

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
RECORDS OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
AND ITS DEPENDENCIES.

NEW SERIES.

No. I.

NOTES ON THE BUNNOO DISTRICT,

BY MAJOR H. B. URMSTON,

Deputy Commissioner.

GOVERNMENT PRESS, LAHORE.
1869.



Ad-

NOTES
ON THE BUNNOO DISTRICT,

BY MAJOR H. B. URMSTON,
Deputy Commissioner.

On the Indus, 10th February, 1866.

The following notes have been hurriedly written off during my passage down the Indus on my way to England. They will be found to contain statistics and information which cannot fail to be useful to future Civil Officers at Bunnoo. Had time permitted, before leaving the district, I might have made them far more interesting and complete; but I was so fully engrossed with public duties up to the last hour, that I was quite unable to look over the Office records or collect more detailed information on general subjects: especially as I had to prepare a subsidiary memorandum on all pending questions for the guidance of the Officiating Deputy Commissioner.

H. B. URMSTON.

ROUGH NOTES ON THE BUNNOO DISTRICT.

THE Bunnoo District has been so graphically described in "Edwardes' Year on the Punjab Frontier," and subsequently by Major (now Colonel) Reynell Taylor in his official Memorandum of 1852, published amongst the Selections of the Government of India, No. XII., 1856, that it seems almost superfluous, not to say presumptuous, to write further on the subject,—especially as the first-named work contains a very able and minute account, not only of the country itself and its physical features, but of its people, their customs, habits, and political histories, both previous and subsequent to British rule.

To all future residents of Bunnoo I would commend an attentive perusal of that book. I have found it a most complete guide during my three and a quarter years' sojourn in this portion of the Derajat.

The Commissioner has, however, expressed a hope that, before proceeding to England on medical certificate, I would make a few notes for the benefit of my successor, and future reference.

In compliance, therefore, with Major Pollock's request, I proceed to notice such points as may be useful to those who come after me.

Eighteen years have now passed away since Sir Herbert (then Lieutenant Edwardes, Assistant to the Resident of Lahore), in the name of the Sikh Government, took possession of the country, and laid the foundations of the Fort of Dhulleepgurh. Many of the leading characters, described with so much life in his book, have disappeared from the scene: some are still living who delight to speak of the first English Ruler; while the younger branches, now well advanced in manhood, have not forgotten those early days when their fathers were called upon to level their 400 forts, and bend their necks for the first time to the yoke of the "Feringee Hakim."

Nor have these sixteen years of peaceful rule been unmarked by progress: many a blood-stained sword and dagger has been converted into a ploughshare,—many a fighting "goondee" (or faction) into loyal and obedient agriculturists.

True, the "goondces" *do* exist to a certain extent. They will not perhaps ever become wholly extinct; but their quarrels are now quietly referred to the Courts of Justice, instead of, as in olden times, to the force of arms. This of itself is one great stride in civilization,—a sure sign of a strong and settled government.

Indeed, it is impossible to mix with the people, or talk with the old "grey-beards" of a village, without being struck by their opinion of the revolution caused by British rule and British laws. One and all acknowledge the blessings—political and social—which have been conferred.

These benefits are manifest in the marked increase of value given to property; improved appearance and condition of the people; and their appreciation of rights in the soil. Land previously fallow for many generations has, within the past decade, been brought under cultivation to the extent of many thousand acres, particularly in the tracts called "Nar" and "Lundeedak," which were, till recently, covered with jungle, and infested by wild beasts and highway robbers. Around Bunnoo itself, that which formerly sold for 10 or 15 Rs. an acre, now realizes from 200 to 250 or 30 Rs. a kunal.*

Another proof of the people's prosperity is to be found in the large and increasing number of suits annually brought before the Revenue Courts for adjudication. Cases of redemption of mortgage form the majority of these regular revenue suits, which have risen from 527 in 1860-61 to 2,118 in 1864-65.

Again, it may be observed that the sale of law and bill stamps has increased proportionately with the general prosperity. The amounts realized under this head, according to the Revenue Statements, were as follows :—

| | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| In 1862-63 | ... | ... | ... | Rs. 17,793 |
| 1863-64 | ... | ... | ... | ,, 18,893 |
| 1864-65 | ... | ... | ... | ,, 22,280; |

and the receipts for the current year promise to show a still larger return.

Lastly, if further proof was needed that this improvement was *general*, and not confined to merely the agricultural classes, I might mention the steady increase† observable in the annual sales of Octroi leases for the chief towns of the

* 8 kunals = 1 acre.

† In five towns this increase was no less than Rs. 1,500 for 1864-65.

district, and the impetus given to trade by providing good and safe roads between the principal commercial marts.

In the Pergunah of Bunnoo proper, mortgages fetch, on an average, 22 years', while sales realize 30 and 35 years', rental; but these rates are exceptional and local,—the lands of this portion of the district being highly irrigated, and capable of producing first-class crops (turmeric, sugarcane, cotton, tobacco, &c.).

In Murwut, Meanwallee, and other "Baranee" tracts, the averages are about one-third of the above rates. Wages and every description of labor have kept pace with the times.

Coolies and other daily workmen now receive from three to four annas, instead of one or two annas, per diem; bullocks, *twelve* annas a pair, instead of *six* or *eight*;—and so on in like manner. Provisions of every kind have doubled, and in the case of some articles quadrupled, in price. The Zemindars of extensive grain and wheat-growing lands, like Murwut and the Kutchee, have no longer occasion to hoard their corn for want of accessible markets. The long line of boats constantly passing down the Indus from Kalabagh and Esaukhail to Dera Ghazee Khan and the southern ports of Scinde testify at once to the immense export generally going on. The boat-building trade has so vastly increased, that, whereas formerly only ten boats were built, six and *eight times* that number are now annually launched in the thirty miles between Kalabagh and Esaukhail. I ascertained from trustworthy sources that, in the year 1864-65, eighty-one boats were built, averaging 500 maunds. These figures represent additional water-carriage of 1,500 *tons*.

The English and Persian Offices contain an accurate record of all exports by the Indus; and as these statistics are incorporated with a general return for the whole of the river in the Government Secretariat Office, I need not here recapitulate them. It will suffice to mention that the principal items consist of cotton, wool, gram, wheat, oil-seed, bajra, and pulses of various kinds. It is estimated that from 200 to 250 boats thus laden annually leave the ports of this district for the south.

Were the Government steamers better adapted for the shoals of this river, there can be no doubt that they would carry down full cargoes every trip. As it is, their draught of water is so great, that they experience the utmost difficulty in reach-

Government steamers not adapted to the Upper Indus.

ing Kalabagh during the winter months, and frequently have to discharge the whole of their cargo into native boats for transport to the terminal station *Mukkud*. Two years ago the experiment was made of sending down a detachment of European troops (invalided and discharged men) by this route. The steamer stuck on shoals below Kalabagh for nearly a month, and the troops suffered much inconvenience in consequence. The experiment has not been repeated; nor can the river be considered open to steam navigation until vessels of a much lighter draught and greater steam-power are contrived.

It is believed that one such vessel is now nearly ready in England. Simultaneously with improved steamers, a general *river conservancy establishment* will be found necessary to keep the main channels open, remove snags, and exercise a vigilant superintendence. When these two measures are actively put in force, we may expect to see the Central Asian trade diverted from Attock to *Mukkud*, and thence by water to the sea at Kurrachee.

POLITICAL.

In a Frontier District, the peace of the border and state of the tribes, so seriously affecting the general tranquillity, must naturally occupy the first attention of the Civil Officer. I will, therefore, advert without delay to this important subject, and begin by expressing the gratification I feel in leaving the Bunnoo Frontier in profound peace.

Colonel Taylor, in his Memorandum already referred to, has entered fully into the particulars of each tribe, without, however, grouping them into *two divisions*,—the absence of which has been felt by others besides myself, *viz.*, those residing *within* and those residing *without* our territory.

I will therefore now supply this want by annexing a list of each, merely premising that of those who live within the British boundary a large proportion—probably eight-tenths—annually migrate for the summer, with their flocks and herds, to enjoy the verdure and coolness of their native hills.

LIST OF TRIBES OCCUPYING LANDS WITHIN BRITISH TERRITORY.

1st.—Ahmedzais.

| Name of Clan. | Fighting men. | Chief Maliks. |
|----------------------|---------------|--|
| 1.—SPEERKAI: | | |
| Two sections, viz.— | | |
| I. Soodun Khail ... | 600 | { Nujeeb Khan and Manee (sons of Swahn Khan). Fuzl Shah ; Mudamán ; Shah Jehan. |
| II. Mahmud Khail ... | 600 | |
| 2.—HATTI KHAIL ... | 1200 | { Azeem Khan ; Bandah Khan ; Shoojah. Meer Akber ; Jaffir. |
| 3.—BIZZUN KHAIL ... | 800 | |
| 4.—OOMURZAI ... | 800 | Begee ; Lunduk Khiddur Khan. |
| 5.—PAINDA KHAIL ... | 200 | Brahm Khan. |
| 6.—BODEEN KHAIL ... | 50 | Ruzza Khan. |
| Total strength ... | 4,250 | |

All of the above, with the exception of the branch of the Speerkais called Mahmud Khails, occupy the Thull (or desert) on the north side of the river Koorum : the Mahmud Khails live near the hills, where that river enters the plains. The whole of these clans have settled down into good cultivators, and pay their revenue (which of course is very light) with praiseworthy regularity.

Within the last few years they have become very eager to possess themselves of as much land as possible, and are not unfrequently to be seen in the Courts litigating for their rights, real or alleged, with as much enthusiasm, and not less noise, than a Bunnoochee ; for this Thull, though sandy, is, like Murwut, very favorable for the rubbee crops, and in some parts produces also good khurreef.

