

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## ASIATIC SOCIETY.

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*Extracts from a report of a journey into the Naga Hills in 1844. By MR. BROWNE WOOD, Sub-Assistant Commissioner, in a letter to Captain A. STURT, Principal Assistant Commissioner, Nowgong, dated 14th April, 1844, Golaghat.*

According to the instructions received in your letter No. 108 of the 27th of January last, I proceeded on the 4th February on my way towards Dhemapoor; my first day's march being to the Namber nuddee: my second to Bor Pathar; here is a fine open plain with about 300 poorahs of roopeet (not all cultivated,) and a large populous town. The Dhunsiri river flows on its eastern side, the ryots appear to be a thriving people, and during the cold season are generally employed in cutting out boats from the fine timbers to be found in the jungles in the vicinity of Bor Pathar, and Dao Panee river, which boats they dispose of to the ryots and traders of Golaghat and Morung, taking in lieu cash enough to pay their rent; the balance they take in such articles as they require: salt, oil, and cloth.

The 3d march brought me to the Dao Panee river; a river coming from the Rengmah Naga hills, and flowing into the Dhunsiri a few miles (15) above Bor Puthar; the next day Hurreiogan nullah, from this to the Dibroo Panee river; and the following day, the 9th February, I arrived at Dhemapoor.

*Dhemapoor, 9th February, 1844.*—Arrived at this post about 2 p. m., and found some huts erected for me by the coolies, whom I despatched a few days previous to my departure from Golaghat, for the purpose of clearing the path from Golaghat to this post. Went over to the old fort of Dhemapoor, on the south bank of the Dhunsiri, but the place was so covered with jungle, I was unable to distinguish any thing, excepting some pillars and a gateway; these pillars are of a composition of sand, lime, and goor, &c., extremely hard and durable; several of them are in a perfect state of preservation, others have been split asunder by large trees falling across them; their general height is about 12 feet and diameter 4 feet, some of them very neatly carved. These pillars I am told, formed the ground-work of an extensive building, the distance between each post about 10 feet, and on these pillars, was the platform or *mechans*. The gateway is of brick, quite perfect at present, but must very shortly fall to pieces, as huge trees have taken root on the top of it. Some of these trees are very large, from one and a half to two feet in diameter. How they thrive up there I cannot imagine; there is also a wall of eight feet high by four to five feet deep surrounding this fort. This wall, I suppose, is half a mile square, excepting the eastern side, where the gateway is; a double ditch surrounds the wall. There are some fine trees in this fort.

*10th February.*—Remained to-day to inspect the stockade godown, godown accounts, &c. The stockade is on the North bank of the Dhunsiri, and around it is a clearance of about 80 poorahs, cleared by Captain Bigge in 1841, it is however again becoming a heavy jungle of grass and underwood. From the several clusters of plants and trees scattered over this spot, I should say, that the whole of this cleared land had been cultivated. On my inquiring of the Subadar the cause of this falling off, he informed me, that the sepoy had formerly cultivated the greater part of this land; but their being now moved about from place to place, has prevented their taking any further interest in its cultivation, and they consequently have given it up. I hereupon ordered the Subadar to relieve the guard but once in six months, instead of once in four months: this arrangement will allow of the sepoy cultivating the land at Dhemapoor and at the other posts. They will sow in June and July, and reap in November.

11th February.—Started this morning at 8 o'clock A. M. for Summagoding, the heavy rain of last night has made the pathway very wet, and swarming with leeches. Summagoding being too great a distance for my coolies, I determined to encamp on a sand bank in the Diboo Panee river, about three miles from the base of the Summagoding hill; from this spot I could distinctly see the houses of the Naga village; here the river is rather broad, huge stones and the wrecks of large and small trees lie in a confused mass. The Diboo Panee is a fine river, much broader and more rapid than the Dhunsiri, its banks are very low, and during the rainy season, the country for several hundred yards inland is inundated. The path from Dhemapoor runs in a S. S. E. direction for about five miles, when meeting the Diboo Panee, it followed its banks to my encampment.

