

The above prices are those obtained from some taken up as a venture by the Sikh merchant Tara Sing.

The cost of carriage from Bombay to Yarkand is about 3*l.* 15*s.* per cwt. It is calculated that the Russian goods which now have possession of that market cost 4*l.* 10*s.* per cwt. in carriage from Moscow to Yarkand.

VIII. LETTER from MOHAMAD YAKOOB ATALIGH GHAAZEE, KING OF EASTERN TURKISTAN.

To the receptacle of honour and dignity, ROBERT BERKELEY SHAW, Sahib.

After performance of the ceremonies of friendship, let it be revealed to the intelligent and sublime understanding of the wise and sagacious and eloquent [gentlemen] of high rank and dignity that I received the letter and presents you sent from Yarkand, together with the double-barrelled gun, by the hand of Azim-bai, and was glad to learn that you were enjoying good health. Letters serve as half meetings. It is my constant prayer that you may be preserved in good health. All goes right here. I have sent you a keepsake, and the peace be with you.

(Seal of) MOHAMAD YAKOOB,
1286 (A.H.).

[Translated in the Office of the Secretary to the Government, Punjab.]

IX.—CHRONOLOGICAL CYCLE OF TWELVE YEARS USED IN TURKISTAN.

No.	Names of the years.	Meaning.	Supposed peculiarities.
1	Chichkan	Mouse	Fine crops and happiness.
2	Kila	Cow	Many deaths and much affliction.
3	Koblán	Leopard or ounce	Enmity between kings.
4	Toshkan	Hare	Bad weather, hurricanes.
5	Boolook	Alligator	Much water from the mountains.
6	Eelán	Serpent	Plagues of snakes and scorpions.
7	At	Horse	Male children born this year.
8	Koeé	Sheep	Everything plentiful.
9	Maimoon	Monkey	Much deceit among men.
10	Tookha	Fowl	Trees produce much fruit.
11	Eet	Dog	Female children born this year.
12	Tangoos	Pig	Faithlessness and treachery.

This cycle of years is still chiefly used in Turkistán, being a relic of their old religion. Compare this with a similar but more complex cycle among the Thibetans.

3. *Meteorological Observations taken at Lé.* By W. H. JOHNSON; with Remarks by Major T. G. MONTGOMERIE, R.E.

THE following observations were taken by W. H. Johnson, Esq., F.R.G.S., Governor of Ladak for H.H. the Maharajah of Kashmir, Jummoo, &c., at Lé the capital of Ladak, 11,500 feet above the sea.

Mr. Johnson remarks that January is the coldest month at Lé, and, on looking at the column of remarks, it will be seen that the weather was very much more stormy and rough than was to have been expected in a province of Thibet, where clouds are generally supposed to be very rare. Mr. Johnson says that on some of the clear days, when it was windy and the thermometer below zero, the cold was intense, so much so, that when he went out of the house his feet used to feel as if they had had hot irons applied to them, though he wore thick felt stockings. His letter was dated Lé, 7th February, 1873, and he says that the cold was then not so severe, as the days were getting longer.