During the early days of our rule, Major Taylor (who had succeeded Major Edwardes in 1850) induced this tribe to settle by giving them grants of land. Amongst these grants was one for 60,000 kunals, or 7,500 acres, to Azeem Khan, and his near relatives of the Hatti Khail clan. I believe this was intended for the *whole clan*, not for Azeem and a few leading men in particular, who, however, have found it advantageous to read the purwanah literally, and succeeded in keeping the

whole grant in their own hands! When I found complaints coming up frequently against Azeem Khan, I referred this question to Colonel Becher (then Commissioner), giving it as my opinion that I thought the 60,000 "kunals" should be more equally divided amongst the members of Azeem's tribe; but he decided to let matters stand as they were, although there seemed little doubt that it was not Major Taylor's intention to have conferred upon two or three individuals of a large clan an exclusive proprietary right over so large an area.

The case gave rise to much ill-feeling two years ago, and Azeem's grasping conduct will, I fear, be always looked upon by other members of the tribe as a grievance.

It will, however, I hope, right itself in time; for when Azeem Khan finds that he cannot secure tenants to cultivate his broad acres on his own terms, he will be driven in self-defence to make other arrangements, so as to induce his clansmen to settle near him.*

Although ordinary crime is not prevalent amongst the Ahmedzais, yet, until last year, they had a weakness for *affrays*, which not unfrequently ended in the death of one or two, and wounding of others. Two or three murders also occurred, which, but for the merest accident, would not have been found out,—this part of the district never having been placed under regular Police control. An opportunity for increasing the number of Policemen having offered, I proposed the reduction of a Jemadar of the mounted force, and the establishment of a post of five horse and seven footmen out of the savings thus effected, to be located in the heart of the Thull. This proposition was sanctioned by the Commissioner, and subsequently by the Lieutenant-Governor.

The effect of this post amongst the Wuzerees has been undoubtedly good. Neither affrays nor other serious crimes have been committed since the post was appointed.

A temporary building has been erected for the men, who are paid, like other Police of the district, by Government. Should the tribe continue to behave well, it may be advisable after a year to withdraw this detachment; but in this case *Wuzerees watchmen* should be appointed in the chief "kirrees" to report all crimes to the Kotwalee and keep a look-out upon bad characters.

* Note by Major Minchin.—Azeem Khan has now given 20,000 kunals to the tribe, and kept 40,000 for himself and relations.

The Malik's should also be held *strictly responsible* for the conduct of their clansmen. Without the one or the other, it will be impossible to detect crime in this wild region, or keep the tribes in order.

I would myself be inclined to maintain the post as at present, which should on no account be decreased *in strength*. A party of 15, or even 20, would be a safer number, should the Wuzerees be at all troublesome or ill-disposed towards us.

Some of the principal Malik's have Sowars in the Frontier Militia at Dhummy; but as this force is now under *military* control, they take no part in the Police duties of the district, nor can they be employed, except in urgent cases, by the district authorities.

Wuzerees Sowars
employed in the Fron-
tier Militia.

The following is a list of these Sowars :—

1. Bandah Khan, Malik of the Hatti Khail.
2. Ruzza Khan, ditto Bodeen Khail.
3. Zurwur Khan, ditto Bizzun Khail (son of Meer Akber, Malik).
4. Meeawur, Bargheer of do. Manee Khan, Speerkai.
5. Rajmeer, ditto do. Nujeeb Khan, „
6. Kaisur, ditto do. Meer Akber, Bizzun Khail.
7. Ghurree (Khoodusper), Speerkai.
8. Khoouz, Bargheer of Malik Manee.

They are responsible for the safety of the Kohat road towards Lutummur, and furnish escorts for travellers or officers going on duty along this part of the country. They have always been allowed to live at their houses in the neighbourhood of the post, and would rather resign than be compelled to take up their quarters *inside the Fort*.

Being quite unaccustomed to strict military routine, and having been allowed a certain latitude by former Political Officers, it would be highly unadvisable to curtail their liberty, or treat them like the majority of the Frontier horsemen.

Besides this post, there is a second at Goomuttee, on the north side of the Koorum, held by a party of horse and foot, but these are not *Wuzerees*.

Applications are frequently made by the Thull Wuzerees for plots of ground to cultivate. Caution is necessary in making any such grants. I discovered that some who had received permission to cultivate a certain area asked for another new grant after three years, the reason being that they had paid no revenue (according to custom) for the first three years, and they hoped to get another tenure on similar terms! By this plan, some would move from place to place every three years just to avoid payment of rent. To prevent this species of fraud, and also with a view to remove other causes of dispute amongst present occupants of the soil, I have lately given instructions for the preparation of a map of the Thull by Putwarees, in which will be shown the boundaries of present tribes, their "kirrees," cultivated lands, and other particulars; so that, in making further grants to new settlers, their exact position may be defined and recorded in the map. Mahomed Hyat Khan, Extra Assistant Commissioner, is supervising its preparation.

Next in importance amongst the tribes occupying lands *within* our territory are the following, who live to the south of the Koorum river, and have their "kirrees" dotted along the "Daman-i-koh" for a distance of 12 or 15 miles from the north side of the Tochee torrent to near Walee:—

Ootmanzais.

| <i>Name of tribe.</i> | <i>Fighting men.</i> | <i>Chief Maliks.</i> |
|------------------------|----------------------|---|
| BUKKEE KHAILS. | | |
| Tuktee Khail ... | 600 | Hussun Shah; Jung Buddur. Hussun Khan, Kurreem Khan, and Kuttameer. Ghassim; Sirdad. |
| Nurmees Khail ... | 500 | |
| Serdees Khail ... | 400 | |
| Total ... | 1,500 | |
| JANEE KHAILS. | | |
| Momeet Khan Khail, | } 1,000 | { Alladad. Bukkee. Meeran Shah. Ruzzadad. Kurreem Khan. |
| Hindee Khail ... | | |
| Reshmees Khail ... | | |
| Buchakai ... | | |
| Eedia Khail ... | | |
| Total fighting men ... | 2,500 | |

The first of these divisions, the Bukkee Khail, cultivate extensively on both banks of the Tochee, and are responsible for the "Durrah" of that name, in consideration of which they are allowed to have four Sowars (appointed by their head Maliks) in the Frontier Militia. This *inam* was only granted last year,—the Bukkee Khails having, through some inadvertence, been excluded from holding Bargheers in the Militia till their case was brought to notice. I believe the former Tahsildar of Lukkee, Sooltan Mahmood, who probably owed the tribe a grudge, had something to do with this. The English correspondence in the Office contains a full account of the several clans of this tribe, and other details, which need not be here repeated.

In addition to the Tochee pass, the Bukkee Khails are jointly responsible with the Khanee Khails for the two passes called "Khussoora" and "*Khissoor*": the former situated between the ranges of hills called Ismael and Oocha, which open on the plain in front of Meerean; the latter bounded on either side by mountains called Roocha and Mungree.

This pass leads up to the valley of Shawl. It is tolerably wide, and usually occupied by several small hamlets of the Shooey Khail and Torcee Khail clans, who are likewise *Ootmanzais*. A good understanding exists between these people and the Bukkee Khail. Connected with the Tochee and Khussoor passes are some narrow defiles, which lead into the main Durrahs: these are called the Nasputta, Bukkur, and Ismail,—all passable for a single horseman.



The Janee Khails cultivate on all sides of the Fort called after their name, which was built in 1861, on the return of General Chamberlain's Force from the Mahsood Wuzeeree expedition. This is the main out-post of the district, and contains a garrison of 80 Infantry and 60 Cavalry, and is generally commanded by an European Officer.

The Janee Khails, like the Bukkee Khails, have four Sowars in the Frontier Militia, and are responsible for the passes opposite their villages, *viz.*, the *Shuktoo* (or Sukdoo) and *Kurra Rushta*. The first-named contains hamlets and a good supply of sweet water. It is one of the chief routes to the Mahsood country, and is upwards of 30 miles long, with an average width near its mouth of 150 feet. The latter is less frequented, but runs up many miles into the hills. Two small passes, leading in to the *Shuktoo*, are called the *Zowa* and *Poweea*, both fit for a horseman.

The Janee Khails and Bukkee Khails have been on the whole well-behaved during the past few years. The latter have on several occasions recovered stolen horses and cattle from the hills, which were traced up through the Tochee Durrah. I have invariably insisted upon restitution when no doubts existed of the route taken by cattle-robbers; and I would advise that this system be strictly enforced. Amongst the Janee Khails, and indeed in every tribe occupying a like position close to the hills, are to be always found a few ill-conditioned, lawless characters, who are often in league with thieves across the border, and pass on camels, horses, or cows, from one place to another.* Whenever stolen cattle are proved to have been brought into their lands, the *Maliks* may be justly called upon to recover them,—or, failing this within a given time, to pay an equivalent in kind or cash. This plan, like that of retaliation by reprisal upon border tribes over whom we have no direct control, is thoroughly understood and acknowledged by all classes within and without the frontier. It is one which, as Sir Neville Chamberlain said in a Memorandum on the recovery of a horse which had been stolen from Cantonments, and for which I obtained full compensation from the guilty tribe, “would do more to secure the peace of the frontier than if the whole of the “Bunoo garrison was posted as sentries along the border.”

There are, however, greater difficulties in carrying out this policy since the Frontier Militia. Frontier Militia was transferred to the charge of the Military Authorities in 1861-62. The Civil and Political Officers can no longer call upon any members of this force, without the intervention of their Commanding Officer, to assist him in making sudden reprisals, or to enforce a blockade. I have recently alluded to this question in my Annual Report of the Frontier for 1865, and hope that, ere long, some change will be made. It is not necessary to repeat the arguments here.

The last tribe to be mentioned occupying lands *within* our territory is the Bithunnees. Bithunnee, on the southern border. This is a small tribe of about 2,000 or 2,500 men, the majority of whom live in the hills.