12th February.—At 8 o'clock A. M. started, and arrived at the foot of the hill in about an hour and a half, the path tolerably good, but blocked up in some places by fallen trees and *bet* jungle, the latter strewn across the road by wild elephants, &c. On my way up, came upon two or three spots of cultivation, belonging to the Summagoding Nagas; another hour's march brought me up to the village, which is on the very summit of the hill. About a quarter of a mile from the village, I was met by the two Gaon Booras, who received me most civilly, and welcomed me to their village. I had thought of remaining here this day, but finding that water was very scarce, it being brought up in bamboo *chengahs* from the Diboo Panee, at the Southern base of this hill, I determined to proceed down to the river and there encamp.

I remained in the village for a couple of hours, to rest my coolies and people, and to hear any complaints the villagers might have to make against the other tribe of Nagas. The Gaon Booras on this informed me, that about two years ago, some Nagas of the Kohema tribe had seized two men and one woman of their village, who were going to their field for rice; they had since offered to ransom them, but their offers were so exorbitant, they could not agree with them. Having told them I would investigate their complaints, and having given them some presents, I took my leave; they appeared much pleased with their presents, and went away in high spirits. Summagoding is a fine high hill, height I suppose 2000 feet. On the very summit of it, is the village

“Summagoding,” it contains about 100 houses; the men I found to be civil and obliging, but very independent in their notions; they are, however, tributary to the Khonoma Nagas. The river at this point is very narrow, and runs through two high perpendicular walls of rock; the rush of water during the rains is very considerable, width of river not more than 60 feet.

18th February.—Started at half-past 8 o'clock A. M. for Raja-piama, to inspect the tea lands reported to be in those hills; round along the bed of the Diboo Panee, stepping very slippery on the large stones in the river, hardly a pebble or grain of sand to be seen, the bed of the river being filled with large round stones. An hour and a half brought us to the foot of the Raja-piama hills, water nearly the whole way very shallow. Here I directed my people to remain and encamp, whilst I proceeded to the Raja-piama village to look at the tea, accompanied by my *teeklas*, and guard. On arriving at the village, I was met by Jeéreebee Gaon Boora; as unfortunately for me this was a grand festival day with them, the whole party was more or less intoxicated, the Gaon Boora, as head man, more so than his brethren; he nevertheless received me most cordially, and invitingly pressed me to taste of his “*futtica*,”\* which to humour him, I put to my lips. After a little further conversation, I requested to be shewn the tea; Jeéreebee immediately escorted me to the spot, where I saw the tea plant growing most abundantly and luxuriantly immediately near to the village; I followed the tea for some distance, and saw very many spots covered with it. Jeéreebee gave me to understand, that the whole of his low hills were covered with tea. I think this may be possible, for tea has been found among the Bazec-piama hills, but in small quantities. The leaves of the plant are large, and of a finer kind than what I have generally seen in the Seeb-sagur and Muttuck divisions. I asked Jeéreebee if he had any objections to my sending up Assamese tea-makers to manufacture the tea on the spot, telling him that I would give him *monees*,† salt, daws, &c., to which, he replied, he would be very happy to accommodate in any way, and that I should be welcome to send up the Assamese tea-makers, and that he would protect them. He agreed also to supply

\* A fermented liquor from grain.

† Beads.

them with provisions on my giving him *monees*, salt, &c. In return I cannot say how much tea there may be in these hills, but I am of opinion, that it extends over a great part of these low hills, The late Mr. Grange mentions having met with it among the Jappama and Jykanee Nagas. The Mazepamah and Bezepanoah, have it also on their hills. On my asking him for the fine cloths he had engaged to pay annually to Government, he asked me whether his neighbors and other Nagas had given me in theirs; I told him that some had, and that I was going round to the others, to collect. He told me that he could not give me his five, until the Konoma and Mozoma (his superiors,) had given in theirs; to which I replied, I should remain in his village, until he gave me the five cloths he had agreed to pay to Government, and that I could not go away without them. On this, he had a conference with his chiefs, and presently afterwards Jeereebec brought me his five cloths, but with a very bad grace. I gave him and his four Gaon Booras some presents, with which they were highly pleased, and we parted very good friends. Some of the Naga ryots brought me to my encampment some tea seeds, which they bartered for salt and *monees*. I endeavoured to procure some rice from the Nagas, but they told me, that they had a bad crop that season, and had not a sufficiency for themselves; having been obliged to purchase a supply for their present consumption, they could not afford to give me more than one maund; this of course could not go very far among my people. I had only brought five days' provisions with me from Dhemapoor, half of which was now expended; I therefore determined to return to Dhemapoor, where I expected certain Naga chiefs, whom I had summoned, awaiting my arrival.

