitude of the body of the edifice, it is designed that the exterior of the building should bear some relation in its architectural character to the interior; and that an appropriate spire, somewhere about 200 feet in height from the ground, should be added, to give the whole a becoming and customary ecclesiastical aspect.

8. It was, indeed, the unavoidable extent of a building, which could at all meet the actual wants of the case in a climate like Bengal, that first suggested the idea

of erecting it in an open and beautiful spot, and of such a style of architecture, as to form a prominent object from every point of view on the Esplanade, within the fine panorama of Calcutta; and thus constitute the greatest ornament of what has not been unfitly termed, the City of Palaces. And it was thought there are few who would not willingly make an additional effort,—if we once determine to build a new and large Church,—to give it all the advantages, which the progress made of late years in sacred architecture can secure, so as to render it fitting to be the First Protestant Cathedral erected to the honour of God in India.

9. The present is, moreover, a critical moment. A site in every respect eligible has been most handsomely granted us by Government, for which our warmest acknowledgments are due; but if we do not now erect on it a Church, which shall unite the supply of our local wants, with some regard to the relative importance of Calcutta, it is hardly possible that the opportunity should recur; as private plans will undoubtedly be framed with a view to local and personal interests, and thus the probability of possessing a Cathedral be lost for ever.

10. In fact, it has long been a subject of reproach, not only to the good taste, but to the piety of the greatest empire in the Eastern world, that our Government House, our Mint, our Town Hall, our Custom House, our Bridges, and even our Ghâts,—to say nothing of our official residences and private dwellings,—should be upon a scale, in some measure, correspondent with the position we hold in India, whilst our Cathedral is mean, inappropriate, and incommodious. The Churches which are set apart for Cathedrals at Madras and Bombay, are, beyond comparison, finer than the one which is so designated in the splendid and wealthy metropolis of our whole Asiatic dominions—Calcutta.

In truth, from the time of the first erection of the see of Calcutta, now twenty-five years since, a Cathedral has been urgently wanted, and has been thought of and projected, again and again, by the friends of our Protestant Church. The objections made from home, to the one proposed to be built in 1819, by the Marquis of Hastings, and for which magnificent plans had been drawn, were entirely independent of the sacred project itself. The difficulty, from that time, has been to find another favourable opportunity. At length, the long wished-for occasion has presented itself in the demands of the new Christian neighbourhood around Chowringhee. Who, then, will now be backward in rearing a sacred structure, of such a character as may testify our gratitude to that Almighty Being who has given us India, and our sense of the obligations we are under to provide for the celebration of His holy worship, in a manner becoming the greatest of the Protestant nations?

11. It will be amongst the important advantages of a fine, spacious Church, that on the occasions of lectures during Lent, and the solemn seasons of visitations, ordinations, and confirmations, there will be room for the crowded audiences that then assemble,—not to say that opportunities may arise, as Christianity advances, for collecting together, as at home, the numerous Christian schools of Calcutta and its neighbourhood for anniversary celebrations; whilst the convenience of native schools and converts may be ultimately in various ways involved. It is possible, also, if a church at all worthy of Calcutta should be built, that endowments may be made by pious and well-disposed individuals and public bodies, here and at home; and our Protestant service be daily celebrated, and various pious and benevolent labours amongst the surrounding native population, be prosecuted by a body of Missionary Clergy.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, CALCUTTA,—for such is the name designed for it,—may thus become a centre of light and grace to the Heathen and Mohammedan, as well as Christian population around.

Nor is the subordinate consideration to be entirely overlooked, that its aisles and entrances will be adapted to admit such appropriate Christian memorials to the piety and learning of the departed, as the beautiful monument to Bishop Heber, by Sir Francis Chantrey, lately come out from England, and which there is, positively, no spot in any of our present churches to receive with advantage.

12. The expense is, however, the great difficulty, though not, it is presumed, an insuperable one. No good design has ever yet failed in India, from mere want of funds, and it will be strange if this should be the first: for if the subscriptions continue open, as it is proposed, during the three or four years that the church will be in building,—the payments being made by monthly or annual instalments, by those who may prefer it,—and if contributions be collected from all classes of the community all over India and at home, there is not the slightest fear of ultimate success. Small donations multiplied will soon amount to something considerable; whilst the largest will, on the other hand, come in to accomplish the extensive undertaking. Nothing is required but a spirit of

determined effort; and no one surely will be wanting to the next age, by neglecting to seize the present unexpected and remarkable juncture.

It is hoped that the gentlemen who subscribed conditionally about 80,000 rupees in 1826, and those who again contributed between 40 and 50,000 in 1838, to the private plans alluded to, will be pleased to transfer them to this noble and more adequate public object. This will be a good commencement.

13. The expenses cannot, indeed, at present be exactly ascertained, but it is supposed, that something like two lakhs or two lakhs and a-half of rupees may be sufficient for the most indispensable objects in view; though the ornamental arts, the enclosure, the organ, the finishings, painted windows, a chime of bells, a clock, stand for carriages, &c., will require a considerable sum in addition. And, if any endowment is found practicable, the whole ultimate outlay must be carried still higher.

14. The Bishop is himself so impressed with the grandeur of the occasion, that he will cheerfully devote more than one half of the revenue of his see for four years,—a lakh of rupees in the whole,—to this object. With this amount he is determined at least to begin, and begin instantly. He will advance at once his whole subscription, and more when that is gone, if wanted. He has no fear of being deserted. Designs are already preparing by the most scientific Engineer Officer of the service in this department—the same, indeed, as designed the beautiful plans twenty years since, under the Marquis of Hastings; and the works will be commenced without a day's unnecessary delay.

15. The zeal for church building at home is one of the brightest features in the present aspect of our national affairs, and is a favourable omen of what we may expect here. Already has the flame spread to India. Already have more churches been begun by private bounty, in the last seven years, than in the seventy years preceding. Already has the munificence of an individual military officer, in rearing a beautiful church at Delhi, entirely at his own charge, taught us how to connect ourselves with the civilization and illumination of Hindoostan.

Indeed, there is nothing that can so permanently incorporate our affections with this country of our sojourn, as taking a part in the honour of that Christian faith which will never fade away. All else is transitory, changing, uncertain. India affords us no firm footing. We are passing through it as strangers and pilgrims. But a great opportunity is now afforded us of acquiring an abiding and permanent interest in the land, which Providence has almost by miracle committed to our care; and from which, many of us have derived, for so many years, such advantages of honourable maintenance, and such prospects of future retreat at home. Surely every one will start forward with eagerness to take his share in rearing this solid and enduring monument of the Christian faith and charity of British India. No subscription list will be published;—each one will be left at entire liberty to contribute what he may judge right for the glory of Christ, and the good of souls,—but a record of the names of those who come nobly forward to help the Bishop in this emergency, will be laid up in the archives of the diocese.

16. The Reverend chaplains and missionaries, and other friends in each station, are respectfully requested to submit these proposals to the civil and military gentry, and the community of every class; and to transmit the list of benefactors to the Rev. J. H. Pratt, M.A., the Bishop's Domestic Chaplain, or to R. Molloy, Esq., Registrar. All the monies will be placed in the Bank of Bengal, and an account rendered of them from time to time.

The sooner the names of those who intend to contribute are sent in, the better, as the amount of probable support may materially affect the details of the Bishop's plans. The first stone will be laid, if it please God, before the Bishop goes up the country in October next.—*DEO SOLI GLORIA.*—*Hurkaru, June 21.*

## APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, CHANGES, &c.

### Civil and Ecclesiastical.

*Orders by the Rt. Hon. the Governor General of India.*

*Political Department, Simla, 27th May.*

Capt. C. H. Thomas, 11th N. I., Assistant to the General Superintendent of the Operations for the Suppression of Thuggee, has obtained leave of absence, on private affairs, for four months, from 1st May to 1st Sept. next, to visit Madras, preparatory to applying for furlough.

*May 24.* The following appointment was made in the General Department North Western provinces, on the 24th inst.:

Assist.-Surg. J. A. Dunbar, M.D., to the medical duties of the civil station of Azimgurb.

*May 28.* At the recommendation of the Commander of the Forces, the Right Hon. the Governor General is pleased to make the following temporary appointment:

Col. Shelton, of H. M. 44th Foot, to be a Brigadier of the 2nd class, and to command the troops at Kurnaul, while the headquarters of the Sirhind division are fixed elsewhere.

Lieut. W. J. H. Charteris, 45th N. I., is appointed to be 2nd subaltern of the 2nd regt. of Infantry, Oude Auxiliary Force.

*Orders by the Honourable the Deputy Governor of Bengal.*

*Judicial and Revenue Department, 28th May.*

Mr. R. Hampton, officiating special deputy collector of Bauleah (Rajeshye) has obtained a further extension of leave of absence for ten days to that granted him under date the 28th inst.

*May 31.* Mr. F. A. E. Dalrymple, writer, pronounced qualified for the public service and attached to the Bengal division of the Presidency of Fort William under date the 22d inst., has obtained leave of absence, on med. cert., to proceed to sea for two months from the 1st proximo, for the benefit of his health.

*June 4.* Mr. J. S. May, superintendant of the Nuddea rivers, has obtained leave of absence, on med. cert., for one month, from the 7th ult., to visit the Presidency.

Mr. A. Grant has been appointed civil and sessions judge of Midnapore, vice Mr. Abercrombie Dick, promoted. Mr. Grant will continue to officiate as civil and sessions judge of Tirhoot, until further orders.

Mr. H. Nisbet, civil and sessions judge of Sarun, has been allowed leave of absence from his station for ten days, from the 29th ult., on med. cert.

Mr. R. P. Nisbet, civil and sessions judge of Nuddea, has obtained leave of absence, on

med. cert., for three months, from the 20th inst., to proceed on the river for the benefit of his health.

*June 5.* Mr. E. T. Trevor, assistant to the magistrate and collector of Hooghly has obtained leave of absence for one week, from the 10th inst., on private affairs.

The leave of absence granted by the Commissioner of the 12th or Bhaugulpore Division to Mr. G. F. Houlton, late officiating joint magistrate and deputy collector of Malda, for one month, from the 16th inst., on med. cert., has been confirmed.

*June 1.* Mr. Assist.-Surg. J. Macansh, attached to the civil station or West Burdwan (Bancoorah), has been appointed Registrar of Deeds, under Act No. XXX. of 1838, in Bancoorah.

*June 11.* The unexpired portion of the leave of absence granted to Mr. A. Dick, under date the 15th January last, has been cancelled from the 8th inst., the date on which he took his seat as a temporary judge of the Sudder Dewanny and Nizamut Adawlut at the presidency.

Mr. G. W. Battye has been appointed to officiate as civil and sessions judge of Nuddea, during the absence on leave of Mr. R. P. Nisbett, or until further orders. Mr. Battye will make over charge of the joint magistracy and deputy collectorate of Monghyr to Mr. E. Lautour, who will officiate temporarily in those offices.

Mr. G. F. Houlton has been appointed to officiate as collector of Patna.

*June 14.* Mr. W. Travers, special deputy collector of Cuttack, has obtained leave of absence for one month, from the 12th inst., to visit the presidency, on private affairs. Mr. O. W. Malet will officiate as special deputy collector of Cuttack until further orders.

Mr. W. Bell, officiating joint magistrate and deputy collector of Malda, has obtained leave of absence, in extension for twenty-five days, from the 16th ult.

*Separate Department, 5th June.*

The honourable the deputy gov. of Bengal has been pleased to sanction that the leave of absence granted on the 8th ult. to Mr. Robert Ince, superintendent of Backergunge salt chokies, for a period of one month, shall take effect from the date on which he may make over charge of his office.

*Fort William, Gen. Depart. 17th June.*

The Hon. the President of the Council of India and Deputy Governor of Bengal, has this day been pleased to make the following appointments:

Captain H. Rutherford, of the Artillery, to be Private Secretary to the President of the Council and Deputy Governor of Bengal.

Lieut. and Brevet-Capt. F. Dashwood, of the Artillery, to be Military Secretary to the President of the Council and Deputy Governor of Bengal and Aid-de-Camp.

Lieut. W. S. Pillans, of the Artillery, to be Aid-de-camp.

*Orders by the Rt. Hon. Governor General of India.*

*Political Department, Simla, 30th May.*

Major T. Sandys, principal assistant at Nemar, has obtained one month's leave of absence on private affairs, from the 15th proximo. Mr. Assist.-Surg. Rind has been directed to officiate for that officer during his absence.

June 3. Capt. E. Clutterbuck, 38th Madras N. I., took charge of his appointment of officiating junior assistant to the commissioner for the Government of the territories of the Rajah of Mysore, on the 9th ult.

Capt. H. W. Trevelyan received charge of the Harowty Political Agency from Captain Ludlow on the 25th March, 1839.

*Orders by the Rt. Hon. the Governor General for the North Western Provinces.*

*General Department, Simla, 14th May.*

Mr. H. Burges, 2nd Moonsiff of Shahjehanpore, to be Sudder Ameen of Jounpore, in succession to Mohommud Yoosuf, promoted.

May 16. Mr. W. H. Woodcock, magistrate and collector of Mirzapoor, on med. cert., for 9 months, from the 17th ult., to enable him to proceed to sea, with permission to remain at Simla, till the commencement of the ensuing rainy season.

May 17. Mr. H. S. Ravenshaw, joint magistrate and deputy collector of Paneeput, on med. cert., for 6 months, in extension of the leave obtained by him in Orders of the 12th Oct. last.

May 24. *Ecclesiastical.*—That portion of the leave of absence granted to the Rev. R. Everest, chaplain of Delhi, on the 28th Feb. last, which extends from the 18th of March to the 15th of April last, the day on which he quitted his station for the hills, is cancelled.

Mr. F. S. Head, settlement officer of zillah Phillibheet, on med. cert., for 6 months, from the 20th April last, for the purpose of visiting the hills. Mr. Head is authorised to conduct his settlement duties, during the period of his absence from the station.

Mr. Assist.-Surg. J. A. Dunbar, M.D., to be civil Assist.-Surg. at the station of Azimgurh.

## Military.

GENERAL ORDERS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN INDIA.

*Head-quarters, Mahabeshwar.*

April 26, 1839. The Commander-in-chief in India has been pleased to make the following Promotions and Appointments until Her Majesty's pleasure shall be known:—

2nd Foot.—Ensign T. W. E. Holdsworth to be lieutenant, without purchase, vice Sparke, deceased, Jan. 30, 1839.

Ensign D. J. Dickenson to be lieutenant, without purchase, vice Nixon, deceased, Jan. 30, 1839.

6th Foot.—Capt. T. S. Powell, from the 40th Foot, to be capt., vice Caulfield, who exchanges, April 26, 1839.

40th Foot.—Capt. H. Caulfield, from the 6th Foot, to be captain, vice Powell, who exchanges, April 26, 1839.

*Leave of absence.*

Garrison Staff.—General B. Marley, Commandant of Allahabad, from July 1 to Jan. 1, 1840, in extension, to remain at the Presidency, on med. cert.

26th N. I.—Ensign T. C. Blgrave, from July 1 to Oct. 1, to visit the Presidency, on med. cert., preparatory to applying for furlough to Europe.

47th N. I.—Ensign W. Baillie, from April 1 to May 30, to visit Delhi, on med. cert.

May 29.—The Commander of the Forces directs the following Appointments:—

13th N. I.—Lieut. C. F. Bruere to be adjutant, vice Edwardes, promoted.

65th N. I.—Lieut. C. I. Harrison to be interpreter and quarter-master, vice Whiteford, promoted.

Lieut. R. Y. B. Bush to be adjutant, vice Harrison.

*Fort William, June 10.—Promotions.*

36th N. I.—Lieut. and Brevet-Captain W. C. Carleton to be captain of a company; and Ensign F. A. Carleton to be lieutenant, from May 27, 1839, in succession to Captain and Brevet-Major S. P. C. Humfrays, deceased.

Infantry.—Messrs. C. Jackson, T. Gordon, A. S. O. Donaldson, and L. A. Cook, to be ensigns from the date of arrival at Fort William, June 8, 1839.

—Messrs. S. C. A. Swinton and F. Aubert, to be ensigns from the date of arrival at Fort William, June 8, 1839.

49th Foot.—Ensign L. H. G. Maclean, from April 18, 1839, to Jan. 1, 1840, to visit the hills north of Deyrah, on medical certificate.

This cancels that portion of the leave from April 18, granted to him on private

affairs, in the General Order of the 22nd of February last.

Lieut.-Col. G. B. Bell's order of the 24th instant, nominating Lieut. W. McCulloch to act as interpreter and quarter-master to the 13th N. I., vice Lieut. G. F. White-locke, permitted to resign the appointment, is confirmed.

June 3.—The Presidency Division Order, dated the 21st of May last, granting two years' leave to England, from date of embarkation, on med. cert., to Lieut. and Adj. O'Callaghan, H. M. 49th reg., is confirmed, subject to the confirmation of His Excellency the Commander-in-chief in India.

The Regimental Order by the officer commanding H. M. 44th reg., dated May 31, 1809, appointing Lieut. Souter to act as quarter-master to that corps, during the absence of Lieut. and Quarter-Master Halahan, on leave, or until further orders, is confirmed.

The undermentioned officers of the artillery and infantry are promoted to the rank of Captain by brevet, from the dates expressed opposite to their names:

65th N. I. Lieut. R. H. DeMontmorency, 13th June, 1839.

45th N. I., Lieut. R. Haldane, 17th June, 1839.

42nd N. I., Lieut. J. H. Philips, 17th June, 1839.

Artillery, Lieut. E. Buckle, 17th June, 1839.

With reference to General Orders of the 15th April last, it is hereby notified, that Lieut. W. St. Leger Mitchell, of the 13th N. I., arrived at Bombay on the 20th March 1839.

May 25.—The Commander-in-chief in India has been pleased to make the following Promotions until Her Majesty's pleasure shall be known:—

4th Foot.—Lieut. C. J. Otter to be captain, without purchase, vice Moneypenny deceased, March 9, 1839.

Ensign W. W. Bond to be lieutenant, without purchase, vice Otter, promoted, March 9, 1839.

Ensign and Adjutant J. Potter to have the rank of lieutenant, March 10, 1839.

Memorandum.—The exchange between Captain Caulfield of the 6th, and Captain Powell of the 40th Foot, published in the General Order of the 26th April last, is antedated to Feb. 22, 1839.

The Commander-in-chief in India has been pleased to make the following Promotions until Her Majesty's pleasure shall be known:—

4th Light Dragoons.—Cornet J. R. J. Coles, to be lieutenant, without purchase, vice Fyers, deceased, Dec. 15, 1838.

17th Foot.—Ens. J. F. Jones to be lieut.,

without purchase, vice Mathews, deceased, March 10, 1839.

39th Foot.—Major T. E. Wright to be lieut.-colonel, without purchase, vice Poole, deceased, April 24, 1839.

Captain and Brevet Lieutenant-Col. D. Urquhart, to be major, vice Wright, promoted, April 24, 1839.

Lieutenant and Brev.-Capt. H. F. Stokes to be captain, vice Urquhart, promoted, April 24, 1839.

Ensign W. Hardinge to be lieutenant, without purchase, vice Grace, deceased, April 21, 1839.

*Head-quarters, Meerut, June 6.*

The leave of absence granted in general orders of the 6th April last, to Capt. E. T. Milner, of the 30th N. I., is cancelled from the 20th ult., the date of his appointment in Government general orders to officiate as an additional 2nd Assist. Military Auditor General.

Ensign J. P. Caulfield, of the 57th, is, at his own request, removed to the 3rd N. I., as the junior of his rank.

Leave of absence—25th N. I.—Ensign C. A. Nicol, from June 5 to Oct. 5, to visit Jubbulpore, on private affairs.

45th N. I.—Ensign W. J. H. Charteris, from Sept. 29, 1838, to Oct. 11, 1838, to proceed to Meerut, and appear before the committee of examination in the native languages.

47th N. I.—Ensign W. Baillie, from May 31 to Dec. 1, in extension, to visit the hills north of Deyrah, on medical certificate.

*General Orders by the Hon. the President in Council.*

*Fort William, June 15.*

In conformity to instructions from the Hon. the Court of Directors, published in general orders of the 20th ult., authorizing an augmentation to the corps of engineers, the Hon. the President in Council is pleased to make the following promotions. Dates of commission 20th May, 1839.

*Corps of Engineers.*

To be Majors—Captain W. N. Forbes, (Brevet Major) A. Irvine, C.B., and E. Swetenham.

To be Captains—1st Lieuts. (Brevet Captain) H. Goodwyn, A. H. Boileau, P. W. Willis, G. B. Tremenneere, W. H. Graham, and W. M. Smyth.

To be 1st Lieutenants—2d Lieuts. W. Abercrombie, J. A. Weller, J. N. Sharp, J. R. Western, H. Rigby, T. Renny, G. H. Fagan, L. Hill, H. Siddons, E. J. Brown, J. Trail, and J. D. Cunningham, and Supp. 2nd Lieuts. T. H. Sale, A. Cunningham, J. L. D. Sturt, N. C. MacLeod, J. Spens, and W. Jones.

The following supernumerary officers are

brought on the effective strength of the corps, as 2nd Lieutenants, with their present dates of rank, their standing with reference to the transfer to this presidency of such of the supernumeraries in the corps of engineers at Madras and Bombay as may avail themselves of the option given them, will be in the order in which they passed at Addiscombe, as directed in the Hon. the Court's instructions :—

Supernumerary 2nd Lieuts. C. L. Spitta, S. Pott, R. Pigou, J. S. Broadfoot, and C. B. Young.

Leave of absence—71st N. I.—Lieut. H. Barry from 10th March to 15th October, to visit Darjeeling, on medical certificate.

*Fort William, June 17.*

The Hon. the President in Council is pleased to make the following appointments, consequent on the accession of Major-Gen. Sir William Casement, K.C.B., to the Supreme Council of India.

Lieut.-Col. James Stuart, of the 39th N. I. to be secretary to the Government of India, in the military department.

Major William Cubitt, of the 18th N. I., to be deputy secretary to the Government of India, in the military department.

Capt. R. J. H. Birch, of the 17th N. I., to be assistant secretary to the Government in India, in the military department.

Major Cubitt, deputy secretary, to officiate as secretary to the Government of India, in the military department, during the absence of Lieut.-Col. Stuart, in attendance on the Right Hon. the Governor-General, or until further orders.

### Medical.

*General Orders, Queen's Troops.*

*Head-quarters, Meerut, May 24, 1839.*

The presidency division order of the 16th May, granting Assistant-Surgeon Pilleau, Her Majesty's 63rd regiment, two years' leave from date of embarkation, to proceed to England, on medical certificate, is confirmed, subject to the confirmation of His Excellency the Commander-in-chief in India.

Leave of absence.—13th Light Infantry.—Surgeon D. Murray, M.D., in extension, from June 7 to Dec. 1, 1839, on medical certificate.

May 29.—The Meerut division order of the 25th inst., appointing Surgeon W. S. Stiven, of the 19th N. I., to officiate as superintending surgeon to the Meerut circle of superintendence, during the absence, on leave, of Superintending Surgeon Playfair, is confirmed as a temporary arrangement.

*Medical Department.*—Messrs. D. Macrae, and A. C. Macrae, M.D. Date of arrival, June 8, 1839.

*General Orders by the Commander of the Forces.*

*Head-quarters, Meerut, May 31, 1839.*

The Meerut station order of the 25th inst., directing Surgeon G. T. Urquhart, of the 7th L. C. to afford medical aid to the 19th N. I., in the room of Surgeon W. S. Stiven, appointed to officiate as superintending surgeon, is confirmed.

The Kurnaul station order of the 6th instant, directing Veterinary Surgeon J. Purves, of the 4th, to afford professional aid to the 5th L. C., during the absence, on leave, of Veterinary Surgeon J. Willis, is confirmed.

*Head-quarters, Meerut, June 4, 1839.*

The presidency division orders of the 22nd and 24th ult., appointing the undermentioned assistant-surgeons to do duty under the superintending surgeons of the circles stated opposite their respective names, are confirmed :—

Assist.-Surg. K. W. Kirk, M.D. Dinapore.

„ N. Collyer ..... } Kurnaul.

„ H. Irwin ..... }

„ C. M. Henderson, M.D. Meerut.

„ J. S. Haig ..... Agra.

*Head-quarters, Meerut, June 5, 1839.*

The Meerut division order of the 1st inst., appointing Assist.-Surgeon G. M. Cheyne, arrived from the presidency with a detachment of Her Majesty's troops, to the medical charge of the 19th N. I.; and directing officiating Assist. Stew. J. Goodall, arrived with the same detachment, to proceed to Kurnaul with the party for Her Majesty's 44th foot, is confirmed.

The presidency division order of the 21st ult., appointing Assist.-Surgeon C. G. Andrews, now at the general hospital, to do duty with Her Majesty's 21st regiment, or Royal fusileers at Chinsurah, is confirmed.

The Cawnpore division order of the 27th ult., appointing Assist.-Surgeon J. A. Geise, doing duty with Her Majesty's 16th foot, to the medical charge of the right wing of the 44th N. I. Etawah, is confirmed.

The Agra garrison and station order of the 30th ult., appointing Assist.-Surgeon W. Shilito, arrived with a detachment of European recruits, to do duty in the artillery hospital, is confirmed.

Medical department.—Assistant-Surgeon D. Gullan, from 20th Nov. 1838 to 12th Dec. 1838, in extension, to enable him to proceed and join his present appointment at Jeypore.

## BIRTHS.

At Calcutta, on the 8th June, the wife of Capt. P. M. Stavers, of the "Cowsajee Family," of a son.

At Fort William, on the 28th May, the wife of Mr. Assist.-Apothecary J. Hornby, of a daughter.

At Neemuch, on the 24th May, the lady of Capt. J. A. Scott, of a son.

At Bhowanipore, on the 11th inst., Mrs. J. H. Miller, of a son.

At Calcutta, on the 9th June, Mrs. Childs, of a daughter.

At Dhubah, on the 10th June, the lady of C. H. Blake, Esq., of a son.

At Calcutta, on the 14th June, the lady of the Rev. J. C. Thompson, of a son.

At Calcutta, on the 14th June, the wife of Mr. Henry Peters, Watch-maker, of a son.

At Cheerra Poonjee, on the 4th June, the lady of W. Lewin, Esq., of a daughter.

At Calcutta, on the 24th May, Mrs. Isabella Warman, of a son.

At Allipore, on the 11th June, the wife of Mr. J. Connell, of a daughter.

At Allahabad, on the 7th June, the lady of Mr. Channer, Artillery, of a son.

At Calcutta, on the 16th June, Mrs. W. Man, of a son.

At Jhansi, on the 25th May, the lady of Capt. Sandeman, 33d N. I., of a daughter.

At Calcutta, on the 20th June, Mrs. H. Andrews, of a daughter.

At Barrackpore, on the 18th June, the wife of Mr. J. Hudson, Superintendent of the Government Park, of a still-born daughter.