* *N. B.*—A small village, named Kooi, four *koss* from Janee Khail, close to the hills, is generally the abode of some of the worst characters of the tribe. It is nominally a Government village, and pays a small revenue with the Janee Khails; but it is impossible to bring it under efficient Police control. It contains only a dozen or eighteen houses, and could be easily destroyed by a small party of troops from the Janee Khail post.

Their principal clans or sub-divisions are—

- Bithunnee clans
and Maliks.
1. Ali Khails.
 2. Boburs.
 3. Mulla Khails.

And their head Maliks are—

1. Duraz, Bobur.
2. Akber, Bobach, Ali Khail.
3. Ulluff Shah, Bobur.
4. Shadmianee, Ali Khail.
5. Ruzza Khan, Bobur.
6. Fuddy Khan, Bobur.
7. Lajmeer Durgara.
8. Kamran ; and others.

Until quite recently, *Ulluff Shah* held two Sowars in the Militia, and was supposed to be in a measure responsible for his tribe; but having been proved utterly powerless to check their raids, or prevent cattle-lifting from our villages near the border, his Bargheers have been dismissed. He himself is not a reliable man: he spends most of his time in the hills, and associates with all lawless characters. Maliks Akber and Duraz are the most influential men of the tribe. A full report of recent date will be found in the Office concerning the Bithunnees, and the measures taken for their future good conduct. They carry on a good deal of petty robbery along the border, and extend their depredations towards Tak.

Malik Shadmianee came down from his lair four years ago, and made great professions of peace and good-will to Captain Smyly (then Officiating Deputy Commissioner) and Colonel Beher, who treated him kindly and au-

thorized for him a small grant of waste land in Nar, which, if he had been really well-inclined towards us, he would, I

think, have brought under the plough long since. Not a god has yet been turned, though his son has often told me he *intended* soon to get it cultivated! Shadmianee should be made to locate some of his people on this plot or relinquish it altogether. It consists of about 500 kunals, more or less.

Both Shadmianee and his son are very loath to leave their mountain home, even for a day, to give information about bad characters and outlaws to the Police,—the reason being that they not unfrequently shelter outlaws and criminals, and assist in the disposal of stolen property.

Futty Khan is, on the other hand, one of the best behaved amongst this tribe; and if he had more influence, he would be deserving loyal and useful. of one Bargheer by way of *inam*. He lives within our border, near the village of Tajouri, and has frequently lent good assistance to the Police.

I annex a complete list of the passes in the Bithunnee hills, with a few remarks upon each. The first nine are on the northern side of the low range which extends from the Ghubber Mountain towards Shaik Boodeen: these are guarded by the out-posts of Walli, Tajouri Paharkhail, and Khairoo-khail; the remainder are on the southern or Tak side of this range, and guarded by the strong posts of Durrabain and Moollazai. The Thannadars of Moosakhail and Durrabain exercise Police control over these geographical divisions respectively, and manage to obtain early and trustworthy information of the political state of the people.*

Nos. 1, 2, 7, and 11, are the principal thoroughfares to the higher hills.

Names, &c., of Passes in the Bithunnee Hills.

| <i>Name of Durrah.</i> | <i>Chief Maliks who are nominally responsible.</i> | REMARKS. |
|--|---|---|
| 1.—Shumla or "Khoord Koh." | Ulluff Shah, Bithunnee. | { This is about 60 feet wide, and leads up to the Mahsood country. During winter a few hamlets are settled here, but in the summer all move up to the higher mountains. |
| 2.—Surroba or "Kulan." | Ditto and Lajmeer. Ulluff Shah, 1 share. Duraz Khan } 1 share. Ali Khan, } Ruzza Khan, } Futteh Khan, } 2 shares. Dilawar Khan, } | { Ditto. Lajmeer of the Durgara clan lives in this pass during the year. It is a good deal frequented. A branch of the larger Durrah; no water; not much used. |
| 3.—Surroba (Khoord); also called Ooch Surroba. | | |
| 4.—Sond or Sohun. | Ulluff Shah. | |
| 5.—Koocha. | Dilasur, son of Duraz, Bobur. Duraz Khan and Ali Khan. | { Situated nearly due west of Durruckee, a large Murwut village, where cattle thefts are very prevalent. |
| 6.—Urmoolah, S. W. of No. 5. | Futty Khan, Bobur, resides a short distance outside this pass, and cultivates. | Jointly responsible for the pass:— { Dullameer, Ruzza Khan, Futty Khan. Usually reside within the Durrah, and are responsible for it. |

* Since these Notes were written, I am glad to hear that a portion of the Bithunnee tribe have been induced to settle in the plains under the auspices of Major Minchin, D. O.

Bithunnee Passes.—(Continued.)

| <i>Name of Durrah.</i> | <i>Chief Maliks who are nominally responsible.</i> | REMARKS. |
|---|--|---|
| 7.—Noogrum, south of No. 6. | Akber, Ali Khail, lives close to this pass. | Dullameer, Ruzza Khan, Futty Khan, Akber, Ahmedee, and Kamran, } Boburs, } Ali Khails, } are jointly responsible. |
| 8.—Khundee, opposite Tanjouri. | Akber, Ahmedee, Kamran, Akber Khan. Zuffer Khan. Syud Meer Khan. Shah Diwane. Jointly responsible. | { Ali Khails. Usually reside near this Durrah, and are accountable for it. |
| 9.—Kurroba, near Brahm Khail, and Turri Khail (Murwut villages). These are | Ruzza Khan, Akberce. all south of the Bain Durrah. | No one lives in this small pass, but Akber is supposed to look after it. |
| 10.—Mungleen, near Shumoka Mountains. | Adaree (Ali Khail). Goolloo (Mulli Khail). | { This is a small branch of the large Lurzun Durrah. No one resides in it, but the Bithunnees cut grass and graze their cattle here. |
| 11.—Lurzun, near the mountain "Chug," west of Durrah Bain. | Akber. Goolloo. Jowhur. | { This is one of the main passes in this vicinity, and is used largely by the Wuzzeerees, both for trading and robbery. The Ali Khail clan occupy the lower part of it, headed by Ahmed Shah. It is about two koss west of Oomur Khail, a Murwut village. The Jellal Khails and Shahab Khails, (both very troublesome) occupy lands at the head of this Durrah. |
| <i>N. B.—Timor, brother of Musurah (deceased), is now one of the chief men here; and with his brother, Adaree, lives near the mouth of the Mungleen Durrah.</i> | | |
| 12.—Zuneecha. | Ahmed Shah. Sheer Beg. Zer Must. (Munda Khails.) | { This is a small, unimportant pass, connected with the Lurzun, No. 11, and occasionally used by the Wuzzeerees for carrying off stolen cattle. |
| 13.—Gulhara. | Ahmed Shah, Zer Must. | { This is rather a broad pass southwest of Lurzun, and two koss south of the Zuneecha. The Munda Khails occupy hills called "Agza" within this pass. The large village of Moollazai (Murwut) is some two or two and half koss distant. The head Maliks of Moollazai keep a general look-out upon this pass. |
| 14.—Khussora. | Mean Noor. God Meer, and others of the Daood Khail clan. | A small pass, not used for cattle, southwest of Durrah Bain. |
| 15.—Kurkara or Goongara. | Mean Tor Syed Khan. | A minor clan, called the Mitchen Khail, occupy lands near its mouth. |
| 16.—Ooch Chenai (or dry Chenai). | Ghaibee; Kotaie. (Daood Khails.) | { This is connected with the "Tand Chenai," or watered Chenai, which falls into the Tak Ilaqua, a few miles to the south. |

I have been particular in describing the foregoing, because I have nowhere met with them; while all the large Wuzereee passes to the north of Janee Khail, towards Luttummur, are carefully noted in Colonel Taylor's Memorandum, to which I would refer those who require further information concerning them.

It is time now to allude to the tribes residing beyond the British territory, with whom the people of the district are occasionally brought in contact, and over whom a vigilant watch must at all times be observed. These tribes are divided into four main divisions—the *Mahsoods*, *Ootmanzais*, *Ahmedzais*, and *Bithunnees*—mustering in all about 35,000 fighting men, as per detail below:—

TRIBES BEYOND THE BORDER.

Ootmanzais.

| Name of clan. | Fighting men. | Maliks. | REMARKS. |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Mahmeel Khail ... | 3,500 | Billal and others. | Divided into three sections, viz. :— 1st.—Hussun Khails, who live in the Kette Durrah, which joins the Koorrym river above Zoram. 2nd.—Woozee Khails living at the head of the Khussoor pass. 3rd.—Several minor sections scattered about between the Birnieel Mountains and Kette Durrah. |
| Munzar Khail ... | 600 | Kummerdeen. | Chiefly reside in the Moorgha Ilaqua, head of the Tochee pass, west of Dour. |
| Mudda Khail ... | 2,500 | Adum Khan, Maya Khail. | Near the Goor Mountain, south of Dour. |
| Toree Khail ... | 3,000 | Kuttee. Ghur. Tikh. | Near the Khussoor Durrah, and at Sheeratulla, an open tract of country, about 15 miles from the Koorrym outpost, north of Dour. |
| Cabul Khails ... | 3,200 | Deen. Ruhmut Shah. Alum Shah. | Occupy both banks of the Koorrym river; partly in Kohat district. |
| Malik Shahee ... | 400 | Salch. | About half this clan occupy lands with the Janee Khails in British territory; the rest are mixed with Cabul Khail. |
| Total of Ootmanzais, | 13,200 | | |

TRIBES BEYOND THE BORDER.