14th February.—At 8 o'clock A. M. started from Summagoding, and arrived at 4 o'clock P. M., at our first encampment on the Dibad Panee, this was a long day's march; the route for six miles ran in the bed of the river, sometimes water up to our waists, and extremely cold, coolies very much distressed, footing very uncertain here. On arriving at the south-eastern base of the Summagoding range, we were unable to proceed further along the bed of the river, owing to the deep pools, walls of rock, and rapids. We here came upon Captain Bigge's road across the hills east of Summagoding. This road or pathway crosses three or

four of those hills, average height from 500 to 600 feet, it is tolerably good but jungle (grass and underwood) has again sprung up in it; the bridges and embankments then made by Captain Bigge, have given way, the wood with which they were made, having rotted. Distance across these hills about three miles; having crossed these low hills, we came again on the Diboo Panee river on the northern base of Summagoding, and having followed it about three miles further, we came to our first encampment on this river, coolies, followers, nay all of us, much fagged. On my asking the coolies which route they preferred, they gave the preference to the Naga route across the Summagoding hill. I am also of opinion, that the latter route is preferable to foot passengers; and Captain Bigge's for elephants, horses and cattle; the Naga route is passable throughout the year, whilst the road made by Captain Bigge is passable for only three months in the year when the river is low, and the route can be taken along its bed.

On my return from Raja-piama to-day, a Maun sepoy pointed out to me some tea plants; he took me up a nullah for about 200 yards, we then came upon some high land, and on both sides of this nullah saw the tea plant. On my asking him how he came to know this spot, he informed me, that he had accompanied Captain Bigge in his late expedition, and that they had encamped somewhere near here; that he came here searching for fuel and fell upon the tea; the plants were rather thinly scattered, but there were plenty of them round about in the jungle, some of the trees were large, 20 feet high, and 4 to 5 inches in diameter. This nullah falls into the Diboo Panee river, on its north side, and is about two and half miles from the southern base of the Summagoding hill.

*15th February.*—Started at 8 o'clock A. M., and arrived at Dhemapoor at 11½ A. M. No Naga chiefs had arrived; coolies I had left behind me here, hard at work at the godown and stockade, grass for thatching very scarce, and is only procurable about two miles distant from the stockade.

*16th February.*—Chiefs of the Mozoma and Bazepama tribes came in to pay their respects, gave them some presents.

*17th February.*—As the Upper Rengmah Naga chiefs had not arrived here at my calling, I propose going to Mohung, there to meet them,

visit the *pharree* there, and have a conference with Tularam Seenaputti, regarding the very irregular and lawless conduct of certain of his Kacharee ryots, who are constantly embroiling the Nagas in quarrel one with another, taking the part of the stronger party, and assisting them in looting the weaker one, taking for themselves a good share of the spoils; they go armed with muskets, consequently have very great advantage over the unfortunate Nagas. If also two Naga tribes wish to fight with one another, the richer party purchase the assistance of a few Kacharees, (armed with muskets,) and are sure of becoming the victors; the Kacharees receiving a handsome reward, are always ready to give their assistance to the richer party.

18th February.—Started from Dhemapoor for Mohung at 7 o'clock A. M., and encamped at 3 o'clock P. M., on the Pokaree Jhan, a small streamlet about 13 feet wide, distance about 16 miles; route from Dhemapoor in a South-westerly direction, path very good requiring but little repairs, bridges to be made over several nullahs. This road was made by Tularam Sennaputti in 1841. This road leads the whole way from Dhemapoor through Tularam's own country.

19th February.—Started from Pokaree Jhan, and arrived at Mohung half-past 2 o'clock P. M., distance to-day about 14 miles, path good, through fine open tree jungle to the Jaminoona river, about three miles from Mohung. Here we crossed the Jummoona, and came into a grassy and kuggree jungle, rain drizzling the whole day. The Jummoona is supposed to have its source near to the Topokhing Naga hills, where we crossed it; the river is about 100 feet wide, and very rapid, water up to our middle. The Diboo falls into the Jummoona about a quarter of a mile above the path on its right bank, and again the Diboo river falls into the Jummoona on its left bank about half a mile below the path.