At Dinapoor, on the 13th June, the lady of Capt. Finnis, Officiat. E. officer, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

At Calcutta, on the 10th June, at the Armenian Church, by the Rev. Mr. Andrew Carrapiet, Johanness Carrapiet, Esq., of Penang, to Miss Anna, second daughter of A. C. Gasper, Esq., of Calcutta.

At Calcutta, on the 5th June, at the Old Church, by the Rev. Mr. Boyes, Mr. John Leech to Miss Catherine Roche.

At Calcutta, on the 11th June, at St. James' Church, by the Rev. R. B. Boswell, W. Roberts Turner, Esq., to Miss Anne Tenlen.

At Dacca, on the 4th June, by the Rev. O'Leonard, Baptist Missionary, the Rev. W. Robinson, Baptist Missionary, to Miss Eliza Sturgeon.

At St. Mary's Church, Poona, on Saturday, the 1st June, by the Rev. E. Mainwaring, Captain Henry C. Teasdale, 25th Regt N. I., to Jessie Eliza, only daughter of the late Colonel Charles Whitehill, 10th Regt. N. I.

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## DEATHS.

At Calcutta, on the 8th June, Mr. Robert William Palin, late of the 6th N. I., aged 30 years.

At the head quarters of the Sylhet Frontier Field Force, on the 27th May, Major S. P. C. Humfrays, of the 36th N. I., Brigade Major to the troops. He was a true soldier, an affectionate relative, and a warm friend; and his death is deeply and sincerely lamented by Brigadier Littler and all who knew his sterling qualities.

At Cawnpore, on the 23rd of May last, Captain James Gouldhawke, sincerely and deservedly regretted by his relatives and friends.

At Allahabad, on the 8th May, Emma Maria, daughter of Conductor Bethune, aged 3 years, 6 months, and 2 days.

At Allahabad, on the 16th May, John Halliday, son of conductor Hind, aged 6 years, 3 months, and 9 days.

At Allahabad, on the 18th May, Eliza, daughter of Mr. Rooke of the barrack department, aged 6 years, and 7 months.

At Allahabad, on the 29th May, Maria Elizabeth, daughter of Conductor Hind, aged 8 years, 5 months, and 21 days.

At Allahabad, on the 30th May, Conductor William Clark, of the ordnance department, leaving a large family and numerous friends to regret his loss.

At Mussoorie, on the 25th May, Henry Tierney, son of J. Tierney, Esq., Civil Service, aged 4 years, 11 months, and 3 days.

At Calcutta, on the 10th June, Thomas O'Conner, aged 20 years, 2 months, and 28 days.

At Calcutta, on Sunday morning the 9th June, Mrs. Elizabeth Pinto, wife of Mr. Michael Pinto, aged 18 years.

At Calcutta, on the 12th June, Mr. Anthony Mariano Vaz, aged 42 years.

At Agra, on the 26th May, Mr. Frederick Richard Cock.

At Agra, on the 28th May, Master Edward Cock, aged 8 years, and 2 months.

At Agra, on the 31st May, Abraham Blakely, the only son of Sergeant A. Blakely, 1st Company, European Regiment, aged 1 year, 5 months, and 14 days.

At Calcutta, on the 13th June, Arthur, the infant son of John Marshman, Esq., aged 7 months, and 13 days.

On the 17th April, on board the ship "Indian Oak," Quarter-master Sergeant Thomas Scott, of the 31st Light Infantry, of cholera.

At Calcutta, on the 12th June, Francis Edward Warman, son of Mrs. I. Warman, aged 1 year, 7 months, and 17 days.

At Calcutta, on the 15th June, 24 hours

after her confinement, Mrs. Henrietta Eliza Peters, wife of Mr. H. Peters, the watch-maker, leaving a disconsolate husband with an infant to bemoan their loss.

At Calcutta, on the 16th June, Mr. W. P. Sandford, of the preventive service, aged 29 years.

At Cawnpore, on the 7th June, James William Muir, Esq., H. C. Civil Service, aged 26 years, and 1 month.

At Russell Kondah, on the 25th May,

Lieut. John William Nixon, of the 17th Regt. N. I.

At Calcutta, on the 16th June, John, the only son of Mr. James H. Dunn, aged 2 years, 1 month, and 16 days.

At Calcutta, on the 17th inst., Mrs. Mary Currie, wife of Mr. John Currie, firm of Messrs. Macfarlane and Co., aged 21 years, and 2 months.

At Tezporo, Assam, on the 3rd June, Mr. George Frederick Brownlow.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

### ARRIVALS.

June 8. Justina, T. H. Bentley, London, Jan. 28; Nine, H. Denny, London, Nov. 20; Mary Somerville, J. Hockey, Liverpool, Feb. 5; Ann Lockerby, J. Burt, Liverpool, Jan. 28; Jumna, D. Robinson, Liverpool, Feb. 19; Susan, H. Neatly, Plymouth, Dec. 8.—16. Tamerlane, M'Kenzie, Downs, Feb. 20.

### DEPARTURES.

June 1. Woolsington, H. Barrows, London; William Turner, J. Rolls, Liverpool. 4. Antigua Packet, J. M'Night, London.—15. John Woodall, T. Mossman, Liverpool.

## Madras.

**THE BISHOP OF MADRAS.**—A report reached Madras a few days ago that the Lord Bishop had been seriously indisposed, owing, it is conjectured, to excessive mental exertion. Our much respected Diocesan has, we are informed, had several delicate and intricate investigations connected with his charge to dispose of, and very voluminous papers to wade through. The latest accounts from the Hills, we are happy to say, give the intelligence of his lordship's perfect recovery, and instructions have been received to secure a suitable residence against the arrival of the Bishop's family, who are expected from England in October next. His lordship purposes leaving the Hills in August, will visit Bangalore on his way, and may be looked for at Madras in the latter end of September.—*United Service Gazette, 4th June.*

**RUMOURS OF THE DAY.**—A rumour has been afloat for the last three weeks that government had discovered a secret correspondence, carried on between the Persian monarch and the Nabob of the Carnatic. We were yesterday assured that several Mahometans residing at Triplicane, in respectable circumstances, had opened a communication with Persia, of which however His Highness the Nabob was totally ignorant, or he would have been the first person to deliver them up to justice. These infatuated men have been, we hear, apprehended, and will most probably take their trial next sessions. We give credit to this information, which we have gathered from a respectable Mussulmaun who can have no motive in misleading us, but we vouch not for its truth.—*Ibid.*

**BOAT MONOPOLY.**—The intention of government to throw open the Boat Monopoly, and leave every one to provide for himself, appeared in a Notification in yesterday's Gazette. What new rules will be framed, for the future control and management of the Masulah Boats, we are at present unable to judge, but some of the old rules will be indispensably necessary, to prevent destruction of life and property by carelessness or wilfulness on the part of the boatmen in the Surf. Allowing that the agency houses, &c. will make the most expedient arrangements to meet the interests of their constituents, we should imagine, at the same time, that it will be more especially for the interests of government to adopt such a decided course, as will save them from the

inconvenience in the shipment and landing of Post Office Mails, stores, &c., and particularly for the safe and ready embarkation of their troops, when urgently ordered on foreign service, or for the disembarkation of those returning from such service, or arriving from Europe; and we should think, under the now altered circumstances of the boat system, that government will be obliged to revert to their old plan, and maintain both cargo and accommodation boats of their own, the crews being, as heretofore, subject to the superintendence of the Master Attendant, upon a monthly salary. As we find that there is a divided opinion on the propriety of abandoning the present boat monopoly, we shall be glad, for the purpose of satisfying all parties, to be able to contrast the working of the free and independent private boats under the new system, with that of those which we opine must be permanently maintained by government.—*Herald*, 8th June.

**NEW JURY RULES.**—We congratulate both the European and East Indian jurors on the subjoined alteration (published in last Tuesday's Gazette) of the present—or rather late)—jury rules; the former, because the relief thus afforded them will be an essential advantage to many, and a convenience to all—the latter, because while their superior numbers will prevent the increase of duty from being sensibly felt by any individual, a larger proportion of their body will be made acquainted with the duties of a jurymen, which have always appeared to us extremely well calculated to inspire a proper degree of self respect, and to convert the individual exercising them into a useful and respectable member of society.

**ORDO CURIÆ—JURY RULES.**—30th May, 1839. Ordered, that so much of Rule X as directs that “one half at least of the persons returned by the sheriff, must be of that class of persons who have been designated as British subjects” shall be summoned by the sheriff, and also so much of the said Rule, as requires that “one-half at least of every jury shall consist of such British subjects” be rescinded, and that “one-third” be inserted in place of “one-half.”

Ordered also, that in Rule XIII of the said Jury Rules, the words “peremptory challenge above the number of twenty,” be altered to “peremptory challenge above the number of ten.”

(Signed) ROBERT COMNY.

EDWARD J. GAMBIER.

(A true copy,) FREDERICK ORME,  
Deputy Clerk of the Crown. *Ibid.*

**HYDERABAD.**—The Advertiser of Saturday, and Courier of yesterday, speak of disturbances at Hyderabad; but our own correspondents are silent on the subject, beyond what we stated some days ago. We, however, impugn not the correctness of our co-temporaries' statements; but, with reference to what the Courier says touching the orders received for the troops at Bellary, to be held in readiness to move at the shortest notice, we may as well state that such an order has been in existence for two months past, and that we had a letter from that station yesterday, mentioning that nothing new was stirring: further, that we have a paid correspondent at Kurnool, always ready to snap with avidity at anything which can give him an excuse for inflicting upon us the penalty of postage, which having escaped for some days past, we are inclined to doubt the truth of any flare up on the part of our old acquaintance, Ghollaum Russool Khan. We are, however, informed that Artillery Head-quarters are in expectation of orders to hold a detachment ready for service in the Nizam's territories, or somewhere in that direction!—*Ibid.*, June 11th.

**BANGALORE.**—The weather at Bangalore is described as cool and cloudy, but very little rain has fallen; and the hay crop, of which great hopes were entertained, is likely to turn out indifferently.—*Ibid.*

**BELLARY.**—We are sorry to learn that a great want of medical aid is just now felt at Bellary, from the indisposition of those medical officers, who have hitherto so humanely exerted themselves for the relief of their suffering comrades. The probability of such a want, has, says our correspondent, been foreseen for weeks—why, then, has it not been provided against? ask we.—*Ibid.*

**THE MUNRO STATUE.**—As the public are greatly interested in the progress made towards the completion of preparations for setting up the Munro Statue, we beg to mention having been informed that it will be in its place in *all* August. The entire height from the base of the pedestal, to the crown of the rider's head, will be about forty feet. The figure will front the Marine Villa, and will be distinctly visible to vessels approaching the roads from the Southward.—*Ibid.*

The Quarterly Criminal Sessions opened at the Supreme Court on Monday, before

the Hon. Sir Edward Gambier. The calendar was very light in number of offences, but contained two grave cases of murder. One of these, Teroomaly, for the murder of Auromoozum, occupied the Court all yesterday, and terminated in a verdict of Guilty. The unhappy criminal was sentenced to death, but no day fixed for the execution.—*Spectator*, July 10th.

**PASSAGE TO NEW SOUTH WALES.**—A favourable opportunity now presents itself to all persons who are desirous to go to New South Wales, by the "Gaillardon," and those so disposed, have no time to lose, as the vessel has nearly all her cabins engaged. The annual arrival of this fine vessel at Madras, and the manner in which she has executed her former voyage, amply testified by the encomiums and presents bestowed upon Captain Rapson by his passengers, for his urbanity of manners, and kind attention towards their comforts, whilst leaving all their luxuries in the East for a more moderate fare in the new Colonies, can leave no doubt in the minds of persons proceeding in the "Gaillardon" of the kind reception they will meet with. We learn that Colonel Breton, 4th or King's Own, Dr. Hicks, Mr. Clerk, and several others, whose names we forgot, embarked on board the "Gaillardon," as soon as the convicts, which she has tendered for and expects, are sent on board.—*Herald*, July 10th.

**MADRAS CIVIL SERVICE LIST AND MADRAS ROAD BOOK.**—We perceive that the Male Asylum Press has published its usual quarterly list of the Civil Service, corrected down to the 30th June, 1839, and we have been favoured with the Madras Road Book compiled from the document of the Quarter-master General's Department, from the same press, to which its execution does much credit. The map of the Madras Presidency is one of the best executed specimens of Indian lithography we remember to have seen; while the accurate tables of roads and distances, and the comprehensive, though brief account of the statistics of each Collectorate, with the regulations for the bungalows, hire of palankeen bearers, bullocks, &c. render the book a truly valuable compendium for all travellers within the limits of this Presidency.—*Ibid.* July 13th.

## APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, CHANGES, &c.

### Civil and Ecclesiastical.

*Fort St. George, May 27.*

**Appointment.**—A. P. Forbes, Esq. to be commissioner for the drawing of the government lotteries for the present year, in the room of Mr. W. H. Bayley, proceeded to the Cape.

*May 28.*—**Appointments.**—Lieut. A. R. Thornhill of the 5th L. C. to act as aid-de-camp to the right hon. the Governor, until further orders.

At the recommendation of His Excellency the Commander-in-chief, Capt. J. Brown, of ber M.'s 57th regt. to act as aid-de-camp to Major-Gen. Sir R. H. Dick, K.C.B. and K.C.H. commanding the centre division of the army, from the 18th instant, during the absence of Capt. Fyfe, ber Majesty's 17th regt. on service, or until further orders.

Lieut. G. J. Russell, of the 5th Light Cavalry, is to be considered as having acted as aid-de-camp to the right hon. Governor up to the 28th instant, the date of his departure to assume his appointment under the Commissioner for the affairs of the Rajah of Mysore.

*May 31.*—**Appointments.**—M. Murray, Esq. to act as sub-collector and joint magistrate of Salem, during the employment of Mr. Ogilvie on other duty, or until further orders.

J. R. Pringle, Esq. to act as head assist-

ant to the collector and magistrate of Chingleput, during the absence of Mr. Swinton, on leave, or until further orders.

Dawson Mayne, Esq. to act as register of the zillah court of Cuddapah.

*June 7.*—**Appointment.**—The Rev. Morant, A. M. J. to be chaplain at Belgaum.

### Military.

*Fort St. George, May 31.*

**Appointments.**—Senior Deputy Assist. Commissary-General Capt. John Hill, to be assistant commissary-general, vice Major Armstrong, removed on promotion.

Senior sub-assist. Commissary General Capt. Alex. Shirreffs, to be deputy assistant commissary general, vice Captain Hill, promoted.

*June 7.*—**Promotions.**—17th N. I. Sen. Ens. C. Gill, to be lieutenant vice Nixon, deceased; date of commission, 26th May, 1839.

Capt. J. T. Baldwin, of the Horse Artillery, is permitted to proceed to Bombay on private affairs, with leave of absence from the 26th inst. to the 25th Aug. 1839.

### BIRTHS.

At Royapooram, on the 5th instant, the lady of the Rev. M. Winslow, of the American Madras Mission, of a son.

## DEATHS.

At Masulipatam, on the 24th May, Kauvaly Vencata Letchmiah, a very learned and respectable Brahmin, for many years the associate and friend of the late Col. Mackenzie, Surveyor General of India, in whose antiquarian researches Kauvaly Vencata Letchmiah took a deep interest, and devoted himself to the favorite pursuits of his patron, with a degree of zeal and ardour that could not have been surpassed. His services, indeed, were so highly appreciated by government as to procure for him a pension of 300 Sicca rupees monthly, together with a palankeen allowance, and the Tanna-

noor Jagbeer yielding an annual income of 4000 rupees. Kauvaly Vencata Letchmiah was well known, and in correspondence with many of the learned in Europe; he was a member of the Royal Asiatic Society, and President of the Hindoo Literary Society of this presidency.

At Bangalore, on the 5th of May, Mary Jane, the infant daughter of Captain C. Pooley, 28th regt. N.I.

At Cannanore, on the 28th May, Eliza, the beloved wife of Lieut.-Col. Isaacs, 30th regt. N.I.

At Madras, on the 3d inst., Mrs. Richardson, the beloved wife of Mr. John Richardson.

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## Bombay.

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**PARTY AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE.**—On Thursday evening there was a large and brilliant evening party at Government house, which was marked by the introduction of an agreeable novelty, and for this reason we notice the circumstance. The young ladies of His Honour's family performed, in a very finished style, some choice pieces of instrumental music, accompanied by Mr. McCoombie's band. This was the second occasion on which Lady Carnac was at home since her arrival, and the entertainment, which was varied by dancing, was extremely elegant and spirited.

On the first "at home," owing to the very unfavourable weather, the attendance was rather thin; and the third proposed "at home," we regret to say, will not take place, owing to His Honour's medical advisers having recommended a *sejour* in the Deccan, not on account of general ill health, but owing to an affection of the eyes, to which he was subject when formerly in India, and which once, and but once only, attacked him during his long residence in England. It does not, however, interfere with his close attention to business. His Honour leaves Bombay for Poonah on Tuesday morning next, accompanied by his family; so that Poonah is likely to be a very gay station this season, notwithstanding the great number of its usual military residents now absent with the army. We conceive the presence of Sir James in the capital of the Deccan, at the present moment, as very desirable on public grounds, since it will tend to check, and we hope altogether to allay, the unquiet spirit which has been working there for some months past. Mr. Willoughby and Colonel Wood accompany the Governor as secretaries.

His Honour will attend a Special General Meeting of the Bombay branch of the Royal Asiatic Society this day, at 3 P.M., and in the evening Sir James and Lady Carnac will entertain a party at dinner.—*Bombay Times*, 20th July.

The Chief Justice proceeded to Poonah on Thursday evening. His lordship is about to be united, at that station, to the amiable and accomplished daughter of the Lord Bishop of Bombay.—*Ibid*.

The following appointments have been recently made in the Supreme Court.

E. Davies, Esq.—Barrister, and late Acting Clerk of Small Causes, to be Master in Equity, vice William Fenwick, Esq. resigned and gone home.

C. A. West, Esq.—Solicitor and late Attorney for Paupers, to be Clerk of Small Causes, vice Davies.

J. P. Larkins, Esq.—Solicitor and Clerk to the Insolvent Court, to be Attorney for Paupers, vice West, in addition to his other appointment.—*Ibid*.

The death of Mr. Rousseau has left two legal vacancies; the Assistant Prothonotaryship and Assistant Common Assigneeship,—each in the gift of the respective heads. Mr. Compton has bestowed the latter appointment upon Mr. Fitzroy, the Deputy Sheriff:—the former Mr. Philippe has not yet definitely filled up.—*Ibid*.

We understand that, in consequence of the impossibility of effecting sales of opium

here, it is the intention of holders to send a portion of what is now in store here back to Malwa, where better prices are procurable, provided the sanction of the Government can be obtained, which, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, we have no doubt will be readily accorded. The quantity now here is 11,695 chests. We hear that the price in Malwa is 600 rupees.—*Ibid.*

We have much pleasure in laying before our readers the reply to the letter addressed to the Governor General by certain merchants of this Presidency engaged in the opium trade.

To L. R. Reid, Esq.

Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, under date 13th ultimo, forwarding copy of a petition, with a letter to the Governor General, from certain opium merchants of high character and credit at Bombay.

2. The Governor General deeply sympathizes with these gentlemen in the difficulties in which untoward events have involved them.

3. His lordship will most readily forward copies of the document enclosed in your despatch to the Honourable the President in Council, with the expression of his anxious wish that the claims, which have been so strongly urged by the Memorialists, may, without loss of time, be submitted, through the Home Authorities, to H. M. Government, with an urgent representation of the trying position in which the Memorialists, and others connected with the opium trade, have unfortunately been placed.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) T. H. MADDOCK,

Simla, 1st July, 1839.

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India,  
with the Governor General.

We have been favoured with extracts of letters from Candahar to the 12th June, by which it appears that orders had been issued for the march of almost the whole army towards Cabool, in the following order, viz.

On the 15th June, the Commander in Chief and Staff, accompanied by the Bengal Column, the Cavalry Division, Bengal Horse Artillery, and one Troop of the Bombay Horse Artillery.

On the 16th, His Majesty Shah Shoojah, and the Political Department, accompanied by the Shah's Force, and one Troop of the Bombay Horse.

On the 17th, the Bombay Infantry Brigade, 4th Brigade Bengal Infantry, and Poona Auxiliary Horse, together with the Heavy Ordnance, and Field Hospital, under the command of General Willshire.

The extracts with which we have been furnished express doubts as to all the troops being able to move so soon; and though, we observe it stated in the Supplement to the Delhi Gazette of the 10th instant, on the authority of a letter from Quetta, dated the 20th June, that the respective troops had actually moved on the above named dates, we are at a loss to conceive how the intelligence of the march from Candahar on the 17th, could have reached Quetta before the 20th June. The 48th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, a Troop of the Shah's Artillery, a Regiment of his Infantry, and Captain Alderson's Rissallahs of Horse were to remain to garrison Candahar.—*Bombay Times, 24th July.*

ENSIGN STANLEY.—We understand that Ensign Stanley, of the 5th Regiment N. I. succeeds Captain Le Messurier, of the 23d, as Aid-de-Camp to Major General Salter, C. B., Commanding the Poona Division of the army.—*Ibid.*

TRANSFER OF OFFICERS TO THE INVALID ESTABLISHMENT.—Among the General Orders published in this day's paper, will be found a very strict regulation for the future transfer of officers to the Invalid Establishment. We also observe the proposed relief of corps for the ensuing season.—*Ibid.*

LIEUT. JESSOP.—A letter from a correspondent at Rajcote informs us of the death of Lieut. Jessop, of the 12th Regt. N. I., on the 10th instant, while en route to Porebunder, to which place he was proceeding for the recovery of his health. This casualty promotes Ensign Wood, (now on furlough to Europe) to the rank of lieutenant.—*Ibid.*

Every man interested in the security of our Indian empire must view the present position of our affairs with no small share of anxiety. Very late accounts from the eastward indicate that a war with Burmah is inevitable. The King has marched three considerable armies towards our frontier, and in other respects his conduct has been of a character to leave us no alternative but to break with him. It is probable that after the rains the Madras Government will be called upon to furnish the necessary force for this service, to act in conjunction with the fleet under Admiral Maitland. The expe-

rience gained in the last war will give us a great advantage in this, and the result is in no respect doubtful. In Rajpootana matters are in a very unsatisfactory state. Colonel Sutherland, the resident, has called upon Government for a large force to subjugate at once and effectually these turbulent states, and next cold season this affair will be settled. The troops stationed at Nusseerabad and Neemuch will suffice for this service. The Punjaub is likely to become the scene of civil strife. No sooner did the death of the old Maharajah reach the Sikh army destined against Cabul, than the whole broke up and scampered off, leaving Colonel Slade with a few followers stockaded at the mouth of the Kyber Pass. So much for the value of the Sikh alliance. The young King, Kurruk Singh, however, shows some vigour, and hitherto has succeeded in preventing anything like an outbreak. This, however, is certain, that for some time the Punjaub must be a source of great anxiety to the Indian Government; and not of anxiety only, but of expense, as a large force must be maintained on the frontier to be ready for every contingency. In Nepaul we also require to be on the watch, the people being greatly disaffected towards us, and only waiting a favourable opportunity to strike a blow. But it is not from our ancient connexions alone that we have to fear annoyance at present; the Ameers of Scinde have been detected in holding correspondence with Dost Mohamed, and as they are a treacherous and most profligate race, and their territory enables them to control the navigation of the Indus. Government, there is every reason to believe, has determined completely to put them down; indeed, it is much to be regretted that Sir John Keane had not done this *en passant*. The news from the army is not very important. According to one account, the whole force, with the exception of a Bengal regiment of native infantry left to garrison Candahar, was to march on Cabul about the 17th of June. Another account is, that the Commander-in-Chief had received advices of a large Persian force being on the march against Herat, and if this were placed beyond all doubt, a portion of our troops would certainly be despatched for the protection of that place. Provisions had been collected with great difficulty, and it was still doubtful whether it would be possible to place the army on full rations.

The Chinese and Persian questions remain *in statu quo*. They, too, may be regarded among the number of our present embarrassments, though more properly questions for home decision. But they act injuriously upon our domestic broils, as giving disaffected parties grounds for talking, and not very respectfully, of our power, which has been made to appear contemptible in both cases. The King of Siam, in imitation of his celestial neighbour, has issued an edict, putting an end in like manner to the sale of opium in his dominions.

The Waterwitch left Calcutta on the 15th for Aden, with a mail of 5000 letters. No advices as yet of the progress of the Ariel with Captain Elliot's despatches.—*Times*, 23d Sept.

## APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, CHANGES, &c.

### Civil and Ecclesiastical.

#### TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT, REVENUE.

*Bombay Castle*, July 15, 1839.

Mr. W. Simson, collector and magistrate of Sholapoor, is allowed leave of absence for the number of days by which he exceeded the period allowed by regulation for travelling from Belgaum to Sholapoor, of which station he took charge on the 21st ult.

*Bombay Castle*, July 17, 1839.

Mr. C. E. F. Tytler, to be assistant to the collector and magistrate of Ahmednuggur.

By order of the Hon. the Gov. in Council,  
L. R. REID, Actg. Chief Secy.

#### JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

The Judges of the suddur dewanee adawlut have pleased to issue a sunnud, bearing date the 1st inst., to Azum Satoor Rao, appointing him moonsiff at Hippurga, in the zillah of Poona.

By order of the Hon. the Gov. in Council,  
J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Sec. to Gov.

#### JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

*Bombay Castle*, July 17, 1839.

The Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to notify, in conformity with section 7, regulation 8, of 1833, that the Acting Judicial Commissioner for the Deccan and Khandeish, may be expected to arrive at the stations comprehended in his ensuing circuit, under the following dates:—

Doohlia . . . . . 15th August, 1839.

Ahmednuggur, 2nd Sept. „

Poonah . . . . . 23rd do. „

By order of the Hon. the Gov. in Council,  
J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Sec. to Gov.

### Military.

#### GENERAL ORDERS BY THE HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

*Bombay Castle*, July 16, 1839.

No. 388 of 1839.—The following temporary arrangements are confirmed:

Lieut. Glasse, of the regt. of Artillery, to act as Line Adjutant at Ahmednuggur, on the departure of Ensign M'Grigor from the station.

Capt. Grant, of the regt. of Artillery, to take charge of the office of Executive Engineer at Ahmednuggur, on the departure of Capt. Turner from the station, on leave.

Lieut. K. Jopp, of the 16th regt. N. I. to take charge of the treasure chest at Dapoollee, on the departure of Lieut. Honnor, of the 4th regt. N. I. from the station.

No. 389 of 1839.—The following appointment is made:

3d regt. N. I.—Lieut. H. Richards, to be adjutant, vice Haselwood, resigned the situation, date of appointment, 10th July, 1839.

Lieut. A. M. Hazelwood, to act as Quarter Master and Interpreter in the Hindoostanee language to the 3d regt. N. I. during the absence of Lieut. Crawford, on field service.

No. 390 of 1839.—So much of the government general order (No. 336) of 17th ultimo, as appoints Assistant-surgeon Cahill to act as deputy medical store-keeper, to the Scinde Reserve Force, is hereby cancelled.