Ahmedzais.

| <i>Name of clan.</i> | <i>Fighting men.</i> | <i>Maliks.</i> | REMARKS. |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Seerkee Khails ... | 800 | Lall Meer. | About half this clan occupy a part of the Thull in British territory, and are called Muddee Khail : the remainder live in the hills, south of the Khussoor pass. |
| Bomee Khails ... | 2,500 | Kurreem Khan. Lowan. Eesuff. | The Zullee Khails, who live near the Goomul pass in the Tak Ilaqua, are a branch of this clan : the rest are scattered about amongst the Mahsoods. |
| Khance Khails ... | 400 | Foujdar. | Live at Turrup, near the Koorrum river, about 16 or 20 miles from the British territory. |
| Khojul Khails ... | 1,200 | Mahomut. Amzan. Eshum. Goor. | Live along the banks of the Koorrum—from Thull, Billund Khail, towards Hun- goo, in Kohat district. |
| Soodee Khails ... | 600 | ... | A branch of the Speerkai. They occupy lands near the Wanha hills, west of the Mahsoods. |
| Total of Ahmedzais... | 5,500 | . | |

TRIBES BEYOND THE BORDER.

Mahsoods.

| <i>Name of clan.</i> | <i>Fighting men.</i> | <i>Maliks.</i> | REMARKS. |
|---|----------------------|---|---|
| ALLIZAIS:— | | | |
| 1. Shahabee Khail, (15 Sections.) | 1,200 | Goolan. Mehr Jan. Zer Billund. Meer Peao. Oomur Khan. Sirfuraz. *Yaruk. | Occupy lands near the Bobur Mountain. Scattered about in the Mahsood lands. |
| 2. Munzai ... (7 Sections.) * N. B.—(Yaruk is connected with Nawab Shah Nuwaz Khan of Tak.) | 2,300 | | |
| SHAMUN KHAIL:— | | | |
| 4 Divisions, viz.— | | | |
| 1. Cheear Khail ... | 600 | Peer Zul. Peer Dil. Munecdeen. Kummerdeen. Meer Hussun. | Live at Maidanee, and about the Shuhce hills. Live near Oolama, west of Kancee- goorum. |
| 2. Khullee Khail... | 500 | | |
| 3. Buddeenai ... | 800 | | |
| 4. Gully Shai ... | 1,000 | | |
| Total of Allizais ... | 3,500 | | |
| Shamun Khails ... | 2,900 | | |
| GRAND TOTAL ... | 6,400 | | |

MAHSOODS.—(Continued.)

| <i>Name.</i> | <i>Fighting men.</i> | <i>Maliks.</i> | <i>REMARKS.</i> |
|---|----------------------|--|---|
| BULLOLZAI :— | | | |
| I. Abdoollee ... (11 Sections.) | 2,500 | Zerdust Saeed. | Reside about Mokeem. They trade largely in iron found in their hills. |
| II. Malik Shahee ... | 800 | Iklase Shinwarree. | Live about Kaneegoorum : also trade in iron, and are noted robbers. |
| III. Nuzzur Khail, | 900 | Futty Khan. | Ditto. This tribe also cultivates a good deal in the hills. |
| <i>N. B.</i> —The above three clans are called collectively the "Haimul Khail." | | | |
| IV. Band Khail ... | 300 | Meer Paico. | Residents of Mokean. |
| V. Nanco Khail, (4 Sections) :— | | | |
| 1. Hybut Khail ... | 1,400 | { Taj Mahomed. Aleeer Ghuzub. Jehangeer. Shadeedar. Douranee. Shah Moorad. Sheera. Gool Meer. | Scattered in the Mahsood country. |
| 2. Oomur Khail, | 200 | | Mokeen : cultivators. |
| 3. Kookurree ... | 600 | | Scattered. |
| 4. Woomur Khail, | 200 | | |
| VI. Shingees ... | 1,200 | Nubbee. | Chiefly resident near the Durrahs in the <i>Tak Itaque</i> . |
| Total of Bullozais, | 8,100 | | |

ABSTRACT OF THE FOREGOING.

| | <i>Name of tribe.</i> | <i>Strength of fighting men.</i> | |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| <i>Within British territory.</i> | Ootmanzai ... | 2,500 | 7,050 |
| | Ahmedzai ... | 4,250 | |
| | Bithunnee ... | 300 | |
| <i>Beyond British territory and adjoining the Border.</i> | Ootmanzai ... | 13,200 | 34,600 |
| | Ahmedzai ... | 5,500 | |
| | Mahsood ... | 14,500 | |
| | Bithunnee ... | 1,700 | |

It will be thus seen that about one-sixth of the great tribes are settled, and under our immediate control. It seems probable too that ere long another colony will be formed of Mahsoods within the Dera Ismael Khan District, a proposition having, I believe, been recently submitted by Major Graham, and sanctioned as an experiment by the Punjab Government. If this measure succeeds, the peace of the Frontier will undoubtedly be much less liable to interruption, than hitherto. In the case of the Ahmedzais who have now occupied the Thull for some years, it has been clearly demonstrated that wild and warlike tribes can be gradually tamed, and converted into peaceful agriculturists. They are as a rule fair cultivators, and regular taxpayers. They begin to wear clean turbans and show other signs of their appreciation of civilized life. In proof of this I may mention that after the recent Darbar held at Bunnoo by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Najeeb Khan, son of the famous Swahn Khan, (who is frequently mentioned in Edwardes' work) petitioned for the honor of sitting in a chair, an article of furniture which, as a Native-gentleman afterwards remarked to me, he had never seen before the country was annexed in 1849 !

At this Darbar some of the Wuzerees Chiefs were well "got up" for the occasion, a few even aspiring to cloth choghas with gold embroidery !

If good culturable land is available in the Dera District near the border, there appears no reason why the Mahsoods should not settle down, like the Ahmedzais, and become respectable members of Society. At present they are an ill-conditioned lawless tribe, especially the Bullozais, who commit at least eighth-tenths of the border raids yearly.

I annex to this Memorandum four* separate genealogical tables, showing how the clans are descended for several generations, those *underlined with red* are resident in whole, or part, of British territory, so that they may be distinguished at a glance. It would be as well to have a copy made of these for record in the English and Persian offices. I am indebted to Mahomed Hyat Khan, Extra Assistant Commissioner, for their preparation. I have frequently tested them, and found them, by personal enquiry, perfectly correct; his information was obtained from various independent sources, and will be incorporated with other useful statistics in his History of

* Ahmedzai, Ootmanzai, Mahsood, (Bullozai.)

the Affghans, which will shortly be published in Oordoo, and subsequently I trust in English.* I have already briefly alluded to those tribes which have given most trouble during the past few years, viz:—the *Bullolzais* of the Mahsood Wuzerees, and the *Bithunnees*. Neither of these have, however, ever appeared *in force*; their bad conduct has been confined to cattle lifting, and the plun-

No lives lost on the Frontier. der of "Kafilas, passing through, or near their hills. Nor has a single life been taken by any of the Frontier tribes during the time I have been at Bunnoo. As to cattle thefts, the Powindahs by their gross carelessness and neglect of ordinary precautions seem to invite attack. Spreading themselves during the winter months along the "Damin-i-i-koh," they allow large herds of their camels to graze within musket shot of the mountains, under the charge of a few boys, or even some of their old women, and then make a great noise for redress when they find ten or twenty of their animals driven off by the Wuzerees.

Carelessness of Powindahs; neglect of their herds at graze. The Murwut borderers are not much better and trust rather too freely to the "Ikbal" of the Sirkar! Some of these cases give great trouble, and involve us in difficulties, but it is I think, nevertheless advisable to follow up each case separately, and spare no pains to recover the lost cattle, or failing this, to make reprisals upon the "Baheer" or trading parties of the offending tribe. Very often the sufferers recover their cattle by payment of "Boonga," or ransom money. If neglect is proved against them, this "Boonga" answers as a fine, and should not be restored.

Occasionally I have fined a whole village for persistent neglect of orders to employ "Budruggas" or armed escorts, and in several instances large herds have been pounded by the Police officers of Durra-bain and Moosa Khail for grazing too near the hills without sufficient protection. One half the rates leviable under the Cattle Trespass Act of 1857, are usually sufficient, especially if the camels or cattle are numerous, and I have considered it better to issue orders *myself* in all such cases, when reported by the Frontier Thanadars. Any other plan would place too much power in their hands and open a wide door for extortion upon this class of people.

* NOTE.—Since this Memorandum was written, the book has been published in Oordoo, and the Author has recently been presented with a Medal by the Unjooman, who have thus publicly recognized his literary ability as evinced in this work, and other subjects with which he has been concerned.

Not unfrequently the village "Chirga" (or hue and cry) has turned out in pursuit and succeeded in rescuing the cattle while in the act of being driven off. Prompt rewards for successful pursuing parties should be sometimes given. They mark our appreciation of their exertions, and give a stimulus to the border inhabitants to be always on the *qui vive*.

Amongst the Mahsoods, the Shahab Khails (Allizais) and Jellal Khails (Bullolzai) have caused the greatest annoyance by their plundering habits. The Malik Shaees and Kookurrees are not much better. Ursulla, of the Shahab Khails, is a noted freebooter whose capture should be accomplished if possible; he was once caught some two years ago, and kept in jail for several months, after which he was released for want of clear proof against him.

Nawab Shah Nowaz Khan, instigated probably by some of his relatives, wrote strongly in his behalf, protesting that he was innocent of the crimes charged. His testimony regarding the Allizais must however always be received with caution, as he is connected by marriage with that clan, and cannot well resist their entreaties to supplicate for them when in disgrace.

The present Thanadar of Meerean (Shaik Khooda Bukhs) knows Ursulla well, and has been told to look out for him, with the promise of 200 rupees reward for his capture.

It is so far fortunate for us, that the Mahsoods bear no good will to the other two great tribes, the Ahmedzais and Ootmarzais. The former attribute much of the success of General Chamberlain's expedition of 1861, to the information given by the Ahmedzais to our Officers regarding the routes, and position of Mahsood villages, hence they have learnt to regard them as their enemies, and lose no opportunity of plundering their cattle while in transit to the mountains for the summer, though, without any good reason for this hostility, if I am rightly informed.