20th February.—Mohung is a town of about 45 to 50 houses on the north bank of the Jummoona, the river is in front of the village, which is here from 80 to 90 feet broad; population Ahoms and Cacharees. Here is a *pharree* under the Jummoonah Mookh thannah, consisting of one Police mohurir and two tecklahs. On the low hills to the north of Mohung are several villages of Meekirs; they are a fine hardy set of men, and make civil and obliging coolies. These people seldom remain

more than three years on the same piece of land; they prefer clearing new tree jungle to remaining longer, as by that time grass and ekra jungle overrun their clearances, which they find more difficult to eradicate than clearing new tree jungle; they cultivate vast quantities of cotton, which they dispose of to the Assamese ryots and traders for cash and salt. Cotton thrives beautifully in almost all these low hills. On the higher range to the north of the Meekirs, are the upper Renmah Nagas, some of their villages are but one, and others two days' march from Mohung. Despatched the Kutkees to summon in the chiefs with their cloths, and also a messenger to Tularam Seenaputti, requesting an interview with him at Ramsah, a small village to the west of this a few miles.

*21st February.*—Not wishing to remain idle here until the arrival of the Naga chiefs and Tularam Seenaputti, I proceeded to the falls of the Jummoona, a distance of about five miles below Mohung, passed through the small village of Ramsah on the north of the Jummoona, and from there, half an hour's walk took us to the falls. Here I encamped for the day, and went to inspect these falls; chalk, coal, and lime, said to be in their vicinity, these falls are of one continuation for about half a mile. The first of about 30 perpendicular feet; 2d, about 20; 3d, of 12; 4th, of 10 feet, and so diminishing until they settle down into the rapids. The river above the falls is full to its banks, below very rapid, with many deep pools. Its banks here are of rock and of hard red sandstone; some of the rocks in the bed of the river are of immense size. During the rainy season, the body of water rushing down this spot, must be very considerable. There are small hills, height about 150 feet on each bank of the river at the falls. About half a mile from the falls I came upon the chalk as mentioned in the late Mr. Grange's Journal, I found it in the bed of the river, and also two small nullahs falling into the Jummoona. There is a large quantity of it; but I am of opinion it is pipe clay and not chalk. The coal too I saw; it is in a small nullah at the eastern base of these small hills on the north bank of the river. The stratum is small and in the bed of this nullah; but not having the necessary instruments for excavating, I was unable to get any good specimens, I however brought away with me a few pieces; the upper seam was of a soft blackish substance and easily crumbled in the hand;

below this, the coal was brittle, and broke into many small pieces. I had nothing but a Naga spear with me, so could not reach the solid coal. I told the Ramsah Gaon Boorah who was with me, to send me some good specimens, and I would reward him. The lime was some few miles below the falls, and too far away for me to visit to-day. I was told by some Meekirs that a small quantity lay in store, or rather had been in store there, but the house in which it was stored, having been burnt down, the lime lay exposed, and became one hard mass and spoilt. Cotton traders from Mohung Ramsah above are here obliged to change boats; the cotton is carried over the small hills below the rapids, and there put into other boats. Thunder storm and rain all night.

22d February.—Returned to Ramsah to await the Seenaputti's arrival. Ramsah is a small village on the north bank of the Jummoona with about twenty houses, population Ahoms and Cacharees. Here I met five Cossiyahs, they had come from Amoepoonjee, and had brought with them daws, kodals, and a few brass utensils, which they barter with the Nagas, Meekirs and Cacharees. I thought the articles very cheap, considering the distance they bring them from. Daws four annas, and kodalees seven and eight annas; they tell me some of their people come over yearly to trade and barter with these Nagas (Rengmas,) Meekirs and Cacharees.

23d February.—Waited till 12 A. M. for Tularam Seenaputti, but he not arriving, I left a message for him to follow me to Dholung, and then started for that village; drizzling rain the whole day. Path very wet.