No. 391 of 1839.—Lieut. G. B. Munbee, Assistant Inspecting Engineer, Northern Division of the Army, employed on detached duty at Surat, is allowed leave of absence from the 1st to the 31st proximo, to visit Rajcot on private affairs.

By order of the Honourable the Governor in Council,

E. M. Wood, Lieut.-Col.  
Secretary to Govt.

July 20.—No. 394 of 1839.—The Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to pass the following rules relative to the transfer of officers from the line to the non-effective branches of the service.

1st. All applications from officers for removal to the invalid establishment must be submitted through the prescribed military channels.

2nd. Officers, who from age, wounds, or decline of health, are unfit for active service, are, upon application to that effect, entitled to be removed from their corps in their respective ranks, to the invalid establishment.

3d. The application must be supported by the following certificates:

Medical Certificate.

I ——— do hereby certify, that I have attended ——— during ——— and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, he is permanently disqualified for the performance of further effective service, and that such disqualification has not been occasioned by intemperance, or other irregular habits.

(Signed) ——— Regtl. or Station Surg.  
(Countersigned) ——— Superintending Surg.

Certificate of Character.

I do hereby declare, that I believe the conduct of ——— to have been at all times that of an officer and a gentleman.

(Signed) ———

Commanding the Regiment or Station.  
(Countersigned) ———,

Commanding the Division.

4th. When officers have exchanged or been transferred from corps, they must produce certificates of character in the above form from officers commanding the several corps from which they were transferred.

*Bombay Castle, July 22, 1839.*

No. 395 of 1839.—The following temporary arrangements are confirmed:—

Capt. H. James, of the 18th regiment N. I., and Ensign W. G. Arrow, of the 9th regiment N. I., to act as interpreters, the former to the right wing, and the latter to the left wing of the 14th regiment N. I., until further orders.

Lieut. J. M. Glasse, to act as Quarter-Master to the 1st battalion of artillery, during the absence of Lieut. Ayrton on duty to the Presidency.

Lieut. R. H. Young, of the 2nd Grenadier Regiment N. I., to act as Quarter-Master to that regiment, from the 4th ult., vice Hart, promoted.

Lieut. P. C. N. Amiel, of the 1st Grenadier regiment N. I., to act as Adjutant to the left wing of that regiment, from the 12th April, 1839, while detached from Headquarters.

Capt. W. J. Ottley, of the 2nd regiment Light Cavalry, to act as interpreter to that regiment, vice Marriott, resigned.

No. 396 of 1839.—The following promotions are made:—

| <i>Regiment of Artillery.</i>                                                  | <i>Date of Rank.</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Capt. and Brevet-Major James Cocke to be Major,                                | } 8th July, 1839.    |
| Lieut. and Brevet-Capt. H. Stamford to be Captain,                             |                      |
| and 2nd Lieut. E. Welland to be 1st Lieut., in succession to Willock, deceased |                      |
|                                                                                |                      |

The under-mentioned officer to be ranked from the dates specified opposite his name, vice Welland, promoted:—

Second Lieut. W. C. Outhwaite.—Rank in the regiment, 8th July, 1839, ditto in the army, 11th Dec. 1838.

No. 397 of 1839.—The under-mentioned gentlemen are admitted to the service in conformity with their respective appointments, by the Hon. the Court of Directors, as a cadet of infantry, and as an assist.-surg. on this establishment. The cadet is promoted to ensign, leaving the dates of their commission for future adjustment.

No. 869.—Mr. Wm. Fleming Sandwith, Infantry, arrived at Bombay 6th July, 1839.

No. 182.—Mr. John Craig, Med. Est., arrived same date.

*Bombay Castle, July 23, 1839.*

No. 398 of 1839.—Ensign Duncan Milne, of the 24th regiment N. I., is appointed Commissariat officer with the force at Karrack, from the 26th ult., vice Creed, who resigns the appointment.

By order of the Hon. the Gov. in Council,  
E. M. Wood, Lt.-Col. Sec. to Gov.

By Major-Gen. Sir J. F. Fitzgerald, K.C.B.

July 20.—With the sanction of Government, the following reliefs of corps will take place during the ensuing cold season, unless otherwise ordered :—

8th reg. N. I. from Satara to Baroda ; 11th N. I. from Bhooj to Ahmedabad ; 12th N. I. from Rajcote to Bombay ; 14th N. I. from Ahmedabad to Rajcote ; 16th N. I. from Bombay to Satara ; 20th N. I. from Baroda to Bhooj.

Capt. J. S. Leeson, of the 4th Troop Horse Artillery, is attached to do duty with the head-quarters of the brigade at Poona, until the season will permit of his proceeding to join his troop on field service.

July 23.—Capt. J. T. Leslie is transferred from the 1st Battalion Artillery to the 1st Troop Horse Brigade, vice Cocke promoted, and directed to join on being relieved at Karrack by an artillery officer, whose name is directed to be immediately submitted by the Commandant of Artillery.

Ensign W. F. Sandwith, lately admitted to the service, is attached to do duty with the 8th regiment N. I., until further orders, and directed to join.

*General Orders by the Hon. the Governor in Council.*

#### MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

*Bombay Castle, July 25, 1839.*

No. 399 of 1839.—The following promotion is made :—

12th N. I.—Ensign E. Wood to be Lieut., vice J. Jessop, deceased, with date 10th July, 1839.

The under-mentioned officer is ranked from the dates specified opposite his name, and posted to the 12th regiment N. I., vice Wood, promoted.

Ensign J. S. Kemball, Regt. rank 10th July, 1839 ; Army rank, 11th Dec. 1838.

No. 400 of 1839.—Ensign H. Stanley, of the 5th reg. N. I., is appointed Aid-de-camp to Major-Gen. J. Salter, C.B., commanding the Poona division of the army, vice Capt. Le Messurier, resigned.

By Major-Gen. Sir J. F. Fitzgerald, K.C.B.

July 27.—With reference to Government General Order, No. 400 of 1839, Ensign Stanley will remain with his regiment dur-

ing the service upon which it is at present employed.

With reference to General Order No. 1, of the 23rd inst., Capt. N. Lechmere, of the reg. of Artillery, will proceed to Karrack by the earliest opportunity, for the purpose of relieving Capt. Leslie.

A Brigade Order by Lieut.-Colonel W. Spiller, commanding Scinde Reserve Force, dated 18th inst., appointing Serjeant Howe, of Her Majesty's 40th regiment, to act as chaplain's clerk to the force, vice Acting Corporal Violette, removed, is confirmed.

July 30.—Major J. Cocke (late promotion) is promoted from the Horse Brigade to the 2nd battalion of Artillery, and directed to join the head-quarters of the battalion at the Presidency.

Major Cocke will, on the opening of the season, proceed to Ahmedabad, and assume command of the artillery serving in the northern division of the army.

Capt. Rowland, of the 2nd Troop Horse Brigade, will conduct these duties from the date of Major Willock's decease, until the arrival of Major Cocke.

The officer commanding at Asseerghur will be pleased to assemble a Native General Court-martial at that station, for the trial of such prisoners as may be brought before it, and to nominate an officer to officiate as Judge-Advocate, to whom lists of evidences are to be sent.

All parties are to be duly warned, and they are hereby ordered to attend the Court.

The following officers have leave of absence, on medical certificate, to proceed to Bombay :—

Artillery.—Captain M. F. Willoughby, from 12th July to 31st Aug.

Lieut. W. Massie, from 30th June to 31st Aug.

Eur. Regt.—Major J. T. Osburne, from 12th July to 31st Aug.

#### MARINE.

*Bombay Castle, July 12, 1839.*

No. 37 of 1839.—Lieut. Jenkins is appointed to act as assistant to the superintendent of the Indian navy, until further orders.

*Bombay Castle, July 13, 1839.*

No. 74 of 1839.—The following temporary appointments and arrangements are confirmed.

Lieut. Webb, from the Hugh Lindsay, to the command of the steam-vessel Atalanta, from the 13th of May last.

Lieut. Campbell, from the Atalanta, to the temporary charge of the steam-vessel Hugh Lindsay, from the 13th of May last.

Lieut. Campbell, to the temporary charge of the steam-vessel Atalanta, from the 6th of May last.

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Mr. Midshipman Drought, from the Hastings to the schooner Constance, from the 16th of May last.

Mr. Midshipman Manners, from the Hastings to the Hugh Lindsay, from the 16th of May last.

Mr. Midshipman Woolaston, from the Hastings to the Atalanta, and to perform the duties of mate, from the 16th of May last.

Messrs. Nesbitt, Pratt, and Timbrell, midshipmen, proceeding to join the Gulf Squadron by the Hugh Lindsay, to be accommodated with a passage on board that vessel, from the date of the sailing of the vessel.

Mr. Assist.-Surgeon Williams, proceeding to Karrack, to be accommodated with a passage on board the Hugh Lindsay, from the date of sailing of that vessel.

Lieut. Jenkins, from the Hastings, to take charge of the steam-vessel Indus, as a temporary measure, from the 15th of May last.

Mr. Berthon, proceeding by the Hugh Lindsay as a witness at the trial of Mr. Assist.-Surgeon Williams, to be accommodated with a passage to Karrack on board the Hugh Lindsay, from the date of the sailing of that vessel.

Mr. Dawson, purser, proceeding to join the Clive during Mr. Stockham's absence on sick certificate to the presidency, to be accommodated with a passage to the Persian Gulf on board the Hugh Lindsay, from the date of the sailing of that vessel.

Mr. Berthon, from the Hastings, is placed in temporary charge of the iron steam-vessel Indus, to fit her out, from the 11th of May last.

Mr. Grew, gunner of the Atalanta, to be transferred to the Master's Attendant Department, as Acting Pilot, from the 16th of May last.

Mr. F. Jones, acting gunner, from the superintendent's office, to join the Atalanta, vice Grew, from the 18th of May last.

Mr. J. Mills, late superintending engineer, to be accommodated with a passage to Suez by the Hugh Lindsay, from the 19th Jan. to the 10th of Feb. last, at the Warrant Officer's Table.

By Comdr. R. Lowe, of the H. C. Steam-vessel Atalanta..

Capt. Foster, of the Engineer Corps, to

be accommodated with a passage on board the Atalanta, from Aden to the Presidency, from the 26th of April to the 5th of May last, at the Commander's Table.

Mr. Walpole, sub-conductor, to be accommodated with a passage on board the Atalanta, from Aden to the Presidency, from the 26th April to the 5th of May last, at the Warrant Officer's Table.

By the Senior I. N. Officer in the Persian Gulf.

Mr. Midshipman Nesbitt, to the charge of the schooner Frolic, from the 2nd to the 7th of July last.

By Comdr. J. C. Hawkins, of the Company's Sloop Clive.

Mr. Purser Stockham, of the Clive, from Karrack to the Presidency, on medical certificate, to be accommodated with a passage on board her Majesty's sloop Cruiser, from the date of the sailing of that vessel.

Bombay Castle, July 16, 1839.

No. 75 of 1839.—Mr. Henry Ralph is admitted to the service, in conformity with his appointment by the Hon. the Court of Directors, as a volunteer for the Indian navy. Date of arrival at Bombay, 6th July, 1839.

No. 76 of 1839.—The Hon. Company's steam-vessel "Kilkenny" having arrived, the Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to direct, that she be received into the Indian navy, and put into commission under the name of "Zenobia."

By the order of the Hon. the Governor in Council,

E. M. Wood, Lt.-Col. Sec. to Gov.

## DEATHS.

At Bombay, on the 23rd May, Mr. John Eilbeck, aged 35 years, son of the late Capt. B. Eilbeck, deeply regretted by all who knew him.

At Bombay, on the 28th May, Harriet Nunnette, the infant daughter of Capt. Duff, 16th regt. N. I.

At Bombay, on the 2nd July, Dr. Brennan, editor of the Bombay Times.

## Arracan.

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From the letter of an officer in Arracan we make the following extracts:—

"18th June.—Cholera has been raging in several of our districts for the last two months; great numbers have fallen victims to this scourge, yet I have had the satisfaction of saving some hundreds of lives by the administration of European medicines. Those whose Mug scruples could not be overcome, and who took native drugs, have all died; the alarm has been so great that trade and commerce are at a stand, the markets being unattended by buyers and sellers. In some places the dead have been left unburied. It first broke out this year at Deny, which town it destroyed, thence to Akyah, and through that district came to Ramree Sandony; Kyuk Phyoo has escaped. This season has been very sickly in consequence of the early setting in of the rains, they commenced on the 24th of April and continue without cessation.

"Boyle will return from Calcutta very soon, he has made great improvements in Arracan, and I trust will live to continue what he has so ably commenced.

"Benson I should say is by no means a good Burmah diplomatist, for as to the finesse of the Bentinck school, it is all humbug with the natives, and Burmans in particular, for they can out-lie and deceive any European. It is much more advisable to try no manœuvring with them; but to come to the point at once, there is nothing like being open and determined with Indian princes. I do not believe there is any chance of a war. Tharawaddie is on good terms with the Assistant Resident, yet B——n could not manage his majesty, with his high character for *Bentinckean* diplomacy.

"If you meet any of the American missionaries, and they are most of them good men, it may be news for them to hear, that the Comstocks and Stilsons are comfortably housed, and permanently reside at Ramree.

"Tharawaddie has become quite a man of fashion, and I suspect is much more occupied in playing billiards and drinking bohea with M'Cloud than in thinking of hostilities with the British."

Coming as the above does from a gentleman whose official situation affords him ample opportunities of collecting information, and who is well versed in Burman affairs, it confirms in no small degree the hill reports of proceedings in Ava; for, from a private letter from Simla, in which we have every reason to confide, it is quite evident Lord Auckland dwells much on the necessity of commencing operations against his golden footed majesty; and if this be the case, it rather proves the Indian proverb that "under the lamp is not the lightest part of the room."—*Agra Ukhbar*, July 20.

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## Burmah.

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By the H. C. Schooner "George Swinton," which arrived from Rangoon on Friday last, we understand advices have been received from the Residency of Amarapoora up to the 25th ult., but we have not heard that they contain any thing of importance beyond the confirmation of the report of the king's sons being about to quit the capital for Rangoon, Bassein, and Toung-ngoo, each with an army under his command, but of what number to consist does not seem to be well known. Great military preparations are said to be making at the capital, where the sound of artillery and musket practice is to be heard from morning till night. The artillery-men are said to have made great progress towards hitting a mark, their skill being encouraged by rewards, and their want of it punished with the rattan. We have not heard that the object of all these preparations has been distinctly given out, though it is easy to make a guess at it when we consider the destination of these royal brothers. We ought to be on the look-out here and at Arracan, or we may be taken some day unawares, and suffer considerable injury and annoyance. We have certainly been always very loth to entertain the idea of our

being actually attacked in our own quarters, but it would be wrong to continue over confident in our security from all annoyance, considering how much encouragement we have given to the Burmese, by the apathy with which we have put up with the multiplied insults offered to us. We understand the princes were to quit the capital about the middle of the present month, and as this sort of gentry are not usually very quick in their motions, but take the opportunity of effecting some gentle squeezes on their way, we suppose they will not reach their destination before the middle of July, and what they are to do then, report sayeth not. If not designed against us, this movement of the king's sons is a very curious one, for we cannot perceive any other object that can be had in view. If the king merely designs to employ his sons in the civil government of the country, why send them all in this manner into the southern portion of his kingdom, where one of them would suffice, while the others might be employed in other directions? These young hot-bloods, stowed so thick in so small a space, will soon be fighting among themselves, unless some other kind of fighting has been carved out for them; besides, it appears to us to be quite contrary to Burmese custom to send princes of the blood to rule over small provinces. A simple Woon-douk has sufficed hitherto to rule over the whole extent of country now to be parcelled off to three of the greatest personages in the whole kingdom. There must, then, be some ulterior object in view, and if that object be not one of hostility towards us, we should like to know what other can be attributed to the measure. Can it be to put down domestic rebellion? The last that occurred has been smothered in blood. Can it be to resist an anticipated attack from us? We have surely given no cause to anticipate such an attack, for we have of late been as quite as lambs. A very short time will solve the question.—*Maulmain Chron. June 42.*

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## Ceylon.

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The Galle shipping report, of the 30th ult., mentions the arrival there of the "Sultan's Boat," from Maldives, 10th June, having on board Captain Cleland and seventeen men of the ship, "James McInroy" of Glasgow, wrecked on Suadiva, the southernmost of the Maldives on the night of the 19th April last; the lives of all on board were saved. The "James McInroy" left Bombay on the 4th of April with a full cargo of cotton and pepper.—*Herald, July 5.*

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## China.

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(From the Chinese Repository.)

**MILITARY SPIRIT AND STRENGTH OF THE CHINESE.**—Of ready effective military strength, the Chinese seem to have no idea: even at the city gates, where it is considered that a strong and responsible guard is always kept, foreigners, who go from curiosity to stare in, find no opposition more than from a coolie-looking man, armed with a pair of breeches, a fan, and perhaps a rattan whip. The approach of foreigners to deliver petitions is always a signal for a muster of the military, who come in, one by one, undressed, unarmed, unprepared, and half asleep; while piles of brown felt-caps, and heaps of shabby-looking red and yellow long jackets, bearing the character of "courage" on a large scale, before and behind, are brought through the gates, for the adornment of the heroes of the hour; by-and-bye, straggles in an officer, generally the largest sized man that can be found; some bows, sheaves of arrows, and rusty swords, make up the warlike show; evidently up for the nonce to astonish and awe "the barbarians," who might, did they please, be in the governor's harem before the guard could awake from their slumbers, and put on their courage with their uniform.

One striking proof of the inefficiency of this guard is, the fact of the closing the city gates at early hours during the winter, frequently as early as 4 P.M., to prevent the

irruptions of banditti; who, nevertheless, often succeed in getting into the city, unopposed, and undisturbed, while sacking whole streets; of which many instances may be read in the early numbers of the Canton Register. Those who accompanied Mr. Gibb in his expedition to the city gate, in December last, to insist on the release of the officer of the "Faerie Queene," can bear witness to the truth of the above account; the swords then produced were so rusty that the soldiers could scarcely draw them; the only man, in fact, wounded by them, was one of the soldiers, who received a cut in the face from the back hand of the hero who stood before him. The same want of discipline, and the same carelessness, appear in every page of Gutzlaff's and Lindsay's voyage up the north-east coast, where even, if possible, things seem yet worse; among other things of the sort, a display of the military is described, where a general fire in line was attempted, but so badly executed, that the soldiers themselves joined in the laugh set up by the foreigners, who were present, witnessing their manœuvres. See also the rest of the voyages of Gutzlaff on the coast of China *passim*.

While such would appear to be the actual state of the soldiery, it would seem strange to many, that the accounts of the two unhappy embassies teem with statements of the high discipline and fine appearance of the soldiers among whom they passed; but, even supposing that neither of the writers of the works, published since, laboured under a delusion, (and of this, particularly of Mr. Ellis, in the last embassy, few can doubt,) the frequent accounts of the drawing out of bodies of troops in all the cities as they passed, strikes the reader as a mere trick to dazzle or mistify the foreigners, and to impress them with high ideas of the number and power of the troops: a great body of men looks imposing, especially when in uniform; and it is far from improbable, that the Chinese supreme government gave orders to all the governors of provinces and cities, in the route of the embassy, to make as great a display as possible; in like manner, as commanders of forts obtain a capitulation and the honours of war, by exhibiting to the flag of truce an appearance of plenty and force, while starvation and weakness reign in the garrison. The constant firings at night, so much spoken of in Lord Amherst's return voyage through China, go to bear out this.

It may be true, that some of the Tartar troops yet retain something of the warlike spirit which enabled so few of them to overrun this vast empire; though, even against this, come the constant complaints of the emperors, from Keenlung downwards, as to the falling off of the military ardour, and the lessened dexterity in the use of their peculiar weapons, the bow and the sword. These complaints are often now to be found in the Peking gazettes; and it is but a short time since the viceroy of Canton, in a proclamation, stated the same fact, ordering the frequent exercise of the troops, to repair this great error. The falling off of the Tartar spirit is, in fact, in accordance with all that we are taught by the history of human nature; and the same result has invariably attended, within a few generations, the descendants of the conquerors of every soil, when once domesticated amongst, or amalgamated with, the conquered. So far has this been carried in China, that the emperor has frequently reproved in public documents, the Tartar tribes, for forgetting, not alone their military exercises, but even their language, which it has ever been the policy of this dynasty to preserve unmixed and uncorrupted.

The total insufficiency of the Chinese military force to repress any ordinary out-breaking in any part of the empire has, of late, become notorious to foreigners; and in the many insurrections, within the last eight years, on the north-west frontier of the empire, as also in many of the provinces, in the islands of Formosa and Hainan, and the hills of the Meaoutze in Hoonan, Kwangse, and Kwangtung, the Chinese always admit that treachery and gold have effected what arms failed in procuring, the return of the leaders of the disaffected to submission. In the trifling Meaoutze war of 1832, so great was the demand for, or the scarcity of soldiers, that the Tartar troops, who should always remain in the city, and the Foo-yuen's own troops, were sent off; and, even then, the whole force raised by the government did not reach, it is said, beyond 11,000 men. In Hainan, where Governor Le went in person, he had not more than 6,000. If these statements be correct, and they cannot be very wide of the mark, what became of the immense paper armies, which the Chinese are said to be able to collect? During Lord Napier's residence in Canton, it was notorious that men were hired, by the day, to pass off as soldiers, to intimidate the foreigners; and, among the heroes, were recognised discarded cow-keepers, broken-down tailors and shoemakers, and other riffraff innumerable. A nation which has recourse to such shifts, and which dresses its chief soldiers in regimentals, in imitation of tigers' skins, to terrify its enemies by their appearance and cries, can have but small pretensions to valour or military skill. We had also a curious proof of the state of discipline among the soldiers at

that time. The gang which had it in charge to watch the unfortunate Lord Napier, to blockade and starve him, such being the cowardly fiend-like plan for conquering him, were employed day and night, in smoking and gambling on the pavement in front of the factories, spread out at full length, in the indecent undress so much liked by the Chinese.

## Penang.

**HOSTILITIES BETWEEN THE MALAYS AND SIAMESE.**—After having gone to press last week, the arrival of the Steamer, "Diana," from Quedah, was announced, but too late for us to obtain any information to lay before our readers. The blockading fleet had withdrawn, after a continuance of more than four months. We understand none of the Malayan chiefs had fallen into the hands of the enemy; but it is said the whole of the country from Quedah to Purlis had been laid waste by the retreating Malays; houses, provisions, and every thing by which the enemy might subsist, or of which they might take advantage, had been destroyed. The Siamese, we learn, had not reached Purlis, when the "Diana" left that place, but were looked for hourly; even with our unfriendly disposition towards them, as being engaged in a cause which, in our eyes, can never appear otherwise than unjust; we yet can scarcely do otherwise than commiserate with them for the vexation and disappointment they must feel, at receiving at our hands a country thus desolated; induced first, by the want of faith on the part of the British towards the Malays, and, secondly, by what the Malays considered necessary to their own safety; an universal destruction to the Siamese themselves, who have neither the knowledge, the energy, the industry, nor the ability to ameliorate, except it may be through the forced labour of the Malayan prisoners, men, women, and children, they may have had the good fortune to capture, and even in this way, what is to be done in the meantime to subvert a large Siamese force?—but in the opinion of some, a consideration of that nature, is as dust before the tempest! The British alliance is the panacea for every unforeseen difficulty of the Siamese. Its talismanic powers are such, that what is past, can be immediately restored; and that where any other animal would perish from famine, the Siamese, in virtue of their alliance with us, should be overwhelmed with abundance. Practical people, however, take a somewhat different view of the subject; and when it is known that, by the middle of February, the paddy crops are reaped, and also that only one crop per annum is produced, we are not without reason in supposing the Siamese will require something more than our sympathy to retain their present footing in the Quedah territory. At a more fitting season, this will be more fully developed; till then, every one who has paid any attention to the subject, cannot avoid being impressed with the belief that the Siamese are about receiving a suitable recompense for their coalition with the English for the sole purpose, one would suppose, of exterminating a useful neighbour, and a faithful and confiding ally. That they, however, should have no cause of complaint against the English, as their faithful friends, it is stated, that the "Hyacinth," perhaps by way of counterbalance to her long inactivity, blockading the Quedah creek, par excellence called a river; paid a visit to the Lancavies, and it is reported to have forced upon and destroyed all the Malayan prahus, which unfortunately happened to be there. Unfortunately, we say, under the supposition that the Malays may navigate the high seas, and visit the Lancavies, with the same freedom and right, as any ships of her Britannic Majesty. The Company's proclamation lays no embargo on the Lancavies being visited by any description of persons, and if it did, it must have arrogated more power than the public are aware its authors possessed, either morally or legally. Should there be any truth in the report in question, the nature of the transaction need not be here characterized, nor the extent of responsibility of those engaged in it, demonstrated, as it must be sufficiently obvious to every one. There is, besides, nothing in the treaty between the English and the Siamese, to warrant, in any way, this stretch of power, and apparently unnecessary persecution against the Malays, after having once obtained the object of our original interference—the restoration of Quedah to the Siamese.—*Penang Gazette*, 13th April.

Those large and extensive premises situated in Beach-street, for many years occupied by the long-established firm of Carnegy and Co., and at present occupied by Messrs. Dunnett, Shaw and Co. were sold by public auction, on Saturday last, the 2nd instant,

and were purchased by Forbes S. Brown, Esq. for the sum of 4,220 Spanish dollars.—*Penang Gazette*, 9th March.

#### BIRTH.

At Penang, on Sunday the 28th ult., on the Highlands of Scotland, Mrs. G. Scott, of a son.—*Ibid.* May 4th.

#### DEATHS.

At Penang, suddenly at the house of Captain Bacon, on Monday night last, the 4th instant, Captain William Smart, of the brig "Anna," in his twenty-third year.—*Ibid.*

At Penang, on Tuesday last, the 2nd instant, Elizabeth, wife of J. C. Boswell, Esq., Residency Surgeon.—*Ibid.* April 4th.

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## Singapore.

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**VISIT OF A DUTCH FRIGATE, THE MAAS.**—We have had a visit since our last, of a Dutch frigate, the "Maas," Captain Von Maren, which came over from the neighbouring settlement of Rhio. She was three days in port, during which time Captain Von Maren and his officers were received and entertained in the most friendly and hospitable manner by the honourable the Governor. She left yesterday morning, we understand, to continue out on a cruise of six weeks, before returning into port at Sourabaya. Having received some report of pirates being in the neighbourhood of the Tumbilans, her first visit would be to that group.—*Free Press*, May 16th.