Several skirmishes take place annually during which lives are often lost on either side; it is an amusing sight to see the Ahmedzais on their march from Bunnoo, every man armed to the teeth; boys of 10 or 12 years of age carrying a sword and shield, and even some of the younger women similarly

equipped as though ready for a mountain campaign! Last year a large Jeerga, or Council of War was held which was attended by the Ootmanzai Maliks to settle this long pending dispute. I do not know the exact results of this Jeergah, but Nujeeb Khan, the acknowledged Chief of the Ahmedzais, informed me that his tribe had secured a certain amount of compensation for past-offences from the Mahsoods and a guarantee for better protection against them in future; one part of the arrangement was the erection of a new Fort commanding a portion of the principal pass through which the tribe marches, to be occupied by Ahmedzais.

Had the Mahsoods not agreed to terms, the Ahmedzais and Ootmanzais would have united their forces, 20,000 strong, and attacked the common enemy in their own country.

I need not remark upon the advisability of keeping up an intimate acquaintance with the politics of the border. Such a course is absolutely necessary to prevent serious difficulties occurring between our own and foreign subjects. At the same time, care is requisite not to mix ourselves up in quarrels which do not immediately concern the Government or its people.

Necessity for watching border politics, &c.

Another serious feud has been brooding for some months between the Bukkee Khail and Mohamud Khail (beyond the border), arising out of the elopement of a girl of the former clan with one Keput, a Malik of the latter. She had been already betrothed to a man of her own tribe, and was therefore looked upon as a married woman, although she apparently disliked the choice of her parents. She now voluntarily lives with her seducer who represents a powerful section of his tribe; during the past year several fights have occurred, in which no less than nine lives have been lost, and several persons wounded. The Bukkee Khails feel bound to avenge themselves for this disgrace offered to their tribe, and refuse all offers of mediation. Keput, meanwhile, retains the girl and would rather forfeit his own life than hers!

Feud between Buk-kee Khail and Mahmut Khail.

I have urged a general "Jeerga" composed of heads of other tribes, as the only means of bringing about an amicable settlement, but up to the present time this result seems as distant as ever, though, for some weeks past there has been a truce between the belligerents.

The case having occurred beyond the border is not one for any *direct* interference. It may go on for years unless decided by a Council of grey beards

who would probably mulct Keput in two or three female relatives, by way of exchange, or in default of his acquiescence, condemn him to pay heavy money compensation. As yet neither party seems inclined to yield.

Such is the Chivalry of these demi-barbarous Wuzerees! The English office contains a file about this case, the Commissioner's attention having been called to it by a Report from the Commandant of Out-posts giving information of a warlike demonstration of the Bukkee Khails not far from Janee Khail Fort. This was intended merely as a *threat* to the Mahmut Khails. A few fat Doombas were killed and eaten, drums beat, some hundred or two armed men assembled and fired a *feu-de-joie* by way of letting their hill neighbours know they were prepared to give battle. It was a mere piece of bravado—no further hostilities have occurred; and the Bukkee Khails have been warned that no disturbances of any kind will be permitted within the British boundary.

On the North eastern side of the District, the *Khuttuks* have been always quiet and loyal. Stolen camels are sometimes tracked up to their hills, but beyond this their conduct has been entirely satisfactory. Several families have migrated from Khoaja Mahomed Khan's ilaqua, and squatted in the Thull, amongst the Wuzerees, owing I believe to the harsh treatment they receive under that Jageerdar's rule. One large and now flourishing village has been formed near Duddeewalla and Lundeewar (in the Murwut direction) by Malik Shirman, a Khuttuk of some influence and position. Five thousand kunals have been recently marked off for this colony with 500 for the Malik himself, whose efforts to locate a number of his people in this wild and sparsely inhabited part of the country will prove advantageous in checking cattle thefts and other crimes.

Amongst the border Maliks, I will only allude to those who have brought themselves into disgrace—the others are on the whole good specimens of loyal yeomanry, who like to be taken notice of, and made use of, when opportunities offer.

I have already spoken of Ulluff Shah, Bithunnee. He belongs rather to the *outside* borderers.

Malik Mahomed Yar is strictly a Murwattee of Durrukkee, who, like Mahomed Yar Khan of Durrukkee. Ulluff Shah, has also been deprived of his two sowars for the part he took in the murder of Torkhan of Walee, *vide* Judicial proceedings, and letter of 10th November 1864. He was likewise re-

moved from his Lumberdaree, but I forget at this moment whether any period of suspension was fixed. If not, I would advise that if he behaves well for a year, he be reinstated as Lumberdar (which involves a small share of Birât also), and that after a *second* year, upon the same conditions, he get back his two sowars. He is a man of some influence, and occupies a difficult position very close to the Wuzereee hills. He will have been punished severely, and the lesson will I am sure not be lost upon him. He has already expressed to me his great sorrow for his past misconduct, and promised to turn over a new leaf.

Bukt Mull of Ahmedzai has at present only one sowar in the Frontier

Bukt Mull of Moo-
sa Khail.

Ahmedzai Tuppa.

Militia; he has always behaved well, and shown a better spirit than some who have four sowars, such as Akber Khan of Tukti Khail and Poordil Khan of Ghuznee Khail.

I would give him a second sowar, whenever a vacancy occurs. Poordil Khan has proved a very useless and intriguing Malik. He was suspended from his Birât for a year by order of the Commissioner—he will require looking after. His Bargheers are stationed at Durrabain, but his influence upon the border is *nil*. I would not hesitate to take his Bargheers from him, should he misbehave again, or play a negative part.

FISCAL.

The District is divided into four Tehsils, or Revenue Pergunnahs, *viz* :—

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Lukkee Murwut. | 2. Bunnoo. |
| 3. Meeanwallee. | 4. Esaukhail. |

The Revenue is four lacs, sometimes more or less when there is much Alluvion or Diluvion from the Indus, which washes the two latter Tehseels for 40 miles. The Salt Revenue from the Kalabagh mines is paid into the Meeanwallee Tehseel, about one lac per annum.

Supply Bills given at the Treasury yield from 40 to 50,000 rupees. The entire Cash Income does not therefore fall far short of six lacs, which is just sufficient to meet the expenses of the Garrison,* the Police, and all Civil establishments. There is a Cash balance of from one and a half to two lacs in the treasury, and sometimes nearly three lacs, when the Revenue kists are paid in.

* 1 Regiment of Cavalry.
2 Regiments of Infantry.
1 Battery of Artillery.

The Settlement is on the whole very moderate and light, but in Bunnoo Proper, it is most unequal having been roughly fixed upon the *produce of crops* as they then stood on the ground. This Settlement expired two years ago, and will probably be revised before long, when a considerable increase may be expected.

In anticipation of this measure, the survey of all village boundaries has been carried on for the last 18 months, (sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner in 1863-64.) At the close of last official year, out of 539 villages trans-Indus, 354 were mapped and completed. Those in the cis-Indus Pergunnah of Meanwallee had been formerly surveyed by Lieutenant Anderson, Revenue Surveyor. The remainder will be all finished during the current year. The cost of these village surveys has been met by a small fee of eight annas per cent. upon the jumma of each estate. The average monthly expense has not exceeded 60 or 70 rupees. Many of the best Putwarees have been associated with the Ameens, and thus acquired a knowledge of the plane-table and compass, which will be very useful to them hereafter in surveying and preparing Maps. Each party has been superintended by the Tehseel Canoongoe, acting under the Tehseeldar's orders. The Sudder Canoongoe has examined the files of each village, and all contested boundary disputes were referred to the decision of the Extra Assistant Commissioner, who has exercised a general supervision, and personally visited those estates where local examination was found necessary. Every village has now been defined by mud pillars, which should be looked after and kept in good order by the people concerned. Some of them which I have seen are not large enough to last long. None should be less than three feet in height and four feet in diameter at the base.

There are no revenue balances of any kind.

For those villages (chiefly in Murwut) when I found the assessment pressing heavily, and the people leaving their homes, or mortgaging their property, I made recommendations for reductions, and in some few cases, only remissions, which have all been sanctioned. Some of the Murwut villages will always require careful management, owing partly to the deterioration of soil which in certain tracts changes after the lapse of time and becomes wholly unproductive. Such has been the case in Dullo Khail, a few miles west of

Variations of soil. Lukkee, where the soil has become impregnated with Saltpetre. In other localities good gram and wheat land has in the course of a few years been turned into sand drifts by the action of storms and torrents.

Both Attaoollah Khan, the Tehseeldar, and Hurree Ram, the Naib, take great interest in the Pergunnah, and are thoroughly well acquainted with the condition of every village. They may be safely depended on for information.

Murwut is divided into five Tuppas, viz:—

Divisions into Tuppas. 1 Dre Palar. 2 Totezai. 3 Oomur Khan Khail. 4 Moosa Khail. 5 Nar.

The latter (No. 5) consists of new villages and hamlets established within the last 15 years. These divisions are of little real use in our Revenue system.

The land revenue amounts to 1,20,000 rupees. The tenures are various. In some few villages an old and primitive custom is retained of re-dividing the land every 10 years according to "*Khoollas*," which means literally the "*mouths of a family*." This custom has prevailed for many ages, and is so far just that the large families are equally well provided for as the smaller ones, but it must be admitted to be a very original and peculiar one.

A somewhat similar custom prevailed in the Peshawur District, which is referred to in the Report on Yoosuffzai by Lieutenant H. B. (now Brigadier General) Lumsden.

The revenue is collected in the majority of villages upon the produce of each harvest (*zemindaree*); the whole crop is thrown into one common stock upon which a rate is fixed sufficient to meet the Government demand, the balance divided *pro rata* amongst the *zemindars*. The Rubbee is by far the most abundant, and yields seven-eighths of the revenue.