24th February.—Tularam Seenaputti arrived last evening, and came to-day to pay his respects. Informed him of the frequent disturbances created among the Nagas by some of his Cacharee ryots, residing at and near Semkur, and requested he would have a stop put to such proceedings. I at the same time told him, that I had given orders to the Mann subadar to seize all such parties and to send them down to Golaghat, when they would be dealt with as my superiors would direct, that these aggressions were illegal, and if he did not put a stop to them, that he would be answerable for these aggressions of his ryots. On this he replied, that he was as anxious as myself to put a stop to such

proceedings, and had despatched some of his people for that purpose, but these Semkur Cacharees minded not his orders, and he had not the means at hand of enforcing them. \* \* \* \* The Upper Rengmah Naga chiefs now arrived, bringing with them their *lall bundee* of cloths, all excepting seven; which seven I directed the chiefs to give to the Subadar at Dhemapoor, who would forward them on to me. All the chiefs but one were present; the absent chief's village being three days' march from Mohung, the Kutkees did not reach that distance. I however told the others, (his brethren,) to tell the absent chief to take his cloth to the Subadar at Dhemapoor. These chiefs complained against those of the Jokophang tribe, for allowing the Abor Nagas, when the latter came in their marauding expedition against the Rengmas, to rest in their (the Jokophang) village, and showing them the route to the Rengmah villages, and in some instances joining these Abors, and fighting with them. I hereupon took the Jokophang chiefs to task, and informed them, that I would hold them responsible for any further aggressions against these Rengmah Nagas, for without their assistance, I was firmly of opinion, that the Abors could not come thus far to commit these marauding expeditions. The Jokophang Nagas replied, that they were a small village, and when the Abors came, they always came in large numbers; and that they, to save themselves, had shewn the route to the Rengmah villages, but had never once joined such parties of Abors with the intention of looting. I told them that when the Abors again came to their village not to allow them to remain, but to inform the Subadar at Dhemapoor, who was but one day's march from Jokophang, and who would protect both them and the Rengmah Nagas; they agreed to this arrangement. I gave them some presents and their dismissal. The Rengmah chiefs were willing to accompany me to Golaghat, but said that now it was too late for them, as they were about to commence their crops, they would prefer therefore paying me a visit at Golaghat early this approaching cold season. The whole of the Rengmah Nagas were formerly under one chief, but about the time of the Burmese invasion, separated. Seven villages remained in their old hills, and seven villages went over towards Mohung; the former trade with the Assamese at Golaghat, the latter with Assamese, Cacharees, and Meekirs at Mohung, and below that village. Having now executed all I had or

wished to do at Mohung, I purpose starting for Dhemapoor to-morrow morning; a severe thunder storm with torrents of rain this evening. Here is a guard of one Naick and four sepoy. No complaints made by any of the Assam Militia either at Mohung or Ramsah. On my asking if they had any complaints to make against them, the ryots said, No.

*25th February.*—Started from Mohung on my return to Dhemapoor, and arrived at my former encampment on the Pokoijhan; drizzling rain the whole day. On crossing the Jummoona, we found that river had risen upwards of a foot since our previously crossing it; water nearly breast high, obliged to ford, no boat at hand, path very wet, leeches in abundance, rain all night.

*26th February.*—Started from Pokorijhan and arrived at three o'clock P. M. at Dhemapoor. No Naga chiefs having arrived, and the season being far advanced for further proceedings, I propose returning to Golaghat by water, surveying the Dhunsiri down to Golaghat. The stockade is now completed, and the godown and guard house repaired. I left instructions with the Subadar to send up Kutkees to the Konoma Naga chiefs, summoning them to Golaghat, there to meet me, as they did not think proper to meet me at Dhemapoor.

*27th February.*—Commenced my survey of the Dhunsiri river, assisted by Gunga Dhur Dey, formerly an ameen in Mr. Thornton's Survey Office, and who had volunteered to accompany me.

*28th February.*—At 6 o'clock P. M. we arrived near to the Diboo Panee.

*29th February.*—The 2d day near to the Hurreeojan.

*1st March.*—The 3d day Dao Panee and 4th day Bor Puther. Here I received a report from my Darogah, informing me, that Captain Brodie, Principal Assistant Sibsagur division, had been awaiting my return for two days, and that Captain Brodie would start for Sibsagur on the morning of the 2d March; wishing much to have an interview with that officer, respecting the arrangements he might wish to be made at Golaghat, I left the finishing of the survey with Gunga Dhur Dey, Ameen.

*2d March.*—At and at day-light the following morning started by land for Golaghat, and arrived at this station at 10 o'clock P. M.; but too late to see Captain Brodie, who had started that morning at 8 o'clock A. M.

I have the pleasure to annex a separate description of the rivers and roads I met with in my tour.