**PIRACY IN THE STRAITS.**—We omitted to notice in our last Number, the cruise of the steamer "Diana," to the east coast of the Peninsula, in consequence of a report having been shortly before brought by some vessels trading in that direction, that several pirate prahus had been seen. The steamer returned into port, without having encountered anything but the usual trading crafts, and fishing-boats; from several of which she learned that no pirates had been seen (by the natives) for a considerable period on that coast, and that no depredations had of late been committed. The fact, we have no doubt is, that piracy may be considered as done up, both in the Straits of Malacca, and on the eastern coast of the Peninsula, if only an ordinary degree of vigilance be maintained by the government. A trade, petty it is true, but still a trade, has of late sprung up between this and Malacca in common row-boats, which the intermediate seas were never, we believe, since the establishment of this settlement, looked upon as secure enough to admit being carried on—and there is no doubt that this intercourse, trifling though it may be in itself, is important, as a proof of the effectual nature of the recent operations against piracy in the Straits—effectual, we mean, for the protection of the native trade—for, let our trading vessels, under something of the same kind of apprehension which makes the thief dread "in every bush an officer," discover pirates by the score in every voyage through the Straits, and let them sometimes receive rewards of silver plate, and what not, for repelling supposed piratical attacks, because native vessels sailing together in fleets for their own protection, will sometimes approach suspiciously near—yet there never was a case, since the foundation of this settlement, of a European vessel being captured; and we believe not one of a European vessel being even attacked, by pirates in the Straits of Malacca. It is owing to the representations of ill-informed and injudicious writers, who know nothing about the matter, and seek information in every quarter but the right one, that such extravagant notions have gone abroad respecting the Malay pirates of the present day. We would scarce give a horn spoon, much less a bushel of silver ware, to any decently-manned and armed merchant-man, as a reward for beating off the best half dozen prahus that have sailed the seas for many a-day. As to the Illanouns or Sooloo pirates, the dressing administered to a fleet of them last year by the steamer, is likely, we think, to render them less enterprising in their excursions towards the Malay coasts, than heretofore.—*Ibid.*

**OPIUM SEIZURE AT SIAM.**—Accounts have reached this, during the week, which, taken together with the circumstances noticed in our Number of 4th April last, show, we think, plainly enough that the government of Siam is acting under the influence of

that of China, with respect to the trade in opium. It appears that a Sampan pukut, which sailed from this, having nineteen chests of opium on board, besides a large amount in tecals, was seized at the mouth of the Meinam by a government boat, after a contest in which six men on board of the pukut were killed; they having believed, or chosen to believe, that the Siamese vessel was a pirate, and resisted in consequence. Although the letter of the Siamese laws prohibits the importation of opium, this is the first instance which has come under our notice of an attack having been made by Siamese cruisers on vessels supposed to have opium on board. In a memorial addressed to the Emperor of China, by the Viceroy, Foo-yuen, and Hoppo of Canton in 1832, regarding the opium trade, it is said that the "Indian territories belonging to England, are not like Cochinchina, Siam, &c., with whose kings we might communicate, and desire them to issue commands, prohibiting the opium to be brought." We have no doubt that the seizure in question results from the expression of a desire by the Chinese Government that opium should be prohibited in Siam, and we may thus see that the market for the drug is likely to be narrowed, everywhere but in the Archipelago, by the measures of the Chinese Government; to which, unfortunately in this respect, the power and authority of China do not extend.—*Ibid*, May 23rd.

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## Malacca.

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**THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.**—We hear that extensive and radical changes will, ere long, be effected in the polity of these settlements; and that the reductions intended to be made—for that such is the nature of the changes cannot now be disguised—will seriously affect the efficiency of their future civil and judicial administration. We understand one of the primary objects of these intended changes will be the abolishment of the Governorship, or its existence on a very reduced salary; although we can never bring ourselves to believe that the Court of Directors will be guilty of so glaring an injustice to those servants who stand next in succession for that dignity, when they consider their long and faithful services during the time that some of the eastern settlements were in embryo. The next department that will be affected by these alterations is that of the Resident Councillors, whose salaries, after the death, removal, or retirement of the present incumbents, will be greatly modified. It is also thought that the situations of High Sheriff, and Registrar, will be abolished (that is, so soon as the retirement of the gentleman who fills the latter situation will permit it,) and letting their respective deputies perform the duties of those offices at each station. The doing away with the professional judgeship! and last, not least, the shutting up of the Queen's, and substitution of Company's Courts, on a principle similar to those now in operation in the Mofussil!!

That the East India Company may be very anxious to effect as great a saving as the limited revenues of these settlements will permit, we do not doubt; and our only surprise is, that they have not attempted these reductions sooner! We know of none that would be seriously objected to by the community of the Straits, except it be the shutting up of the Queen's Courts, and doing away with the professional Judgeship. True, we have a charter settling the constitution of our Courts, and that under the *Sign Manual* of one of the late Sovereigns of England; but what guarantee have we that such an authority will be respected, when we daily see the Indian Legislative Council setting aside acts of the British Imperial Parliament, or making them subservient to its own emanations! Would the practice of the Mofussil Courts suit the peculiar circumstances of these settlements, composed of a motley fluctuating population, which, like a troubled stream, is always on the move? Ask the natives themselves, how would they relish the changes alluded to? and mark their answer. Are they intended to benefit the governed? we think not; and we must know but very little of the people of these settlements if they remain passive observers of changes that will seriously affect their own interests. And until the people of India shall have obtained their own local legislatures; until they shall be possessed of the same representative forms of government as are now in operation in the Crown colonies, we must not look for fair or impartial legislation in British India, or expect that the welfare or interests of the people will be cared for!—*Weekly Register*, March 21.

## Mauritius.

INTRODUCTION OF FREE LABOURERS FROM MADAGASCAR.—Dr. Bergsten has addressed us a letter, in which he strongly opposes himself to the introduction into this colony of free labourers from Madagascar. Upon several points he therein refers to we perfectly agree with him. We think, for instance, that the native of Madagascar, little accustomed to agricultural pursuits, would with difficulty be induced to submit to the discipline and regularity of work indispensable to his condition as a hired field-labourer. We consider, therefore, that if it were permitted to the colonists to choose between the natives of Madagascar and those of India for employment upon their estates, they would not hesitate to give the preference to, and exclusively to engage, Indian coolies. This is so true, that in the petition which the inhabitants of Mauritius have recently addressed to the Queen, it is the permission to introduce Indians which they principally solicit. But that is not the present question. The object immediately to be considered is, how to get in the ensuing crop, for which the means we now possess are inadequate, and to enable us to effect which we cannot reasonably hope that the introduction of Indians will be authorized by Government in sufficient time. It is this consideration alone that has suggested the idea of obtaining permission to introduce, for employment solely during the coming crop, a certain number of natives of Madagascar, for whose being sent back at its expiration to their own country proper security should be afforded. We should therefore have preferred that Dr. Bergsten had treated the question in that light alone, and not in the view in which it can be considered only in the event of the restriction upon the emigration of Indians being continued—a supposition which it is impossible for us to admit, especially since the sensation produced in England by the late deplorable intelligence from the West Indies has become known to us, and since we have learnt that at Trinidad the introduction of free labourers from abroad has not only been authorized, but encouraged by the local Government. We will go further even, and say, that we are firmly convinced our friends in England will have succeeded in procuring for us the removal of the prohibition to the emigration of coolies from India long before any reply can be received by us to the address which we have lately transmitted to them.

Dr. Bergsten is therefore wrong in supposing that his fellow-colonists placed any fixed or continued reliance upon the natives of Madagascar for the future cultivation of their estates. They look to their assistance merely for the purpose of getting in the standing crop, and as the only means of avoiding the ruin with which otherwise they are likely to be overwhelmed. We conceive, therefore, they are adopting a very natural precaution, and one in opposition to which no valid argument can be raised.—*Le Mauricien*.

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## Australia.

### SYDNEY.

SAFE ARRIVAL OF THE PASSENGERS BY THE "DESPATCH."—We have great pleasure in announcing that Mr. Street and the other persons belonging to the "Despatch" are safe in Sydney, having arrived from Newcastle by the steamer "Tamar" on Saturday evening.

It appears that after the long-boat and jolly-boat parted company, as reported by Captain Pritchard, the long-boat, according to the agreement entered into between the parties upon leaving the ship, continued her course for Howe's Island, which she reached on the ninth day after parting company with the other boat.

The sufferings of the unfortunate people were of course very severe. They encountered several heavy gales of wind, in one of which the brace and pintle of the rudder were carried away, which caused the most stout-hearted amongst them to despair of ever reaching the island: but it pleased God that when they least expected it the

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weather should become moderate and favourable. Notwithstanding the greatest care was taken of the provisions, for the last five days they had scarcely either bread or water, and suffered severely from want. To add to their distress, three of the seamen became delirious, and while in that state were obliged to be watched narrowly, and and were sometimes so frantic that it was feared they would injure the frail boat.

They arrived at Howe's Island on Friday, the 22nd of March, having been eleven days at sea in an open boat. They were very kindly received by the natives upon Howe's Island, and also by several white men who were there. One of the white men had been left behind by the "Woodlark" whaler, and fortunately that vessel arrived at Howe's Island for the purpose of picking up the man that belonged to her, shortly after Mr. Street and his party arrived. Captain Grimes, of the "Woodlark," behaved in the kindest manner towards the whole party, whom he took on board his ship, and immediately bore up for Newcastle, where he arrived on Friday, and putting the whole party ashore in his boats, resumed his trip. Mr. Street speaks in high terms of the kindness of Mr. Jackson, the Newcastle Harbour Master, who exerted himself to his utmost for their comfort, and the inhabitants of Newcastle subscribed 9*l*. for the sailors. On Saturday, the whole party embarked on board the "Tamar" Steamer, and arrived in Sydney that evening: every one belonging to the "Despatch" being now in safety.

Mr. Street is of opinion that when the "Governor Bourke" picked up the jolly-boat, the long-boat could not have been more than twenty miles distant, and it was only from the jolly-boat being the better sailer, and going more to windward, that caused them to part company.

The long-boat was left at Howe's Island.

The following is a list of the passengers and crew in the long and jolly boats of the unfortunate vessel.

Names in long-boat,—Passengers: Mr. and Mrs. Street, and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Timothy Hogarty, Christopher Moha, Jane Hoyata, Lydia French, Wm. Wover, Thomas Todd.

Crew: Peter Stewart, mate, John Ward, second mate, Alexander Bowman, carpenter, John James, steward, Henry Slate, cook, Wm. Owens, Wm. Abbot, Edward Shorter, John Norman, seamen, and Samuel Dillon, boy.

Names in the jolly-boat.—Capt. Pritchard, Dr. M'Farlane, Mr. Bentley, passenger, Wm. Richards, John Carnie, John Rowlands, Robert Williams, and George Russel, seamen.

The ship, we understand, was insured in 4,000*l*.; Messrs. Cooper and Holt, Salting and Garrard, and Mr. Street, the shippers of the wool, had insured—the first to the amount of 8,000*l*., the second, 4,000*l*., and the third, 1,000*l*. The oil, about 150 tons, we believe, was not insured. The loss sustained falls on the Insurance Offices in England and Mr. Street, consequently the Colonial Insurance Companies lose nothing by the catastrophe.—*Sydney Herald*, 2nd April.

(From the *Sydney Gazette*, 14th April.)

ADDRESS TO SIR G. GIPPS, AND HIS REPLY, ON HIS VISIT TO MAITLAND.

To His Excellency Sir George Gipps, Governor of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

WE, the inhabitants of Maitland and its vicinity, beg leave to express our sincere satisfaction at your Excellency's arrival in this district.

Having already given expression to our feelings on your appointment to the high office which you hold, we will not, now, intrude upon your time, farther than to say, that we greatly admire your unwearied application in the discharge of the arduous duties of your office, and that we are fully convinced of your sincere and anxious desire to promote the best interests of the colony.

We regret that the long-continued drought exhibits the district in an unfavourable light, but we feel assured that your Excellency will make allowance for this calamitous circumstance, and will attach to the district that importance which from its position and the fertility of its soil it really possesses.

It is therefore with unfeigned pleasure, we repeat, that we view your Excellency's arrival amongst us, because we hope that it will be the occasion of your suggesting and sanctioning arrangements calculated to increase the prosperity and the comforts of the inhabitants.

[Here follow the Signatures.]

GENTLEMEN,—I beg leave to return you my best thanks for the kind welcome which you have given me to the flourishing district of Maitland, the first glance at which as

sufficient to convince me that the high reputation it enjoys for the fertility of its soil and the spirit of its inhabitants, is not an undeserved one.

The long-continued drought of the present season is an evil indeed to be deplored, but not one which is to dishearten or discourage us; and if we occasionally suffer from the want of rain, we ought not the less to bear in mind, that for many of the peculiar advantages of this country, we are indebted to the dryness of its soil; and that were the climate a moist one, the country would not in its natural state afford pasturage for our flocks and herds, or be accessible, as we find it, even on its remotest districts, to the enterprize of man.

Gentlemen, I thank you very sincerely for the conviction with which you say you are impressed, of my sincere desire to promote the general interests of the colony, and, I beg to assure you, that I shall esteem myself most fortunate if my presence now amongst you can be made in any way productive of advantage to your town or district.

*Maitland, April 3, 1839.*

GEO. GIPPS.

*(From the Sydney Gazette, 9th April.)*

The "Vittoria" spoke the "Fawn," of London, in January last, off Kingsmill Group, with 1930 barrels sperm oil, bound home; also the "Lunar" brig on the 1st March, off Rotumah, with 540 barrels sperm oil, which latter vessel reported the "William," Captain Forth, in December, with 1300 barrels sperm oil; "Tigress," Williams, 500 barrels sperm; "Richmond," American, 45 months out, 1300 barrels sperm; "British Sovereign," Spurling in Oct., with 70 barrels of sperm.

THE SCHOOL OF ARTS, SYDNEY.—It is just six years since a few persons who were interested in the subject, with the Rev. Mr. Carmichael at their head, commenced holding meetings for the purpose of establishing a Mechanics' Institute, and the success of their arrangements will be seen from the fact of there being now upwards of 620 members belonging to the Institution, and that the income for the year 1838 was 673*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*

The report of the Committee for the past year is now before us, and it speaks very encouragingly of their prospects. While they lament that they were unable to procure the delivery of Lectures on subjects more immediately within the sphere of a Mechanics' Institute, the Committee are justly proud of the following list of Lectures delivered last year, viz. :—

Three Lectures on Chemistry, illustrative of its theoretical principles, and their general application to the Phenomena of Nature—by Dr. Nicholson.

Two Lectures on Chemistry, as applicable to the arts, and social economic purposes—by Mr. Hollinshed.

Three Lectures on Poetry and the Drama—by W. A'Beckett, Esq.

Two Lectures on Paleography, or the origin, ancient method, and materials of Writing—by the Rev. John Saunders.

Three Lectures on Zoology—by G. Bennett, Esq., F.L.S.

One Lecture on Botany—by — Armstrong, Esq., Botanist to Her Majesty's Expedition to Raffles Bay.

One Lecture on Architecture—by Mr. John Bibb.

One Lecture on Phrenology—by F. L. Wallace, Esq., M.D.

One Lecture on Mechanics—by Mr. Sea.

Two Lectures on Grecian Antiquities—by W. T. Cape, Esq., Head Master of the Sydney College School.

One Lecture on Meteorology—by Dr. Nicholson.

Of Mr. A'Beckett's Lectures on Poetry, the Committee speak in the following justly eulogistic language :—"Any attempt on the present occasion to eulogize the literary or scientific merits of the gentleman who delivered these lectures would be unnecessary, and unacordant with his feelings. It may suffice to observe, that deeply imbued with the poetic temperament, Mr. A'Beckett succeeded in infusing into his lectures a spirit and character altogether congenial to the subject they were intended to illustrate. Presenting a short critical analysis of most of our earlier great leading poets, examples were adduced illustrative of the peculiar style of each author, or as affording exemplifications of the most exquisite and impassioned specimens of the poetic art. It were certainly difficult to say, whether the appropriateness of these specimens, the refined and highly cultivated taste evinced in their selection, or the eloquent and enthusiastic language in which the ideas of the lecturer were closed, were most calculated to elicit applause. The announcement with which these lectures were concluded, that a fresh series would be re-commenced on the British Drama, you need not be informed, was received with the most lively satisfaction. The fulfilment of the pledge thus given, will

create an additional debt of gratitude on the part of the members of the Institution, to the learned gentleman by whom it was given."

Respecting the present state of the Society, the Committee say—

"We have the gratifying announcement to make, that the names of six hundred members stand inscribed in their register. This fact, when the population of the town of Sydney is taken into consideration, can scarcely be less surprising than gratifying to every individual anxious to witness the growth of intelligence throughout all classes of society. The list of members necessarily includes a large proportion of individuals unconnected with that class to whose exertions it owes its origin and its particular designation. To the circumstance of its having assumed a character more comprehensive than that originally contemplated in its establishment, a great proportion of the success that has attended its progress is undoubtedly referable. Whilst the institution may fairly challenge enquiry as to the character and demeanour of all its members in the various positions they occupy in society, it has had the good fortune to enlist in its members individuals belonging to all the several classes out of which the respectable part of our anomalous community is constituted. Recognising in itself no distinctions but such as belong to merit, and ambitious of no other support than that grounded upon intellectual superiority, it is nevertheless a legitimate cause of congratulation, that, in its design, it should be found successfully to unite in the promotion of its objects, men of all ranks, of every creed, and of every national or political bias."

The Committee is in expectation of obtaining a piece of land from the Government, for the purpose of erecting suitable buildings upon—the house they at present occupy being upon land held under a building lease. A site in the continuation of Pitt-street, near the place where the Union Bank is being built, has been promised; which, from its central situation, will be admirably adapted for the purposes of the institution.

The principal donations made to the institution, in the past year, were—a complete suite of geological and mineralogical specimens, from Dr. Nicholson; one hundred and fifty volumes of books, from Mr. W. H. Moore; a pair of large globes, from Bishop Polding; and a collection of ancient coins, from Mr. Rupert Kirk. These coins are, we believe, the only collection of the kind in the colony; and consist of—a series of Roman Imperial coins, from the date of Nero to that of the Emperor Honorius; a collection of Roman consular denarii; a collection of Greek coins, consisting of an Athenian tetradrachma; a coin of Philip of Macedon; a tetrabolion of Rhodes; a drachma of Alexander the Great; a didrachma of Thasus; a tetradrachma of Phillippi; two specimens of Burmese coins; and a collection of copper tokens, from the dates 1580 to 1700.

From a tabular statement of the accounts since the formation of the Institution, it appears that the yearly income of the Society was—in 1833, 148*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*; 1834, 154*l.*; 1835, 164*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*; 1836, 711*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* (including a grant of 300*l.* from the Government); 1837, 536*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*; 1838, 673*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*

We are glad to find the Institution in such a flourishing condition, and we hope that it will remain so—for Institutions of this kind we look upon as auxiliaries to Temperance Societies.—*Sydney Herald*, 12th April.

#### PORT PHILIP.

NAVIGATION.—Directions for entering Kohrio Bay, Geelong.—A buoy has been placed on the Spit, or ridge of sand that extends from Point Henry across the entrance—another on the Spit off the Bird Rock—a beacon with a blue and white flag on the bar—and a buoy in the fairway after crossing the bar, in three fathoms water—with about twenty beacons on the larboard hand, from the second to the fairway buoy. Vessels entering Geelong with a leading wind should steer for the buoy off the Bird Rock, leaving it on the starboard hand; continue on nearly the same course for the buoy on the Spit, leaving that on the larboard hand; then steer direct for the fairway buoy, and when abreast of that you are clear of all shoals. Respecting the ridge of rocks, the bearings at present, having been taken by compass, may not prove quite correct. The ridge of rocks are about 400 yards long by 50 broad, with seven feet water on the shoalest at low tide, but two fathoms all round it. It lies N. E. of Point Wilson two miles from the shore. This danger may be easily avoided by never running into less than three fathoms when standing for the north shore.—*Melbourne Advertiser*.

A Sawyer's Company has been established at Melbourne, the object of which is to supply the settlement with timber.—Recent refreshing rains have been productive of great benefit to the farmers.—Mr. S. Craig has been appointed Postmaster at Melbourne, with a salary of 200*l.* per annum.—It is said that the latest accounts from

South Australia are by no means favourable.—A new track between Melbourne and Geelong has been discovered; and, as is said, will prove highly beneficial to the residents.—The river Yarra Yarra, in its course to the sea, and nearly at the point where it disembogues its waters into the bay, receives a tributary stream which, from the brackishness of its flood, has been, from its very discovery, usually denominated the Saltwater River. This name is naturally calculated to mislead those unacquainted with the real fact of its rising amongst the ranges in the interior, a perfectly sweet fresh-water stream, and of its preserving that character until within the influence of the salt tide, which rushing round the neck of land formed to divide the two rivers, makes its way with such impetuosity far up the bed of the stream; in some part of the lands on either side is nothing better than a bitter unproductive marsh, though the soil beyond is of the richest description. This tract has been left upon the chart of the principal surveyor as a waste piece available for no useful purpose. Lately, we understand, a gentleman who formerly belonged to the surveying department, has devised a most ingenious plan to check the progress of the tide for the future, and allow the fresh water from above to make its way down, and render the ground on either side saleable from the water frontage it will possess. Not being thoroughly acquainted with the designs, we cannot pretend to offer any opinion beyond the general one, of its proving a work, when accomplished, that will both confer a benefit on the public, and draw the most deserving praise on the individual. The Government indeed will, we trust, act with more liberality than to reward him with mere empty praise; a section on the river is the least that they could grant him. But, says the Gazette, our observations are somewhat premature, we shall be happy to receive further information from any person acquainted with the undertaking.—*Sydney Herald*, 15th April.

NEWSPAPERS IN AUSTRALIA, VAN DIEMAN'S LAND, &c.—Sydney has now eight newspapers:—"The Sydney Gazette," "The Australian," "The Sydney Monitor," "The Sydney Herald," "The Colonist," "The Commercial Journal," "The Sydney Standard," and "Bent's News;" of these, four are published three times a-week, two twice a-week, and two weekly. Hobart Town has six weekly newspapers:—"The Hobart Town Courier," "The Colonial Times," "The Tasmanian," "Murray's Review," "The True Colonist," and "The Hobart Town Advertiser." Launceston has four weekly newspapers:—"The Launceston Advertiser," "The Cornwall Chronicle," "The Colonial Record," and "The Launceston Journal." Port Phillip has two weekly newspapers:—"The Port Phillip Gazette," and "The Port Phillip Patriot." At South Australia there are three weekly newspapers:—"The South Australian Gazette," "The Southern Australian," and "The Port Lincoln Herald." At Swan River there is at least one weekly journal,—"The Perth Gazette," or Government paper.—*Sydney Gazette*, April 25.

WRECK OF THE ANN.—We regret to learn, that on Sunday, the 14th instant, the "Ann," schooner, belonging to Mr. W. H. Chapman, was wrecked on the bar of the M'Leay River, and the vessel and cargo, the latter valued at upwards of 300*l.*, totally destroyed. Mr. Chapman, we understand, had sold the vessel, subject to her arrival, for the sum of 750*l.*, but the wreck renders the sale void; his loss, on the present occasion, will consequently fall very little, if at all, short of 1000*l.* Mr. Chapman has been particularly unfortunate in his shipping speculations; his losses from shipwreck, and other causes, having, we are informed, within the last two years, amounted to upwards of 8000*l.* At one time, no less than five vessels belonging to Mr. Chapman were ashore on the coast; the "Adventure," "Sally," and "Priscilla," at the Manning River; the "Margaret and Mary," at Wollongong; and the "Blackbird," to the southward of Jarvis' Bay. The Insurance Companies refuse to grant policies of insurance on the small vessels employed in the coasting trade, the loss consequently falls entirely on the owners.

We copy the following country intelligence from "The Australian."

MAITLAND, APRIL 17.—Maitland, and its immediate neighbourhood, have, within the last week, been providentially blessed with copious rains, but, I regret to inform you, it is only partial, as places no further than Black Creek have hardly had a drop. However, at present, the ploughs are busily at work, and farmers alive, after their long inaction. I wrote you, in my last, that the bushranger so recently captured at the Wollombi, through the exertions of the late chief constable, M'Dougall, had escaped from the Maitland lock-up; and I am now happy to inform you, that he has since been captured, having been discovered hid under the long bridge, at Campbell's Hollow, to the west of the town. This is a fortunate occurrence, as he was one of as desperate a gang as ever infested the neighbourhood. The escape of this rascal, so long a pest to the

settlers, was allowed, during the absence of the Police Magistrate in Sydney, and in which time no other magistrate was present to attend to his duties, which has entailed considerable trouble to parties having business at the Police Office. Rumours of the most ridiculous kind have been afloat on the Hunter, stating that the indefatigable Police Magistrate of Muscle Brook had been murdered, and if any such report has reached Sydney, it will most assuredly create much anxiety to his friends; I am happy to say the report is wholly without foundation.

A Mechanics' Institution and Subscription Library, on the principle of the Sydney School of Arts, is being organized in Maitland, on a very liberal scale. It is anticipated that much pleasure will be derived by the inhabitants when this society is brought to maturity.

Provisions of all kinds are on the rise here. Flour, 50*l.* per ton, maize 10*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*, and beef, 6*d.* It is anticipated, from the scarcity of grain here, that these ruinous prices must still increase during the winter.

We have had several days' rain here; the accounts from the upper districts are also favourable; rain has fallen, and continues to fall in abundance, the river in the upper districts being now a running stream. A fortnight since you might have walked for miles on its bed, without seeing a drop of water. The bushrangers are committing sad havoc; scarcely a dray passes without being robbed. Accounts from New England state that they have been very daring there; a number of settlers have armed themselves and gone in pursuit. Reports are in circulation that Mr. Mayne, the Black protector, has been ill-treated by the Blacks, but whether true or false, I cannot say. The farmers are busy ploughing and getting in wheat as fast as they can, as now there is every prospect of a wet season. The barley that has been sown is already up, and looks well; and grass is springing up everywhere, so that we do not fear any want of food for the winter for our cattle and horses, if the frost keeps off. Tuesday was the licensing day, but it stands adjourned until next week, why, I cannot say; a great number of persons were kept standing there until two o'clock, and then told they might go away and come again next Tuesday. Why is this? A second magistrate is sadly wanted here; several cases have been adjourned for two or three days, in consequence of only one magistrate being present. Settlers are dancing attendance from one court-day to the next, to their great loss and annoyance; and it frequently happens offenders are let off, solely on this account. One gentleman, a storekeeper at Morpeth, has been up three times to Maitland to prosecute a female for shoplifting, and because she happens to be a convict, it requires two magistrates to hear the case; it is doubtful if he will again come up, as the police magistrate could not tell him with certainty when a second magistrate would be present; thus, one of those pests of society will be liberated, to re-commence her depredations on the public. I think I must send you occasionally a few police reports to stir up the authorities, if matters are not altered, as the public are the sufferers. Our roads are in a shocking state; all communication between Newcastle and Maitland (by land) is now at an end. A dray fell into one of those traps, yclept bridges, and the bridge was obliged to be sawn in pieces, before the bullocks and dray could be got out. I believe His Excellency had a narrow escape of being upset near the same spot. We hope His Excellency will carry the suggestion of the inhabitants of West Maitland into effect, by allowing one half the street to be proceeded with, instead of the whole width, viz., ninety feet through Maitland, and that Major Barney will give the necessary orders forthwith, as the winter is now coming on, and from the sample we have before us, our streets will be impassable. If the suggestion was carried still further, and the worst places through the town mended first, it would be a still greater boon. By the bye, Mr. Editor, when is the new iron bridge to be built over the creek? I believe it is two years since the materials were said to have been written for to England; if a flood should come, the temporary bridge will be swept away.