Within the last year or two several petitions have been made by entire communities to be allowed to pay their quotas according to measurement of their shares, or as it is locally called *Kunalbundee*. This is, in fact, a mere change from *Zemindaree* to *Putteedaree* tenure, and should not, I think, be discouraged. It shows a better appreciation of individual rights, while the joint responsibility of the head men is in no way diminished. Many disputes are avoided by this mode of distribution, and cases of exaction are far less frequent. Already several villages pay their dues according to this system, and others wish to do the same.

The worst feature of Murwut is the "goondeedaree" or faction spirit, which divides every community into two parties. In former years this led to a great deal of bloodshed. It is now, I hope, dying out; at any rate, open blood feuds are of rare occurrence. The chief men of the two factions are:—

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Khan Meer Khan of Begoo Khail, Akber Khan of Tuktee Khail, Sahibdad Khan of Pahar Khail,</p> | | <p>Moosh Khan of Cashmeer Kote, Zuffer Khan of Mumma Khail, Mozuffer Khan of Walee and others,</p> |
|---|--|--|

versus

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Hakeem Khan of Sikunder Khail, Poordil Khan of Ghuznee Khail, Mahomed Yar Khan of Darrukkee, Bakt Mull of Moosa Khail,</p> | | <p>Aboo Sumund Khan of Gundeekhan Khail, Kooloo Khan of Pusunnee, and others.</p> |
|---|--|---|

In Esaukhail as at Bunnoo, the Koorrym river is extensively used for irrigation cuts, called in the former Pergunnah "Kus" and in the latter, "Veefal," managed respectively by a class of people called Wakoos,* and Teengurs, the latter being superintended by "Chul Wishts" or Water Darogahs.

* For an account of these Wakoos, their duties, rights, &c., see Major Cox's Reports in the office.

Well cultivation is only resorted to in the Meanwallee and Esaukhail Pergunnahs along the high banks of the Indus, and the drier parts of the "Kutchee." Efforts have been made to increase their number by many liberal recommendations to Government, all of which have been sanctioned up to date. From a statement compiled in May, 1864, I find that 124 new wells, each costing on an average 200 to 300 rupees, had been sunk since annexation; 13 more were made up to the end of April, 1865, and probably the same number during the current year.

119 new villages and hamlets have been likewise formed within the same period, and more than 20,000 acres of land brought under cultivation, principally in the tracts called Nar (which commences 10 miles to the east of Bunnoo, and extends towards Lukkee) and Lundeedak, eight miles south of Bunnoo; the former is watered by the *Kuck-kote* stream; the latter by the Lundeedak Veefal, which is conducted out of the Koorrym a mile below the post of that name.

In connection with the subject of irrigation, and the general improvements going forward, it may be as well to note here the project of a new water cut from the Gumbeela stream, regarding which I have left a Memorandum with my *locum tenens*, Captain Sandeman. This canal will leave that river somewhere below Kukkee, and (if it succeeds) water ten or twelve villages from Girzai and Cashmeerkote down through Islamnuggur and Gundee Khan Khail, towards Paharkhail and Lukkee, a part of the country greatly in need of water.

Full instructions were issued before my departure from Bunnoo for the commencement of this work. The Tehseeldars of Bunnoo and Lukkee will I am sure do their best to carry it out.

Taj Mahomed, the intelligent and trustworthy Water Darogah of Nar, has been directed to overlook it, for which he is to receive a small extra remuneration of 10 rupees per mensem; he now receives 20 or 25 rupees from fees and cesses in Nar. He is an invaluable man for such duties, and is highly spoken of by all classes.

Another long cut has been for some months past taken in hand by the people of Meerean to enable them to irrigate their outlying lands from the Koorum. This "Veal" will probably be completed by March or April next. It was begun last Spring, after having hung fire for some years, owing to the opposition of a few unprincipled Bunnoochees, who, true to their character, would have rather seen the Koorum running to waste in the Indus than watering the fields of their rivals.

The population of the District, according to last Census taken in 1854, was a quarter of a million, divided as follows:—

| <i>Pergunnah.</i> | <i>Males.</i> | <i>Females.</i> | <i>Total.</i> | <i>Area in Square Miles.</i> |
|---|---------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Bunnoo ... | 48,318 | 37,414 | 85,732 | 523.04 |
| Lukkee ... | 28,698 | 24,816 | 53,514 | 1,366.46 |
| Esau Khail ... | 18,497 | 17,203 | 35,700 | 620.30 |
| Meanwallee ... | 35,358 | 29,954 | 65,312 | 1101.38 |
| Add for eight large villages transferred from 1861. | | Shahpore in | 10,000 | ... |
| | 1,30,871 | 1,09,386 | 250,258 | 3,611.18 |

I consider this rather below than above the true numbers, which, if native opinion is to be credited, have been steadily increasing under British rule.*

* NOTE.—By the census taken in January, 1868, the population amounts to 287,547; thus proving the correctness of my anticipation.

Of the total area, a very large proportion is Thull, and barren waste, near the hills, which encircle the District on all sides. The cultivated area of the trans-Indus Pergunnahs was in 1860-61, by Major Johnstone's Revenue Survey,

624 acres were under *Well* cultivation.

492,532 ditto ditto Canal ditto.

259,445 ditto Barânee, or rain lands.

769,221 ditto barren waste.

The valuable forest of Sheeshum trees on the Kutchee lands near the Indus will require special attention for some time to come.

The Cutchee Forest. It has been hitherto looked after by the Assistant Commissioner of Meeanwallee, and was, I fear, much neglected till Captain Sandeman came to that out-station. Mr. Cowan took an interest in it, and drew up Rules for its better preservation, to regulate the sale of timber, &c.; but, unfortunately, he neglected to see these Rules properly carried out, or to exercise strict supervision over the subordinates of his office and Pergunnah officials. Hence, great abuses were discovered after he left, and it was clear that speculation and fraud had been carried on to some extent. The Tehseeldar and Thanadar were both implicated, and compelled to resign the service; others have been dismissed or removed.

Mr. Birnie Browne, Assistant Conservator, has lately visited, and surveyed this forest. Doctor Stewart reported upon it a year ago, and it is to be hoped it will now be placed on a proper footing with a suitable superintending establishment. The Government interests would probably be better looked after, were the Forest Department to take over direct charge of the whole of the trees, and arrange not only for their re-production, but for the disposal of old trees for timber, fuel, and general purposes. Mr. Browne estimates that some of the finest trees contain at least 300 maunds of wood, a portion of which would prove very valuable to Railway carriages at Mooltan or Lahore. He further calculated that, after disposing of the loppings and crooked branches as fuel for the Steamers it would be remunerative to carry the best part of the stem to Lahore by the long and tedious camel route viâ Shahpoor.

Connected with the subject of Arboriculture, I may here state that, within the last three years, upwards of 100,000 young trees (Sheeshums, Keekurs, Mulberries, and Bairs) have been planted out along the main lines of communication. The Tehseeldar of Esaukhail has also formed a few young plantations of Sissoo near that Town and at Kummer Mushanee, where lands have been thrown up by the river. A few thousand

Arboriculture.

kunals are still available for sowing tree seed at the latter place. This land is recorded in the name of Government, no other proprietorship having been proved at the time. If I remember right the whole plot consists of more than 20,000 kunals the greater portion of which is farmed out to the zemindars of Mushanee.

Sirdad Khan, Malik of Ghorewal, has made a nice plantation of Sheeshums near his Nar lands on the high road to Dera Ishmael Khan, at the 12th or 13th mile from Bunnoo. He receives a small plot, rent free, in consideration of keeping up this grove for the benefit of travellers to whom, in the hot season, it will be a real boon. It is the growth of only two years.

I have left a vernacular proceeding in the Office regarding Water-mills, which have not hitherto been assessed at Bunnoo. In Peshawar, and I believe elsewhere, they all pay a certain tax, and being highly remunerative, I don't think they should, in future Settlements, be excluded from the Rent Roll. Of late many new mills have been erected, and so far as I am informed, a fair cess upon each would not be regarded with displeasure by the owners, nor tend to decrease their number.

One good masonry Tehseel has been completed at Meeanwallee during the past year, another has been sanctioned for Bunnoo, to be combined with the Kotwallee, and a third for Esaukhail, Revenue buildings. to be built inside the Sikh fort, the exterior of which has lately been repaired by the Ex. Engineer.

These are the first buildings of the kind yet sanctioned.

At Lukkee, a new Tehseel is much needed.

I have left a Memorandum at Bunnoo regarding the site, advising that it should be selected on the right bank of the Gumblela Site for Tehseel at Lukkee. river, somewhere near the new Dispensary, which is by far the healthiest and most suitable side of the Gumblela. The old Fort, now half in ruins and in a most unhealthy position, should be levelled and given up.

In the Character Book I have entered my opinion, at length, of every official, high and low. It is unnecessary to repeat it here. Character of Officials. Gungaram of Bunnoo and Attaollah Khan of Lukkee are excellent Tehseeldars. They are vested with judicial powers. Their Naibs, Shaik Mehr Bux and Hurree Ram, are also hard-working and zealous officials. The latter is a Subordinate Magistrate of the 2nd Class.

POLICE.

I need not say much under this head, as Lieutenant Lane has furnished a Memorandum* on all the general points, including the system of patrolling in force, character of officers and men, their position, &c., lists of bad characters, gangs of bad characters, proclaimed offenders, &c., &c. His remarks are, on

Lieut. Lane a great loss to the District. the whole, deserving of consideration; he had had nearly two years' experience in the Police Department, and was beginning to effect much improvement in the force, when he was transferred with promotion to Berar. I was exceedingly sorry to lose such an active, zealous young officer. He has left a good name behind him, and some useful English records of bad characters, &c.

I have filled up the Character Book with my own opinion of every Police official of any standing, so that no difficulty can be experienced in selecting the best and the right men for the right places.