The Dhunsiri is a fine large river, its general width from Dhemapoor Rivers. to the point where the Dayong river falls into the The Dhunsiri. Dhunsiri, is from 200 to 250 feet; it then considerably widens, and from this point to Golaghat and below, the width is from 350 to 500 feet; its banks are in general low, and during the heavy rains of August, the country for a considerable distance inland, is inundated. There are on the banks and in their vicinity some very fine timbers, such as Nahor,<sup>1</sup> Holock,<sup>2</sup> Shan,<sup>3</sup> Jamoo,<sup>4</sup> Teta,<sup>5</sup> Ajar,<sup>6</sup> Gondhoree,<sup>7</sup> Khodmid,<sup>8</sup> Heelgomaree,<sup>9</sup> Amoree,<sup>10</sup> Soppah,<sup>11</sup> Heeleeka,<sup>12</sup> and Ajot.<sup>13</sup> The river the whole way from Dhemapoor to Bor Pathur is fordable during the months of December, January and February; in many places the water shallows to six inches; boat are obliged to be drawn over these shallows, some of them run a considerable distance. This dragging of boats is rather fatiguing work, and no boats beyond 8 to 10 maunds burden, can proceed to Dhemapoor from this, during these three months. The Dhunsiri from a little below the Namber Nuddee to the Diboo Panee Mookh, is filled with the wrecks of large and small trees, washed into the river during the rains and falling in from its banks; the navigation is extremely tedious and fatiguing; in some places boats are to be dragged across the shallows, in others the passage is stopt up by the fallen trees, which must be removed, and a channel sufficiently large for the boats to pass cleared; cutting through a large tree, taking four men an hour to cut through it; in some places boats are dragged over these fallen trees, and in others passing under them; the current of this river is very sluggish during the months of December, January, February and March. The water is good and clear during these four months, after March, the water becomes thick and muddy.

The Namber is a small hill stream coming from the Rengmah Naga hills, about 60 feet wide, with a fine sandy bed. About a Namber. mile from its confluence with the Dhunsiri on its north bank,

<sup>1</sup> Messaferrea, <sup>2</sup> Diptero Carpus, <sup>3</sup> Artocarpus chaplasha, <sup>4</sup> Eugenia, <sup>5</sup> Mechelia.  
<sup>6</sup> Lagerstræmia Reginæ, <sup>7</sup> Laurus Sassafras, <sup>8</sup> ——— ? <sup>9</sup> Gmelina ? <sup>10</sup> ——— ?  
<sup>11</sup> Michelia ? <sup>12</sup> Terminalia citrina, <sup>13</sup> ——— ?

is a small salt spring; the brine is very thin and weak, and to the tongue hardly perceptible: in appearance this spring is like unto numberless little fountains continually bubbling, a large mass of this water is constantly flowing out. The river, about one and a half mile from this, is another salt spring, but much larger, though the quantity of water is less: the brine is equally weak. The expense of manufacturing salt here, would I am afraid, be very great, and never repay the maker. About a mile from this, in a southerly direction are the Namber falls; the fall here is about 15 feet perpendicular, near to this, in the bed of the river, I found a confused mass, in huge blocks of shells, limestone, &c. The lime is of a superior kind, but difficult to be worked, as the river is too shallow for boats to proceed up so far; the banks are low, and during the rains, the Namber overflows its banks to a considerable extent. This river falls into the Dhunsiri seventeen miles above Golaghat.

The Dao Panee river takes its course from the Rengmah Naga hills; it is very rapid, about 100 feet wide, with a fine sandy bottom; its banks are covered with small timber, water shallow, during the cold season it falls into the Dhunsiri, forty-five miles above Golaghat, and sixteen miles above Bor Pather. The Rengmah Nagas were formerly settled on its bank, close under the hills, but were driven from thence by the inroads of their enemies, the Lota, Tokophang and Abor Nagas; from being once a populous and powerful people, they have become weak and scattered. I have intimated to the Rengmah Naga chiefs, that if they will again settle on the Dao Panee, I would allow them a guard to protect them; the guard will also be convenient in keeping open the communication between Golaghat and Dhemapoor during the rains. Since my return to this station, I called together the chiefs of the Rengmah and Lota tribes, and am happy to say, that I have succeeded in settling their former differences amicably; they have agreed to trade together at Golaghat, and for the future to be friends, their differences were settled over a grand feast that I gave them; three villages of the Rengmahs have since this, commenced clearing lands on the Dao Panee for their habitation. This is a good beginning, and I am in hopes the remaining villages will soon follow their example.