YASS.—Extract of a letter from eighty miles south-west of Yass, dated April 10th. "Messrs. Hardy, Campbell, Sturt, and Stein started on Wednesday last for South Australia, with a large herd of sheep and cattle. We had a shower of rain yesterday, and it is now threatening heavily for more, and I hope it may soon fall, or I do not know what is to become of us, as many persons have been compelled to leave their homes for want of water; in fact, in this part of the country, starvation is staring every one in the face; I do not know how soon I shall have to 'flee into the wilderness' in search of pasturage and water for our sheep and cattle. Three bushrangers visited Mr. Butterworth's station, called Arthuret, last week, broke open all his boxes, and took a quantity of tea and sugar; they have been heard of since on Cunningham's Creek.

Several of our neighbours' sheep are dying, not from disease, but want of sustenance; grass there is scarcely any; the face of the country is like a barren waste; the roots of the herbage seem almost destroyed, from the long-continued drought. I hope, however, to give you a more flattering account in my next. I understand the Blacks have been killing cattle on the Murray; I believe Mr. Jobbins has suffered considerably."

**BERRIMA.**—Extract of a letter dated Berrima, April 18:—"The only news I have to forward you is, that I regret to state that in this part of the country we have been much harassed by bushrangers. On Thursday last, three armed bushrangers stopped a dray about half-a-mile distance from Berrima Bridge, and had the audacity to bale up the three men which were in charge, to the shafts of the dray, and rob it of all the property with which it was loaded; they had a cart and horse with them, in which they deposited the plunder, and made for the bush. The constables went in pursuit, but met with no success; at present the mounted police are out after them, and there is every reason to hope they will soon be captured. If the constables in this part of the country were to idle less of their time away in the sly grog shops, and keep a sharp look out for the marauders who infest the town of Berrima, it would be more beneficial to the good folks who reside there. I am happy to state, that for the last fourteen days we have had plenty of rain, gentle and refreshing showers; the appearance of the country is at present fresh and green, and looks very healthy. Wheat sown about fourteen days since, has already made its appearance. I anticipate we shall have an abundance of barley in our district; the water-holes are fast filling up, and the pasture presents a very good face, and tends to make us all better pleased than we were some time since. Wheat maintains a very high price in the country districts, as also maize. The recent rains have injured our roads; it is to be hoped the government will pay some attention to the state of Razor Back. No information has, as yet, been elicited relative to the four men who were prowling in Bong Bong district, and those who paid Mr. Farmer, the publican, a visit.—*Sydney Gazette, April 25th.*

#### MARRIAGES.

On Saturday, the 20th April, by the Rev. W. Cowper, at St. Philip's church, Sydney, by special license, Henry Moore, Esq., to Miss Elizabeth Sholes Johnson, both of Fort-street, Sydney.

At St. Philip's church, by the Rev. W. Cowper, Mr. Joseph Banks, master carter, of Clarence-street, Sydney, to Mrs. Mary Brown, widow, of Kent-street, Sydney.

At Cragnoethan, North Shore, by the Rev. W. M'Intyre, A.M., Mr. William Kerr, of the "Sydney Gazette" Office, to Caroline, eldest daughter of the late Mr. M'Candlish, of Liverpool.

By special license, 18th April, at Windsor, by the Rev. H. T. Styles, Archibald Little, Esq., to Miss Susan Sophia Bell, daughter of Lieut. Bell, Royal Veteran.

#### BIRTHS.

On the 1st April, the lady of T. C. Breillat, Esq., of a daughter.

#### DEATHS.

At his residence, Pitt-street, on Tuesday morning, April 15, Major Marley, Barrack-Master General of New South Wales, aged 47, universally regretted.

On Tuesday morning, 9th April, at her residence, Bridge-street, aged 38, Jemima, wife of Mr. Alexander Fraser, after a long and painful illness of twelve months.

At Elizabeth-street, Sydney, on Wednesday, the 10th April, the infant daughter of Donald M'Intyre, Esq., of Cayuga, aged 10 months.

On the 11th April, at the residence of S. A. Bryant, Esq., King-street, of consumption, Thomas Titson, Esq., of Brisbane Grove, Paterson River.

On Wednesday, the 27th April, at Keswycke, Blanche, youngest daughter of Mr. John Kennedy, after a short illness, aged 11 months.

At her residence, Kent-street North, on Saturday, the 30th March, Mary, the wife of S. M. Burrows, Esq., aged 46.

At his residence, Pitt-street, after a short illness of nine days, aged 43, Mr. James Chandler.

## VAN DIEMAN'S LAND.

*(From the Sydney Gazette, April 24.)*

Lady Franklin had proceeded to Port Phillip. Her ladyship purposes coming to Sydney overland, attended by Mr. Elliot, A.D.C., and Captain Moriarty, R.N.

The civil commandancy at Launceston is abolished.

A public meeting has been held at Launceston, at which a series of resolutions was carried vindicatory of the character of the colony, and expressive of the earnest hope of the meeting that the existing system of transportation in general, and of assignment in particular, may be continued. A meeting for a similar object has been held in the Hamilton district.

Two new journals have been started at Launceston—the “Colonial Record” and the “Launceston Journal.”

A. Stephen, Esq., the new Puisne Judge for New South Wales, was expected to leave Hobart Town for Sydney, on the 20th inst.

His Excellency Sir John Franklin, in the course of his recent tour through the colony, laid the foundation-stone of a new Episcopalian church at Avoca.

Copious rains have recently fallen, and have been of considerable benefit throughout the colony. The pastures have been much improved; and sheep, partly from this cause, have risen, and prices are now refused, which in the drought would have been readily accepted.

The amount of the last wheat crops in Van Dieman's Land is said to be considerably under an average return; potatoes are almost a total failure. It is said to be impossible to fix a price for wheat; as holders advance their demand for the article in proportion to the offers to purchase. Large importations, however, were daily expected; and, in such expectations growers and holders of grain are recommended to consider well whether they will sell at the present prices, or hold on until the market is glutted.

Mr. Sams is gazetted Commissioner of the Supreme Court, in the room of Mr. Mulgrave, who has resigned.

The “Rebecca,” of Launceston, was wrecked on the 25th March, on a reef of rocks off Cape Portland, in a gale of wind from the westward, Cargo (wool) saved.

Sir John Franklin has laid the foundation-stone of a new Church at Norfolk-Plains.

A very flattering testimonial has been addressed by the inhabitants of the George Town District, to Captain Friend, on the occasion of his retirement from the office of Police Magistrate.

“THE TOWN OF MILNER. — Several gentlemen who have recently visited this fine property, express themselves in the highest terms of its capabilities. The land on both sides of the river is considered by Dr. Imley, who examined the estate a few days ago, as without exception the richest he has ever seen either in Van Dieman's Land or New Holland.”—*Murray's Review*, April, 2.

MARKETS.—The demand for Colonial produce has been remarkably brisk during the week. The last arrival from Sydney brings accounts of a continued drought, and very high prices in New South Wales. And we are sorry to hear that the crops are threshing out very far short of the expectations entertained of them, the quantity of chaff being greater than was ever known before, in proportion to the grain. Immense quantities of farm produce have been shipped, and are shipping, for Sydney. We learn from Pittwater, that most of the small settlers have sold all their wheat without reserving enough to seed the ground, and that in a few days all the wheat in that settlement will be confined to about six holders. Almost all the grain in the Colony on this side, is either shipped or bought to be shipped for Sydney. Potatoes are likely to be very scarce.

Wheat, 11s. per bushel; barley (English), 6s. 6d. to 7s. ditto; ditto (Chevalier), 7s. 6d. ditto; oats, 5s. ditto; peas (grey), 7s. 6d. ditto; flour, fine, 30l. per ton; ditto, seconds, 28l. ditto; butter, 2s. per lb.; potatoes, 8l. to 10l. per ton; straw, 4l. 10s. ditto; onions, 18s. to 20s. per cwt.; hay (unpressed), 6l. to 6l. 10s. per ton.

We have much pleasure in mentioning that Mr. W. A. M'Kay, late the Quarter-Master Sergeant of the 21st Regiment, and now Purveyor of the Queen's Orphan Schools, was presented by the Regiment on its departure for India with an elegant silver cup in token of the respect and esteem which his long and valuable services had justly elicited, and of the sincere regard with which he was personally held.—*Tasmanian*, March 12.

## HOME INTELLIGENCE.

**OVERLAND MAILS FOR INDIA.**—In accordance with the convention concluded with France for sending the Indian mail through that country, a mail will be made up in London for India, *via Marseilles*, on the 14th October; and after that time, on the 4th of every month, except when it happens to fall on Sunday, when the mail will be made up the following day.

**EAST INDIA DIRECTION.**—Mr. James Weir Hogg was elected a member of the Direction on the 11th inst., consequent on the vacancy occasioned by the demise of Mr. Josias Dupre Alexander. The following is the result of the ballot:—

|                            |     |                                |     |
|----------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|-----|
| J. W. Hogg . . . . .       | 795 | Colonel Sykes . . . . .        | 373 |
| Colonel Galloway . . . . . | 399 | Major-Gen. Robertson . . . . . | 287 |

The following are candidates in the event of a future vacancy:—Col. Sir Jeremiah Bryant, C.B., Bengal Army; Col. A. Galloway, C.B., Bengal Army; Lieut.-Col. W. H. Sykes, Bombay Army; Major-General Archibald Robertson, Madras Army; Major Oliphant, Madras Engineers.

We stated on Monday last that Sir Archibald Campbell, Bart., G.C.B., whose services in the late Burmese war were so distinguished, had been selected as the successor to Sir John Keane as Commander of the Forces at Bombay, but had declined the appointment, and that it had been conferred upon Sir Thomas Macmahon. We regret to be informed that ill-health is the ground of Sir Archibald Campbell's reluctant refusal to accept a command which, under other circumstances, he would have been so competent to undertake.—*Standard*.

Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Macmahon, Bart., K.C.B., who was relieved from the command of the south-western district of Great Britain a few months back, in consequence of his promotion in the last brevet, is appointed to the command at Bombay, Lieut.-General Sir Archibald Campbell having declined to accept the appointment.

It is at length arranged that the correspondence of non-commissioned officers and privates of Her Majesty's service shall be conveyed to and from the East Indies by the overland mails, *via Falmouth*, on the mere payment of one penny each, the letters being single, and franked by the officer commanding.—*United Service Gazette*.

T. B. Macaulay, Esq., has been appointed Secretary at War, with a seat in the Cabinet, 25th Sept.

**STEAM.—TO INDIA VIA THE CAPE.**—On Saturday, at twelve o'clock, a large party of ladies and gentlemen, scientific nautical men, captains in the Royal Navy and of the East India Company's service, assembled on board the "*Vernon*," a magnificent new East Indiaman, to witness the first experiment ever tried to propel sailing vessels of the largest class by means of steam. The voyage of the "*Vernon*" is the first practical attempt to establish steam navigation between England and India by the way of the Cape of Good Hope, and had its origin in the enterprising exertions of Messrs. Wigram and Green, the builders and owners of the "*Vernon*," to whom the present as well as future generations will ever owe a debt of deep gratitude.

The *Vernon* is built upon an entirely new construction, totally different from any other merchantman. This was requisite to the successful application of so small a power of steam to so large a ship for so long a voyage, as the space required to be allotted to the machinery and tonnage of coals had hitherto been considered an insurmountable drawback. One hundred and fifty tons now provide for the whole. The *Vernon* is one hundred and seventy feet long, thirty-six feet beam, and but twenty-two feet deep, drawing but fifteen feet six inches of water; of one thousand tons measurement, and has on board a cargo of one thousand tons. She is fifty tons larger than the *Thomas Grenville*, which draws twenty-one feet of water. The *Vernon* is fitted with a steam-engine of thirty-horse power, made by Messrs. Seaward and Co., so arranged that the whole of the boiler and the engine stand between the decks, without any portion of it going into the hold, it being placed between the main and fore hatchways, and occupying a width of about ten feet, leaving ample space for cabins on each side. The boiler being inclosed with a covering of non-conducting material, no inconveniences whatever is felt from heat in the immediate vicinity. This very covering, moreover, has the important effect of reducing the consumption of fuel one-third. The engine is upon the low-pressure principle, and calculated to make in calm weather thirty revolutions in a minute, the boilers then consuming two hundred and a half

weight of coals per hour. The engines at work produce no tremulous effect upon the vessel; her motion is that of a steady sailing ship. The paddles are small, and occupy a width of only four feet outside of the ship, fixed upon a shaft projecting about two feet six inches through, and so supported as to require neither paddle-beams, spring-beams, nor paddle-boxes; and they can be unshipped in an hour by the yard-tackles of the ship. The boilers are provided with an apparatus which totally precludes the possibility of the deposit of any salt within them, so that they can work just as long with salt water, as if they were supplied with fresh. The engine is so simple in its construction that it requires but one engineer and one stoker, who, when the steam is not employed, act as armourers on board the ship. Besides these great and valuable improvements in navigating large ships, aided by steam, the very apparatus used in propelling them, when at work, has the astonishing power of producing thirty gallons of good fresh water a-day, and which quantity may, by an augmentation in the expenditure of three bushels of coal in about twenty-four hours, be easily increased to one hundred gallons a-day. This water is sufficiently good for the stock, as also for all culinary purposes; and one of the most important and valuable considerations in long voyages.

The *Vernon* left Blackwall at half-past twelve, an hour and a half before high water, against a strong flood tide, with jib and driver set in the wind's eye, blowing very hard from the south-south-west, the engines propelling her at the rate of three knots and a half the hour, the engine performing eighteen revolutions in a minute. Upon turning the point entering Woolwich Reach she went five and a half knots an hour, the wind blowing very fresh on her beam, the engines performing twenty-five revolutions. She gradually increased her speed up to seven knots, the engines making twenty-eight revolutions, which was her greatest speed. Upon turning into two or three reaches where she brought the wind right ahead, the power of the engine alone propelled her at the rate of four knots through the water, notwithstanding the immense power which the wind had upon the masts and yards of the ship to impede its progress. The great trial of strength of the engines took place at Northfleet Hope, when it blew so hard that it was feared the anchor must be let go. However, she cleared it in gallant style, amidst the enthusiastic cheers from the workmen in Fitcher's dockyard, employed on a large steamer they are building for the Hon. the East India Company. During the trip it was very remarkable that when the canvass was set close hauled, the power the lee-wheel had in bringing the ship up to windward was so great that she stood four points to the wind's eye, so that she made a board down three different reaches, when all others were obliged to tack. At twenty minutes past three she passed the church at Gravesend, thus accomplishing the distance in ten minutes less than three hours, leaving the *Thomas Grenville* nearly out of sight, and which took anchorage off Gravesend about twenty minutes afterwards.

This successful experimental ship is likely to lead to the most important results to navigation at large, and we sincerely hope much to the advantage of the spirited owners. Indeed, it is self-apparent that in reducing a voyage at least twenty-five days, the saving to the owners must be great, and to the passengers and merchants incalculable.

Last week the *Vernon* was inspected by Sir Charles Adam and Sir William Parker, Lords of the Admiralty, and Sir Edward Parry, the Comptroller of her Majesty's steam-vessels, all whom expressed themselves in terms of the highest approbation of the external appearance of the ship, and of her equipments and appointments in every way. Sir Charles Adam while on board expressed his hope he should ere long see our line-of-battle ships fitted with similar power; and intimated a resolution to have a line-of-battle ship immediately supplied with steam power.

**LAUNCH OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S ARMED STEAMER, SESOSTRIS.**—This magnificent vessel, built for the protection of trade in the Indian Seas, was launched at Northfleet on the 11th instant, in the presence of the Directors and an immense concourse of spectators. Capt. Morelly is to have the command; and she is to start for her destination as soon as her engines (which are ready for the purpose) are fixed. It is the opinion of connoisseurs that she is admirably adapted for the intended purpose, and will be of essential service to the commerce of India.

**FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN SIR CHARLES FORBES AND THE  
BISHOP OF LONDON.**

" Ryde, 26th of August, 1839.

" Sir,—I have to acknowledge the favour of your letter of the 22d instant, in which you speak of giving publicity to the correspondence. I conclude that this expression refers only to your own share of correspondence; as I can hardly suppose that you

would proceed to publish any letter of mine on a subject not personal to yourself without my permission. I beg to state, however, that I have no objection to your publishing my letter if you wish to do so. But in that case I have to request, that after the words 'conspiring evidence,' at the end of line 15, page 1, you will be so good as to insert 'as quoted by Mr. Thornton, in his work upon India.'

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

"Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.

"C. J. LONDON."

"Fitzroy-square, 27th August, 1839.

"My Lord,—I lose not a moment in acknowledging your lordship's letter of yesterday, in reply to mine of the 22d inst.

"I trust you will believe that nothing could be farther from my intention than any want of courtesy towards your lordship in publishing your letter of the 19th in answer to mine of the 17th instant, in which I stated that 'my apology for troubling your lordship with that letter must be the regret I felt that a charge so serious, proceeding from so high a quarter, should be made here and go forth to India uncontradicted.'

"From this, I think, your lordship might naturally have inferred my intention to publish the correspondence as a matter of course. Indeed, I might be permitted to ask, in what other way could I have accomplished my object of meeting the serious charge against the natives of India, contained in the report of your lordship's speech? Had I published my own share of the correspondence only, withholding your lordship's letter, I should have been justly chargeable with want of candour and fairness.

"Adverting to your lordship's observation that the correspondence was on a subject not personal to myself, I may be permitted to remark, with all due respect, that had your lordship's speech been of a personal nature, I should have felt bound to pass it over in silence. But the subject is, in my view, of far greater importance than any question referring to myself could possibly be; and I was naturally anxious that your lordship should have an opportunity of disavowing the charge. Instead of which, you have been pleased to adhere to it, modified only by the admission, that you 'did not mean that no individuals were to be found amongst the more educated classes of Hindoos whose word might be relied upon.'

"I trust that this explanation may be satisfactory to your lordship; particularly as it appears to me that your reference to Mr. Thornton's book is clearly indicated, as well in your lordship's letter as in my answer.

"I have the honour to be, with great respect,

"My lord, your lordship's most obedient servant,

"CHARLES FORBES.

"To the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London."

"Ryde, 29th August, 1839.

"Sir,—I should not trouble you with an answer to your last letter did I not fear that my silence might be construed into an admission of the doctrine that any person has a right to publish the letters of another, without informing him, in the first instance, of his intention, or without obtaining his permission afterwards. The doing so I consider to be a violation of the common courtesies and proprieties of social life.

"There was not a word in your first letter which indicated an intention, on your part, of giving publicity to our correspondence. The object which you had in view 'of meeting the serious charge against the natives of India contained in my speech,' was to be answered by your contradiction of the charge, not my defence of it. If I had thought it necessary, in justification of that charge, to publish my answer to your letter, it rested with me to do so.

"I beg, however, again to state, that I should not have objected to the publication of my letter had my permission been asked, although I am clearly of opinion that you were not at liberty to publish it without such permission.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

"Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.

"C. J. LONDON."

"Fitzroy-square, 30th August, 1839.

My Lord,—I have just received your lordship's letter of yesterday, acknowledging mine of the 27th instant, and I regret extremely being obliged again to address your lordship; but I cannot allow my silence to be construed into an admission of your

lordship's imputation that I have been guilty of 'a violation of the common courtesies and proprieties of social life.'

"I thought that I had fully evinced my anxious desire to observe towards your lordship that courtesy which respect for your high character and station demanded.

"I now feel that I have no course left open to me, but to give publicity to this further correspondence; a course which, were there any doubt of the courtesy and propriety of it, is warranted, according to your lordship's own doctrine, by your having converted the correspondence into a personal one.

"I have the honour to be,

"My Lord, your lordship's most obedient servant,

"CHARLES FORBES.

"To the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London."

Certain members of the Oriental Club intend, we hear, to frame an address to Sir Charles Forbes, on the occasion of his spirited advocacy of the native character.

#### STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH INDIA.

In October last, a public meeting was held to discuss this question, at which meeting the following Resolution, proposed by Sir John Rae Reid, Bart. M.P., and seconded by James McKillop, Esq., was passed with acclamation.

"This Meeting is unanimously of opinion, that the present means afforded for over-land intercourse with India is totally inadequate for commercial purposes, and that for social purposes it has hitherto entirely failed to fulfil the just expectations of the people, both of England and of India." (*Cheers.*)

A Committee\* was also appointed to investigate the subject, and to make their report. Public duty was never more faithfully nor more zealously performed. The Committee made their report, it was received and adopted at a public meeting in January last, and therein they stated,

"Your Committee are of opinion, that a monthly communication, combining regularity and despatch, so ardently desired, but hitherto so unsuccessfully attempted, may be effectually secured through the instrumentality of a private association, and that by such agency alone can it be accomplished.

"In order, therefore, at once to place the undertaking in a position of undoubted efficiency to carry out the scheme with perfect success, your Committee recommend that the capital of the proposed Company should not be less than £600,000.

"To meet the annual disbursement, your Committee consider that the projectors should look for returns from the following sources, viz.: passengers, periodicals, specie, and valuable light parcels, and an annual payment from Her Majesty's Government and the East India Company, for carrying the mails and despatches to and from the several presidencies of India and Ceylon, and for a monthly conveyance of the mails to and from Gibraltar, Malta, and Alexandria.

"Your Committee are decidedly of opinion, that any Company, formed with an adequate capital for the purpose of carrying out the contemplated communication would be entitled to receive an annual sum from Her Majesty's Government and the East India Company, for a limited period, not only for conveying the mails and despatches, but also in consideration of the vast benefits, political, social, and commercial, which such international communication cannot fail to confer."

At that Meeting the following Resolutions were passed unanimously:—

"That the daily increasing importance of a quick and certain intercourse between Great Britain and her immense possessions in the East Indies, whether the subject is considered politically or commercially, renders it highly necessary that the intercourse should be sustained by a private Company, whose sole object would be to afford such means of conveyance of letters, newspapers, and periodicals, and

\* John Bagshaw, Esq.  
T. A. Curtis, Esq.  
Henry Gouger, Esq.  
J. P. Larkins, Esq.  
James McKillop, Esq.  
Captain Alexander Nairne, H. C. S.  
F. Auber, Esq.  
Captain Henderson.

J. H. Pelly, Esq.  
John Pirie, Esq. Alderman.  
Christopher Read, Esq.  
John Small, Esq.  
Robert Thurburn, Esq.  
Major Turner.  
Major Oliphant.  
P. Stewart, Esq.

such accommodation to passengers as shall ensure a constant and certain monthly communication between Great Britain, and the three Presidencies of India and Ceylon, and whose future views may be directed to the extension of that communication to the Straits, China, the Mauritius, and Australia.

"That T. A. Curtis, J. P. Larkins, J. Bagshaw, and James McKillop, Esquires, be requested to take measures for forming a Board of Direction, and preparing a Prospectus to carry out the proposed Company, and that the East India Association of London, and the respective Chambers of Commerce of Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Bristol, and Birmingham, be respectfully invited to co-operate with the proposed Company."

The gentlemen thus appointed, were selected from the Committee who had investigated the subject, and who had brought up their Report. Proceeding in the spirit of that Report, they entered into a negotiation with Her Majesty's Government, through their Chairman, T. A. Curtis, Esq., and the plan submitted to Government was approved of. Previous to its being carried into effect, it was necessary the East India Company should concur in the arrangements. The Projectors, therefore, in May last, placed before the executive of that Corporation the plan that had been approved of by Her Majesty's Government; and although no answer has been received from the East India Company, it is notorious they do not sanction, by their support to the proposed plan, the formation of a Joint-Stock Company, nor will they carry out such a scheme themselves; consequently, the present defective system is continued, prejudicial as it is to the merchant, to the manufacturer, and to the public of both empires. To rightly understand the advantages that would be gained by the adoption of the proposed plan, I will place it in juxta-position with the one in operation, and leave the community to judge for themselves.

#### *First, as to Letters.*

##### PRESENT PLAN.

Letters have to pass through France and Egypt, and they arrive at Suez in twenty days: if a steamer be there, which is by no means certain, they will in eighteen days more reach Bombay: but from Bombay there are not means to send on the whole mail at the same time, which is consequently divided into several packets, the first occupying in its transit (from the mail's arrival at Bombay to Calcutta) twelve days, the last division nineteen, causing a difference of seven days between the receipt of letters at Calcutta, which letters left the London Post-Office at the same hour. On the average, letters from London to Calcutta are fifty-four days in transit, at a charge of four shillings and eightpence for a single letter; it must also be remembered the difficulty of land-carriage from Bombay to Calcutta and Madras, prohibits the conveyance of specie, parcels, law-deeds, bulky invoices, samples, patterns, &c. &c.

##### PROPOSED PLAN.

A *guarantee* has been offered, to place three steam-ships between London and Alexandria, of two thousand tons burthen, and five hundred horse-power; and a sufficient number of the same size and power between Suez, Bombay, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta, which would convey direct to those places, not only letters, but passengers, parcels of all kinds, East India Company's and Government despatches, however bulky, with the regularity of a mail-coach, in forty-five days from London to Calcutta, at a charge for a single letter of three shillings and sixpence, showing a gain in time of nine days, and a saving in cost of one shilling and twopence for each single letter.

#### *Secondly, Passengers.*

Steamers leave London every fourth Saturday for Gibraltar; they are inadequate in size and power, and have failed in several instances. At Gibraltar, passengers are transhipped to a much worse boat for Malta; at Malta to another for Alexandria; which port they reach on an average in twenty-eight days: then comes the feverish excitement,—"Is there a steamer at Suez? If there is, will she accommo-

It is offered under guarantee, that steamers of two thousand tons, and five hundred horse-power, should leave London every fourth Saturday for Alexandria, that a vessel exactly similar should be waiting in readiness at Suez, to convey the passengers, mails, parcels of all kinds, and any quantity of baggage direct to Calcutta, calling at Ceylon and Madras; also it would meet a branch-boat at Aden, for the

date all of us to Bombay?" If she be there, and can accommodate *all* the passengers, which is by no means certain, they will arrive at Bombay in fifty-one days; from thence to Calcutta they are subject to a long land journey, at all times fatiguing; at certain seasons impracticable; but taking it at the fairest time, they will reach Calcutta from London in sixty-eight days, at a charge of two hundred and forty pounds, to which sum must be added the cost of sending their heavy baggage by some other route.

convenience of the Bombay community; but taking for argument the extreme point, Calcutta passengers would be landed in forty-five days from England at a charge of one hundred and thirty pounds, thus saving in time twenty-three days, and a cost *of one hundred and ten pounds*, to say nothing of the wear and tear of the constitution.