I quite agree with Lieutenant Lane on the advisability of introducing the Superannuation Fund in the trans-Indus Districts at an early date. By this means, our old and inefficient men, many of whom served in the Mooltan campaign, whom it would be hard to cast adrift after several years' service, will be provided for with either a gratuity or pension according to circumstances. At present, the only course is to submit a special report upon each deserving case, and treat it as a political pension.

The existing Police force consists of 90 horse and 330 footmen, who are distributed over the District in nine Thanahs, six 1st Class Chowkies, and eight 2nd Class Chowkies, as follows:—

| <i>Thanahs.</i> | <i>Class 1st Chowkies.</i> | <i>2nd Class Chowkies.</i> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Kotwallee. | 1. Nowrung Serai. | 1. Munjeewallee. |
| 2. Meerean. | 2. Paizoo. | 2. Tung Durra. |
| 3. Moosakhail. | 3. Kurree Azeem, Thull. | 3. Sheera Gasha. |
| 4. Lukkee. | 4. Jhund. | 4. Shahbaz Khail. |
| 5. Esaukhail. | 5. Kalabagh. | 5. Ghuznee Khail. |
| 6. Durra Bain. | 6. Dhuk Nimmul. | 6. Gumbeela. |
| 7. Shaik Boodeen Chowki. | | 7. Howaid. |
| 8. Meeawallee. | | 8. Lundeewar. |
| 9. Moech. | | |

* Lent to Captain Sandeman for perusal.

The Thanahs and 1st Class Chowkies have usually two to four Sowars in addition to the complement of Foot Police, except at Shaik Boodeen, which is occupied entirely by the old Levies, who are now incorporated with the new Police. The 2nd Class Chowkies are occupied by three or four horsemen, and are for the most part on the high commercial roads, which are thus regularly patrolled.

To this system I attribute the entire absence of *highway robberies*.

Two good masonry Thanahs have been built within the past 18 months at *Moosa Khail* near the Frontier, and *Mooch*, the first good New Police buildings. Police buildings in the District!

Sanction has been received for new Thanahs at Esau Khail and Bunnoo during the current year, which the Executive Engineer will superintend. They are greatly wanted here and elsewhere. Many of the Chowkies are in a dilapidated condition—mere sheds.

Several improvements have been recommended for the Police stations in various parts of the District, for which the savings of the Police Assistants' pay are now available till the 30th April next—(*vide* recent correspondence with the Commissioner.)

New accoutrements have been ordered from Lahore to complete the number for the whole force, the expense of which is to be defrayed from the same source. I have left a detailed Memorandum about this with Captain Sandeman.

Both horse and foot are armed with carbines similar to the Punjab pattern, except at Shaik Boodeen, where the long matchlock is a more suitable weapon in the hands of the Murwut Levies. Some of the swords which belong to the Thanah foot policemen should be gradually bought up, and become the property of Government.

There is only one regular punitive post at Gunde Khan Khail, the expense of which is borne by the village. It was established in consequence of the two murderers of Malik Tor Khan having been clearly tracked *within*, and not beyond, its limits. The judicial case contains a full record of what occurred, and an account of the antecedents of this village, which had long been famous as the resort of bad characters and murderers. I believe this post has had a most salutary effect upon

other riotous persons, it is the first ever introduced, and costs 40 rupees per mensem. When it is withdrawn a few months hence, the Police men should be distributed amongst the other Thanahs, as they are men of some standing.

In addition to the Regular Police Stations, there are three honorary Police Officers employed,—Malik Sirdad Khan at Ghorewal, Malik Mozuffur Khan at Kalabagh, and Khan Zuman Khan at Peeplan. They exercise no *judicial* power, nor would I recommend it for some time to come. I do not think this system capable of being much extended in the Bunnoo District, but so far as it has gone, I am perfectly satisfied. Sirdad Khan has the largest charge, consisting of about 50 villages in two Tuppas. He receives 500 rupees per annum for Moonshee allowance, stationery, &c. Malik Mozuffur Khan receives only 300 rupees, his jurisdiction being smaller; but it is no less important, including as it does the hilly tract of country occupied by the Bhunghy Khail clan, a branch of the Khuttuk tribe. Both of these Native gentlemen have performed their duties satisfactorily.

I know less of Khan Zuman Khan, who belongs to the Meanwalee (cis-Indus) Pergunnah. Mr. Cowan reported favorably of him. He has 12 or 14 villages under his Police control, which are all very distant from the Assistant Commissioner's Station.

GENERAL.

Before quitting Bunnoo, I wrote a Memorandum of all works in progress, and other matters which were of a more pressing nature. Nothing of any great importance remains to be noticed.

Nearly every public building sanctioned for the year has been completed. The village cross roads in Bunnoo (1,500 rupees), some tanks to be deepened in Murwut (1,000 rupees), and a new Serai for travellers at Ghuznee Khail (1,503 rupees), only remain to be done. Funds are available for these, and they are in actual progress.

I have devoted a good deal of time and attention to the Roads, Bridges, Serais, and Dâk Bungalows of the District during my incumbency. Trade is greatly affected by good or bad roads, to say nothing of the convenience of travellers. I think Bunnoo will be found to bear comparison with any other Frontier District in this respect, though I must confess the Municipal and Local Funds have been far too limited for any extensive *new lines*. My object has been to keep all

Roads, Bridges, Serais, and Bungalows.

existing roads in good order,* to improve and widen old village pathways, and to render every road passable for the ordinary traffic of the country by building bridges or culverts over the deepest streams.

To this end, sixteen large Bridges of two and three arches, and 140 smaller ones, have been erected under my direction during the past three years.

Within the same period, seven new Serais† and five Staging Bungalows have been added to those previously existing. Of the latter, two are first class, the others rest houses, containing one good sized room, a dressing and bath room, with verandah on three sides.

Furniture and crockery have been added where needed. The new Bungalow at Kalabagh is not quite complete in this respect; spoons, forks, and a few articles of glass are required. The Tahsildar of Bunnoo has received explicit instructions about the village cross roads, which are being constructed only in the Bunnoo Tuppas to open up large and small villages for trade. He has a Map to guide him. These roads will average 14 feet in width, and follow the old routes, except where sharp angles require corrections, &c.

A bund has been proposed for Moosa Khail, in the Meeanwallee Pergunnah, where the water of a hill stream which flows from Nimmul and the Sukeysur Range might be advantageously turned to account, instead of being lost in a sandy nullah. The zemindars have agreed to contribute towards its erection. 1,500 rupees was sanctioned in this year's Budget, but until a regular plan and estimate are submitted by the Executive Engineer, who has been asked to furnish the same, it cannot be commenced.

For next year (1866-67) several plans have been submitted of various useful works. The Local Fund Income is, however, very limited, and will not

* The principal Roads of the District are :—

| | <i>Miles.</i> |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Bunnoo to Paizoo | ... 52 |
| 2. Ditto to Esaukhail | ... 50 |
| 3. Ditto to Kohat, up to Lutumur | ... 18 |
| 4. Ditto to Koorrum post | ... 5 |
| 5. Ditto to Meerean | ... 10 |
| 6. Ditto to Tochee | ... 6 |
| 7. Ditto to Goomuttee | ... 4 |
| 8. Lukee to Ghuznee Khail | ... 14 |
| 9. Ditto to Gumbeela | ... 9 |
| 10. Nowrung Serai to Esaukhail, <i>via</i> Lundowar | ... 28 |
| 11. Bunnoo to Moosakhail, <i>via</i> Howaid | ... 26 |
| Cis-Indus in Meanwallee Pergunnah, about | ... 120 |

† An eighth Serai has just been commenced at Ghuznee Khail, half way between Nowrung and Paizoo on the Dera Ismael Khan Road.

admit of many "Original works." The *Provincial Fund* to which we contribute a percentage should be indented on freely.

In a correspondence which occurred last year, I took the liberty of bringing to the notice of Government the injurious effect which the Amalgamated Road Fund had caused to the District Funds. We had paid no less than 70,000 rupees to that Central Fund within a space of three years, and received no sort of benefit. This arrangement has now been altered, and only a percentage is taken; but the Local Funds will I fear never be in a flourishing state again.

The following Local Maps have been compiled, which will be found useful for reference :—

Local maps.

- 1st.—Maps of the Bunnoo Tuppas.
- 2nd.—Map of the Esau Khail Water-cuts.
- 3rd.—Map of all Roads, Ferries, Serais, Dāk Bungalows, Tehseels, Thanahs, &c., &c., (original submitted to Judicial Commissioner two years ago, and not since returned.)
- 4th.—Sketch Map of the Kutchee Forest (in vernacular), lent to Doctor Stewart, Conservator of Forest.
- 5th.—Geological Map of the Khuttuk hills by Doctor Verchere (published by Asiatic Society), filed with correspondence about coal, &c.

Works of public improvement.

The following works of public utility have been constructed since I have been at Bunnoo :—

A Dispensary at Lukkee, with separate female wards, and out-offices complete.

A Dispensary and Hospital at Shaik Boodeen.

Paved streets and masonry shop fronts in the Bunnoo bazar. A watch-tower and guard-house in the Bunnoo market-place.

Fourteen or fifteen Village School houses.

A Town School house at Esau Khail.

Seventy mile-stones, and some sign-posts.

Two Dead-houses (for *post-mortem* examinations) at the Jail and Dispensary.

Four new entrance gates to the City.

1st class Dak Bungalows at Kalabagh and Ghuznee Khail.

2nd class ditto at Moosa Khail.

Ditto ditto „ Nimmul.

Ditto ditto „ Maree.

Serais for Natives at Meanwallee.

Ditto ditto „ Kalabagh.

Ditto ditto „ Esaukhail.

Ditto ditto „ Tung Durra.

Ditto ditto „ Lukkee.

Ditto ditto „ Paizoo, and Shaik Boodeen.

Three public necessities outside the City.

A Sudder Distillery.