The Hurreeojan is a small muddy nullah, coming from the Jokophang Hurreeojan River. Naga hills; the North bank is Tularam Sennaputti's southern boundary; it falls into the Dhunsiri, 28 miles below Dhemapoor.

The Diboo Panee is a noble stream, as wide, if not wider than the Dhunsiri, and much more rapid; it falls into the Diboo Panee River. The latter river 10 miles below Dhemapoor. This river I believe, comes from the Konoma range of hills during the rainy season; a large quantity of wrecks of trees is swept from this river into the Dhunsiri. A few miles from its confluence with the Dhunsiri, the bed of this river is filled with huge roundish stones, for the most part its banks are composed of these large stones mixed with gravel and earth.

The Jummoona river is already well known, therefore no further mention may be required from me.

By the present route, the total distance from Golaghat to Dhemapoor is about 60 miles; this might be considerably shortened, say by 10 miles, and a good open path 10 feet wide through the heavy tree jungle, be cut for Co's Rs. 40 per mile, total expence would be Co's Rs. 2,080. The path at present from Golaghat to the Namber is very inferior, for the most part running through broken ground, distance 10 miles; from the Namber to Bor Pather, path tolerably good, through open tree jungle and high country, intersected by many small nullahs, which require bridges, distance eight miles. From Bor Pather to Dao Panee tolerably good, many swamps and nullahs intersect the path, distance nine miles. From Dao Panee river to Hurreeojan, very inferior, the path is more like a wild animal's track than a road, distance 12 miles. From Hurreeojan to the Diboo Panee river again very inferior, swamps and nullahs are in abundance, distance 13 miles. From the Diboo Panee to Dhemapoor no route, except in the bed of the Dhunsiri, and this only passable during the three months of December, January, and February, when the water is shallow; distance nine miles, total distance by present route 61 miles. By the route I have sketched in the map, this distance may be shortened by 10 miles. I should prefer the road from Golaghat to Bor Pather running through Nagorah and across to Bor Pather, to the Namber Nuddee route; the land is high and better adapted for a road, besides being the means of opening a direct communication between Golaghat and the large Mouzahs of Nagorah Geladharee, Mackreong, &c. which is at present much required. The road from Dhemapoor to Summagoding made by Capt. Bigge is rather circuitous, and leads for three miles along the

south bank of the Diboo Panee, it then enters the bed of that river and proceeds thus for three miles, when it reaches the hills on the eastern base of the Summagoding range; the road crosses these hills (distance three miles,) it again enters the bed of the river for another two miles and then comes to the southern base of the Summagoding hills; from here to the foot of the Rajahpiama hills, the road is in the bed of the river, and there stops. Captain Bigge had a path cut in the jungle (grass) along the edge of the bank, but this has been entirely cut away by the encroachments of the river. The route along the bed of the river is very tedious and fatiguing, being for the most part over large stones and rocks, stepping exceedingly slippery, and the remainder through the water, which in some places is up to a man's middle. The path by which the Summagoding Nagas and others come to Dhemapoor, is the more direct of the two. I went to Summagoding by the Naga route, and returned by Captain Bigge's; the coolies and people who accompanied me preferred the Naga route, and I also gave it the preference; for although the ascent to Summagoding is rather tedious, it is far less fatiguing of the two. The distance direct from Dhemapoor to Summagoding by Captain Bigge's route is 18 miles, by the Nagas, 15 miles. To persons wishing to proceed to the Konoma Naga hills and beyond, Captain Bigge's route would be preferable. Elephants and horses can also go by this route, but to Summagoding the Naga route is the better of the two; neither horses nor elephants can ascend the Summagoding hills, as in some places the rocks are so steep, that steps have been cut in them to enable persons to go up by. For 3000 Rs. a good pathway might be made from Dhemapoor to Raja piama, passable throughout the year. I would take the path over the low hills in preference to trusting to the water-course. If this sum were sanctioned and I permitted, I should be most happy to superintend the road. Early in December is the best season for road-making, the country is then passable, and the ryots have finished with their crops, and willing to work.

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