By the adoption of the proposed mode, the number of passengers would increase, commerce would be augmented, arts and sciences be extended, and though last, not least, the reiterated prayers and memorials of the Indian community be satisfied. To prove which, it is only necessary to observe, that, by the arrival of the last Indian mail, I have official communication, that when the plan was propounded in India, it was received with the most enthusiastic demonstration. Meetings were in progress throughout the country; and as a substantial declaration of approval, in the short space of a few days, one thousand six hundred and fifty-three shares, making *eighty-two thousand six hundred and fifty pounds*, had been subscribed for in Calcutta alone, and on which amount ten per cent. deposit had been paid into the Union Bank of that city.

To carry this plan into effect, the Projectors have required from the Crown and the East India Company a contract for a limited period, and an annual payment of one hundred thousand pounds, for which sum they engage to convey the mails to all the presidencies, and the East India Company's and Government despatches, the amount to be reduced when the net proceeds will yield more than ten per cent. to the stockholders.

The East India Company agreed with the Crown to divide the expenses of the present line, which is *from Suez to Bombay only*, and the accounts not being made up, the Chancellor of the Exchequer appropriated fifty thousand pounds, as the Government moiety for one year's expense; but although this sum was accepted by the Court, several of the Directors entered a protest against it; the amount being inadequate to the expenses actually incurred; therefore, independent of the advantage to be derived from an extended and perfect communication over the very limited and irregular system in operation, it is evident the cost to the East India Company will be diminished, notwithstanding they would largely participate in the important benefits to be derived by the proposed scheme. Why the East India Company do not come into the arrangement, it is not my business to assume; I have stated incontrovertible facts, and leave the public to judge.

JAMES BARBER,  
Agent to Bengal Steam-Fund Committee.

Since the foregoing went to press, I learn, by the arrival of the private mail, (forwarded through Mr. Waghorn's agency,) that the Calcutta List of Subscriptions for Shares in the Scheme proposed, amounted on the 15th June to *nineteen hundred and sixty, or ninety-eight thousand pounds*, deposit of ten per cent. *paid up*. The List from Madras has not arrived. I need only add, the plan merely waits for the approval of the East India Company to be carried into effect.

J. B.

#### EAST INDIA-HOUSE.

A quarterly General Court of Proprietors of East India Stock was held yesterday, pursuant to charter.

The minutes of the last Court having been read, and the Chairman (Sir R. Jenkins) having laid before the Proprietors a variety of accounts relative to the affairs, foreign and domestic, of the East India Company, which had been antecedently submitted to Parliament,

Mr. Poynder said, that at the last general Court he had taken the liberty of asking whether the Court of Directors had issued any order or dispatch on the subject of a

statement, which had been openly published, relating to an offering alleged to have been made in a heathen temple by the Governor-General of India, in conjunction with Runjeet Singh. The answer he received on that occasion was, that no such information had reached the Court of Directors, who knew nothing whatsoever of any offering of the kind; and that therefore no despatches had been sent out by the Government. Now, presuming the original statement not to have been in accordance with the fact, he had done with that subject. But he had now another question to ask, which grew out of events that had occurred on the recent death of that great personage. Though official information might not have been received on the subject, yet it was well known that very important information had reached this country with reference to events which took place on the demise of Runjeet Singh. That information was of no less amount or character than this—that at the funeral obsequies of the Maharajah four of his wives sacrificed themselves by the inhuman process of suttee; and at the same time no less than seven of his female slaves performed the same horrible act. Now, that this awful sacrifice could have taken place with the perfect consent of these unfortunate individuals, or that it might not have been prevented by a proper representation on our part, he could not believe. Whatever might be the opinion of an hon. director (Mr. Lindsay), whom he did not then see in his place, but who, he being at the time deputy-chairman, strenuously opposed a motion formerly made by him (Mr. Poynder) on the subject of suttees, and seemed desirous to keep up and perpetuate that idolatrous and abominable rite—

Mr. Mills (to order).—It was most unusual and irregular to make such remarks on an absent individual. As to the proceedings in the territories of Runjeet Singh, a perfectly independent state, the Indian Government had nothing at all to do with them, and could not interfere with them.

The Chairman did not think that it was consistent with fairness to take such a course as the hon. proprietor had done in alluding to a gentleman who was absent.

Mr. Poynder said he should not willingly, on any occasion, be wanting in respect to any member of that Court, nor would he, knowingly, do anything uncourteous; but having stated the same sentiment over and over again in the presence of the hon. director, he did not suppose that there was anything which militated against propriety in recurring to it.

The Chairman.—The hon. proprietor has attributed motives to an hon. gentleman now absent which ought not to be attributed to any man or to any Christian. (Hear, hear.) The hon. proprietor manifestly did this when he asserted that my hon. colleague harboured a wish to perpetuate this abominable rite. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Poynder said, he had attributed no motive to the honourable Director, but that of endeavouring to do his duty as an honourable and upright man. Both that honourable Director and the Chairman who presided at the period to which he referred, believed, conscientiously no doubt, that suttee ought not to be interfered with, and were thus instrumental in keeping up the system. But when he said that, if any one asserted that he meant to impute to the honourable Director, or to others, who viewed the subject as he did, base or dishonourable motives, he directly denied the correctness of the accusation. He had used the same expressions when the honourable Director was present; but he never had imputed motives to him or to any other gentleman. The honourable Director, Mr. Mills, had told them, that this immolation was an affair which had not taken place within the Company's territories, and that therefore our Government could not interpose. He should now ask, whether, if an act of this kind were meditated out of their territories, strictly speaking, they, however, being to all intents and purposes, lords paramount, they had no power to interfere to prevent its accomplishment?

The Chairman.—Certainly not. Runjeet Singh was in no way whatsoever connected with us, so as to authorise our interference.

Mr. Poynder said, he thanked the honourable Chairman for his information. He, however, thought, as the Indian Government, with Lord W. Bentinck at its head, had pronounced the abolition of suttees,—as the Government of England had sanctioned that proceeding (for it would be recollected, that when an appeal was brought against the decision of the Indian Government by certain Indians and Anglo-Indians, the King in council rejected that appeal, and refused to allow the horrible custom to be resumed,)—and when the whole of the religious public of England had expressed their satisfaction at the overthrow of such a system, he certainly thought that he was justified, under such circumstances, in asking the question which he had done, with reference to the appalling sacrifices of life on the decease of Runjeet Singh. He should now proceed with the motion of which he had given notice at the last Quarterly General Court, the

object of which was, that the petition of the Clergy of Bristol and its vicinity, addressed to the Court of Proprietors, and praying, "that the Directors' despatch of Feb. 29, 1833, ordering that all revenue hitherto derived by the Company, from the idolatrous worship of the natives of India, should cease, may be carried into effect," be taken into consideration. He had hoped, if he had received any thing like a favourable answer to an application which he had made to the Court of Directors on this subject, to have been freed from the necessity of again bringing this question under the notice of the Court. The honourable proprietor then read a letter, which he addressed on the 3rd of September to the Court of Directors, requesting to know whether any despatch had been sent out to India for enforcing the carrying into effect the despatch of the 20th of February, 1833, since the subject was brought before the House of Lords by the Bishop of London. To that application he received an answer on the 9th of September, stating, that it was not the practice of the Court of Directors to inform individuals what their intentions were with reference to matters of a public nature. He might be mistaken in supposing that he was thus answered, because the Directors conceived that they were dealing with an opponent. But nothing was further from his thoughts than the idea of placing himself in collision with the honourable Court of Directors. He was not one of those parties who, at a recent meeting, at which Lord Brougham presided, called the Directors to a pretty sharp account for their conduct with respect to India.

Mr. M. Martin (to order).—The honourable proprietor was attacking the proceedings of a society which had called together a public meeting for the purpose of considering the best means of ameliorating the condition of the people of India. I was present at that meeting, although I took no part in the proceedings; and, I must say, that nothing was urged against the Directors.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. Poynder.—Why, one single and decided feeling pervaded the meeting, that the Directors were always in the wrong ("No, no")—an idea which he conceived to be perfectly erroneous. (Hear, hear.) Some of the speakers positively stated that our connexion with India had been, through misgovernment, productive of little else, save famine, pestilence, and war. He did not coincide in that opinion; but, at the same time, he did not mean to impugn the honourable and upright feelings of those gentlemen who attended the meeting; and least of all those of Sir Charles Forbes, who appeared to have been present on the occasion. The hon. proprietor then proceeded to call the attention of the Court to the petition. With its concoction, he had nothing whatever to do. He was unacquainted with the persons by whom it was signed. It bore the signatures of sixty-one beneficed and other clergymen of the Established Church, constituting the great body of the clergy of Bristol and its vicinity. At the head of the list, stood the Dean of Bristol, and the Archdeacon of Bristol, the latter of whom was well known as one of the most active, influential, and learned individuals connected with the University of Cambridge. The petitioners stated that it was their fullest conviction that no real prosperity could attend the government of India, until it was carried on in strict accordance with their professed faith—the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ. The hon. proprietor said, he did not mean to occupy the time of the Court by proving what must be self-evident to all—namely, that it was their duty to extend to the millions, whom Providence had placed under our controul, the heavenly blessings of that religion which they themselves enjoyed. In proportion as that duty was neglected, they were open to blame; and he could prove, on this point, that the petitioners were right in complaining that the Company had not acted fully up to their duty. The hon. proprietor then went over all the proceedings which had taken place since the despatch of the Directors of the 20th of February, 1833, ordering the cessation of the Pilgrim-tax, the non-attendance of British troops at idolatrous ceremonies, and the total disconnection of the Company's government from any interference with heathen temples was sent forth, and expressed his deep regret that, notwithstanding all the efforts which had been made, the orders contained in that despatch, were still disobeyed. All the consolation they had was, that the Pilgrim-tax at Allahabad, had been done away with. But, if abolished there, why not also abolished at Juggernaut, at Tripetty, and other places? Besides, it was a grievous mistake to suppose that the Pilgrim-tax levied at those places was the only idolatrous source from which revenue was derived. Why, there was not an ablution, or a genuflexion, or he could almost say a salam, that was not a source of revenue. He did not believe that the Directors approved of this state of things; but he blamed them for their slowness in having allowed it to continue so long. To show that the abominations of Juggernaut were carried on as extensively as ever—(The hon. proprietor here read an extract from a very long letter, written by the Rev. W. Lacy, a Baptist Missionary.) In this letter, the writer dwelt much on

the fact, that the natives were impressed with the feeling that the Government did not really disapprove of their religion, since they themselves furnished the means for decorating the idol. This, observed the hon. proprietor, was the sin of the Company, that they sanctioned and encouraged the worship by "decorating the idols with broad-cloth of the most brilliant colours." The hon. proprietor then went *seriatim* through the different points of the petition, which, in effect, comprised the different orders contained in the despatch of February, 1833, and earnestly prayed that those orders should be immediately carried into effect. Having shown the inconsistency by which subsequent despatches were distinguished—those despatches forbidding, in effect, the carrying into effect the orders of February, 1833—the hon. proprietor proceeded to notice the consequent resignation of Sir P. Maitland. Addresses had been presented to that gallant officer, from civilians in Madras, who highly approved of his conduct; and, though the rules of the service did not allow military men to declare their opinions in the same way, still no less than thirty letters had been received from military men in that Presidency, expressing their warm approval of Sir Peregrine's conduct. Twelve of those parties had authorized him to make any use he pleased of their letters; and from several of them, particularly that of Captain J. A. Mount, the hon. proprietor read copious extracts. He drew their attention to those opinions, in order to show that no mischief was to be apprehended from doing that which the Court of Directors ordered to be done nearly seven years ago. He understood that lately there was a movement in Bombay respecting certain Parsee converts. And no doubt the excitement which was said to have been created, would be used as an argument to show with what exceeding caution and wisdom they ought to proceed in that and every other quarter, where anything connected with religion was brought in question (Hear, hear.) Now, he begged leave to say, that he received a statement from Dr. Wilson, the individual particularly alluded to, in an article which had appeared on the subject of the Bombay Parsees, which—

Sir C. Forbes (to order.)—This subject was not before the Court. Perhaps the hon. proprietor had better pause before he introduces it in this incidental and unexpected manner.

Mr. Poynder said, the subject had been brought under public notice, and he conceived that he had a right to advert to it.

Sir C. Forbes thought that the hon. proprietor had better forbear. He hoped most sincerely that this question would not be brought forward. It was a most dangerous subject, and, he believed, was under the Court of Directors at that moment. He hoped the hon. proprietor would leave the question in their hands.

The Chairman conceived that the introduction of the subject was quite irrelevant.

Sir H. J. Brydges inquired whether all the information on the subject would hereafter be laid before the proprietors?

The Chairman thought, after what had been said, that it would be better to drop the subject. The hon. proprietor, however, knew best whether he ought to introduce it or not.

Mr. Poynder would not, after the recommendation of Sir C. Forbes, proceed further with the subject. He must, however, say, that he had received a full and complete account of the whole of the proceedings at Bombay; and, having read it, he had no hesitation in asserting, that it met every point of the allegations directed against the individual to whom he had already alluded. He repeated, that he had no hesitation in saying, that the statement published in the *Times* newspaper of that morning was perfectly capable of refutation, and he was quite sure that an opportunity would be afforded him for that purpose. He would place himself in the hands of the honourable editor of that journal, the best conducted journal, not only of England, but of the world, and he would rely upon him for justice. Hoping that he should have an opportunity to meet the question, he should say nothing further upon it. The hon. proprietor then said, that in attaining the object which he had in view, he repudiated the idea of having recourse to anything like coercion, to anything like force. Nothing could be more unreasonable, nothing more insane, nothing more unchristian. Such a course was not required by that blessed religion which they all professed. On the contrary, that religion was positively opposed to force and coercion. All he, and those who acted with him, demanded was, that the natives should be left alone; that, with regard to their religious observances, they should be left wholly to themselves. Let them seek no patronage, no revenue from these idolatrous proceedings. Let the Indian Government only withdraw themselves from all connexion with the native worship, and that vast work of heathenism, and idolatry, and abomination, must fall down. It must fall, it must die a natural death, and then true religion would work its own way silently but

surely. (Hear, hear.) That was all that ever was sought by the best and most exemplary men amongst the missionaries, however their views and motives had been distorted and misrepresented. After eulogizing the exertions of Lord W. Bentinck, whose statue was as worthy of a niche in that court as the statues of those who had conquered India, for his abolition of suttee was a mighty moral victory—a victory over prejudice and fanaticism,—the hon. proprietor declared that the directors had, in 1833, agreed to a bond, the seal from which they could never erase. Till they showed a vigorous determination to carry out their orders of 1833, they might depend upon it that this question would never be at rest. The people of England would not be at rest—the army of India would not be at rest—until the present system, of the continuance of which the petitioners so justly complained, was totally put down by fair, by righteous, and by reasonable means, and no other means did Christianity authorize them to use. He would state in the face of that Christian country, that, in his opinion, the state of jeopardy, and terror, and danger, in which their Indian empire was now placed, was more or less the consequence of their inaction with reference to this great and important question. In conclusion, the honourable proprietor moved, “That the petition of the Dean, Archdeacon, and Clergy of Bristol, and its vicinity, presented to the Court of Proprietors, on the 19th of March last, praying that the Directors’ despatch of the 20th of February, 1833, may be carried into effect, be entered on the records of this Court.”

Mr. Hankey seconded the motion.

Mr. Fielder deprecated discussions of this kind at the present moment, friendly as he was to the extension of the Christian religion. When they had so many external enemies on the confines of India, and when their revenues had decreased in the last ten years not less than 7,500,000*l.*, he would ask, whether the Governor-General of India had not quite enough on his hands, without adding to his labour, by interfering, in a violent degree, with the religious prejudices of the natives? He wished, that instead of taking this course, they would endeavour to ameliorate the condition of the people. He wished that they would look to their worldly suffering, and endeavour, in the first instance, to forward their good on earth, instead of considering only their spiritual affairs. He was friendly to the spread of education; but, in his opinion, before you attempted to educate a people, you ought to feed them. What was the use of putting a Testament or a religious tract into the hands of a starving Irishman? No; you ought, in the first place, to fill his belly with potatoes.—(Laughter.) So he would say of all people;—first find them food and employment, and then educate them.

Mr. D. Salomons spoke in favour of the motion. He would say, let the revenue perish, but let God’s will be done. At the same time, he was decidedly of opinion that they should take no step which, by possibility, could wound or offend the religious prejudices of the natives.

Major Oliphant said, that as the statement was not disproved, that British soldiers were called on to attend at idolatrous ceremonies, he must assume the fact to be so. Now, to forego that custom, and to relieve our troops from duties of that kind, was not at all an interference with the prejudices of the Hindoos.—(Hear, hear.) In his opinion, therefore, the Court of Directors was bound to send out specific orders to the Indian Government to carry the despatch of 1833 into effect. A positive and definitive rule should be set forth, and that rule should be acted up to. Why not leave off firing any salutes at all, either for Christian, Mohammedan, or Hindoo holidays?—(Hear, hear.) By doing that they would insult the feelings of no person. They had already done much more, and he really thought that they might very well save the powder that was wasted on such occasions.—(Hear, hear.) If escorts were to be furnished at religious festivals, why should they not be selected from those who professed that particular species of worship?—(Hear, hear.) He conceived that no man ought to be called on to be present at the ceremonies of a religion to which he did not belong.—(Hear hear.) For his own part, he saw no difficulty whatever in carrying out the orders of 1833.

An honourable proprietor expressed a hope that the Court of Directors would enforce the order of 1833. It would be doing a great service to the European officers and soldiers in India.

Sir J. Bryant had not heard before that day, that any Anglo-Europeans had joined in the appeal against the abolition of suttee. Indeed, it would astonish him to learn that any interference to that effect had been made from such a quarter. Too much praise, however, could not be given to the noble lord (W. Bentinck) for his zeal and firmness in the cause of humanity, in having put an end to that most atrocious and revolting practice, and if any member of that Court should move for the erection of a monument to his memory, he would most willingly second it. He differed from many points of that noble lord’s administration in India; but in the abolition of suttee he

thought him entitled to the greatest praise for his humanity. As to neutrality on the part of our Indian Government, with respect to the religion of the natives, he agreed that it could not be too strictly observed. During his long residence in India, he had seen many striking illustrations of the extreme jealousy of the natives, Mohammedans, as well as Hindoos, at any supposed interference with their religious worship. He had been for thirty years acting under the Government of Bengal, and to him it appeared that the Government protected all in their religious worship, without complimenting any. He had, he admitted, been in error, in supposing that European officers had not been required to take a part in any of the religious ceremonies of the natives, but on reading the pamphlet published by an hon. member of that Court on the subject, he was convinced of his error, for he found that by one order the officers of a party consisting of 400 men were ordered to take a part in the Desarra procession. Of such an order, he could not approve; for it was in direct contradiction to that solemn command with which he had been familiar from his youth, "to any graven image thou shalt not bow down."

The Chairman said, that the hon. proprietor was mistaken as to the Desarra procession. It was not a religious ceremony; it was only a parade of the troops of a native prince, in which no respect was paid to any idol.

Sir J. Bryant had understood it differently. The words of the order were "to take a part in the Desarra procession." He could not, he repeated, give his sanction to any such order, from whatever quarter it came. He was himself a candidate for a seat in the direction; but if his success depended on giving his sanction to what he conscientiously believed to be wrong, then perish his hope of the direction.

Sir C. Forbes said, he had heard, on the authority of a British officer, on whose statement he placed implicit reliance, that the British troops were ordered to fire, and did fire, on the idol being thrown into the river, on one of the occasions alluded to. He was glad to hear such sentiments as had fallen from the hon. proprietors who had addressed the Court. He was sure that that was the best way to recommend themselves to the favour of the proprietors generally, many of whom would be disposed to make way for them in the direction, even by the removal of some now within the bar.—(A laugh.)

Mr. Marriott said, that as there was a difference of opinion as to whether the ceremony alluded to was a respect paid to the idols, an order should be sent out so as to prevent any mistake on the subject in future.

Mr. Poynder, in reply, adverted to the observations of the hon. proprietor (Sir J. Bryant,) and said, that though he did not say that the appeal against the abolition of Suttee, was signed by any Anglo-Indians, yet, from the authority on which he spoke, he was quite certain that that appeal was "got up" by some Anglo-Indians, who were opposed to the abolition of Suttee. When that appeal came to be heard, it was disposed of as became a Protestant King, acting by the advice of his then Protestant Ministers. As to the argument, or rather the observation of the hon. proprietor (Mr. Fielder,) that we tolerated gin-palaces, with their attendant vices and crimes, because we derived a revenue from them; and that, therefore, we should not interfere with a religion which was itself the source of vices and crimes of the most revolting character; surely, a child might have made the distinction between a religion that condemned the crimes which arose from a violation of its rules, and a religion which made the most odious and disgusting scenes of immorality a part of its worship. The hon. proprietor had said that God would work out the improvement of our Hindoo fellow-subjects in time; but God would work by means, and the means which we had employed were the distribution of his revealed word, which had, with his blessing, already brought many to a knowledge of the truth.

After a few words from Mr. Fielder, the motion was put and carried.

#### ATTENDANCE OF BRITISH OFFICERS AT THE RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES OF THE NATIVES OF INDIA.

Mr. Poynder then rose to bring forward the motion of which he had given notice, viz:—"That there be laid before the Court such information as may be necessary for the purpose of showing how far the Directors' despatch of the 20th of February, 1833 (which has now been received in India upwards of six years) has been duly acted upon by the Supreme Government and the subordinate authorities." The hon. proprietor said, that he would not at present take up the time of the Court by any observations on the motion, but would simply place it before them.

Mr. Hankey, in seconding the motion, regretted that it should be necessary so often to bring it forward, but it was one so important that it ought not to be lost sight of

until the triumph of truth and justice should be achieved. Since the despatch of 1833, we had not, in fact, advanced one step in this most important matter. The great object of that despatch, and of its advocates, was to withdraw from idolatry in any shape the sanction of the authority or protection of the Company. Surely no Christian man could refuse his assent to that great principle, and therefore no member of that Court would, he hoped, refuse his assent to a demand for the information called for by the motion, in order to let it be seen how far the despatch of 1833 had been acted upon. After some further observations in support of the motion, and a warm eulogium on the conduct of Sir P. Maitland, late Commander-in-chief at Madras, for the great sacrifice he had made in support of the principle involved in the despatch of 1833, which he might call the charter of those who were opposed to any sanction of idolatrous worship on our part, the hon. proprietor concluded by expressing his intention of taking the sense of the Court on the motion.

Mr. Fielder asked whether there were any treaties in existence by which the Company was bound not to interfere with the religious worship of the natives?

Mr. Poynder.—None.

The Chairman said there were no treaties to that effect. It was always understood that no such interference would take place.

Mr. M. Martin deprecated any attack on the religious opinions or conduct of the Hindoos. He regretted to observe that by some well-meaning but imprudent parties the Hindoos had been held up as little better than a set of savages, sacrificing human lives to their deities, whereas the fact was the reverse. The better class of Hindoos were as strictly and honourably observant of all the relations of social life as the inhabitants of any other country. He was sorry to see by little tracts distributed in that court, that they had been held up as sacrificing human life. This was at once unjust as well as imprudent. He hoped it would go forth that that Court did not sympathize with such tracts. If we wished to lead the Hindoos from error, it should be the result of mild persuasion; but even then we should act with great caution, particularly at the present time, when so many emissaries were going about in India misrepresenting our objects and intention.

A Proprietor (whose name we did not learn) begged to caution the Court against taking a course which might be misrepresented to the natives of India. There were many present who might remember the order issued by the Government of Madras in 1806, on the occasion of the meeting at Vellore, which had well nigh been productive of the most disastrous results, from the belief which was created by evil-disposed persons, who represented to the troops that it was intended to force them to change their religion. The Governor on that occasion issued an address to the troops, in which he assured them that the same respect for their religion and customs which had theretofore existed would continue to be acted upon, and that no interruption whatever would be allowed to take place in their religious ceremonies. This was translated into several languages of the East, and circulated very extensively, and had been since looked to as the charter of the religious toleration of the natives. He hoped hon. members who wished for the conversion of the natives would proceed with caution, and avoid everything which might seem like an interference with their religion.

Sir J. Bryant said, he understood that there were in existence treaties with several of the Hindoo chiefs, guaranteeing the most perfect freedom of their religious worship. After the battle of Plassey a grant of land was made by a native Prince to the Company, one condition of which was, that the religion of the natives should be fully protected and respected by the Company, and to that the Company had declared they would adhere. That little grant of land in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, was the first foot of land occupied by the Company, and served as the nucleus of that immense territory, comprising now more than 1,000,000 square miles, and containing 123,000,000 of subjects. In the spirit of that agreement, rules and orders had been made by Lord Cornwallis, and by these, also, the religious observances of the natives were declared to be fully protected, and by an Act of Parliament passed soon after it was enacted, that all those orders should have the force of law, if not disallowed in two years, which none of them had been.

Mr. Fielder.—That is the fact.

Mr. Marriott did not think that it was either rash or precipitate to call for an account of what had been done since the despatch of 1833 had gone out, particularly as it seemed to be understood that something like a counter-despatch had since been gone out.

Sir J. Bryant said, that as far as he could understand, the Government was disposed to carry the order of 1833 into full effect.

Major Olyphant said, he would not enter into any discussion of the rules and orders.

The question was, whether British officers should be compelled to attend religious ceremonies of the natives, contrary to their consciences.

The Chairman said, that the despatch of 1833 was being carried out by the Government of India. As to the treaties in existence on the subject of the religious observances of the natives, he was mistaken, when a few moments ago he had said there were none. He was referring at the moment to treaties of a different kind. There were treaties which the Company was compelled to fulfil, and by one they were bound to make good a grant for the support of the temple of Juggernaut, so that not much would be gained in one respect by the abolition of the Pilgrim tax. He would say that there was not any disposition on the part of the Government to elude the carrying the despatch into effect; on the contrary, there was every disposition to carry out the principles of that despatch; but let not honourable proprietors forget the conditions on which the Company came into power in India, and let it not be said that there was any wish to turn that power against the feelings of the people. He was as anxious as any to have a better system in India, and he differed only as to the means. It was a bad way to begin by exciting the natives by denunciations against their religious ceremonies, which showed that we were unmindful of the principles of charity and toleration. The object of the despatch was in the progress of attainment, provided it was not marred by precipitation.

Mr. Poynder was concerned to hear the Chairman refuse to produce the information sought.

The Chairman would repeat that he was not opposed to the grant of information, but rather to such information as was sent from the Government of India, which it would not be desirable to publish at present.

Mr. Weeding.—Why not tell the Court what had been done, by giving such extracts as the Directors pleased?

Mr. D. Salomons thought, after the statement of the honourable Chairman, that it would be inconvenient to publish the accounts at present. It would be better not to press the motion, the more particularly as the question could not now be blinked or set aside in the country. He agreed with much of what had been said by Mr. Poynder, but he thought that we should never lose sight of justice, and the fullest religious toleration.