Two roads (bridged throughout) from the City and Cantonments to Bazar Ahmed Khan.

A masonry tank at Ghuznee Khail, and deepening of ten kutchha tanks in Murwut.

Two bathing ghats, at Bunnoo (male and female).

Drains and culverts in the City.

New Police Lines near ditto.

New Police Cutcherry for Assistant, &c., &c., &c.

In carrying out the above and many other minor works, Mr. Knox, Assistant Commissioner, in 1863, and Captain Johnstone in 1864-65, rendered much assistance.

The Bunnoo Friday fair is an institution which deserves every encouragement and support: it is well attended by all classes—Wuzeerees, Khuttuks, Murwuttees, and Bunnoochees. A large amount of business is transacted weekly. I regret not having kept returns of the trade for a lengthened period. Shortly after I came to Bunnoo in 1862, I collected information for a short time on the principal articles exchanged at this fair. These statistics were given in my Annual Revenue Report for 1862-63, and afterwards printed in the Financial Commissioner's General Report. Not less than from two to three lacs of goods and cattle are annually bought and sold. The chief items are:—

Sheep, Goats, Bullocks, Cows, Buffaloes, Donkeys, Horses and Ponies, Wool, Cotton, Tobacco, Wooden rafters, Ropes, Cloth of kinds, &c., &c.

I calculated that at least 25,000 sheep and 18,000 goats exchanged hands in one year.

Tobacco, fir poles (for rafters), coarse ropes, mats, and dried fruits are largely imported from foreign territory (Dour, Shawl and Khost) in exchange for cloth, sugar, and cotton.

The produce of the District consists almost entirely of Cereals, Cotton, Turmeric, Goor, and Oil-seeds.

Kalabagh forms, however, an exception, and yields valuable mineral products, *viz*:—*Salt*, *Alum*, and *Coal*, the last-named only in limited quantities. The first is found in great abundance on both sides of the River Indus, which, till it reaches this Town, is pent up between rocky and precipitous hills. After leaving Kalabagh it stretches out for miles across the plain.

A Salt Patrol resides at Mareā (opposite Kalabagh), and manages the Salt Works. The people of Kalabagh consider themselves very hardly treated in having to pay three rupees a maund for their salt, while all other trans-Indus residents pay only eight annas for the Kohat salt.* Their houses are built upon salt hills, and some of them are even excavated out of pure rock salt, which is to be seen cropping out along the Town in all directions.

Alum is manufactured in large quantities (for export to the Punjab and North-Western Provinces) at this town and at Kotkee, 10 miles distant, in the Chichealee pass,—a very remarkable place, which is worth a visit.

Steamers are always glad to take as much coal as they can get, but it is unfortunately not plentiful, and much labor is entailed in digging it out. A large file of correspondence in the Office contains full information on this subject, and Professor Oldham's printed Report on the Salt Range can be seen at the Commissioner's Office (no copy was sent to Bunnoo). It is full of interesting geological facts, but very discouraging as regards the supply of coal, or rather lignite.

A new branch of trade was opened out last year, which will, it is hoped,

* NOTE.—In the Office will be found a file regarding this matter. Lord Dalhousie, during his visit to Kalagagh in 1850-51, settled the rates, against which there have been repeated complaints. The last one was made to Sir Robert Montgomery (Lieutenant-Governor) when on his tour through the Salt Range in 1864-65 by the whole town. He promised to enquire into the grievance, which always seemed to me to be well-grounded.

Timber trade on the Koorum. prove remunerative hereafter. I allude to the timber trade on the *Koorrum*, a river which had never before been used for bringing down beams and logs.

The Government advanced 1,000 rupees, which sufficed to make the experiment.

Upwards of 300 beams, from 20 to 30 feet in length, were transported from the Paiwar Forests to Bunnoo, through the instrumentality of Shah Nujeeb, Khojul Khail Wuzereee,* who had long settled in Bunnoo; they were sold at a profit, and this induced private speculators to commence similar operations on their own account.

The subject was fully reported on shortly before I left Bunnoo.

It only remains for me to allude to the leading characters and Native gentlemen of the District; and here I feel a difficulty. Where all have, with only one or two exceptions, behaved admirably, it seems invidious to single out individuals for special notice. I can only say that I believe no District can boast of a more loyal, orderly, or contented people, and this I attribute in a great measure to the good example set by their Chiefs, whose respectful demeanour and desire to render any service in their power has been remarked by many casual visitors passing through the country. It has been a real pleasure to feel supported in one's public duties by such men as the Khans of Esau Khail; the Chief of Kalabagh, the Maliks of Murwut, and some of the principal men of Bunnoo. No District Officer could wish for a better *class* of Native Chiefs in a Frontier District. They are not *all* very intelligent, for the advantages of education are only just beginning to dawn upon them, but there is a hearty *good feeling* and an evident desire to serve the Government, which is worth a great deal more. History, moreover, testifies to their active co-operation with British Troops on two occasions, the Mooltan Campaign in 1848, and the Mutiny in 1857, which has been justly described as "one of the greatest dangers which ever threatened our Eastern Empire." To live among and work for the good of such a people, must ever be a pride and honor. Would that I had done more during my short rule amongst them!

The *masses* are I consider happy and contented: their revenue, the keystone of a country's prosperity, falls lightly on them; they can obtain cheap and speedy justice within reach of their homes; they are well protected from

* I was sorry to hear of his death a few days before I left Bunnoo.

hostile tribes; and their social condition is vastly superior to what it was under former Governments. They cheerfully acknowledge these blessings, and pass their days in peace and quietness, unlike the times of Sikh or Affghan rule, when, as I have been repeatedly told, no man dare leave his house unarmed, nor travel any distance without a "Budrugga," or armed escort.

Ten or twelve murders per annum cannot be considered very serious in a population of a quarter of a million, who have been born to the use of swords and daggers, and who formerly cared nought for taking the life of an enemy. Some of the cis-Indus Districts show longer lists of crime, while property is certainly not more insecure in Bunnoo than at Lahore, Umritsar, or Dehli.

The Bunnoochees are undoubtedly a depraved and corrupt race, staunch followers of their Priests, and all disciples of the great Akhoond of Swat. Their fanaticism is, however, on the wane; nor do I think it would be so quickly roused as some imagine against their present Rulers.

Personal gain and *money* is a household god of the Bunnoochee, not easily to be dethroned for a doubtful political object. They are a mongrel tribe, looked down upon by all pure Puthans, and not, I fear, an improving race in mind or manners.

The Murwuttees are, on the other hand, a fine, bold, manly people, more truthful and less deceitful than the Bunnoochee, from whom, though residents of a neighbouring tract of country, they can easily be distinguished by physique, dress, and gait. Like all Puthans, their passions when roused are not speedily soothed, and I have found it necessary to make a few severe examples before I could put a stop to their dangerous faction fights. These are now of very rare occurrence. I do not remember any within the last twelve months. They are a simple, upright people; deeply attached to their sandy villages and huts of reeds. In Meanwallee and Esau Khail, the Pooshtoo language is exchanged for a broken Punjabee *patois*. Here the people, somewhat advanced in civilization, are greatly addicted to litigation, particularly the residents of the former Pergunnah. The population is composed of Puthans, Awans, and Juts, many of whom are fine loyal fellows, who came forward gallantly with foot and horse in the great Crisis of 1857, and fought gallantly side by side with the British soldier at Delhi, Oude, and Rohilcund.

I regret to say that some of them have not received their Mutiny Medal to this day.

CONCLUSION.

Our boat having now reached Sukkur, whence I shall despatch these Notes to the Commissioner, it is time for me to conclude. But I cannot do so without briefly alluding to those distinguished Officers who first ruled in the Bunnoo District, and to whom we all owe so much,—Herbert Edwardes, Reynell Taylor, and John Nicholson.

Such was the order in which they succeeded each other: the first as Assistant to the Resident at Lahore during those troublous times immediately preceding the outbreak of the Mooltan campaign which have been so graphically described in his “Year on the Punjab Frontier”; the latter as Deputy Commissioners subsequent to the annexation of the Province.

They left an indelible impression upon the people: to this day they are constantly spoken of with affection and reverence. History has recorded the noble exploits—the true chivalry—the devotion—of this triumvirate. No one individual could have done more by his own personal influence and mighty force of character for the repression of crime, and establishment of a wholesome fear in the minds of this semi-barbarous people, than he who gave up his life in the last great struggle at Dehli for supremacy in the East. Well was he called by Lord Dalhousie a “tower of strength.” Most aptly did a distinguished Native Chief at Peshawar remark that “the sound of his horse’s hoofs could be heard from Attock to Peshawur”;—and most appropriately, therefore, the little picturesque Church at Bunnoo contains a handsome marble tablet upon which the following epitaph, written by one of his best-loved friends, is inscribed:—

**In affectionate Memory of Brigadier General
JOHN NICHOLSON, C. B.,**

Once Deputy Commissioner of this District:
Who, at the great Siege of Dehli, led the storm:
Fell mortally wounded in the hour of Victory:
And died 23rd September, 1857. Aged only 34.

GIFTED IN MIND AND BODY,

He was as brilliant in Government as in Arms.
The Snows of Ghuznee attest his youthful fortitude:
The Songs of the Punjab his manly deeds:
The Peace of the Frontier his strong rule:
The enemies of his Country know
How terrible he was in battle:

AND WE HIS FRIENDS

Love to recall how gentle, generous, and true he was.

ON THE INDUS,
Off Sukkur, February 10th, 1866. }

H. B. URMSTON,

Deputy Commissioner.

REE TRIBE.

1.

MULLICK SHARER

Cabool Khail *
* This was the tribe which murdered
Captain Meham. in 1850

Soar,
or
Sair

Wurokey, c

Mull

Nura

Moosa Kha

Bujey Kha

Tor

Gundee Khail

berga Khail

Pace Kha

Nusurai

Bamee
or
Boomee Khail