Mr. Poynder said, that with every respect for the last speaker, he could not consent to withdraw his motion. If the motion had been to put Judaism instead of Christianity, it would—

Mr. Salomons rose to order, and complained of this individual allusion as indecorous and offensive.—(Hear, hear.)

Several members called out that the honourable proprietor (Mr. Poynder) was out of order.

The Chairman said the remark was uncalled-for, and hoped the honourable proprietor would explain.—(Hear, hear.)

After a few desultory remarks from three or four proprietors,

Mr. Poynder assured the Court and the hon. proprietor (Mr. Salomons) that nothing was further from his intention than the offering any offence to him, and he would have shown it, if he had been allowed to proceed without interruption. The hon. proprietor went on to contend that, even admitting the treaties alluded to, there was nothing in them which could bind the Company to sanction errors for ever, and in support of this view he quoted the opinion of Mr. Grant. Allusion had been made to the distribution of tracts in that Court, holding up the Hindoos as guilty of sacrificing human beings to their gods. He joined in no such charge, and he had no share in the distribution of these tracts. As to the motion, he repeated that all he wanted was such information as the Directors might choose to give in their own terms. He could not withdraw the motion.

Mr. Hankey also could not consent to have the motion withdrawn.

A Proprietor hoped that some communication would be made as to whether British officers and soldiers should be compelled to attend at religious ceremonies against their conscientious feelings.

The Chairman said, if the hon. proprietor alluded to the despatch of the 8th of August, 1838, it contained an order that no British, Mahomedan, or Hindoo officer or soldier should be compelled to attend any religious ceremony against his conscientious feeling.

The question was then put, and the Chairman declared the motion to be negatived. A division was then called for, when there appeared—

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| For the motion ..... | 17 |
| Against it .....     | 32 |
| Majority .....       | 15 |

Mr. Weeding postponed his motion—"To take into consideration the case of Capt. Haviside, a claimant for the compensation awarded to commanders in the maritime service of the East India Company."

#### SECRET SERVICE MONEY.

Sir C. Forbes said, that on looking over the Company's accounts he found an item of 50,050*l.* for secret service money for one year. This was so enormous an outlay for such a purpose for one year, that he hoped to hear some explanation on the subject from the chair. It exceeded any thing on the part of the Government of the country for such purpose. If such extravagant expenditure was sanctioned, the revenue of India would soon be found insufficient to pay the dividends. Who, he would ask, constituted the "Secret Service Committee?"

The Chairman replied, that it consisted of the chairman, deputy-chairman, and senior Director.

Sir C. Forbes,—Yes; and he supposed the Director-General in Cannon-street, Westminster, Sir J. Hobhouse. He would ask, in the name of the proprietors and of the natives of India, for some explanation of this great outlay?

The Chairman said he could not give him any, as the members of the secret service committee were on oath not. The sum was paid by direction of that committee, pursuant to an act of Parliament.

Sir H. J. Brydges said that for the many years he was in Bagdad and in Persia, the whole amount of the secret service money expended did not exceed 3000*l.*, and yet he was most unjustly treated by the then Government (of India we understood).

Sir C. Forbes then gave notice of a motion for the next Court on the subject of this secret service money.

After a few observations from Mr. Weeding, the subject dropped, and the Court adjourned.

#### APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, CHANGES, &c.

##### Military.

(From the *Naval and Military Gazette*,  
7th Sept.)

4th Foot.—A detachment of 52 rank and file are to embark in the *Thomas Grenville* for Madras.

BURMESS PRIZE MONEY.—Steps are taking for the immediate payment of the claims. Capt. Philips, late of the 3rd Light Dragoons, has been appointed Barrack-Master at Baroley.

13th Depôt.—Drafts proceed to Bombay instead of Bengal, in consequence of the regiment being employed in Cabul.

18th Foot.—The regiment, we understand, is to be placed on the Indian Establishment, but not to be augmented in officers or men. The depôt companies will not for the present be embarked for India, but it is expected they will be ordered to Chatham in the event of their being ultimately required to proceed to Bombay.

21st Foot.—Capt. L'Estrange will shortly embark for Bengal, in charge of a large draft. The regiment is exceedingly weak, having left a large number of men in Van Diemen's Land. Second Lieut. Holland embarked on the 3d inst. in the *Exmouth*, under Major J. Picton Beete, nephew of the late Sir Thomas Picton.

31st Foot.—Brevet-Major Ogilvy's name

has been withdrawn from the list of officers to embark for Bengal. Ensign Smyth has been permitted to proceed to India overland. Lieut. Scott has joined the depôt.

40th.—Capt. M'Duff embarked on the 31st ult. for Bombay, on board the *Lady East*, in command of detachments of the 4th and 15th Light Dragoons and of the 2d and 13th Foot.

55th Foot.—Captain Fawcett, Ensign Schaw, and 72 rank and file, are to embark at Gravesend, on board the *Thomas Grenville*, for Madras. Capts. Sharpen and O'Leary are at home on leave. Capt. Dawbeney commands the depôt at Chatham.

57th Foot.—Ensign Croker, Second Lieut. and 60 rank and file, are to embark in the *Thomas Grenville* for Madras.

62d Foot.—Ensign Dickson has embarked to join his regiment at Moulmien.

63d Foot.—39 rank and file are to embark in the *Thomas Grenville* for Moulmien, *via* Madras.

(From the *Naval and Military Gazette*,  
Sept. 14.)

MILITARY.—6th Foot.—Capt. Crofton embarks on Tuesday for Bombay.

41st Depot.—Ensign Tuckey has embarked for India.

94th Depot.—will remain at Chatham, the East India Company having refused the

augmentation, it being a regiment more than they agree for. This will enable some other regiment, probably the 54th, to return home, or else the 94th will return to Ceylon.

### BIRTHS.

On the 3rd Sept., at Gloucester Place, Southsea, Portsmouth, the lady of Capt. Robert Moresby, Indian navy, of a daughter and son.

On the 30th Aug. at Osnaburgh-street, Regent's Park, the lady of John Johnson, late of Calcutta, of a son.

On the 31st Aug., at Kensington, the lady of Benjamin Williams, Esq. of the Madras Medical Service, of a son.

On the 6th inst., Mrs. Charles Trevor, of a daughter.

On the 1st inst., the lady of Major J. S. Winfield, Bengal Army, of a daughter.

### MARRIAGES.

At Bowden, Cheshire, on the 5th Sept. Edward Gordon Faucett, Esq., of the Bombay Civil Service, to Louisa Charlotte, youngest daughter of John Hill, Esq., of Ashby Hall.

At St. George's, Hanover-square, on the 3rd Sept., the Right Hon. Lord Kilmaine, to Mary, daughter of the Hon. Charles Ewan Law, M.P., Recorder of London.

On the 5th inst., Wm. Nelson Beechey, Esq., (son of the late Sir Wm. Beechey,) to Maria, second daughter of J. W. Liddiard, Esq.

The Hon. Craven Fitzhardinge Berkeley, M.P., youngest son of the late Earl Berkeley, to the Hon. Mrs. Talbot.

On the 31st ult., at Trinity Church, Brompton, by the Rev. Abner W. Brown, John Dangerfield, Esq., of Suffolk-street, Pall-mall-east, and of Connaught-square, to Francis Susanna, youngest daughter of the late Walter Trevelyan, Esq., of Netherwitton-hall, Northumberland, and granddaughter of the late Sir George Trevelyan, Bart.

On the 28th ult., at the house of Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to the Diet of Frankfort, by the Rev. Sir Thomas Gery Cullum, Bart., chaplain to his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, the Hon. Mary Stuart, third daughter of General the Lord Forbes, to Charles Benjamin Lee, Esq., of the Abbey, Knaresborough, Yorkshire; and at the same time, the Hon. Isabella Drummond, fifth daughter of Lord Forbes, to the Baron Ernest de Poellnitz, Capitaine et Gentilhomme d'Honneur à la Cour Duc Regnant de Saxe Coburg.

At Walton-park, Kirkcudbrightshire, on the 29th ult., Boyd Macdonald, Esq., Glasgow, to Anne Cunningham, second daughter of Major James Campbell, of Walton-park, H.E.I.C.S.

At Cheltenham, on the 27th ult., by the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Ossory, the Rev. Charles Bushe, second son of the Right Hon. the Chief Justice of Ireland, to Emmeline Egerton, second daughter of Capt. Sir Josiah Coghill, Bart., R.N., of Belvedere-house, county of Dublin.

At Ealing, Charles H. Delamaine, Esq., Capt. 3rd Bombay Cavalry, to Isabella, daughter of G. Evans, Esq.

### DEATHS.

At Leamington, on the 4th Sept., Thomas Gowan Vibart, Esq., of the Bengal Civil Service.

On the 4th Sept., aged 28, Emma, second daughter of the late Rev. Jas. Lee Warner, of Walsingham, Norfolk.

On the 6th Sept., at Nutwood-lodge, Gatton, Surrey, Lady Jemima Bentinck.

On the 30th Aug., aged 78, Solomon Pollock, Esq., a constant exhibitor in the Royal Academy during half a century.

On the 8th Sept., at Merton-hall, Norfolk, the Right Hon. and Rev. Lord Walsingham.

On the 8th instant, at Little Burstead, Essex, William, youngest son of the late William Parnell.

At West Molesey, on the 9th inst., Wm. Tobias, fourth son of David Ross, Esq., of Calcutta.

### SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

#### ARRIVALS.

Sept. 2. Catherine Jamieson, Hutchinson, from New South Wales, 7th April; Harlequin, Robertson, from the Cape, 11th June; Eliza Scott, Bellamy, from Madagascar, 5th June; Eliza Drummond, from the Cape, 18th June.—Sept. 3. Parland, Tait, from New South Wales, 23d April; W. S. Hamilton, Brown, from Siam, 20th March.—Sept. 5. Bolton, Young, from Bombay, 1st May; Mary Taylor, Williams, from Bengal, 13th March; Persia, Stevens, from Ceylon, 14th May.—Sept. 7. Morley, Evans, from Bombay, 12th May; Earl Dalhousie, Watt, from Singapore, 4th April; Mandarin, Donald, from Batavia, 10th April; Vernon, Lidderdale, from Madeira, 24th August;

City of Edinburgh, Thompson, from New South Wales, 18th April.—Sept. 9. Globe, Hopper, from Bengal, 25th April; Eliza, Mann, from Bombay, 25th April; Advocate, Wilkins, from Bengal, 15th March; Hindoo, McGill, from Bengal, 25th April; The Iberia Steamer, from Gibraltar, 29th Aug.—Sept. 10. Zebra, Halm, from Batavia, 12th May.—Sept. 13. Lord Auckland, Frazer, from Bengal, 6th March; Eagle, Rollans, from the Cape, 6th June; Paragon, Coleman, from Bengal, 15th April; Sarah, Dawson, from Batavia, 12th May; Elephanta, Edie, from the Mauritius, 6th June.—Sept. 17. Barretto, Jun., Fawcett, from Madras, 14th May; Lord Lyndoch, Stead, from Madras, 27th January; Allepee, 14th March; Joseph Winter, Hodgson, from Bengal, 30th March, at Liverpool.—Sept. 18. Kirkman Finlay, from Bombay, 2d May, at Liverpool; Gilbert Henderson, Tweedie, from Singapore, 16th May.—Sept. 21. Ocean, Zenderdorp, from Batavia; Abel Gower, Henderson, from New South Wales, 26th April; Lady of the Lake, Harburgh, from Port Phillip, 1st April.—Sept. 19. John Dugdale, McGowan, from Singapore, 16th May.—Sept. 23. Pestonjee Bomanjee, Hill, from Singapore, 12th May; Perseverance, Corkhill, from New South Wales, 1st April, Liverpool; Royal Tar, steamer, from Gibraltar, at Falmouth, sailed from Malta 5th Sep.; Cassandra, Greig, from Bombay, 10th May, in the Clyde.—Sept. 24. Marmion, Cleland, from Bengal, 28th April; Susannah, Ridley, from New South Wales, 30th March; Rochester, Kenny, from New Zealand; Abbotsford, Broadfoot, from Bombay, 16th May, at Liverpool.—Sept. 25. Northumberland, Compton, from Calcutta, 26th January and the Mauritius 25th June; Clydesdale, Davies, Bengal, 9th April, at Liverpool; Flower of Ujee, Anchar, from Bengal, 24th April, at Liverpool; Malay, Galbraith, from Bengal, 14th April, at Liverpool; Adrianus, Jacobus, from Batavia.—Sept. 26. Salacia, Maw, from Bengal, 14th April; Isabella, Sampson, from Van Dieman's Land, 18th April; Trinculo, Rea, from Singapore, 29th May; Janet, Izat, Scotland, from New South Wales, 14th April; Isabella, Oldis, from the Cape, 12th July, at Limerick.—Sept. 27. Juvena, Grundy, from Bombay, 7th June; A mail from India via Marseilles, 21st June.—Sept. 28. Rosalind, Crouch, from China, 7th May.

## DEPARTURES.

Sept. 4. Lady East, Robinson, for Bombay, from the Downs.—La Belle Alliance, Arckall, for the Cape and Bombay, from Portsmouth.—4. Bolivar, Brown, for St. Helena, from Portsmouth.—7. Emu, Howard, for Hobart Town, from Portsmouth.—4. Juliana, Parker, for the Mauritius.—2. Balfour, Foster, for Bombay, from Liverpool.—4. Paragon, Cooke, for the Cape and the Mauritius.—10. Madras, Henniker, for Launceston; Planet, Thompson, for the Cape, from the Downs.—5. Penang, Cumming, for China, from Liverpool; Rose, Bayles, for the Cape, from Liverpool.—10. Canton, Roxburgh, for Van Dieman's Land with convicts, from Portsmouth; Meauwell Duck, for New South Wales, from the Downs; Crescent, Goldie, for New South Wales with convicts, from the Downs; Alfred, Flint, for New South Wales, from the Downs; Janet, Chalmers, for the Mauritius, from the Downs.—11. Richard, Bell, for Bengal, from the Downs; Chilmark, Penny, for the Cape, to sail from Rotterdam; Sophia, Johns, for New South Wales, from the Downs.—6. Elora, Blair, for Bengal, from Greenock; Fleetwood, Simpson, for New South Wales, from Greenock.—9. Vernon, Denny, for the Cape and Bengal, from Portsmouth.—14. Lancaster, for Bombay.—23. Thomas Grenville, for Madras and Bengal, with troops from Portsmouth.—22. Mount Stuart Elphinstone, Jolly, for Bengal, from Portsmouth.—23. John, Smith, for South Australia, from the Downs.—13. Drummore, Mylne, for New South Wales, from Liverpool.—16. Lady Rowena, Clayton, for Bombay, from Liverpool.—14. Lancaster, Jefferson, for Bombay, from Liverpool.—21. Reliance, Robertson, for Bombay, from Liverpool.—24. Zenobia, Owen, for Bengal, from Portsmouth.—23. Mermaid, Sedgwick, for Madras, with troops, off the Wight.—22. Courier, Dixon, Cape and Swan River, from the Downs.—25. H. M. S. Erebus, Ross, for St. Helena and the Cape; H. M. S. Terror, Crozier, for Van Dieman's Land and Antarctic Circle, on a voyage of discovery, from Chatham.—22. Aurora, Heale, for New Zealand, from the Downs, with 140 emigrants.—21. Oriental, Wilson, for New Zealand, from the Downs, with 138 emigrants.—21. Duke of Roxburgh, Thompson, for New Zealand, from the Downs, with 120 emigrants.—22. Bengal Merchant, Hemery, for New Zealand, from the Downs, with 155 emigrants.—25. Wilmot, Miller, for New South Wales, from Portsmouth.—22. Thomas Blyth, Hay, for the Mauritius, from the Downs.—21. Warrior, Cowey, for the Cape, from the Downs.—25. Hebe, Douglas, for Algoa Bay, from Gravesend.—14. James Turcan, Turcan, for New South Wales, from Greenock.—6. Devonshire, Slifpins, for the Cape, from Hamburg.—10. Reform, Lofgen, for Singapore, from Hamburg; Elbe, Robertson, for the Cape, from Hamburg.—14. Triton,

Batty, for New South Wales, from Bristol.—17. Victoria, Russell, for the Cape, from Gravesend.—23. Eweretta, Darley, for New South Wales, from the Downs.—14. Rock-cliff, Ord, for the Mauritius, from Bristol.—21. Rothschild, Lockett, for Bombay, from Liverpool.—26. Marion, Pope, for Madras and Bengal, passed through the Downs.—19. Earl Grey, Mawson, for Bengal, from Liverpool.—20. Cambria, Robertson, for Bengal, from Liverpool.—21. St. George, Williams, for Bengal, from Bristol.—26. Lady Flora, Ford, for Madras, passed through the Downs.

Aug. 28. The Ariel, Warden, from China, May 30, arrived at Aden, 5th Aug., for Gulf of Suez.

## ON THEIR WAY TO PORTSMOUTH.

Thomas Grenville, Thornhill, for Madras and Bengal. Mount Stewart Elphinstone, Jolly, for Bengal. The Exmouth, Warren, for Bengal, got on shore in Bigbury Bay; she was hauled off by a kedge, and does not make any water. The Vernon was to have sailed from Portsmouth on the morning of Thursday last, the 12th inst., but an accident which happened to the piston of the steam engine prevented her leaving before Saturday last, the 14th inst.

## PASSENGERS INWARD-BOUND.

Per *Susannah*, from New South Wales.—Mr. and Mrs. Coleman; Mr. Coleman, jun.; Mr. Elson; Dr. Hilditch, R.N.; Mr. Fitzgerald; Mr. Fitzgerald, jun.; Mr. Desmond; Mr. King; Mr. Donnelly.

Per *Perseverance*, from New South Wales.—Captain Keames, late of the *Jesse*.

Per *Sarah*, from Batavia.—Mr. Norris; Mr. Myers; and two Miss Haswells.

Per *Lotus*, late *Gore*, from New South Wales.—Mr. Lockitt; Mr. John Nicolls; Mr. J. E. Maberley.

Per *Parland* from New South Wales.—Capt. P. Wildridge; Monsieur and Madame Menrad; Mr. Henry Ferris; Mr. Webb; Dr. Macfarlane.

Per *Catherine Jamieson*, from New South Wales.—D. A. C. G. Brachenbury; Dr. Kennedy, R.N.; Mrs. Cherry; Mr. and Mrs. Palmer and child; Mrs. Portsell; Francis Keeler; James Whiteland.

Per *Persia*, from Ceylon.—Dr. and Mrs. St. John and two children; Mrs. Nightingale and two children; Capt. McCleverty; Mr. Perry; Mr. Riley; 30 men, 5 women, 21 children, invalids.

Per *China*, Biddell, from Calcutta.—Dr. and Mrs. Evans; Miss Evans; Capt. and Mrs. Rouch; Capt. Field; Mr. Thorne; Mr. Laurie; Mr. Saunders; 4 children; 26 invalids.

Per *Morley*, Evans, from Bombay.—Mrs. Gibson and two children; Mrs. Morse and two children, one died at sea; Lieut. Newsham; Mr. Healy; Miss Rose; Mrs. Evans and three children; five invalids.

Per *John Dugdale*, McGowan, Singapore, 16th May.—Rev. S. Dyer; Mrs. Dyer and family; Mr. Daniel Cunningham.

Per *Gilbert Henderson*, Tweedie, from Singapore, 15th May.—Mrs. Campbell.

Per *Northumberland*, from Bengal and the Mauritius.—Miss Marnell; Dr. Burt; Capt. Rowlandson, Bengal Artillery, from the Mauritius; Major and Mrs. O'Neil, H.M.'s. 12th Regt.; Capt. Drury, H.M.'s 87th Regt.; Capt. Fraser, H.M.'s 35th Regt.; Mr. and Mrs. Carey; M. Le Drie; M. Boucherie; Ens. King, H.M.'s 27th Regt., from St. Helena. Steerage.—Serjeant and Mrs. Lepine and two children; George and Mrs. Clifton; P. Baker; J. Shoulders.

Per *Marmion*, Cleland, from Bengal, 28th April.—Major Bruce, 12th N.I.; Mrs. Bruce; Louis Bruce; Misses Maria, Isabella, Ellen, and Elizabeth Bruce; William Owen, Esq.; Mrs. Lambert.

## PASSENGERS OUTWARD-BOUND.

*La Belle Alliance*, Arkroll, for the Cape and Bengal.—General De la Motte and family; Capt. and Mrs. Hocken; Rev. Mr. Tripp and family; Miss Harrison; Lieut. Mead; Mr. Scott; Mr. Gell; Mr. Herrick; Mr. Jamieson; Mr. Thomas; Mr. Ludwag; Miss Nesbitt.

Per *True Briton*, C. C. Consitt, for Madras.—Capt. and Mrs. Hammond; Capt. and Mrs. Middlecourt; Dr. and Mrs. Eyre; Mr. Hart; Mr. Freze; Mr. Scott and family; Mr. A. Scott; Mr. Finery; Mr. Purvis; Capt. and Mrs. Atkinson; Mr. Falls; Mr. Collins; Mr. Scholtz; Mr. Gunner; and a detachment consisting of 72 men.

Per *Thomas Grenville*, Thornhill, for Madras and Bengal.—Capt. and Mrs. Fawcett, H.M.'s. 55th Regt., commanding the troops; Mrs. Col. Hitchins; Miss Hitchins;

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Miss C. Hitchins; Mr. and Mrs. Thornhill, B.C.S.; Mrs. Henderson; Mr. and Mrs. Mrs. Hallett, M. C. S.; Mrs. Shawe; Mr. Melville, writer; Mr. Smith, Assist.-Surg. in charge of troops; Ens. John G. Schaw, H.M.'s. 55th; Ens. W. F. Dickson, H.M.'s. 62nd; Ens. H. Baddel Croker, H.M.'s. 57th; Mr. Heathorn, cadet; Mr. Maling with a detachment consisting of 231 men.

Per *Lady Flora*, Ford, for Madras, to sail on the 20th September.—Col. and Lethbridge; Mrs. General Pearce; Mrs. Sladen; Miss Ellar; Colonel Riddell; Rev. Mr. Knox; Mrs. Lascelles and family; Miss Hutchinson; Mr. Codd; Mr. Riddell; Mr. Greentree; Ens. H. P. Keighly, 49th M.N.I., with a detachment consisting of 170 men.

Per *Zenobia*, Owen, for Calcutta.—T. B. Bayley, Esq., B. C. S. for the Cape; Miss Sherwills; Mr. Parker.

Per *Walmer Castle*, M. C. Close, for Calcutta.—Mrs. Lloyd; Miss Lloyd; Miss Magow; Lieut. Magow; Mrs. Harford; Mr. and Mrs. Lamb; Dr. and Mrs. Tweddel; Mr. Mitchell; Capt. Hunt; Mr. Longman; Dr. Ayre; Lieut. Scott, H.M.'s. 31st.

Per *Bland*, T. Callan, for Bengal.—Mr. and Mr. Edwards; Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Grant; Mr. and Mrs. R. Smith; Capt. and Mrs. H. C. Reynolds; Ens. Fortye, H.M.'s. 44th; Mr. Ronald.

Per *Repulse*, W. Beckford for Calcutta.—Mr. and Mrs. Lushington; Capt. and Mrs. G. A. Smith; Lieut. and Mrs. Reynolds; Mr. and Mrs. Durand; Mr. Eaton; Mr. Pryce with a detachment consisting of 400 men.

Per *Ariel*, Warden, from China.—R. Inglis, Esq.; C. S. Compton.

#### PASSENGERS EXPECTED.

Per *Euphrates*, from Bombay to Aden.—Lieut. Ayrton, Bombay Artillery, for Aden; Lieut. Porter, Indian Navy, for England.

Per *Robarts*, Elder, from Bengal, to sail.—Mrs. Stevenson; Mrs. Erskine; Mrs. Bush; Mrs. Depandt; Major Williams; — Colville, Esq.; Dr. W. Stevenson, 40th N. I.; Dr. Pellow, H. M.'s. 63rd Regt.; Lieut. O'Callaghan, H. M.'s. 49th Regt.; Lieut. Bush, 24th N. I.; Lieut. Gifford, 2nd N. I.; Lieut. Brown, 6th Madras N. I.; Ensign Fraser, 6th N. I.; — Kemp, Esq.; — Bell, Esq.; Mrs. Stack; S. Stevenson; Jane Stevenson; Miss Erskine; — Ward, Esq., Civil Service, for the Cape.

Per *Moir*, from Bengal.—Mrs. Ellis; Mrs. Ashe; Mrs. Darby; Mrs. Sym; Sir R. Stevenson, K. C. B.; Capt. Sandes; Capt. Gibb; Lieut. Tucker; Ensign Wright; Jno. Robson, Esq.; W. Macdougall, Esq.; A. Sym, Esq.; Misses Stevenson, Emalin Ellis, Jane Ellis, Melina Ellis, Adelaide Ellis, Anna Maria Ellis, and Jane Darby; Masters Bennet, W. Corbet, Jno. Ellis, Joseph Ellis, William Ellis, St. G. Ashe, B. T. Ashe, E. N. Ashe, W. E. Ashe, and W. A. Ashe; 4 servants.

The Court of Directors of the East India Company have engaged the ship *Viscount Melbourne* for the conveyance of troops to Bengal. She will sail for Gravesend with 108 men including the regulated number of women, about the first week in October. The above draft will exhaust the number of men belonging to the depots of regiments serving in Bengal, who are fit for embarkation for that presidency.

DUNDEE, SEPT. 24.—The brig *Annie Paton*, of this port, sailed from Llanelly, 31st Jan. 1839, for Mocha; and after rounding the Cape, was driven away to the northward through the Mozambique channel, by light winds from the S. E., and was lost on the south-west coast of Arabia, near Aden, on the 26th June. The captain died on the 25th June; the crew, after sailing 1,270 miles in an open boat, and enduring dreadful privation, arrived at Muscat, and were taken on board the *Hugh Lindsay* steamer.

The *Orontes*, Short, was wrecked on 18th December, 1838, on a sunken coral rock, seven miles distant from Port Essington, on the coast of New Holland, on her way to India, and filled immediately; she was run on shore to save the lives of the crew, or must have gone down in five minutes. Crew saved; ship a total wreck.

# THE ORIENTAL HERALD.



## THE CHINESE QUESTION—THE OPIUM TRADE.

(Written for the *Oriental Herald*.)



[WE received the following by the Overland Mail in the latter end of September, just too late for insertion in our October Number.—ED.]

THE news received from China, by the ———, is of a character to cause the most serious reflections on the part of those interested in the commerce of that country, or indeed of any part of India. The opium trade, which had long been a subject of great jealousy to the Chinese Government, appears, after many ineffectual efforts on their part, to have been annihilated by one vigorous *coup d'état*. We refer our readers to the proclamation of the Chinese high commissioner, and the public notices of the British superintendent, Captain Elliot, which, together with a few private letters, contain all that is known of the proceedings of the Chinese Government, up to the last date from China. Many of our readers are probably aware that opium, from being a very insignificant article of taxation, had latterly become a very important branch of revenue to the British Indian Government. It seems originally to have been seized upon, with betel-nut, spirits, and other similar luxuries, as a legitimate mode of raising a tax from indulgences rather than necessities, in the same way that wine, spirits, and tobacco, have been marked out by almost all civilised governments for taxation or monopoly. Opium, accordingly, in the British territories, was made a close monopoly of the East India Company; and the cultivation of the poppy, except for Government, and even the possession of the drug, except for medicinal purposes, prohibited under severe penalties. The revenue derived from internal consumption, has, however, been nearly stationary for years, and would have been too insignificant to support the enormous establishment kept up by the Company, or to have justified the grievous monopoly which presses on some of the best agricultural districts of Bengal like a blight, had it not been for the continual increase of the demand for the drug in China. The exports from Bengal for the last ten years are as follow :—

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| Year.   |    | Chests. |    | Price per chest. |      |                      |
|---------|----|---------|----|------------------|------|----------------------|
| 1828-29 | .. | 5,961   | .. | ..               | 1243 | Sa. Rs.              |
| 1829-30 | .. | 7,143   | .. | ..               | 1281 |                      |
| 1830-31 | .. | 7,116   | .. | ..               | 1656 |                      |
| 1831-32 | .. | 7,507   | .. | ..               | 1487 |                      |
| 1832-33 | .. | 9,385   | .. | ..               | 1271 |                      |
| 1833-34 | .. | 11,930  | .. | Patna            | 1042 | Benares 1009 Sa. Rs. |
| 1834-35 | .. | 11,050  | .. | ..               | 991  | .. 961               |
| 1835-36 | .. | 14,807  | .. | ..               | 1273 | .. 1193              |
| 1836-37 | .. | 12,734  | .. | ..               | 1488 | .. 1350              |
| 1837-38 | .. | 19,307  | .. | ..               | 1132 | .. 1032              |

The revenue thus derived from the voluntary payments of a foreign nation for an article of luxury, has been so considerable, that as it could not be relinquished without imposing additional burthens on overtaxed India, the Bengal Government has had a plausible defence to offer for a monopoly which in itself is contrary to all sound principles of taxation.

But though the British Indian Government succeeded in putting down all competition in its own territories, a formidable commercial rival gradually arose in the natives states, and the district of Malwa (central India), being peculiarly well adapted for the cultivation of the poppy, has gone on increasing its exports at quite an equal rate to those of the East India Company. For some years this trade was carried on with China through the ports of Buroach and Damaun (Portuguese), on the coast of Guzzerat, but at last the British Government finding it could not possibly put down this rival commerce, judiciously determined to take a share of the gains; and, availing itself of the advantages of the port of Bombay, gave licenses for the exportation of Malwa opium through Bombay, on payment of 150 rupees per chest as an export duty. This step put down the trade through foreign ports, where it had been subject to all sorts of exactions; the native traders immediately preferring the security of a British port, and the certainty of having no demand made upon them beyond those sanctioned by law. But the consequence which we imagine was not foreseen by the British authorities, was an immediate extension of the Malwa trade, so that the exports of Bombay exhibit the following progress in shipments from 1829 to 1838:—

|         |       | Chests. |
|---------|-------|---------|
| In 1829 | .. .. | 3420    |
| 1830    | .. .. | 3,506   |
| 1831    | .. .. | 4,472   |
| 1832    | .. .. | 10,105½ |
| 1833    | .. .. | 6,937   |
| 1834    | .. .. | 11,206  |
| 1835    | .. .. | 8,785   |
| 1836    | .. .. | 16,234½ |
| 1837-38 | .. .. | 12,883  |

This alarmed the Bengal Government for the security of their revenue, but after much consideration, they saw that the only chance of reducing the intense competition of these rivals was by lowering the drug from its monopoly price of three or four hundred per cent. above the cost of pro-

duction to something near the real cost, with the addition of the duty which it was found that the private speculators were willing to pay. This could only be effected by an increased cultivation of the poppy, and accordingly the Bengal sales exhibit the following rapid progress:—

| Years.  |                                             | Chests.      | Value,<br>Rs. |
|---------|---------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1828-29 | { Behar 5,535<br>Benares 2,174 }            | 7,709 .. ..  | 1,06,35,134   |
| 1829-30 | .. ..                                       | 8,778 .. ..  | 1,12,55,767   |
| 1830-31 | .. ..                                       | 7,548 .. ..  | 1,18,07,008   |
| 1831-32 | .. ..                                       | 7,939 .. ..  | 1,17,70,875   |
| 1832-33 | .. ..                                       | 10,638 .. .. | 1,24,59,572   |
| 1833-34 | .. ..                                       | 12,223 .. .. | 1,16,31,830   |
| 1834-35 | .. ..                                       | 12,977 .. .. | 1,32,15,464   |
| 1835-36 | (Jan. to Apr. 1836)                         | 15,044 .. .. | 1,92,11,835   |
| 1836-37 | { (Jan. to Sept. 1837,<br>bonus excl.) .. } | 17,244 .. .. | 2,27,89,865   |
| 1837-38 | (Jan. to June 1838)                         | 19,133 .. .. | 1,42,98,118   |

It was at first supposed that a stagnation would be produced in the great market of consumption, China, and that the private dealers, being unable to compete with the unlimited purse of the Government, would gradually withdraw from an unprofitable trade, leaving the field to the monopolists. But to the surprise of every body, and probably of no one more than the Bengal Government, it was perceived that the demand of the Chinese increased with the supply, and that the price did not fall in proportion, enormous profits having continued to be made by the speculators. Perhaps no recorded fact goes so far towards proving the enormous population of the Chinese empire, as this vast demand for a drug of which a single grain is sufficient for an ordinary smoker. Persons addicted to this habit cannot be supposed to constitute even a tithe of the population; and yet, but for the forcible interference of the Chinese Government, there is no reason to believe that the trade had reached its limit. The use of opium appears always to have been disliked by the Chinese Government, and prohibited by the laws of the empire. Dealing in the drug was a criminal offence, and the importation was never permitted since the introduction of European commerce into the Celestial Empire. But as long as the trade was confined within moderate limits, the Chinese Government does not seem to have taken much trouble to suppress it. Occasionally it was reported that smugglers had been seized and punished; but it was always believed that these events arose out of quarrels between them and the revenue officers, and that, when each party's share was agreed on, every thing went on smoothly, though a partial or occasional stoppage of the trade might occur.

At last, however, the united efforts of the East India Company and the Malwa cultivators to supply the demand of China, having produced an annual supply, which, in round numbers, may be valued at four millions sterling, the Chinese Government appears to have taken the alarm, on grounds very different from those which were originally alleged, and which related to the moral welfare of its subjects. About three years ago, reports and proclamations were received, some of which were translated and published in the Canton papers, all of which clearly indicated

that the Government saw, with great uneasiness, the drain of silver which was rapidly going on from the country, and that this drain was mainly attributed to the opium trade. To understand the real grounds of this alarm, we must recollect that the intercourse of China with foreign nations, is very limited; and that although it is understood that she possesses mines of the precious metals, yet, for more than two centuries, she has received regular supplies of silver from South America. In so populous a country as China, the consumption of this metal in the arts must be very great; and it is, consequently, very probable, since the course of trade altered, and the ships of Europe left off buying hard dollars to pay for their investments, that the price of silver has been undergoing a gradual rise, and that the Chinese Government has, consequently, felt extreme difficulty in the punctual collection of its revenue. Be that as it may, it is certain that several projects for the suppression of the smuggling trade in opium, were submitted to the Emperor; and that amongst them there was one which showed a greater advancement in sound principles of commerce, than we should have been disposed to give the Chinese credit for possessing. That was, to admit opium freely at a moderate duty, and at the same time to permit the cultivation of the poppy, which has been hitherto prohibited, in the territories of China. This, however, appears to have been over-ruled; and the suggestions of those who urged the total suppression of the trade, adopted instead. The year 1838 was remarkable for the very little difficulty experienced by the smugglers; the open manner in which the drug was dealt in, and the large profits that were realized in consequence. But, about the commencement of the present year, the whole policy of the Chinese Government appeared changed. The most stringent orders were received; the utmost watchfulness shown; and, even on the coast, at a great distance from Canton, the greatest difficulty was experienced in landing the smallest quantity of the drug. The merchants at Canton appear to have flattered themselves that this would be all; that the trade might be suppressed for the moment, but that vigilance would gradually relax; and that, like all smuggling trades, an increased rate of profit would overcome all difficulties in the end. At last, however, the appearance of the High Commissioner, LIN, was marked by unusual severities; and most persons would think that he gave sufficient warning of his intention, by offering a public insult to the European residents, by the public execution, in front of their factories, of a Chinese detected in smuggling or selling opium. The merchants, however, having a large property entrusted to their care, and not being well able to get away without a heavy sacrifice, seem to have persuaded themselves of the inviolability of their persons, till at length they were all seized, together with the British superintendent, and held as hostages for the delivery, to the Chinese Government, of all the opium under their control.

Of this act, there can be but one opinion. The Chinese were fully justified in seizing the prohibited commodity,—in punishing, according to their laws, all persons detected in smuggling; and in expelling from their territories any one who might labour under a grievous suspicion of being concerned in the trade. But they could have no right to seize and detain innocent persons, nor even suspected persons, threatening them with death by starvation, unless they would consent to deliver property not within the limits of the empire. Above all, they were guilty of

a flagrant breach of the laws of nations, in seizing the person of the British superintendent, and threatening him with the same punishment, though he had previously been doing his utmost to comply with their request, in suppressing the traffic. In the same manner, they have detained the British ships loading at Whampoa, although not at all suspected of being concerned in the illicit trade; and, on the whole, have been guilty of outrages, which, if permitted to pass unpunished, will go far to annihilate our commerce with China.

The Superintendent's conduct appears to have been very questionable. By complying with the first demand of the Chinese, he appears to have emboldened them to their subsequent course, terminating, as far as we know at present, in the seizure of his own person and those of his countrymen. But we have resided amongst Asiatics to little purpose, if we are wrong in conjecturing that the next arrivals will bring us advices of fresh demands on the part of the Chinese. All semi-barbarous states look upon concession as the result of fear, and make it a pretext for fresh exactions. They neither treat others as they would wish to be treated themselves, nor can they be made to believe that to do so, is a principle of action with others. Show them a bold front, and they give way; concede, and they extort; yield, and they punish. It would not surprise us to hear that Captain Elliot's attempts at pacification, end in the loss of his own life, and perhaps of the lives of many of his countrymen. We trust, however, that such a catastrophe may be averted, by the speedy appearance of a respectable British naval force, the only argument to which the Chinese are likely to listen.

We cannot conclude without casting a hasty glance at the probable consequences of these events to British commerce. In the first place, the opium trade may be considered as destroyed. Smuggling may go on, but it will take some years to put it on a respectable footing, and one of the stipulations of the Chinese government will probably be, that the British government should assist in putting down the opium trade, in good faith, and with its utmost power. If so, a remarkable change must immediately take place in the commerce of the East. India, as we have already shown, has latterly furnished about four millions sterling yearly to the trade of China in opium alone. This has supplied the place of cash-remittances, and enabled the merchants in China to ship their cargoes of tea and silk, and other valuable produce, without calling on the British or American merchant for specie. Hitherto, a bill on a well-known London house, or on the Bengal government, could be sold at all times in Canton, because remittances to India were constantly required. A large quantity of British manufactures consumed in the interior of India, were also paid for in opium, the dealers in which made their remittances into the interior in British goods or metals. All this will now be changed. Had the change been gradual, no doubt the fertile soil of India would have provided some other article of export, suited to the wants of foreign markets. But so suddenly has the trade been destroyed, that it is yet hardly believed by the native growers of the poppy, who will persevere in the cultivation till they find their produce unsaleable. We must then expect an immediate falling off in the export trade of this country to India, and a demand for silver in China, to supply the place of the opium, which has latterly been the great medium of exchange. The price of tea will be enhanced, unless the distress which Chinese commerce

must suffer should lower it at the ports of exportation. All our commercial relations with the East, will be seriously affected, and a great degree of prudence and caution will be necessary on the part of our merchants.

But our countrymen in the East see, in these recent events, an opportunity which they hope will not be lost, of putting our trade in China upon a footing of security which it has never yet enjoyed. Shut up in a sort of prison,—deprived of the benefit of the laws of the country in which they live,—subject to numberless exactions, and compelled to deal with insolvent native merchants, our countrymen in China have hitherto carried on their trade upon a footing which no nation ought to permit, if it has any self-respect. The system had gradually grown up, and it was difficult to say how it could be abolished. But the opportunity has now occurred,—the Chinese special commissioner has committed his government by an act of the most daring violence, against a person held sacred even by barbarians,—the accredited agent of his government. The British Government ought not to interfere for the protection of smugglers, but it is for ever disgraced if it suffers the oppression of innocent merchants, and the violence done to its own public functionary, without requiring ample satisfaction. The whole external commerce and revenue of China is at our mercy. Without an attack on its unarmed population, or molesting a single inhabitant, we can bring that government to reason, simply by cutting off its supplies. Half-a-dozen British cruisers,—nay, even the private vessels employed in the opium trade,—are more than sufficient to stop the whole of the Chinese trade. If they (the Chinese) tell us, “Your trade is stopped,” we shall reply, “So is yours; you shall have neither rice nor salt (the necessaries of life, and sources of revenue) till you come to reasonable terms.”

In the mean time, there are plenty of convenient islands, of which we could make choice for a commercial station, where the British flag would equally protect all nations from the extortions of the Mandarins, and where the Chinese would flock in numbers to trade with us. All the forces of the celestial empire could not drive us out of such a station, nor could all its proclamations keep its subjects from visiting us there. It would become another Malta, and would afford British commerce all that it requires in the China sea,—a secure depôt, free from the caprices and extortions of the Chinese government, and offering the security of the British flag to every nation who might wish to resort thither. Let us hope that some such policy may be adopted, and that our growing commerce in the East may receive from Government the protection to which it is entitled WITHOUT DELAY.

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## CALCUTTA AS IT IS.

BY J. H. STOCQUELER, ESQ.

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[We have been favoured with a copy of the MSS. of several chapters of a work under the above title, which Mr. Stocqueler, the Army Agent, and Editor of the *Calcutta Englishman*, is preparing for the press. It will, we understand, be a very voluminous and extensively illustrated work, presenting a very complete account of every thing connected with the metropolis of British India; its climate, population, institutions, commerce, the social usages and manners of the British residents—the press, the ecclesiastical establishments, courts of law, &c. Few men have better opportunities than Mr. S. for preparing such a work; but to render it the more complete and valuable, he has sought and obtained the aid of some of the best informed and ablest writers in Calcutta. In fact so ample has been the assistance afforded by them, that, in writing to a friend, he says, “I shall be little more than the Editor of the work after all, for when I receive a chapter from a friend, on the subject with which he is most familiar, I almost invariably substitute it for my own less perfect work.” It is our purpose to publish several of the chapters in this periodical, pending the return of Mr. Stocqueler to England next year, when the entire work will appear.—ED. O. H.]

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## OF CALCUTTA GENERALLY.

The design of this work being simply to describe the city of Calcutta as it is, it will be obvious to the reader that any thing like an elaborate antiquarian account of the settlement (if one may use a term denoting antiquity, in relation to a comparatively modern establishment,) would be an infringement of that design, at once tedious and unnecessary; and I shall, therefore, abstain from presenting more than a brief and summary outline of its early history, and content myself with referring the peruser to the works of Orme, Mill, Pinkerton, Auber, and others, who, in unison with the wide scope of their several plans, have respectively dwelt at length, and with accuracy, on that part of their subject.

It was near the close of the seventeenth century—in the year 1689 or 1690—when that Company of merchants which was destined to become, in its aggregate capacity, the monarch of Hindoostan, was as yet but the body of plodding traders, only too thankful to be allowed a corner of their future empire on which to erect a factory, that its then representative, Mr. Job Charnock, a man whose intelligence of mind would have fitted him to rule their possessions prosperously in any stage of their progress, successfully negotiated with the native powers of the day, for permission to remove the then seat of that wonderful politico-

commercial germ, from Hoogly to Calcutta—or, more accurately, to the place which is Calcutta now. To the superficial observer of the period, the change of place would probably have appeared to be fatally disadvantageous. Hoogly, a pleasant, a salubrious, and a beautiful site, might have appeared far more eligible than the contemplated resting-place, whereon to establish the emporium of our trade; but we, who are enabled to judge from the event, can now perceive how complete would have been the failure, in every point of view, connected with the received statistic principle of constituting the political capital of an empire the commercial capital also,—and we acknowledge the soundness of Charnock's prophetic judgment. Tradition informs us, that his choice of place was determined by the existence of a large shady tree, which adorned the otherwise forbidding locality where he had resolved to pitch his tabernacle; but that was probably an off-shoot story from the likely fact that—

“ There the Briarean Banyan spread  
His hundred arms, and round him shed,  
O'er roods of ground, his sheltering boughs ; ”

beneath which the commercial patriarch is represented, by these oral transmissions, to have loved to recline, like another Tityrus, and to have pondered his plans of greatness, whereas yet no magnificent council chamber had been, even in thought, erected.

As a place for a colonial settlement, apart from considerations of mercantile advantage, the new site was unquestionably objectionable, for not only was it one mass of malarious forest-jungle, and intermixed morass, but within three miles to the north-east of it, there was an extensive salt-water lake, which annually overflowed towards the end of the rainy season, and in consequence of which event, the two following months of November and December were rendered appallingly unhealthy by the putrefaction arising from the large quantities of fish, which the withdrawal of the two waters within their proper limits, left to perish on the land. This animal decomposition, together with the putrid exhalations from the ooze and slime, which were conveyed to the settlement by the north east wind, occasioned a fearful mortality at the end of every year. Yet such were the mercantile advantages of the position, and such the skill and enterprise of British traders, even before there were written systems for creating the wealth of nations, that notwithstanding the local insalubrity on the one hand, and the politically difficult situation in which foreigners were placed with respect to the native rulers of Bengal on the other, the infant settlement began speedily to manifest tokens of advancement—the young giant to expand his thews and sinews into greatness—so, that in little more than the third part of a century, the port of Calcutta possessed ten thousand tons of shipping, and many adventurers had rapidly realised fortunes from the flourishing state of trade. It was about this last period—from 1720 to 1730—that a number of Armenian, Portuguese, and native merchants came to reside under the protection of the British flag, and to share in, and in fact augment, the profits of a naturally lucrative commerce; but the place, as a town, still remained within confined and irregular limits, and the street now known by the name of Clive-street, was the only one which had any pretensions to so respectable a designation; for the rest of the future City of Palaces was not better than a confused assemblage, or

agglomeration of bungalows, or low thatched houses, while to the south and east, the dense and deadly jungle continued to flourish in almost its former state of noxious and drear existence. It was towards the middle of the eighteenth century, that the now useless and unseemly excavation, called the Mahratta Ditch, was commenced upon, and which finally encircled the city from its northern extremity at Chitpore, to a point on its opposite boundary now known as Bridjtulloo, (about a quarter of a mile beyond the Theatre in the Chowringhee road,) and thus describing an incomplete arc, of which the river may be considered the chord. Whatever may have been its use as a protection against the irruptions of those predatory hordes from which it derived its name, it is now an opprobrium to the municipal authorities; for it is the receptacle, without having the uses of a sewer, for the miscellaneous filth of the Circular Road; and from the water which stagnates in it, and the rank vegetation which flourishes on its brink, the Mahratta Ditch is a nuisance to the city which it was designed to guard, and the immediate cause of much of the malaria to which Calcutta is still subjected.

In the year 1757, occurred the memorable capture and plunder of Calcutta, by Sooruj-ood-Dowlah, the Nuwab of Bengal, and the attendant atrocity of the Black-hole sacrifice; an event, with which even English children are familiar, and the horrors of which need not be detailed, or farther alluded to here. The fate of his countrymen was signally revenged by the great Lord Clive; and from that period may be dated the stable foundation of our Indian empire, with the growth of which, Calcutta has to this day kept pace in every description of metropolitan prosperity. The original boundaries of the city, indeed, continue as they were; because the circumscribed area was not for a long period, nor can it scarcely yet be said to be occupied with urban fulness or regularity; for, in the olden time, there was no rule by which to guide the buildings, but every one was allowed to erect his residence where and how he pleased, so that there was never a uniformity in position or architecture, nor any unity of general design; a negligence, of which the city will probably never get rid of the ill effects. As the inhabitants thickened, however, by births or emigration, much was gradually done in remedy of the evil, though probably not at first with that particular intent; and thus the greater portion of the originally allotted space, has been formed into streets and squares; and though the houses are in general considerably apart from each other, and spots of unoccupied ground still here and there exist, yet Calcutta may be described as having long been completed; that is, no change can be made in its external character, or its construction as a city—and, like other overgrown towns, to have flowed over into its suburbs. It is built on an almost dead level, which is the character of the far-surrounding country; so that it is calculated to be raised hardly so much as one foot above the mean of high water, though there is a slight fall from the bank of the river to the eastward, in the direction of the already-mentioned salt water lake. The soil is a rich alluvium, mixed with micaceous sand, and resting at some depth below the surface, on a blackish clay; and such is its aptitude for imbibing and retaining moisture, that, in spite of the heat of the climate, the earth is always damp, and the air in general humid.

This metropolis of British India, and emporium of Eastern commerce, is situated in Lat. 22° 33' 54" N.; Long. 88° 20' 17" E., on the eastern

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bank of the river Hooghly, which is merely a branch, being the most westerly one, of the Ganges, and is at the distance of nearly one hundred miles from the sea. The breadth of the stream, which is deep, muddy, and rapid, is about equal to that of the Thames at Gravesend; and ships of from twelve to fourteen hundred tons anchor abreast of the city, either in six or seven fathoms near mid channel, or at the chain moorings, within a few yards of the shore, where they are fastened, head and stern, so as not to swing with the tide.

The first view of Bengal India, gives the longing voyager a dreary pang of disappointment, owing to the low, ugly, and inhospitable shores of Saugor Island, with scarcely a sign of cheering civilization, or any tokens of a thickly-populated land. This desolate appearance, and the corresponding sensation which it excites in the stranger's breast, arise from the peculiar circumstance of there being no town at the mouth of the river, nor any mark of one as far as the eye can reach. Arriving at Madras, for instance, the city, fortifications, and all oppidan appurtenances burst upon you while you are yet at sea, and you at once feel that you are cast among a civilized community; but Bengal frowns upon you, and you experience no temptation to explore her farther. Sail on, however, in the true hope which should always sustain those adventurous spirits who go down to the sea in great ships, and you will be richly rewarded for your primary disappointment. Viewed from the magnificent bend of the river, denominated Garden Reach, where the town first opens on the approaching vessel, the *coup d'œil* is one of various and enchanting beauty. Houses, like palaces, are studding the bank on the proper left of the river, and a verdure like that of an eternal summer, renovates the eye, so long accustomed to the glitter of the ocean. Anon, on your left, appears the semi-gothic Bishop's College; and in front of you, every moment growing more distinct, are beheld a forest of stately masts, a noble and beautiful fortress, a thousand small boats, of shapes new and undreamt of by the visitant, skimming over the stream; the larger vessels of the country, pleasant to look upon, even for their strange dissymmetry, and their consequent unwieldiness; the green and goose-shaped budge-row, lying idly for hire; and the airy little bauleahs, with their light-venetianed rooms, which seem fitted for the water-bowers of lovers on some of the lakes of those sunny isles, which poets are wont to sing of, and where the breezes are never stronger than can be borne by silken sails. There cannot be a scene more beautiful, connected with the bustle and business of life; and the heart of the traveller feels light within him as he views it. He experiences undefinable emotions of joy, and he imagines he is in a country in which he could dwell unrepiningly for ever, voluntarily debarred from the prospect of ever again beholding the gloomier shores of England.

#### TOPOGRAPHY OF CALCUTTA.

I have said that the *coup d'œil* from the river impresses the beholder with an idea of magnificence in regard to the width of the streets and the splendour of the houses in external architecture; but although the bare facts which justify the inference remain, upon a nearer view of the objects, which have still the characteristic grandeur of spaciousness in their respective ways, yet the first impression which is derived from the mind's belief in the existence of unqualified splendour is, on the nearer

view, discovered to be in a great measure illusory. The houses continue, indeed, to be justly considered by the stranger, superior "in complement extern" to the great majority of the town residences in the principal capitals of Europe; but the eye is soon offended, and that grievously, by the admixture of mean and dirty huts, which abound in some of the finest streets, and come almost into contact with the colonnaded mansions; or, as a humorous poet once described it,—

"Where the palaced house stands, cheek by jowl,  
By the hut from the dunghill plaster'd,  
Like the China vase by the crockery bowl,  
And taste is by gain o'er-master'd."

These mean and wretched-looking buildings are occupied, principally, during the day-time only, as shops, by the native venders of commodities connected with the consumption or the petty handicrafts of the people; but as the ground belongs, for the most part, to native landholders, and yields a lucrative rent, when thus parcelled out into small allotments, for the purpose above specified, it is likely to continue the sordid cause of the solecisms we have alluded to in the architectural character of the town. But while we must lament and reprobate this *auri fames*, when we consider it with regard to its consequences on the beauty and the salubrity of the localities on which it acts, we can hardly censure it on principles of political economy. For if experience has satisfied the sable lords of the particular soil, that it is more advantageous to let out a certain extent of ground to native tenants, who build their own domestic dwellings, or their traffical abiding places (as the case may be) at their own expense, than to erect, on extensive portions of it, European buildings, requiring not only a large outlay of capital, but wide and expensive periodical repairs, and yet not producing an equally profitable rentage, it were unreasonable to censure them, in the face of those commercial principles which justify their choice. It cannot either be expected that they should take so deep an interest in establishing the gorgeous beauty, or the English comfort of a British city, as would induce them to sacrifice good and sure profit for the furtherance of such ends; but if ever the time shall arrive when the pride or enterprise of the colonist, or the public spirit of the government, shall determine on improving the city of Calcutta, by buying the hutted ground whereupon to erect palaces, no doubt the present owners will be ready to sell their territorial possessions for an ample equivalent; but, till then, the hovel system will be likely to prevail in its full force of nuisance.

For municipal purposes, the city of Calcutta is quartered out into four divisions as follows:—

1st or Upper North Division, bounded on the North by the Mahratta Ditch, South by the Mutchooa Bazar Road and Cotton Street to Meerbhur Ghaut; East by the Circular Road, and West by the River Hooghly.

2d or Lower North Division, bounded on the North by the Mutchooa Bazar Road and Cotton Street, to Meerbhur Ghaut; South by the Boitakhanna Road, Bow Bazaar and Loll Bazaar to the Custom House Ghaut, and East and West, as above.

3d or Upper South Division, bounded on the North by the Boitakhanna Road, Bow Bazaar and Loll Bazaar to Custom House Ghaut;